



23/12/2019

Tel: 01582 314131

FAO Trustees of the Alexa Trust

Re: Establishment of the Kent Donor Milk Hub

The Human Milk Foundation gratefully received a donation of £5800 from the Alexa Trust as a contribution towards the development of a Hearts Milk Bank Hub in Kent. This will be the second hub for the HMF, the first having recently opened in November 2019 in Norfolk. The hub will enable the milk bank to more efficiently recruit donors and provide pasteurised donor human milk to hospitals and recipient babies throughout the county by reducing the need for multiple collections and deliveries between Kent and Hertfordshire where the Hearts Milk Bank is based.

The donation covers the purchase of a Donor Human Milk freezer, 4 insulated transport boxes (with printed logos of HMF and the Alexa Trust), barcode scanner and tracking system and in-service training for staff on the maternity and neonatal units.

Following the disappointing withdrawal of agreement for the hub to be sited at the originally agreed site the HMF were able to gain agreement later in the year from the Darent Valley Hospital for it to be situated in the Maternity Unit's Milk Kitchen. This is located very close to the Kent SERV headquarters where the volunteer couriers who will deliver milk to and from the hub are based.

After a number of site visits and discussions with staff from both the Neonatal Unit and the Maternity Unit, it was agreed that the freezer will be delivered to the hospital as soon as the necessary electrical adaptations have been completed. The HMF is also awaiting confirmation of the exact location for equipment delivery and electrical testing. The completion date is anticipated for January 2020 when the training will also be delivered.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N Shenker', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Dr Natalie Shenker
BM BCh, PhD
Trustee | Human Milk Foundation

CC: Gillian Weaver: Operations Director, Hearts Milk Bank
Graeme Allinson: Chair of Trustees, the Human Milk Foundation