

Every Baby. Every Drop. Every Chance.

A new foundation is making human milk more accessible for California babies in need.

Sacramento's Human Milk Connection Foundation launches campaign to educate on the importance of human milk for newborns and infants; raising funds to improve access and equity for California families and reduce the high cost of donor human milk.

November 14, 2022 | Sacramento, CA Human milk is the gold standard for healthy babies — it provides the optimal nutrition for development and greatly reduces the risk of many common, serious diseases. Yet many California babies do not have access to human milk for a variety of reasons. Up to 60% of parents are not able to feed breast milk as long as they would like. During the recent baby formula shortage many parents and caretakers looked to human milk banks for donor human milk as an option, only to find the cost prohibitive — over \$250 a week!

The **Human Milk Connection**, a new 501c3 foundation, has taken on the mission of providing California families access to Pasteurized Donor Human Milk (PDHM) to meet the nutritional needs of their children, regardless of familial background, circumstances, or socio-economic status. By raising funds through individual and corporate donations, Human Milk Connection will provide grants directly to providers, such as the Mothers' Milk Bank of San Jose, to offset the cost to those in need, using a sliding scale based on family income.

Tax-deductible donations can be made directly to the Foundation online at HumanMilkConnection.org, or through a [GoFundMe](#) campaign. The foundation is also seeking corporate sponsorships with local, regional, and statewide companies.

Leading an all-volunteer board of directors are co-founders **Janel Silva**, a Board-Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) and **Dr. Debbie Albert**, IBCLC, a Nurse Lactation Consultant, and President of the Sacramento Breastfeeding Coalition. The board also includes **Dr. Julia Gabhart**, pediatrician and IBCLC; **Dr. Diana White**, PhD, LMFT, LPCC; and **Don Button**, professor of Design & Digital Media at Sacramento City College.

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"Mothers' Milk Bank is excited about our partnership with Human Milk Connection.

... This partnership will support a program to make donor milk more affordable to qualifying families and increase accessibility to more babies. We thank Human Milk Connection for their vision of supporting Mothers' Milk Bank in saving lives."

**—Jonathan Bautista
Mothers' Milk Bank of San Jose**



HumanMilkConnection.org

