



HEALTHY CHILDREN PROJECT, INC.

Press Release

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredits the Certified Lactation Counselor (CLC) certification program based on the ISO/IEC 17024 Standard

January 15, 2014

The Healthy Children Project, Inc. (HCP) is pleased to announce that on December 4, 2013, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited Healthy Children's Academy of Lactation Policy & Practice (ALPP) Certified Lactation Counselor® (CLC®) certification program based on the ISO/IEC 17024 Standard. ANSI is well-recognized within the industry as enforcing the highest standards in personnel certification accreditation.

This ANSI accreditation process (based on the ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024 standard) is designed to increase the integrity, confidence, and mobility of certified professionals. Since the launch of ANSI's Personnel Certification Accreditation Program in 2003, the Institute has accredited 42 personnel certification bodies across a range of industry sectors involving more than 5 million workers.

ANSI's personnel certification accreditation program was the first such program in the United States to fulfill the requirements of ISO/IEC 17011, conformity assessment - General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies, which represents the global benchmark for accreditation body practice. Accordingly, ANSI's accreditation program is recognized as a world-renowned leader in personnel credentialing.

Since 1996, The Healthy Children Project, Inc. has met the growing needs of professionals wishing to advance their knowledge and have their competency verified in the provision of care and support to breastfeeding families. More than 22,000 individuals have been awarded the Certified Lactation Counselor / CLC credential, enabling them to receive recognition for their expertise within the field of lactation consulting.

Certified Lactation Counselor and CLC are certification marks registered with the United States Trademark and Patent Office. Healthy Children Project, Inc. is defining the field of research based breastfeeding education and ethical, evidence-based breastfeeding practice. A non-profit 501(c) (3) research and educational institution dedicated to improving child health outcomes through partnerships with public, private and non-profit agencies, HCP through its Center for Breastfeeding, is the largest national provider of lactation management education for health care providers. More than 4,000 health providers, advocates and facilitators are educated annually through the Lactation Counselor Training Course at more than 80 offerings across the United States. Educational offerings are held at hospitals, Women, Infant and Children (WIC) Programs, health department training facilities, colleges, and other locations suitable for adult education. Continuing education units are available to Registered Dietitians, Registered Nurses, Internationally Board Certified Lactation Consultants, Nurse Midwives and Certified Lactation Counselors through long-term provider agreements. The examination and course competencies of the certification are developed and maintained by the Academy of Lactation Policy and Practice.

Healthy Children Project, Inc.'s faculty are leaders in the field who are recognized for their evidence-based scholarship as well as their clinical experience. Faculty serve in leadership positions in maternal and child health coalitions on the regional and national level. Healthy Children is a founding member of the United States Breastfeeding Committee (USBC), the Massachusetts Breastfeeding Coalition and serves on the USDA/FNS/WIC Breastfeeding Promotion Consortium. Healthy Children works in partnership with Union Institute and University to provide Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Maternal Child Health: Lactation Consulting.

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Visit:

HCP website at www.healthychildren.cc

ALPP at www.TALPP.org

ANSI at www.ANSI.org