

2007-2008
ANNUAL REPORT



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

*One Mother
and Baby
at a time*



LA LECHE LEAGUE
INTERNATIONAL

LA LECHE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL, THE WORLD'S OLDEST AND BEST KNOWN AUTHORITY ON BREASTFEEDING.

From the Chairman of the Board and the Executive Director

One volunteer Leader and one mother at a time, La Leche League International makes a difference. From a circle of mothers in a park in Bulgaria to employed mothers gathered around a conference table during their lunch break, La Leche League Leaders speak the basic language of women who want to breastfeed their infants. Working with other global organizations that recognize the importance of breastfeeding adds to our strength.

La Leche League International experiences the benefits and the challenges of being a global organization on a daily basis. Helping mothers and babies around the world to achieve a successful breastfeeding relationship and reap its benefits have brought us to organizational changes that focus on our core strengths of mother-to-mother support. We are setting broad goals for La Leche League International while trusting local entities to pursue these goals in ways that best fit their culture and community. By building on these best practices, we ensure that we will assist mothers for many years to come.

Fifty years of providing breastfeeding information and mother-to-mother support forms a solid base for a global, diverse organization whose policies and procedures set the stage for the next 50 years—an exciting time of growth and expansion. Strategically, La Leche League International plays on the strengths of our volunteers while simplifying and streamlining the organization. By restructuring programs to operate from the appropriate geographic locations, La Leche League International will deliver the support and information most needed in each of the 68 countries where we serve mothers and volunteers. The La Leche League International Board of Directors is dedicated to protecting the organization's philosophy while instituting best practices to govern and guide us toward a strong financial future.

The past 50 years has seen La Leche League International take breastfeeding from the brink of extinction to being recognized as a vital health practice for both babies and mothers. Our organization has been the birth place for trends that have changed both parenting and the way the medical profession views the relationship of the breastfeeding dyad. The next 50 years will see us expand on the information and confidence-building support that families need to give their babies the very best start in life.

Sincerely,

Jane Tuttle Barbara Emanuel

Jane Tuttle, Chairman of the Board
Barbara Emanuel, Executive Director

LA LECHE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL – *One Mother and*



With support from accredited volunteer Leaders, health care professionals, and generous donors, La Leche League International (LLL) makes a difference globally.

For over 50 years, the LLLI mission has stood the test of time. Through acts both small and large, our services have reached mothers and babies around the world. As we plan for the future, we're finding new ways to reach mothers and health care professionals.

THE PRIMARY SERVICE OF LLLI,
MOTHER-TO-MOTHER SUPPORT, IS
PROVIDED AT NO COST TO FAMILIES.



— MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Baby *at a time*

As research indicates, breastfeeding produces a healthy mother and child. Babies receive a lifetime of benefits from mother's milk, from the strong bond that forms between mother and baby, to the protection against diseases, to increased intelligence. Mothers who breastfeed are possibly less likely to develop certain cancers, and reduce the risk of fractures and osteoporosis after menopause.

But it doesn't stop there. Breastfeeding also grows a healthy planet. Human milk requires no resources for packaging, shipping, or disposal. No energy or fuel is wasted producing human milk.

As we look to the future, it's apparent that breastfeeding is an important element in the health of people and the planet.

La Leche League International continues to offer information and support so that mothers and babies today, and for generations to come, can experience the benefits of the breastfeeding relationship. We are making a difference, one mother and baby at a time.



Our MISSION

To help mothers worldwide to breastfeed through mother-to-mother support, encouragement, information and education, and to promote a better understanding of breastfeeding as an important element in the healthy development of the baby and mother.

WORKING TO FULFILL OUR MISSION

Mother-to-Mother Support

The LLLI mission is carried out by thousands of accredited volunteer Leaders (mothers who have received training by LLLI and have breastfed their own children) who provide breastfeeding support to mothers worldwide. These trained women lead monthly meetings where new mothers can see how experienced breastfeeding mothers interact with their infants, and offer support via telephone and Internet. Over 43,000 Leaders have been accredited in the past 50 years. Last year, Leaders provided support to over 200,000 women.

Global Partnerships

LLLI partners with international organizations to develop a supportive, global presence for breastfeeding. LLLI maintains consultative status with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), acts as a registered PVO for the Agency of International Development (USAID), is a member of Child Survival and Collaborations and Resource Group (CORE), and is a founding member of the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA).

Response to Crisis

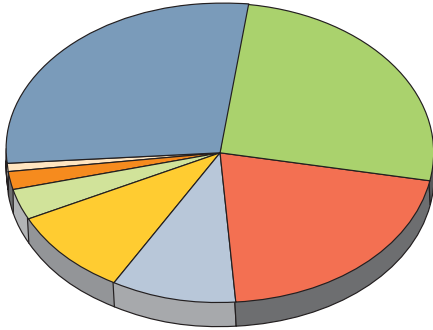
LLLI has the ability to quickly mobilize its Leader base during times of crisis when the lives of mothers and babies are at risk. When an epidemic, war, or natural disaster strike, La Leche League Leaders have the practical hands-on information that can help breastfeeding continue during the worst of conditions, as with the earthquake and tainted formula incident in China and the devastating hurricanes in the United States.

Health Care and Education

La Leche League International is considered a primary resource for breastfeeding information. LLLI provides the latest information on breastfeeding research, resources, and best practices to health care professionals via continuing education workshops and online courses, and through publications. Last year, LLLI celebrated its 50th anniversary with an International Conference held in Chicago, Illinois, USA. Over 4,000 attendees from 48 countries attended to hear some of the world's top experts speak on cutting-edge breastfeeding research. Networking, education, and celebration sent attendees home armed with new resources to assist mothers and babies worldwide.

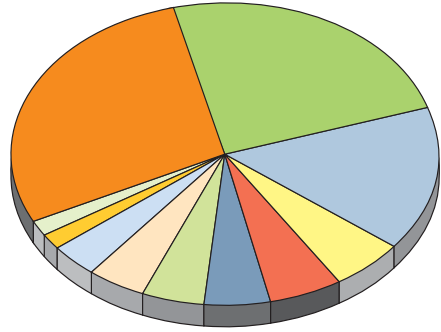
2007-2008 FINANCIALS

2007-08 REVENUES*



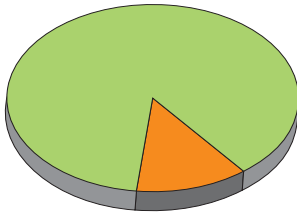
■ Conferences & Workshops \$953,106	■ Royalty Income \$319,003
■ Publications \$882,104	■ Periodicals \$114,059
■ Contributions \$696,147	■ Interest Income \$59,944
■ Membership Dues \$319,180	■ Miscellaneous \$5,653

2007-08 EXPENSES*



■ International Conference \$980,901	■ Breastfeeding Education \$162,549
■ Publications \$859,930	■ External Relations and Advocacy \$159,825
■ Management & Operations \$534,573	■ Leader Support \$127,479
■ Customer Service \$193,965	■ Alumnae \$59,051
■ Fundraising \$187,042	■ Breastfeeding Support/Hotline \$50,433
■ Workshops - Seminars \$177,501	

TOTAL ASSETS AND CURRENT LIABILITIES*



■ Total Assets \$3,051,741	■ Current Liabilities \$426,136
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*Represents April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008 fiscal year end totals.

We're pleased to share information from our annual audit for fiscal year 2008 along with the following personal note from our auditor.


"We would like to extend a note of appreciation and congratulations for the tremendous job the staff and management of the La Leche League did in preparing for the fiscal year 2008 audit. Thank you for your hard work and extraordinary effort."

*Desmond & Ahern, Ltd.
Certified Public Accountants & Consultants*



FULLFILLING OUR MISSION *Around the World*

La Leche League Leaders find many ways to fulfill the LLLI mission in their communities, making a difference one mother and baby at a time. LLLI is grateful to all LLL Leaders for their time and efforts!



West Coast, US: In Bozeman, Montana, LLL Leaders educated local business owners on how to promote and support breastfeeding in the workplace for breastfeeding mothers who are returning to work. They also certified 22 businesses as “Breastfeeding-Friendly.”

Midwest, US: In St. Louis, Missouri, LLL Leaders offered support group meetings for expectant and breastfeeding mothers each month at 20 locations throughout the metro area. LLL Leaders also responded to an average of 210 monthly requests for information via email and the 24-hour telephone hotline, and maintained a Web site with links to problem-specific information pages on the LLLI Web site.

South, US: In Bristol, Tennessee, LLL Leaders co-sponsored a breastfeeding-friendly baby fair with the YWCA, which was attended by 900 parents, expectant parents, grandparents, and children. LLLI publications were available and LLL Leaders answered questions that related to breastfeeding and parenting issues.

East Coast, US: In Norwich, Connecticut, LLL Leaders held monthly meetings at a local hospital for mothers who were interested in breastfeeding, including a large number of Navy members’ wives. These informational meetings were held in the evenings to accommodate employed mothers who needed support and information about breastfeeding and employment.

Brazil: An LLL Leader in Brazil trained low-income mothers to be peer counselors. She produced materials in Portuguese for the trainees, conducted a training course, and has continued to support these women who are now helping mothers in their communities.

A PRESENCE IN 68 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD

La Leche League International maintains a presence around the world in 68 countries. Women are assisted by other women who are accredited Leaders and peer counselors. Women benefit from information in their language, breastfeeding resource centers, or maintain other ongoing contact in ways appropriate to the local culture.

France: LLL France held an international breastfeeding conference attended by 500 health care professionals representing many countries from around the world.

Bulgaria: An LLL Leader in Bulgaria recognized the need for more resources for mothers in their native language. She obtained and translated two LLLI brochures, one about the early days of breastfeeding and the other about breastfeeding and employment. She found graphic designers to donate their time to work on these projects.

Hong Kong: LLL Leaders in Hong Kong secured a grant from the Matilda Sedan Chair Race Fund to translate and distribute 60,000 copies of the LLLI pamphlet, *When You Breastfeed Your Baby*, to all the hospitals in Hong Kong.

New Zealand: New Zealand's Peer Counselor program has been instrumental in getting breastfeeding to be prominently featured in government health targets and priorities. They also secured funding from the Ministry of Health to produce 100,000 copies of the LLLI tear-off sheet, *Breastfeeding Tips*, in both English and Te Reo Maori (indigenous language). It has been distributed free to mothers.

South Africa: A La Leche League Leader in South Africa began as a La Leche League International trained Peer Counselor, working in her predominantly South African Indian Muslim community to encourage women to breastfeed their babies. She was then hired by the Department of Health to oversee 24 Peer Counselors working to support breastfeeding in their respective impoverished and crime-ridden communities.

India: LLL Mumbai received a donation to develop a library of LLLI publications. The funding came from a private donor who heard about the expansion of LLL Groups in the city and wanted to provide a selection of breastfeeding and parenting books to support the new Groups and the mothers they serve.

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New Zealand
Norway
Pakistan
Paraguay

Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Puerto Rico
Qatar
Russia
Saudi Arabia
Singapore
Slovenia
South Africa
Spain

Switzerland
Syria
Taiwan
Turkey
United Arab Emirates
United States
Uruguay
Venezuela
Virgin Islands
Zambia



LLL DONORS

Thank you for your support of LLLI. You enable us to extend our services to many more mothers and babies worldwide!

“ I am thankful to a friend who introduced me to LLL. Before giving birth to my daughter...I knew deep down that [breastfeeding] was something I wanted to do. My daughter is 14 months old and still breastfeeding. I turn to the La Leche League Web site...all the time. ”

— Submitted on the LLLI Facebook group by a mother from Guadeloupe, France

www.llli.org



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\$5000 and above (cumulative since Nov. 1, 2004)

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United States Department of Health and Human Services, Maternal and Child Health, Rockville, MD

The Wilson Family Foundation, Atlanta, GA

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Women, Children & Family Service Charities of America, Larkspur, CA

The Wilson Family Foundation, Atlanta, GA



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MAKING A DIFFERENCE

*One Mother
and Baby
at a time*

“ There are times in our lives when LLL reaches out to us as new mothers, and we are glad. There are times when LLL gives us support as new Leaders and we are encouraged. And then there are exceptional times such as now when LLL reaches out across the barriers of conflict and unrest to help safeguard the rights of mothers to nurse their babies and then we are grateful beyond words. ”

— Mary Bird, ACL, FAIE, long-time LLL Leader and supporter, Dublin, Ireland

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PACESETTERS

\$500-\$999 (April 1, 2007-March 31, 2008)

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 Judy Canahuati, Columbia, MD

Thanks to the La Leche League International Board of Directors for 100% participation in giving during this fiscal year.



“The newborn has but three demands: warmth in the arms of its mother, food from her breast, and security in the knowledge of her presence—breastfeeding satisfies all three.”

— Dr. Grantly Dick-Read, a British obstetrician who is regarded by many as the father of the natural childbirth movement



LLLI INVITES YOU TO SUPPORT OUR WORK IN A VARIETY OF WAYS

Make a contribution to LLLI:

Support LLLI through a schedule of giving that works for you! You can set up regular donations on a monthly, quarterly, or yearly basis.

- See if your employer will match your gift.
- Donate stock.
- Honor or memorialize someone with a tribute gift.
- IRA rollover provision extended through 2009! It exempts from taxable income funds you transfer from an individual retirement account (IRA) to La Leche League International. Limitations apply. The provision will pertain to gifts made through Dec. 31, 2009.
- Include LLLI in your estate plans.
- Designate LLLI as your charity during the United Way Giving Campaign.
- Purchase an item from the LLLI online store at www.llli.org.
- Give a membership as a gift to a new mother.
- Identify groups in your community that are doing fundraisers for charitable organizations and ask how LLLI could qualify to be one of the benefiting organizations.
- Support LLLI by participating in online programs such as:
 - iGive.com* – a Web site that generates funds for charitable organizations like LLLI when users purchase items from nearly 700 online retailers.
 - GoodSearch* – a search engine powered by Yahoo. Each search results in a donation to LLLI.

If you have questions or would like to share additional ideas for supporting our mission, please contact the Development Department at fdassociate@llli.org or (847) 519-7730, ext. 240.



CREATIVE WAYS DONORS ARE SUPPORTING LLLI

Families appreciate the support and information that LLL Leaders provide. In Italy, an advertisement on a truck was donated by a woman who had been helped by her local LLL Leader. Similarly, in France, a bicycle advertisement was donated by a man in appreciation of the breastfeeding help his wife received from an LLL Leader.

Both advertisements portrayed positive images of breastfeeding and La Leche League International, and were seen by the public throughout each country.



“ I have been so impressed with the LLLI Founders... I hope my daughters will continue the course of mothering through breastfeeding that was courageously exemplified and revived by the Founders of La Leche League. Thank you for your courage and determination! And thank you for the influence you've had on my family and me. ”

— KeeNan Engstrom, LLL Leader, Huntsville UT USA

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