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News Release

*For Immediate Release*

## **Two Breastfeeding Coalition members receive honors**

This release is being sent on behalf of the Greater Ozarks Regional Breastfeeding Coalition. Two of the Coalition's board members have recently received national and local honors.

Dr. Tamara Fusco

Dr. Fusco, MD, IBCLC, FAAP, has been named a Fellow into the [Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine](#). The ABM is a worldwide organization of physicians dedicated to the promotion, protection and support of breastfeeding and human lactation. Its mission is to unite members of the various medical specialties with this common purpose through physician education, expansion of knowledge in both breastfeeding science and human lactation, facilitation of optimal breastfeeding practices, and encouragement of the exchange of information among organizations.

There are only about 100 Fellows of the ABM worldwide. Fellow of the ABM is a designation bestowed by the Academy upon qualified members. The applicants must be licensed physicians of any specialty who have demonstrated evidence of advanced knowledge and skills in the fields of breastfeeding and human lactation.

Dr. Fusco also recently accepted the position of Medical Director of The Family Resource Center and Lactation Services at [Mercy Springfield](#). In that position she is helping to work toward establishing Mercy as the second "Baby Friendly Hospital" in Missouri (a [designation by the World Health Organization](#)). She plans, directs and coordinates all aspects of the lactation policies and programs. She is available to assist any Mercy providers with all aspects of lactation needs including evaluation, education and consultation.

Julie Randolph

Randolph, BS, IBCLC, is supervisor with the Springfield-Greene County Health Department's Women, Infants & Children program (WIC). She was recently named by the Springfield Business Journal as a 2013 Health Care Champion. The Health Care Champions were chosen by an independent panel of judges in four categories this year: dietician/nutritionist, radiology technician, speech therapist and health care volunteer.

Randolph was one of two honorees in the dietician/nutritionist category. She has been with WIC for nearly 25 years, and became a board certified lactation consultant in 2004. As an administrator at WIC, she has played a key role in creating and growing the partnership between WIC and the Jordan Valley Health Community Health Center. The two organizations co-located under one roof in 2010 in order to better serve an overlapping client population.

Randolph helps oversee a staff of about two dozen at WIC. The staff there deals with about 90,000 client encounters a year, and at each one the focus is on encouraging and promoting nutrition and better health for women and young children.

#### About the Greater Ozarks Regional Breastfeeding Coalition

The Greater Ozarks Regional Breastfeeding Coalition was formed in early 2013 to apply Springfield's well-known spirit of community-wide collaboration to the issue of breastfeeding. The Coalition includes physicians, nurses and lactation experts from CoxHealth, Jordan Valley Community Health Center, Mercy Springfield and the Springfield-Greene County Health Department, including the WIC program. In March, the coalition in collaboration with the health department, opened a [donor breast milk depot](#). The depot provides a collection site for mothers donating breast milk in coordination with the Heart of America Mother's Milk Bank in Kansas City to provide donor milk to both neonatal intensive care units in Springfield.