

# Breastfeeding Friendly Workplace TE Connectivity

## Anoka County SHIP Success Story

TE Connectivity, a technology company that designs and manufactures connectivity and sensor products, has roughly 200 employees in Anoka County. With a commitment to their employee's health and wellness, they became an Anoka County SHIP Workplace Wellness partner in 2020. Kate Dircks, HR Solutions Partner at TE Connectivity, had a goal for the company to become a MN Breastfeeding Friendly Workplace through the Minnesota Department of Health. When looking over the checklist to submit for certification, the only thing that was missing was a designated space for breastfeeding.

With funding from Anoka County SHIP, TE Connectivity was able to purchase a Mamava Solo Pod in the summer of 2020 to house at their Andover office location. Before the Mamava, nursing mothers had no designated space for pumping or breastfeeding and had to compete for limited meeting room space. Now, employees have a secure space to use that is equipped with a chair, outlet, table, sanitation wipes, and mirror.

In September, TE Connectivity's application to become a Minnesota Breastfeeding Friendly Workplace was accepted by MDH. There are roughly 115 workplace sites across Minnesota have been certified by MDH as a Breastfeeding Friendly Workplace. To become certified, workplaces must ensure appropriate support, time, education, and a place for pregnant and breastfeeding employees. Workplaces must also have a written policy or guideline that is shared with staff. At TE Connectivity, updated nursing policies and supports were shared with staff through an organization wide 'town hall' event and will be communicated to new staff through onboarding materials and employee handbooks. To support the education piece necessary to become a Breastfeeding Friendly Workplace, SHIP was able to provide breastfeeding resources for employees at the site as well.

Obtaining this certification helps business to promote themselves to their community by acknowledging their commitment to supporting development of healthy families. TE Connectivity will be working over the next year to gather information on usage of the pod and feedback from women who have utilized it.

