

Introducing Family Connects Ohio



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Family Connects Ohio (FCO) is a universal home visiting program that kicked off in Summer 2024 and is designed to meet the needs of new families across Ohio in partnership with Family Connects International. Currently, FCO services are available in 11 counties as part of the initial roll out of the program, with the aim of expanding to serve additional Ohio counties in the future.



What is Family Connects Ohio?

The FCO program offers every new mom in participating counties, regardless of income, a visit from a nurse at three weeks, but up to 12 weeks, after delivery. FCO connects families to healthcare providers who will nurture the whole family and support a newborn's health and wellbeing. The nurse provides a physical exam for both the new mom and baby, answers questions around caring for the new baby, and provides referrals to other services and resources to support the family.



HOME-VISITING: Free home visiting program offered to all families of newborns in participating counties



FOR ALL: Helping all families, including bereaved or adoptive families, regardless of income or background



THREE WEEKS: Visits are scheduled around three weeks after a baby's birth



REGISTERED NURSE: All visits are made by highly trained nurses



NO COST TO RECIPIENTS: As eligible recipients (new moms) will not be charged



EVIDENCE-BASED MODEL: Evidence-based model with standardized practices to achieve positive outcomes



DATA-DRIVEN IMPROVEMENT: Continuous quality improvement driven by transparent data sharing and reporting



Introducing the Family Connects Credential

All Home Visitors and Home Visiting Supervisors will be required to obtain a credential prior to providing services and to gain access to the Ohio Comprehensive Home Visiting Integrated Data System (OCHIDS). As part of the FCO program, there will be two associated credentials:

- Home Visitor Full
- Supervisor Full

Home Visitors and Supervisors must have an associate degree (RN) in the field of nursing to meet the minimum education requirement as well as any model-specific and state training requirements. Credentials must be renewed every two years, and providers must hold a valid nursing license.



Looking for More Information?

For more information about FCO or to begin the FCO credentialing process, visit <https://www.helpmegrow.org/FamilyConnects>.