



RESOURCES FOR PROFESSIONALS WORKING WITH PREGNANT AND PARENTING PEOPLE AFFECTED BY SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS*

Resource Title & Organization	Resource Description
<p><u><i>Plans of Safe Care for Infants with Prenatal Substance Exposure and Their Families</i></u></p> <p>Child Welfare Information Gateway</p>	<p>Examines state laws and policies regarding the development and implementation of Plans of Safe Care (POSC)—as required by the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)—to ensure the safety and well-being of infants identified as being affected by prenatal substance use. Describes notification/reporting requirements; assessment of the infant and family; POSC development; services for the infant, parents, or other caregivers; and POSC monitoring.</p>
<p><u><i>Best Practices to Support Pregnant and Postpartum Women with Opioid Use Disorder and Infants Prenatally Exposed to Opioids</i></u></p> <p>Association of State and Territorial Health Officials and Centers for Disease Control</p>	<p>Describes best practices to support pregnant and postpartum women with opioid use disorder (OUD) and infants prenatally exposed to opioids. Featured topics include POSC, expanding access to OUD medications for pregnant and postpartum women, and using family-centered programs to treat OUD.</p>
<p><u><i>Improving the Nurse-Family Partnership in Community Practice</i></u></p> <p>American Academy of Pediatrics</p>	<p>Specially trained registered nurses in the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) programs deliver home visits to first-time, low-income mothers for a period of 2½ years, lasting from early pregnancy until the child turns 2. This illustrated publication provides a framework to examine: 1) the NFP home-visiting model/implementation, and 2) promising approaches to challenges that may arise.</p>
<p><u><i>Pregnancy and Substance Use: A Harm Reduction Toolkit</i></u></p> <p>National Harm Reduction Coalition</p>	<p>Intended for pregnant and parenting people who use substances, along with their loved ones and service providers. Promotes the overall health and well-being of pregnant people who use substances. Many people, upon finding out they are pregnant, wonder about reducing or stopping their use. It is important to know there are many steps to take—related to substance use or not—toward a healthy pregnancy.</p>
<p><u><i>Maternal Mental Health Learning Opportunities for Providers</i></u></p> <p>Maternal Mental Health Now</p>	<p>Offers information on training, technical assistance, and other forms of consultation to health care and community-based providers serving families during their reproductive journey. The list includes therapists, clinical psychologists, social workers, community health workers, counselors, nurses (neonatal, pediatrics, labor and delivery, maternity, NICU), midwives, nurse practitioners, physicians (psychiatrists, OB/GYNs, pediatricians, neonatologists, family practitioners, general practitioners, primary care physicians), lactation consultants, health educators, doulas, and home visitors.</p>

*This document uses the term “people” to be inclusive of women, nonbinary, transgender or non-conforming individuals experiencing pregnancy or in a parenting role.

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<p><u><i>Mental Health of Parents and Caregivers</i></u> Child Welfare Information Gateway</p>	<p>A parent or caregiver’s mental health disorder can be a risk factor for child maltreatment. Depression, low self-esteem, poor impulse control, anxiety, and antisocial behavior are linked to a heightened potential for child abuse and neglect as these factors can compromise parenting. This resource list provides information on co-occurring mental health issues and child maltreatment.</p>
<p><u><i>Parental Substance Use as Child Abuse</i></u> Child Welfare Information Gateway</p>	<p>Discusses laws and policies related to parental substance use, including the particular care and treatment needs of substance-exposed infants, risks to children, child neglect, and exposure to illegal drug activity. Contains full-text excerpts of laws for all U.S. states and territories.</p>
<p><u><i>Child Welfare Practice to Address Racial Disproportionality and Disparity</i></u> Child Welfare Information Gateway</p>	<p>Examines racial disproportionality and disparity in child welfare and the factors that contribute to the problem. Also describes practices child welfare caseworkers, administrators, program managers, and policymakers can implement to assess these issues in general and at specific decision-making points along the child welfare continuum.</p>
<p><u><i>Addressing the Needs of Young Children in Child Welfare: Part C – Early Intervention Services</i></u> Child Welfare Information Gateway</p>	<p>Describes the relationship between child welfare and early intervention (EI), provides an overview of the EI process, and outlines the challenges and strategies for implementing EI provisions in federal law. EI services can help young children (0-3) with developmental delays or disabilities—along with their families—overcome challenges and improve both well-being and outcomes. Partnerships between child welfare and EI systems can expand the array of supports and resources for all involved to help children remain safely in their homes, stabilize placements, and improve well-being.</p>
<p><u><i>Protective Factors Approaches in Child Welfare</i></u> Child Welfare Information Gateway</p>	<p>Provides an overview of national protective factors approaches to prevent child abuse and neglect. Designed to help child welfare professionals, administrators, service providers, policymakers, and other interested individuals: 1) understand the concepts of protective and risk factors in families and communities, and 2) build protective factors to lower the risk of child abuse and neglect now and in the future.</p>
<p><u><i>The Indian Child Welfare Act: A Primer for Child Welfare Professionals</i></u> Child Welfare Information Gateway</p>	<p>Provides caseworkers with an overview of current and historical issues affecting child welfare practice with American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) families, practice implications, and cultural considerations. The 1978 ICWA attempts to protect the right and culture of AI/AN children and families.</p>
<p><u><i>Substance Use, the Opioid Epidemic, and the Child Welfare System: Key Findings from a Mixed Methods Study</i></u> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation</p>	<p>Examines the relationship between parental substance use and child welfare caseloads, which began rising in 2012 after more than a decade of decline. Results describe how child welfare interacts with community partners to serve an increasing population of parents whose substance use has impaired their parenting and placed their children at risk.</p>
<p><u><i>How the Child Welfare System Works</i></u> Child Welfare Information Gateway</p>	<p>Provides a brief overview of the purposes and functions of the child welfare system; offers a flowchart illustrating how cases typically move through the system.</p>
<p><u><i>How Federal Legislation Impacts Child Welfare Service Delivery</i></u> Child Welfare Information Gateway</p>	<p>Provides an overview of the process by which legislative actions and policy changes at the federal level affect state and Tribal child welfare systems and service delivery; provides links to pertinent resources.</p>

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<p><u>Alcohol Abuse and Other Substance Use Disorders: Ethical Issues in Obstetric and Gynecologic Practice</u></p> <p>The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists</p>	<p>Recommendations from the American College of Obstetricians on care for pregnant people with substance use disorders (SUDs). Includes routine screening techniques, clinical lab tests, brief interventions, and treatment referrals.</p>
<p><u>Opioid Use and Opioid Use Disorder in Pregnancy</u></p> <p>American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' and the American Society of Addiction Medicine</p>	<p>Provides ACOG recommendations on care for pregnant people with SUDs. Topics include universal screening for substance use as a comprehensive part of obstetric care, multidisciplinary long-term follow-up, infants born to women who used opioids during pregnancy, and referring pregnant people with OUDs to treatment to improve maternal and infant outcomes.</p>
<p><u>Family Engagement: Partnering with Families to Improve Child Welfare Outcomes</u></p> <p>Child Welfare Information Gateway</p>	<p>Overview of the foundational elements of the family engagement approach to child welfare as well as strategies and promising practices for implementing this approach. While geared toward frontline caseworkers who directly engage families, the publication also provides information about family engagement at the system, program, and community levels.</p>
<p><u>What is Child Welfare? A Guide for Health Care Professionals</u></p> <p>Child Welfare Information Gateway</p>	<p>Offers health care professionals an overview of child welfare and describes ways they can work together to promote better outcomes for children and families.</p>
<p><u>What is Child Welfare? A Guide for Behavioral and Mental Health Professionals</u></p> <p>Child Welfare Information Gateway</p>	<p>Overview of child welfare services. Describes how behavioral and mental health professionals can partner with child welfare to ensure children, youth, and families receive appropriate services that promote healthy functioning and well-being.</p>

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This document is used as a supplement to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) [Clinical Guidance for Treatment and Parenting Women with Opioid Use Disorder and Their Infants](#).



National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare

To learn more about the information in this resource guide from National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare (NCSACW) email us at NCSACW@cffutures.org or call toll-free at 1-866-493-2758.

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