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SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS
COMMUNICATIONS

NEWS

CONTACT: SEDGWICK COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS 316-660-9370 FAX: 316-383-7509

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Contact:

Jenni (Gluszek) McCausland
Kristi Zukovich
316-660-9370

WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK AUGUST 1-7

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) – During World Breastfeeding Week, the Sedgwick County Health Department is promoting the benefits of breastfeeding, including a decreased risk of many childhood illnesses.

“The health reasons to breastfeed for both the infant and mother are well documented,” Sedgwick County Health Department Director Claudia Blackburn said. “Besides the health benefits, breastfeeding is also better for the environment as it is a “green” alternative to formula. There is no trash or cans with breastfeeding.”

Although more than 70 percent of women initiate breastfeeding, many do not continue, often because they have decided to return to work. Many employers are not aware of how they can benefit from accommodating the needs of breastfeeding employees, or how easily this accommodation can be achieved. Employers who provide a supportive breastfeeding environment enjoy many proven benefits including:

- Lower health care costs
- Lower absenteeism rates
- Higher female employee morale
- Positive public relations in the community as a “family friendly” business.

- more -

For more information on the importance of breastfeeding, contact the Sedgwick County Health Department's Women Infant and Children (WIC) program at 660-7444 or visit www.sedgwickcounty.org.

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