

# BREASTFEEDING AND CHILD CUSTODY TOOLKIT

**MIBFN**  
Michigan Breastfeeding Network

The Following tools are available at: [www.mibreastfeeding.org/child-custody](http://www.mibreastfeeding.org/child-custody)



## 1) Guide to Breastfeeding and Child Custody

This guide gives an overview of the law, provides evidence based information about breastmilk, discusses the importance of the parent-child relationship for both parents, and gives tips for continuing breastfeeding through separation.



## 2) A Resource for Dads/ Non-Breastfeeding Parents

This resource for the non-breastfeeding parent highlights the importance of supporting the continuation of breastfeeding during their child custody agreement. Breastmilk and breastfeeding will play an important role in the physical and emotional health of their child during what is often a stressful time of transition.



## 3) Collection of True Stories and Story Sharing Survey

This collection of true stories from other breastfeeding parents is intended to be a source of moral support for other parents going through the same experience. It also serves as a place to see suggestions of what worked for other breastfeeding families during their own child custody agreement process. Stories were shared through our Story Sharing Survey, which can be found at [www.mibreastfeeding.org/child-custody-toolkit](http://www.mibreastfeeding.org/child-custody-toolkit)



## 4) Sample Letters to the Court

We have provided to letter templates that can be personalized.

**1) Sample Letter- Breastfeeding and Custody Consideration :** This letter is to be completed and signed by the mother (breastfeeding parent) and should be addressed to a judge.

**2) Sample Letter - Benefits of Extended Breastfeeding:** This letter is to be addressed to a judge and signed by a lactation professional or pediatrician.