

Nurse-Family Partnership

At the 2019 First Steps Conference on June 13–14, Christina Commons moderated an informative panel session with state partners and stakeholders who work alongside the First Steps program to provide needed services

for children and families. Each partner shared information about their program and how it intersects with First Steps. See below to read a summary of answers from Nurse-Family Partnership.

**2019
FIRST STEPS
CONFERENCE**

STAKEHOLDER PANEL

Nurse-Family Partnership is so grateful to the First Steps program for giving parents support and skills to help every child reach their potential.

A brief description of the program Nurse-Family Partnership is an evidence-based community health program with over 40 years of evidence showing significant improvements in the health and lives of first-time moms and their children living in poverty. Nurse-Family Partnership works by having specially trained nurses who regularly visit young first-time moms-to-be, starting early in the pregnancy and continuing through the child's second birthday. Nurse-Family Partnership can reduce infant death, by providing prenatal care and teaching parents about and encouraging smoking cessation, breastfeeding and safe sleep.

What are the eligibility requirements for Nurse-Family Partnership?

To qualify for the program, a woman must be fewer than 28 weeks pregnant with her first child, be Medicaid eligible, and live in a county where services are currently offered.

What counties does Nurse-Family Partnership serve?

Currently, Nurse-Family Partnership serves 39 counties through four local agencies.

Are there common misunderstandings or misconceptions of Nurse-Family Partnership that should be corrected?

It is important that First Steps providers understand that Nurse-Family Partnership is comprised of nurses providing services in the home and that they screen for developmental progress. Nurse-Family Partnership is available to support First Steps in assisting parents to follow treatment programs.

Does Nurse-Family Partnership staff share information about First Steps?

Yes, it is standard for referral when there is either a positive ASQ, or the parents or nurse indicate they have a concern.

What is one thing First Steps providers should share with families?

That families can share their individualized family service plan and First Steps information with their nurse home visitor so that everyone is working together with the family.

When and why would First Steps providers refer a family to Nurse-Family Partnership?

First Steps personnel can recommend families to Nurse-Family Partnership when they identify anyone in the family or community who is eligible for Nurse-Family Partnership (a first-time, low-income pregnant woman, less than 28 weeks gestation).

How does Nurse-Family Partnership intersect with First Steps?

When a Nurse-Family Partnership home visitor identifies there is a positive ASQ screen, nurses refer families to First Steps using the phone number, faxed referral form or online form. Nurses leave their number on the referral form to enable them to communicate with First Steps if the family provides consent.

If a pregnant woman is a teenager living with her parents, are her parents' incomes counted toward the family size?

No.



[www.nursefamilypartnership.org/
locations/Indiana/](http://www.nursefamilypartnership.org/locations/Indiana/)

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A brief description of the program Nurse-Family Partnership is an evidence-based community health program with over 40 years of evidence showing significant improvements in the health and lives of first time moms and their children living in poverty. NFP works by having specially trained nurses who regularly visit young first-time moms-to-be, starting early in the pregnancy and continuing through the child's second birthday. NFP can reduce infant death, by providing prenatal care and teaching parents about and encouraging smoking cessation, breastfeeding and safe sleep.

How can First Steps providers work more effectively with Nurse-Family Partnership?

Nurses appreciate joint home visits with First Steps therapists, if possible, and appreciate when the First Steps therapist leaves instruction sheets with the family so the treatment plan can be reinforced by the home visitor.

Does Nurse-Family Partnership address nutrition?

Yes, within the physical health domain. Both nutrition education and support with food insecurity (referral to food pantry, assistance to receive SNAP) is completed. Breast-feeding support is considered a part of nutrition education.

Program contact information

Agency Name	Address	Contact	Website	Counties Available
Goodwill of Central and Southern Indiana	Marion Co. office: 1635 W. Michigan St. Indianapolis, IN 46222	Lisa Crane lcrane@goodwillindy.org 317-524-3999	www.goodwillindy.org/ health/	Lake, White, Carroll, Tippecanoe, Montgomery, Clinton, Howard, Tipton, Grant, Blackford, Madison, Delaware, Henry, Randolph, Wayne, Hendricks, Marion, Morgan, Johnson, Shelby, Bartholomew, Jackson, Jennings, Washington, Scott, Jefferson, Clark, Floyd, Harrison, Crawford
	Madison Co. Office: 630 Nichol Ave. Anderson, IN 46016			
Healthier Moms and Babies	1025 W. Rudisill Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46807	Paige Wilkins pwilkins@hmbindiana.org 260-469-4076	www.healthiermom- sandbabies.org/	Allen County
IU Health Community / Health, Bloomington	333 E. Miller Dr., Bloomington, IN 47401	Amy Meek AMeek1@iuhealth.org 812-353-3200	https://iuhealth.org/ in-the-community/ south-central-region/ nurse-family-partnership	Greene, Lawrence, Monroe, Orange, Owen
Goodwill of Michiana	1805 W. Western Ave., South Bend, IN 46619	Arden Floran AFloran@goodwill-ni.org 574-472-7347		Elkhart, LaPorte, St. Joseph

