

Smart Solution Template

Family Connects

Family Connects is a universal newborn home visiting program for families with children birth to 1 year. Core components for model fidelity include Home Visits, Community Alignment, and Data and Monitoring. Home visiting nurses assess the newborn, mother, and family health and psychosocial well-being during home visits which last 90-minutes to 2-hours when the child is approximately 3 weeks old. Based on needs and interests, families can receive an additional 1-2 home visits and/or telephone calls from the home visitor. Home visiting nurses will connect families with community resources as needed. Sites implementing Family Connects will collaborate with community agencies, systems, and individuals to impact systems-level change. Regular supervision, peer collaboration, assessments, documentation of home visits, family contacts, and referrals are required to ensure model fidelity. Family Connects nurse home visitors are Registered Nurses. Nurse supervisors must also be Registered nurses. Community alignment specialists are required to hold a bachelor's degree. Program support coordinators must hold at least a high school diploma. The medical director must hold a Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathic Medicine in pediatrics, OB-GYN, family medicine, or psychiatry and have expertise in OB-GYN/midwifery, infant or maternal mental/behavioral health, and/or pediatrics. Collaboration with other specialists is necessary. Sites implementing Family Connects will receive certification from Family Connects International (FCI).