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Albany Capital Center Installs Mamava Lactation Pod

Pod to support chestfeeding individuals in attendance at events hosted at venue

ALBANY, N.Y. – The <u>Albany Capital Center</u> (ACC) is pleased to announce the installation of a free-standing Mamava Lactation Pod, sponsored by <u>Highmark Blue Shield of Northeastern New</u> <u>York</u>. Mamava Lactation Pods are freestanding spaces that provide a clean, comfortable, and private option to chestfeed or pump at the Albany Capital Center, and will be available at all events beginning in September.

Albany Capital Center installed the "Mamava ADA Compatible Pod" which has a 60" turnaround and comes equipped with two spacious benches, a fold-down table, fixed shelf, mirror, coat hook, dual outlet and USB port, occupancy-activated lighting, ceiling vents and exhaust fan. Mamava Lactation Pods can be located and unlocked with the <u>free Mamava app</u> and proprietary smart access system, which guides the user to a pod's location, opens the pod with the touch of a button and allows them to customize lighting and airflow.

The staff at the Albany Capital Center identified the best placement for the lactation pod, ensuring an easily accessible location for people to utilize. The pod will be conveniently located directly off the main lobby for ease of access, personal security and privacy.



"We saw the growing demand amongst our clients for a nursing pod here at the Albany Capital Center," said Shannon Licygiewicz, general manager of Albany Capital Center. "We are grateful for the sponsorship of Highmark Blue Shield of Northeastern New York and the opportunity to support parents in our community. It is exciting to expand our family-friendly offerings at ACC, and we are looking forward to opportunities for more additions in the future."



"We continuously seek new ways to support the needs of our community members and remove barriers that individuals face to achieve optimal health," said Keith Dolan, Regional Executive, Highmark Blue Shield of Northeastern New York. "We are pleased to bring Lactation Pods to the Albany Capital Center to provide mothers with a comfortable, convenient option for feeding their children."

"We're thrilled to support breastfeeding at Albany Capital Center," said Sascha Mayer, co-founder and CEO of Mamava. "We believe that all mothers deserve a clean, comfortable, and dignified place to use a breast pump or breastfeed distraction-free—anywhere, anytime. Mamava pods provide flexibility for facilities and easy access for moms."

Since opening in 2017, Albany Capital Center has generated nearly \$54 million in total spending, according to Discover Albany. Drawing more than 85,000 hotel room stays, ACC continues to attract organizations from various markets to the Albany area. To learn more about the ACC, visit www.albanycapitalcenter.com

About the Albany Capital Center: Opened in March 2017, the Albany Capital Center (ACC), operated by leading venue manager ASM Global, is a modern, premier event and meeting destination in New York's culturally rich Capital Region. Connected to the Times Union Center, Empire State Plaza and Renaissance Albany Hotel via enclosed walkways, the convention center hosts a diverse array of trade shows, consumer and social events, and meetings for up to 5,000 guests. It boasts 22,500 square feet of ballroom/exhibit space, six meeting rooms with 9,200 square feet of space, 13,500 square feet of pre-function space, state-of-the-art technology, and impeccable dining options. The ACC is conveniently located in downtown Albany and within walking distance of the New York State Capitol, business and warehouse districts, performing arts venues, museums, shops, restaurants and nightlife. The Albany Convention Center Authority (ACCA) is a public benefit corporation that administers the operation of the ACC, by ASM Global. For more information about the ACC, visit www.albanycapitalcenter.com.

About ASM Global:

ASM Global is the world's leading producer of entertainment experiences. It is the global leader in venue and event strategy and management – delivering locally tailored solutions and cutting-edge technologies to achieve maximum results for venue owners. The company's elite venue network spans five continents, with a portfolio of more than 325 of the world's most prestigious arenas, stadiums, convention and exhibition centers, and performing arts venues. For more information, please visit <u>https://www.asmglobal.com/</u>

About Mamava: Mamava, the leading expert in lactation space design, is dedicated to transforming the culture of breastfeeding in the United States by providing flexible lactation space solutions designed to meet the needs of breastfeeding families. Mamava pods are linked into a proprietary smart technology system that empowers easy wayfinding and autonomous access. Moms can open them with Mamava's free app (available for <u>iOS</u> and <u>Android</u>). The app also allows moms to see availability of pods, opt into vacancy alerts, adjust interior lighting and airflow, and leave digital notes of support for the next person. Best of all, the app helps moms find thousands of (Mamava-vetted) places to pump on the go—not just

Mamava pods, and never a bathroom. To learn more, visit Mamava at <u>mamava.com</u>, and follow Mamava on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>LinkedIn</u>.