



Baby-Friendly USA, Inc.  
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## ***Emory Decatur Hospital Receives Prestigious International Award***

Albany, NY - Baby-Friendly USA, announces that **Emory Decatur Hospital has received prestigious international recognition as a Re-Designated Baby-Friendly birth facility.**

Michelle Pratt, MA, BSN, RNC-MNN, unit director, Lactation & OB Navigation at Emory Decatur Hospital notes that “this recertification shows the dedication and hard work from our staff to meet our breastfeeding goals.”

Baby-Friendly USA, Inc is the U.S. authority for the implementation of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (“BFHI”), a global program sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF). The initiative encourages and recognizes hospitals and birthing centers that offer an optimal level of care for breastfeeding mothers and their babies. Based on the *Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding*, this prestigious international award recognizes birth facilities that offer breastfeeding mothers the information, confidence and skills needed to successfully initiate and continue breastfeeding their babies.

“What this designation means for our moms that choose to deliver here is they can expect to receive the lactation support and education they need in order to make the best decision for themselves and their families,” notes Michelle.

There are more than 20,000 designated Baby-Friendly hospitals and birth centers worldwide. Currently there are more than **570** active Baby-Friendly hospitals and birth centers in the United States. The “Baby-Friendly” re-designation is given after a rigorous on-site survey is completed. The award is maintained by continuing to practice the Ten Steps as demonstrated by quality processes.

Further information about the U.S. Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative may be obtained by contacting

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