Making a Family Visiting Referral

The Rhode Island Department of Health offers a variety of family visiting services to expecting parents and those with children under age three. Our goal is to enroll families as early in pregnancy as possible, because the earlier families enroll, the more support and services they can receive.

Our programs are particularly helpful to:

• Young parents with low incomes and low education levels;
• Parents and parents-to-be who have multiple challenges and stressors; and
• First-time parents.

See the reverse side for an explanation of each of our programs.

What are the benefits of Family Visiting?
Our three evidence-based programs show improvements in important maternal and child health outcomes, lower rates of child maltreatment, preterm birth, substance use, unintentional injuries, and ER usage; and higher rates of breastfeeding, infant immunization, school readiness and achievement, economic self-sufficiency, maternal depression screening, and prenatal and well-baby care.

Family visitors offer:

• connections to healthcare services and support for families to keep appointments;
• health education and guidance on preventive health practices; and
• screenings for maternal depression, interpersonal violence, and child wellness.

Who are family visitors and where do visits take place?
Family visitors are trained nurses, social workers, or community health workers and other professionals who are trained to help families identify and achieve their goals. They meet with families wherever it is convenient and comfortable—at home, school, the library, or anywhere families prefer.

Make a referral today!
Your referral/recommendation matters. Research shows that families are more likely to accept a family visit if suggested by a doctor or other trusted professional.

Call the Rhode Island Department of Health at 222-5960 Monday-Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, and you will be connected with the Family Visiting Program. Have the patient’s verbal consent and contact information ready, and it will only take a few minutes of your time. We’ll help families choose the program that’s right for them, and we will follow up with you to let you know if your patient enrolls.
# Family Visiting

<table>
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<tr>
<th>First Connections</th>
<th>PARENTING PREPARATION</th>
<th>STRENGTHENING PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIPS</th>
<th>PROMOTES SCHOOL READINESS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>referred and enrolled prenatally and until baby is 3 years of age</td>
<td>enroll first time moms who are less than 28 weeks pregnant; in program until 2 years of age</td>
<td>enroll prenatally up until baby is 3 months of age, in program until 4 years of age</td>
<td>enroll prenatally and up until baby is 2 years of age; in program until 4 years of age</td>
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