

HEALTHY BABIES



The first three years of a child's life is a period of very rapid development. 80 percent of brain development happens during these years, so it is important that parents and caregivers have access to all the resources they need to provide their babies with nurturing relationships, good nutrition and healthy environmental stimuli.

When a baby is healthy and safe and secure and in an interactive, supportive relationship, their brain development benefits, and you have the best possible chance for a great outcome for that child as they continue to grow. As such, pregnant mothers and mothers with infants and toddlers living in the Normandy Schools Collaborative (NSC) footprint have access to a variety of full health and wraparound services for their babies. These services are funded by the Community Impact Network and its coalition partners and delivered by professionals working in the footprint.

Pre-Natal Care

Efforts to ensure a healthy baby don't just start when the baby is born. The well-being of the baby is tied to the birthing parent, and that connection starts while the baby is in the womb. Families within in the NSC can take advantage of resources and services to make sure both mom and baby-to-be are healthy and meeting key pregnancy milestones.

Resources

Sometimes, with the costs of rent and utilities, families are forced to cut corners on other essentials like diapers or healthy food. It's a tough choice and has a detrimental impact on the overall physical and mental health of the entire family. Families come with complex, intertwined needs, and to that end, several organizations are working within the NSC footprint to make sure that families are served across all their various resource and nutritional needs.

Parent Education

Children thrive in caring and supportive households. To help ensure that babies within the NSC have the nurturing environments they need, parents can take advantage of free training and support for themselves and their children through the age of five.



5^{by}Age5

In 2021, Community Impact Network 5byAgeFive coalition partners provided full health and wraparound services to 276 of the approximately 470 prenatal and new moms and babies in the NSC footprint. Over the eleven-year history of the Community Impact Network's 5byAgeFive coalition, infant mortality in the NSC footprint has dropped 43 percent.

Having nursing and parenting supports like these should be a right for all of this nation's moms and babies. We are proud that all moms in the NSC footprint have full access to resources to help navigate being a new parent.



Nurses for Newborns provides in-home nursing visits to promote healthcare and prevent infant mortality from pregnancy until the child turns two.

www.nursesfornewborns.org



Nurse-Family Partnership provides nurse visits for first-time moms-to-be, from pregnancy through the child's second birthday.

www.nursefamilypartnership.org



Operation Food Search works with federal nutrition programs, adapting them to reach as many children and families in the region as possible.

www.operationfoodsearch.org



Parents as Teachers works to strengthen families through an early childhood home visiting model, providing services to pregnant women and families with children from birth through kindergarten.

www.parentsasteachers.org



The **St. Louis Area Diaper Bank** provides families in need with free diapers, resulting in improved child health and happiness.

www.stldiaperbank.org

5^{by}Age5

Scan this QR Code to watch our video about the resources and services available to families in the NSC!

