



# IBCLCs:

*Protecting, Promoting, Supporting Breastfeeding*

## Beyond Borders



### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### IBCLC DAY CELEBRATED WORLDWIDE

The first Wednesday in March is IBCLC Day, a day set aside to recognize the work of International Board Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLCs) worldwide. IBCLCs are health care professionals trained in the clinical management of breastfeeding. Years of study and training to acquire expertise in the field of lactation prepare IBCLCs to offer highly specialized care for breastfeeding mothers.

The theme this year, "IBCLCs: Protecting, Promoting, Supporting Breastfeeding Beyond Borders" highlights the vast settings in which IBCLCs work. From Australia to Afghanistan, from Canada to Croatia, from Singapore to South Africa, and all over the US, IBCLCs are a geographically diverse group, with over 17,000 IBCLCs serving in approximately 75 countries. IBCLCs work beyond borders to support breastfeeding in other ways as well: In hospitals and clinics, in public health research, as community educators, and in private practice. The goal of protecting and promoting breastfeeding is a singular one, their means to reach that goal, numerous.

IBCLCs assist families with prenatal education as well as post-partum care, working with mothers who are breastfeeding a baby with special needs, have questions about making enough milk for their baby, as well as breastfeeding mothers who are returning to work. To find a board certified lactation consultant near you, visit the International Lactation Consultant Association's website at [www.ilca.org](http://www.ilca.org) and follow the "Find a Lactation Consultant" link where you can search for an IBCLC by postal code, city and state, or country.

The International Lactation Consultant Association (ILCA) is the professional association for International Board Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLCs) and other health care professionals who care for breastfeeding families. ILCA's mission is to advance the profession of lactation consulting worldwide through leadership, advocacy, professional development, and research. With the vision of a worldwide network of lactation professionals, ILCA provides members with numerous resources and professional development opportunities that enhance their ability to provide optimal care to breastfeeding families. For more information about ILCA, visit the website at [www.ilca.org](http://www.ilca.org), or contact the ILCA Office at (919) 861-5577 or [info@ilca.org](mailto:info@ilca.org).