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Brigid's Path Expands Care Services

Nasogastric tube feeds provide additional way to care for babies impacted by substance use

KETTERING, OH (September 27, 2021) – <u>Brigid's Path</u>, Ohio's first newborn recovery center, today announced it has expanded its services for newborns to include nasogastric (NG) tube feeding.

"Feeding and getting enough nutrition are obviously important to the healing and growth of our babies who face withdrawal from substance exposure," said Rebekah Baumer, RN, nursing manager at Brigid's Path. "But, feeding can be hard for many of our babies. In our homelike environment, babies tend to eat better than in other clinical settings. It's quiet here, and we can feed on-demand. Our low baby-to-staff ratios mean nurses can spend more time feeding. However, we do still have some babies who need the supplemental nutrition an NG tube can provide, and we're glad to be able to offer that to the families who need it."

All nursing staff completed additional NG tube-specific training, and like all services at Brigid's Path, implementation will be under the direction of the center's neonatal nurse practitioner and neonatologist.

"We are always learning new techniques and looking at the options available to help provide our families with the best care," said Lisa Jasin, DNP, NNP-BC, clinical director at Brigid's Path. "For us, that's a mix not only of the medicinal care you'll see at hospitals, but also non-pharmacologic care. We're constantly holding, rocking, and responding quickly to the needs of our babies. We know they do better with small feedings and low stimulation. Every element of care we can provide to ease their adjustment into the world helps set them up for better health."

For more information about Brigid's Path and how you can be a champion for families in our community, visit brigidspath.org.

About Brigid's Path

<u>Brigid's Path</u> was founded in 2014 to care for babies and mothers in crisis with grace, love and hope. Our primary work is to care for infants born exposed to an addictive substance like prescription medication, opioids or other drugs, while also working with community partners to provide low-cost, holistic services to our families. We embrace and empower each baby's family to thrive.