

A Few Washington State Companies with Lactation Services

The following is a small sample of the many supportive workplace lactation programs in Washington State. It is hoped these descriptions can help you tailor a program to fit the needs of your company.

Columbia Valley Community Health and WIC Services

600 Orondo Avenue, Suite 1
Wenatchee, WA 98801
Contact: Laurie Riegert, MPH, RD
509-664-4586 • lriegert@cvch.org

Columbia Valley Community Health Services is a non-profit health clinic with approximately 120 employees serving Chelan and Douglas counties in central WA. In 1998, a written breastfeeding policy and a room for breastfeeding was created. It is furnished with a Medela “Lactina” breastpump, chair, table and breastfeeding literature. A sink and refrigerator are located nearby. (Spanish speaking).



Agilent Technologies*

2401 Mission Avenue East
Liberty Lake, WA 99019
Contact: Fred Krassowski, HR Manager
509-921-4242 • fred_krassowski@agilent.com

Agilent Technologies is a technology company with 1,000 employees in its Spokane, WA office. Since 1996 Agilent has provided breastfeeding employees with a private room equipped with an electric breastpump, breastpump kits and various supplies. Agilent contracts with a local Lactation Consultant when needed. The room is 4 feet by 6 feet and contains a chair, refrigerator, and bulletin board with lactation information, artwork and magazines. The room is attached to the women’s locker and shower room. It is clearly marked and has a sliding sign designating “Occupied/Vacant.” Agilent also provides a Medela “Pump in Style” for women to borrow when traveling.

Russell Investment Group*

909 A Street
Tacoma, WA 98402
Contact: Human Resources Department
253-439-5757 • www.russell.com

Russell is headquartered in Tacoma, WA and provides investment products and services in more than 39 countries. Russell is known as a family-friendly workplace and in 2003, established several “Mothers Rooms” to support breastfeeding employees. The rooms provide a comfortable space for pumping in private. Employees also receive information about returning to work and breastfeeding, and resources for breastfeeding support.

Russell believes that supporting breastfeeding employees offers a considerable return by lowering healthcare costs, enhancing productivity, improving employee satisfaction, increasing retention and improving image. Russell also believes these rooms are a significant and supportive investment in the future health and well-being of Russell employees and their children.

Pay Plus Benefits, Inc.*

**1110 North Center Parkway, Suite B
Kennewick, WA 99336**

Contact: 509-735-1143 • info@payplusbenefits.com

Pay Plus Benefits, Inc. is a successful entrepreneurial HR and payroll company employing 16 people in Kennewick, WA. John Heaton, CEO, realized many years ago that the focus and productivity of employees can be compromised by off-site, unreliable childcare, a situation that also causes considerable stress. In response, Pay Plus Benefits opened the Small Wonders Child Care center in May 1999. The center is on-site and partially subsidized by the company. This makes it easy for employees to continue nursing after returning to work. Pay Plus Benefits is convinced that the child care center makes a significant contribution to morale and productivity. One of the company's top priorities is to ensure that all employees and their families have access to the resources needed to maintain a healthy and happy work and family life. Ensuring all employees and their families have the resources to maintain a healthy, happy work and family life is a top priority and it makes good business sense to Pay Plus Benefits.

DaVita Inc.*

**1423 Pacific Avenue
Tacoma, WA 98402**

**Contact: Marah Halbgewachs
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DaVita Inc. is a leading provider of dialysis services in the United States. Their business office is located in Tacoma, WA with over 650 employees. Soon after the Washington Breastfeeding law was passed in 2001, DaVita developed a policy supporting breastfeeding employees and set up a private space designed especially for lactating women. The room has soft lighting, glider rockers, artwork, a refrigerator, literature, electric breastpumps and a bulletin board for pictures of mothers' newborns. Extra pump accessory kits are available through payroll deduction.

"I feel (this award) is both an honor and an embarrassment. An embarrassment to business leaders generally because we are being recognized for something that should be common place in companies. I offer our support to you to help encourage other businesses to follow our lead. Any employer who does not make simple accommodations for this important and basic need is simply foolish."

-Gary Beil, VP and Controller, DaVita, breastfed as an infant and father of three breastfed children upon receiving the 2002 Outstanding Employer Award

**Award Recipients. Each year Washington State companies who have shown leadership and significantly contributed to promoting and supporting breastfeeding as a vital part of the health and development of children and their families are nominated for the Breastfeeding Coalition of Washington's Outstanding Employer Award. To learn more about this award please visit www.withinreachwa.org/bcw.*



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