

La Leche League USA Supports Inclusion Released March 22, 2022



The LLL USA Council declares that all people, in the many beautiful and honorable ways they identify themselves, are welcome in La Leche League USA spaces.

Equity, diversity, and inclusion are essential to [the mission of LLL USA](#).

LLL USA denounces the concerted efforts of some people to manipulate and coerce Leaders by focusing on debates that have nothing to do with providing human milk to infants and children.

The mission of La Leche League is about human milk. Humanity depends on this.

People who want to bring divisive and conflicting language into our spaces are nothing more than agents of panic over something ultimately unimportant to our mission.

Using a variety of terms for a person who provides human milk, such as mother, parent, and family member, is not erasing but embracing.

Several international and US health organizations, including the [US Breastfeeding Committee](#), [World Health Organization](#), [International Lactation Consultants Association](#), readily acknowledge the importance of an inclusive environment and are actively addressing how research in lactation must acknowledge the diversity of those who feed human milk to their infants and children.

LLL USA values its role and credibility within the lactation world, and we value the widely diverse families that we serve even more. Because of that reality, we must acknowledge and be accountable to the families and communities who seek our support. We affirm that inclusive language is not a trend; it has always existed just as the families who embody it have always existed.

We implore any Leader who feels excluded by inclusive language to take an in-depth self-examination and look inward. Sometimes issues with accepting inclusive language may intersect with other problematic viewpoints about human beings. It is not our role as Leaders to question notions of human individuality, but to accept and learn from them. For in doing so, we may learn about ourselves. The human experience is wonderfully expansive, and the language we use to describe it should follow suit.

As LLL USA Council delegates, we will uphold our responsibility to all people desiring to give human milk. More than that, we will respect the people and places where we have not yet had an impact. We want to be clear that we, as individual Leaders and as an organization, need to learn about and address our biases. To that end, all volunteers, administrators, and entities within LLL USA will continue to do their work while striving to ensure progress in addressing the past organizational failings, harm, and discrimination.

This is not about what we choose to be. This is about who we actually are.

Equitable.

Diverse.

Inclusive.

The LLL USA Council

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