

LANCASTER COUNTY PLANS OF SAFE CARE



Planning with you to support you and your baby's health

What is a plan of Safe Care?

Federal Legislation requires a Plan of Safe Care for infants affected by substance use. This specifically includes misuse of prescription medications and alcohol exposure.

The plan of safe care is a community approach to the protection of mothers and substance exposed infants. Any provider can assist the mother in completing a plan of safe care to ensure babies have the healthiest start possible.

Social Services Providers are invited to be part of the family's multidisciplinary team (MDT). The MDT convenes to coordinate services that meet the needs of both the infant and the caregiver. Families may opt out at any time as Plans of Safe Care are voluntary.

Our goal is to work with families on a plan before the baby is born. We invite you to initiate the plan with the family during pregnancy.

Who needs a Plan of Safe Care?

- Pregnant people who are in treatment for a substance use disorder
- Pregnant people who are taking medications that are clinically indicated but may result in withdrawal symptoms in a newborn. This includes: Methadone, Buprenorphine, Prescription Opioids, Prescription Benzodiazepines, and some Antidepressants
- Infants who have been exposed to alcohol and other substances during pregnancy
 - A ChildLine notification must be made at the time of delivery
 - Let ChildLine know if a plan of safe care has been initiated

Universal Consent Form

The Lancaster County Plans of Safe Care Committee has developed a universal consent to release information form. The universal consent form can be found at LancasterJoiningForces.org/SafeCare.

Like many consent forms, patients may choose which information is shared and with whom. Patients may select from both their medical records and their drug and alcohol records.

This universal consent form allows each family's multidisciplinary team to streamline processes and better coordinate care for the family.

Multidisciplinary Team

Each family who participates in a Plan of Safe Care can expect their team to meet to coordinate services. As a service provider, you may be invited to participate in team meetings to help the family plan for their ongoing health, development, and overall well-being.