

Tonya Kubo has been building communities online since before the debut of the iPhone. Though trends, tools and platforms change all the time, Tonya has found the human need for connection NEVER goes away. The busier people get, the higher the number of competing priorities they juggle, the more important online relationships have become. Tonya is a social media consultant who works with mission-driven organizations of all sizes to develop engaged online communities. A graduate of both Fresno State and Kent State universities, Tonya currently supports the communications efforts of the California Breastfeeding Coalition.

Brandi Gates-Burgess is an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant who works for West Oakland Health WIC Program and Health Center as their Breastfeeding Coordinator and Lactation Consultant. She also provides in home lactation support for Alameda Alliance members and evening to late night lactation care at Highland Hospital. Brandi created and facilitates the Breast Friends Mommy Group an African American focused support group for pregnant and breastfeeding moms. Brandi Co-chairs the Breastfeeding Cultural Outreach Taskforce (BCOT) and sits on the Community Advisory Board for the UCSF Preterm Birth Initiative. She is a graduate of California State University, Eastbay, a mother of three beautiful exclusively breastfed girls and a passionate breastfeeding advocate.

Michele Poole is a WIC nutrition assistant in training and former breastfeeding peer counselor in Oakland, CA. She is an active member of the UCSF Preterm Birth Initiative Community Advisory Board and the Parental Clinician Advisory Board. These boards are community partnerships to address the racial disparity in equitable care for African Americans and Latinx communities. Michele is dedicated to helping her community and meeting the needs of moms as best as possible. It is Michele's absolute passion to support moms of micro-preemies. She is married with five children two of whom are micro-preemie twins. In her spare time she likes to read and scroll Pinterest for new ideas.

Karen Garcia a Breastfeeding Peer Counselor for the WIC Program. She loves that fact that as a Breastfeeding Peer Counselor she is relatable to her participants at WIC. She is able to share her breastfeeding experiences, share knowledge with them and vice-versa. Her main goal when it comes to counseling is to provide education, and give the tools in order for her participants to succeed in their breastfeeding journey. Karen is a proud mom of two beautiful girls whom are almost 4 and 2 years old! Her daughters are the main source of fuel in life to keep her grounded and always stay thriving for more.