CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A staged feeding regimen for an infant or child, comprising the steps of:

A) administering a first nutritional composition comprising from 100 µg/mL to 1300 µg/mL of lactoferrin to the infant from birth to 3 months of age;

B) administering a second nutritional composition comprising from 600 µg/mL to 2000 µg/mL of lactoferrin to the infant from 3 months of age to 6 months of age; and

C) administering a third nutritional composition comprising from 100 µg/mL to 1500 µg/mL of lactoferrin to the infant from 6 months of age to 12 months of age,

wherein each of the first nutritional composition, the second nutritional composition and the third nutritional composition are different from each other.

2. The staged feeding regimen of claim 1, wherein the first nutritional composition further comprises at least one of the following selected from the group consisting of: i) up to 0.2 mg/100 kcal of iron; ii) up to 0.7 mg/100 kcal of zinc; iii) up to 2 g/100 kcal of protein; iv) a protein source comprising a whey:casein ratio of at least 72:28; v) up to 35 mg/100 kcal of inositol; and vii) from 1.8 µg/100 kcal to 2.0 µg/100 kcal of vitamin D.

3. The staged feeding regimen of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the second nutritional composition further comprises at least one of the following selected from the group consisting of: i) from 0.3 mg/100 kcal to 0.6 mg/100 kcal of iron; ii) up to 0.9 mg/100 kcal of zinc; iii) up to 1.9 g/100 kcal of protein; iv) a protein source comprising a whey:casein ratio of 65:44 to 68:32; v) up to 25 mg/100 kcal of inositol; vi) up to 9.0 mg/100 kcal of butyrate; and vii) from 1.8 µg/100 kcal to 2.0 µg/100 kcal of vitamin D.

4. The staged feeding regimen of any one of claims 1 - 3, wherein the third nutritional composition further comprises at least one of the following selected from the group consisting of: i) from 0.3 mg/100 kcal to 1.2 mg/100 kcal of iron; ii) up to 1 mg/100 kcal of zinc; iii) up to 1.5 g/100 kcal of protein; iv) a protein source comprising a whey:casein ratio of 45:55 to 56:44; v) up to 20 mg/100 kcal of inositol; vi) up to 9.0 mg/100 kcal of butyrate; and vii) from 1.8 µg/100 kcal to 2.0 µg/100 kcal of vitamin D.

5. The staged feeding regimen of any one of claims 1 - 4, wherein the first nutritional composition, second nutritional composition, and third nutritional composition each further comprise docosahexaenoic acid.

6. The staged feeding regimen of any one of claims 1 - 5, wherein the first nutritional composition, second nutritional composition, and third nutritional composition each further comprise a carbohydrate source, a fat source, and a protein source.

7. The staged feeding regimen of any one of claims 1 - 6, wherein the first nutritional composition, second nutritional composition, and third nutritional composition each further comprise prebiotics.

8. The staged feeding regimen of any one of claims 1 - 7, wherein the first nutritional composition, second nutritional composition, and third nutritional composition each further comprise *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* GG.

9. The staged feeding regimen of any one of claims 1 - 8, wherein the first nutritional composition, second nutritional composition, and third nutritional composition each further comprise β-glucan.

10. The staged feeding regimen of any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the first nutritional composition, second nutritional composition, and third nutritional composition each further comprise inositol.

11. The staged feeding regimen of any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the first nutritional composition, second nutritional composition, and third nutritional composition each further comprise a culture supernatant from a late-exponential growth phase of a probiotic batch-cultivation process.