



Donor Milk to Go

Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast is proud to partner with hospitals and clinics across the Southeast to ensure that infants have continued access to safe, pasteurized donor human milk (PDHM) after leaving the hospital. Our Donor Milk to Go Program offers a simple, reliable way for families to obtain up to **10 bottles per baby** of screened, pasteurized donor human milk directly through their clinic or hospital's designated distribution site.

Who Can Benefit

Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast's Donor Milk to Go Program is designed to:

- Support breastfeeding goals
- Bridge temporary gaps in a mother's own milk supply
- Provide safe nutrition for premature or medically fragile infants
- Ensure continuity of care from hospital to home

Hospitals and Clinics commonly consider Donor Milk to Go when infants demonstrate:

- Late-preterm status
- Weight loss >10%
- Hypoglycemia or borderline glucose levels
- Maternal delayed lactogenesis or low milk supply
- Expected short-term supplementation needs
- Separation from mother
- Prior use of donor milk in the nursery or NICU
- Poor latch or ineffective breastfeeding during the early postpartum period

These examples are not prescriptive or required; they simply reflect frequent use cases.



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Processing Fee

Families are assessed a processing fee for each bottle at the time of discharge. The hospital or clinic does not incur any fees for offering the Donor Milk to Go program. The processing fee (paid by the family) covers the cost of donor screening, nutritional analysis, pasteurization, microbiological testing, and storage. The processing fee is \$14.95 per 100mL bottle.



The Rosie Fund

The Rosie Fund helps ensure that families have equal access to safe, pasteurized donor human milk when financial barriers might otherwise prevent them from obtaining this vital nutrition. Assistance for Donor Milk to Go is provided on a sliding scale based on annual household income, and proof of income is required.

Please visit mymilkbank.org/donormilktogo to view the sliding scale or scan the QR code below. Please note, requests will be fulfilled based on availability of financial donations.

If a family qualifies for assistance, they are to email us at **info@mymilkbank.org** with the following information:

- Parent or Guardian's Name
- The donor milk to go site (your facility's name)
- Proof of eligibility for assistance
 - Acceptable proof of income includes one of the following: copy of W2 from most recent tax year, proof of state or federal assistance, most recent paystub for heads of household.
- At this time, we can only guarantee that requests for assistance will be reviewed Monday-Friday. However, our team does try to accommodate weekend submissions when possible.
- Once household income is verified by our staff, the family will receive a discount code via email based on the level of support they receive determined by our sliding scale.



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Getting Started

- The clinical team determines eligibility criteria for their Donor Milk to Go program.
- Designate a freezer and area where pasteurized donor human milk intended for the Donor Milk to Go program will be stored. Please see freezer requirements below.
- Request a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast specifically for the Donor Milk to Go Program.
- Receive your initial inventory and unique QR code from Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast for families to scan.

Freezer and Storage Requirements

Storage Practices:

- The freezer must be dedicated to only human milk storage and located in a secure location OR the freezer must be locked.
- Pasteurized donor human milk and raw milk (breast milk that has not been pasteurized) are ideally stored in separate freezers; however, if this is not possible, the milk must be segregated and clearly labeled within the freezer. Pasteurized donor human milk must ALWAYS be stored above any raw milk. Raw milk must be stored on lower shelves of the freezer below PDHM.
- PDHM should be stored in the freezer in a manner that bottles with the shortest expiration dates are dispensed first.



Temperature Requirements:

- Freezer temperature is held at no higher than -18 °C.
- Temperature of the freezer must be monitored daily.

Transport Packaging:

- Milk must remain frozen until given to the family.
- Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast will provide insulated bags for safe transport.
- Families will receive safe handling and storage instructions when they scan the QR code.

Donor Milk to Go FAQ

Q: How many bottles can a baby obtain at discharge?

A: Families may receive up to 10 bottles per baby at the time of discharge.

Q: What are the costs to the hospital or clinic for implementing and sustaining this program?

A: There are no direct program fees for hospitals to participate in Donor Milk to Go. Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast provides the hospital or clinic with pasteurized donor human milk (PDHM) bottles at no charge for this program. The hospital or clinic is responsible for:

- Purchasing and maintaining a freezer to store PDHM used for Donor Milk to Go
- Allocating minimal staff time to manage the program's workflow

Q: Who can start a Donor Milk to Go program?

A: A hospital or clinic that also serves as a Milk Drop Depot OR provides PDHM to in-patients from Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast.

Q: How will I receive the pasteurized donor human milk (PDHM) to dispense?

A: Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast will ship an initial set amount of PDHM bottles to establish your inventory. Ongoing inventory will be replenished as needed and supplied via FedEx or a designated courier. Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast staff will determine ideal inventory levels and assist with ongoing supply management.

Q: Do I have to have a dedicated freezer to store Donor Milk to Go inventory?

A: The freezer does not have to be dedicated solely to Donor Milk to Go. Please see Freezer and Storage requirements on page 3.

Q: What if a family wants more than 10 bottles or has an ongoing need for PDHM?

A: Families requiring more than the discharge limit or needing PDHM beyond the immediate postpartum period should submit an outpatient request at mymilkbank.org/outpatient. Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast staff will review the request and coordinate fulfillment directly with the family.

Q: If our hospital receives PDHM for inpatients, can we use that inventory for Donor Milk To Go if we run low?

A: Hospitals are strictly prohibited from reallocating or "swapping" PDHM between inpatient use and the Donor Milk To Go program unless they have received written consent from Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast such as an email. This safeguard is essential to maintain proper traceability, documentation and safety standards for every bottle dispensed.

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1. Provide eligible families with handouts supplied by Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast regarding the program's purpose, cost, and the Rosie Fund prior to discharge.
2. Families seeking financial assistance must email their information and proof of income to **info@mymilkbank.org**. Once household income is verified by a Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast staff member, the family will receive a discount code via email based on the level of support they receive determined by the sliding scale.
3. A member of your team should pull the number of bottles* the family is requesting from the freezer. Families will need the Batch Number(s) on Bottles and Expiration Date(s) when they submit their Donor Milk to Go Form.
* Up to 10 bottles per baby.
4. Provide the family with your unique QR code to submit the required information and method of payment or applicable discount code.
5. Obtain proof of submission and dispense frozen PDHM in cooler bags provided by Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast.
6. Record distribution on your log for your records. Log template is provided by Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast.

Questions?

Please contact:

Amy Painter, Executive Director of Mothers' Milk Bank Southeast

Office: 615-933-8877

Cell: 615-971-1932

Email: Amy.Painter@mymilkbank.org

For financial assistance verification, please email info@mymilkbank.org.

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