# **Benefits of Skin to Skin Contact with Newborns**

#### **Boosts Baby's Mental Development**

Stabilizing heart rate, oxygenation and improving sleep, the brain is better able to develop

### **Help Baby Adapt**

 Since your skin is the same temperature as the womb, the baby will find it easier to adapt to her post birth environment

# **Promotes Healthy Weight**

When babies are warm, they don't use their energy to regulate their body temperature. They
can then use that energy to grow

### **Makes Breastfeeding Easier**

 Newborns have a heightened sense of smell, so placing your baby skin to skin helps them seek out the nipple and begin breastfeeding

### **Helps You Make More Milk**

 When mom and baby are together, hormones that stimulate lactation are produced helping milk production

# **Baby Sleeps Better**

Less stress= better sleep! Skin to skin helps babies sleep deeply and wake less often

### **Helps Prevent Postpartum Depression**

Oxytocin released from skin to skin care decreases maternal anxiety and promotes attachment

### **Promotes Bonding with Dad**

 From their time in the womb, babies recognize their fathers' voice. Babies find skin to skin contact with Dad calming and helps them bond