

Entry #2 Abigail



This little girly and her momma are proud milk donors! We found out she was allergic to dairy and I didn't want to throw out all the frozen milk. I found Minnesota milk bank and went through the quick and easy process. I was able to donate 1,014 ounces of milk! I'm so thankful that this liquid gold was able to go to babies in need instead of just being thrown out since my daughter couldn't use it.



Entry #3 Alexa



As a mother baby nurse, I know things don't always go to plan in the early days, and sometimes medical supplementation is needed for baby. Donor milk is a great way to bridge that gap until mom's milk comes in. I would talk to parents about starting donor milk, but I only knew the basics. When my baby was born, I had an oversupply. I decided to donate so I could learn more about the process donors go through and be better prepared to answer questions or concerns parents might have. I also wanted to be able to contribute in helping families reach their goal of exclusively feeding breast milk. This is a photo of part of our final donation. I was able to donate 3 times over my initial goal!

Entry #6 Alivia



With my first son, George, I exclusively pumped after he was born prematurely. That experience taught me firsthand just how much work, sacrifice, time, and love can exist inside a single ounce of breast milk. Years later, when I had my second son, Fitzgerald, I was able to breastfeed directly, but I also developed a significant oversupply. At one point, my freezer held more than 6,000 ounces of breast milk! I knew I didn't want that milk to simply sit there. I wanted it to mean something. What started as an oversupply became an opportunity to feed other babies and support other mothers and families. Motherhood has taught me that sometimes abundance is an invitation to give. Breast milk donation became one of the most unexpected and meaningful parts of my motherhood story, and I will always be proud that something my body produced for my baby was also able to become nourishment for someone else's.

Entry #7 Cecilia



Through newborn screening, we learned our daughter had sickle cell disease, and our lives changed. We learned about donor milk and were able to use it to keep her bilirubin levels safe and avoid further complications. I continued to pump night and day to signal my body to produce enough milk, nursing every hour and pumping right after feedings. I started taking short walks to get a break. Even though we had pumped milk available, I was protective of my supply and hated to see it go to waste, so I began running to cut my walks in half—and that is how my running journey began. I quickly realized that I loved running; it helped clear my mind and gave me necessary time for myself. Now, I go on runs with all three of my children, and we all love it! I have completed one marathon, and will be running my second with the Minnesota Milk Bank for Babies team! I believe mothers need the opportunity to continue doing the things they love to preserve their own well-being, because when mom is happy, the whole family is happy.

Entry #9 Cecilia



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Entry #14 Chloe



When my daughter was born prematurely, she spent her first 12 days in the NICU.

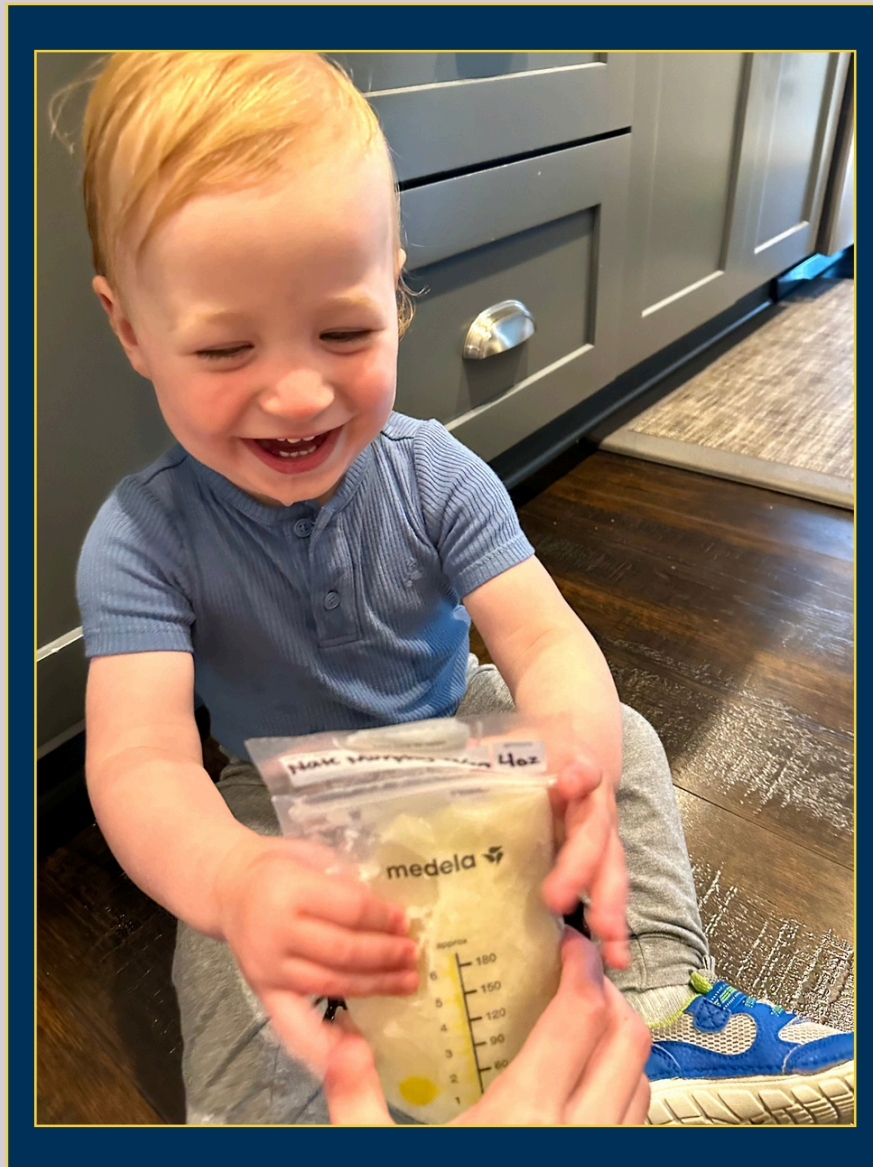
During that time, donor human milk gave us something we desperately needed: reassurance that she was receiving the nourishment her tiny body needed while we navigated an overwhelming start to parenthood. As a new mom, accepting donor milk wasn't something I had planned for, but it quickly became one of the greatest gifts our family received. Knowing that another mother had chosen to donate her milk so babies

like mine could have the best possible start is something I will never forget.

Today, I am incredibly grateful that breastfeeding has become part of our journey, and my hope is to become a milk donor myself. Being able to give back in the same way another family gave to ours would be a full-circle moment and one of the most meaningful ways I can honor the generosity that helped my daughter thrive.

Every ounce of donated milk represents compassion, hope, and the extraordinary bond between families who may never meet but whose lives become forever connected.

Entry #15 Colleen



When Nate was a newborn, he received donor milk in the hospital. Now that he's 1-year-old, he's ready to share mom's milk with other babies in need!

Entry #21 Jasmine



Walker is 4 months old and a very happy baby! He was born just shy of 36 weeks and had trouble breathing so he spent some time on CPAP and received surfactant to help open his lungs. We benefited from milk from the milk bank for the first day of our 8-day NICU stay. He received a bottle of donor milk immediately after birth (which he chugged) and through a feeding tube until Mom's milk came in. He celebrated Mom's birthday in the NICU and was greeted at home by his two older siblings. To the Minnesota Milk Bank for Babies, thank you for all you do! As a parent, I'm so grateful that he had nutrition available to help him recover quickly. He is now a giant baby measuring in the 78% percentile 😊.

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Entry #30 Madison



Just shipped off my first cooler of 400oz of milk!! I am so blessed to be able to donate. When my little girl decided she was not a fan of eating... from the source ... and I had to start pumping, I thought of it as a personal failure. My expectations of how feeding my baby would go were tossed out the window. But I discovered quickly that I had a huge oversupply of milk!

My freezer filled up and I started searching the internet for ideas of what to do with it all. That's when I learned I could donate my surplus to help babies in need. I was so excited! The prospect of getting to help vulnerable infants get the nutrition they need made pumping something to look forward to, instead of feeling like a reminder that I failed at breastfeeding.

The Lord works in mysterious ways; His ways are higher than ours. He had a plan for my postpartum journey and this was 100% a part of it. I thank God for how this all worked out. I have a fat, healthy baby of my own... and I get the privilege of feeding little ones I'll never even meet.

Entry #25 Mackenzie



Mom's biggest helper! Our fourth and final pumping journey wouldn't be complete without donating milk to the MN Milk Bank. We have been blessed to donate through over-supply, excess milk, and the loss of our third baby. The milk bank has been a win for our family and for the many families that receive the milk.

Entry #27 Madison



My name is Madison Eddy, and my husband, Steven, and I are blessed with our sweet 6 month-old son, Malachi, and our energetic Australian Labradoodle, Norman. We call Moorhead, MN, home, and this season of life has been filled with joy, challenges, and countless reminders of God's faithfulness. Shortly after Malachi was born, I discovered I had an oversupply of breast milk, producing nearly 90 ounces each day. An oversupply is a blessing but it also comes with its own physical and emotional challenges. It wasn't the breastfeeding journey I had imagined, but through it all, we continued to trust that God had a purpose for every part of our story. As my freezer quickly filled, I realized this wasn't simply extra milk it was also an opportunity. God had entrusted me with an abundance, and I felt called to share that gift. That's what led me to donate to the Minnesota Milk Bank for Babies. While I'll likely never meet the families who receive my donations, I pray each bag reminds them that they are seen, supported, and loved. This journey has truly been a team effort. I couldn't have done it without Steven. He has spent hours washing pump parts, bagging and organizing milk, feeding Malachi while I pump, and encouraging me on the days when pumping felt exhausting. His unwavering support has made this possible, and I'm so thankful we get to serve others together. Motherhood has taught me that God often writes stories that look very different from the ones we planned. This wasn't the journey I expected, but I wouldn't change the opportunity to help other families through it. Looking back, I can see God's faithfulness and I'm grateful He can use even the unexpected parts of our story for his glory. To every mama reading this: whether you have an oversupply, an undersupply, or anything in between, your worth is not measured in ounces. Every breastfeeding journey is unique, and every act of love for your baby matters. Your value isn't found in how you feed your child, but in the love and care you give them each day.

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Entry #31 Sally



I conceived both my children via IVF and had to wean my older daughter earlier than we both wanted to in order to start to prepare my body for another IVF pregnancy. Thanks to my oversupply I was able to give her pumped breast milk for six more months after weaning, so I was overjoyed to learn, after my second and last daughter was born, that I was accepted as a milk donor (no reason to stock up this time around!). Over the last few months I've dropped off over 750 ounces, and I tell my girls every time they see me pumping how important it is to help our neighbors. Fertility and motherhood can be challenging for so many reasons, and I never want any mother or baby to feel like they don't have enough care and nourishment in every sense of both words.

Entry #32 Chabhadiya



When my baby was born at 33 weeks, the world felt overwhelming. In the beginning, we received donor milk just one time, and that single act of kindness changed everything for me. It became my ultimate inspiration. I dedicated myself to pumping day and night, working tirelessly to build up my milk supply. What started as receiving help turned into an incredible journey of giving back—I managed to store and donate almost 600 ounces of breast milk to the milk bank. I am so honored to share our story and help other families just like ours was helped.