

Better beginnings for **mothers** and **babies**.



Frequently Asked Questions

What are the components of Right From The Start and how are they provided?

- Visits are conducted in the home and/or a location of the client's choice.
- Each client is assigned one registered nurse or licensed social worker.
- Pregnant women are eligible through 60 days postpartum.
- Infants are eligible from birth through the first birthday.
- Each participant has an individually designed, client-driven care plan which identifies needs.
- Care coordination, referral and follow-up are provided to the client according to the care plan.
- Client services are community-based.
- Clients are offered assistance with arranging transportation to medical appointments.
- Screening and referral for prenatal and postpartum depression is mandatory for all women.
- Clients are offered health education which includes: preventive self-care, childbirth education, parenting education and nutritional counseling.

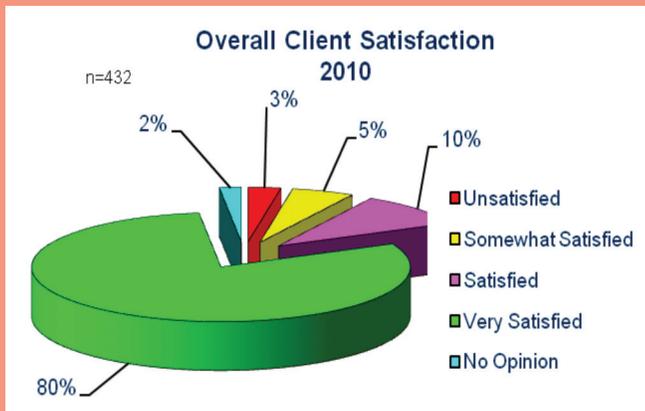
What are the goals of Right From The Start?

- Improved pregnancy outcomes.
- Improved families' economic and personal self-sufficiency.
- Reduction in number of low-birth-weight births.
- Reduction in number of premature births.
- Improved infant health and development.

What is the structure of Right From The Start?

- In August 2010, 60 community agencies employed 167 Designated Care Coordinators (DCCs) throughout West Virginia who contract with OMCFH to provide care coordination and enhanced education services to high risk pregnant women and infants. Providers are dedicated to the core public health function of assisting with access to early and adequate prenatal healthcare.
- The State is divided into eight (8) regions for management of RFTS. Each region has a Regional Care Coordinator (RCC) who oversees the activities of the DCCs. In addition to assigning client referrals and promoting the Program, the RCC coordinates training and education for DCC staff and recruits obstetrical care providers and designated care coordination agencies.
- The Prenatal Risk Screening Instrument (PRSI) identifies risk factors which include, but are not limited to, medical complications, nutritional needs and psychosocial factors.
- Care coordination is provided to eligible pregnant women up to 60 days postpartum and infants up to one year in age.
- RFTS services are provided in collaboration with the client's primary medical provider. The medical provider receives a copy of the individualized Service Care Plan, any updates and final outcome measures at case closure.





How does Right From The Start (RFTS) differ from other home visitation programs?

- Professional, highly qualified, specially trained registered nurses and licensed social workers, trusted members of the community workforce experienced in providing home-based care coordination services to high risk pregnant women and their infants.
- A carefully crafted, highly-interdependent 29 year partnership between the WV DHHR Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health (OMCFH) and tertiary care centers, primary care centers, local health departments, private practitioners and other community agencies serving pregnant women and newborns.
- Multi-generational outcomes that benefit society economically and reduce long-term social service expenditures.
- Committed to producing enduring improvements in community health and well being.
- Voluntary client participation in a setting of their choice.
- Provider builds a trusting relationship with the client and the family; therefore, the client is more likely to verbalize existing needs and may be more willing to share sensitive information.

How is Right From The Start funded?

The West Virginia Bureau for Medical Services (Title XIX) and the Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health (Title V) have worked collaboratively to develop a systemic approach to deal with the problems of access to prenatal care and improved pregnancy outcomes. This funding allows us to work toward this goal and maximize all available resources.



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