



The Indiana Pregnancy Promise Program Making Strides Throughout Indiana

Opioid use during pregnancy can affect the pregnant individual and their baby. In fact, substance use is a leading cause of pregnancy-related death and can also contribute to preterm labor or other birth-related complications. According to research, opioid use disorder (OUD) in pregnancy has escalated dramatically in recent years, and it is believed that approximately 5% of pregnant individuals use one or more addictive substances. Substance use disorders (SUD) impact individuals across all racial and ethnic groups, socioeconomic statuses and in rural, urban, and suburban populations. Furthermore, pregnant individuals with OUD, particularly those living in rural areas, often lack access to health care during pregnancy and immediately after giving birth.

Some may be prescribed an opioid and may misuse the prescription, or use illegal opioids such as heroin. Regardless of why an individual uses opioids, it is important to know the possible risks of use during pregnancy, as well as the treatment options available for OUD. In 2017, Governor Holcomb made addressing this issue one of his administration's priorities. As a result, in 2019, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) provided an opportunity to fund innovative programs that would reduce the health impact of opioid use in pregnancy, and in July 2021, the Indiana Pregnancy Promise Program was launched.

What is the Indiana Pregnancy Promise Program?

The Indiana Pregnancy Promise Program (IPPP) is a **FREE**, voluntary program for pregnant Medicaid members, who are currently using opioids or have used opioids in the past. The goal is to improve the health and well-being of pregnant individuals and their babies as early as possible with substance use recovery during pregnancy. IPPP recognizes that the best support for pregnant parents and families requires teamwork. It can be dangerous to stop using opioids without the support of trained medical providers. With the help of case managers, IPPP supports families by coordinating care between primary care physicians, OB/GYNs, mental health specialists, OUD treatment providers, pediatricians, and certified peer recovery specialists, as well as other community-based programs. To be eligible for this statewide program, participants must be pregnant or within 90 days of the end of their pregnancy, have current or past opioid use, and must be eligible for Medicaid coverage. Participation in the IPPP is confidential and voluntary, and individuals may accept or decline participation at any time.



Reference:

Opioid Use and Opioid Use Disorder in Pregnancy
<https://innovation.cms.gov/innovation-models/maternal-opioid-misuse-model/>

Indiana Pregnancy Promise Program: For Pregnant Individuals
<https://www.in.gov/fssa/promise/files/IPPP-Annual-Report-2022.pdf>

How does IPPP benefit moms and babies?

Opioid use during pregnancy is increasing nationwide, including in Indiana. Pregnant individuals with an OUD can take steps now to help ensure a healthy pregnancy and a healthy baby upon delivery. During pregnancy, OUD can be treated with medication, counseling and recovery support. Good prenatal care is also very important and key to having a healthy baby. Parents want what is best for their children. By connecting pregnant individuals with health care and treating opioid use during pregnancy, the IPPP can help reduce the risks of harmful effects to moms and babies. These specialized services begin upon enrollment and continue for 12 months after delivery.

What is case management and care coordination?

Recovery can be a difficult journey. Participants are connected to a case manager who has special training to support the health of moms and their babies during recovery. They meet participants either by phone or in person. Case managers and participants meet two times a month and more frequently closer to delivery. Case managers help create a plan to coordinate care, as well as connect to community organizations and health-related social needs such as housing, nutritional services and transportation.

How do participants get connected to IPPP?

Anyone can make a referral to the IPPP as there is “no wrong door” to enroll in this program. Referrals can be made by a pregnant individual, their medical provider, or friends and family. Referrals can be made online at [Indiana Pregnancy Promise Program: Home](#) or by calling the toll-free number 1-888-467-2717 or 1-317-234-5336. For more information regarding referrals, email the program at PregnancyPromise@fssa.in.gov. For additional recovery resources, including family supports, community services, health education, OB/GYN information, Medicaid coverage including health plan details, OUD and treatment options, please visit: [Indiana Pregnancy Promise Program: Community and Recovery Resources](#).

If you are pregnant, have delivered your baby within the past 90 days, or are planning to become pregnant and using any type of opioid substance, please talk with your medical provider. Learn more about the treatment options that are available to you and your baby and ask for a referral to this awesome program. Providing preventive care and increasing awareness about services for OUD and SUD is one way to fight this battle against the opioid use epidemic in our great state.

Let's keep our moms and babies safe!

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