



FAMILY CONNECTS

Springfield-Greene County

660 S. Scenic Ave. Springfield, MO 65802
FamilyConnects417.com

NEST Partnership is now Family Connects

NEST Partnership Family Connects

- Prenatal and infant case management
- Serving qualifying Greene County families through home visits since 2016
- NEST nurses completed 367 visits in 2023
- Free, universal home visiting program offered to **all** families of newborns in Greene County
- Home visit from a trained nurse within the first 12 weeks postpartum



Mission: Strengthening connections for families with newborns and linking them directly to supportive community care resources.

Vision: Equitable outcomes for each and every newborn.



Family Connects was born in Durham, NC

- Modeled after *Durham Connects*
- Research and evaluation resulted in evidence-based model
- Demand from other communities led to creation of Family Connects International



Family Connects was born in Durham, NC



The Family Connects model

Introduction

Program offered and visit scheduled prior to discharge.

Schedule

Visit scheduled up to 12 weeks postpartum.

Availability

Available to all families with newborns in Greene County.

Case load

Each nurse handles 6-8 new cases per week.

After-care

Follow-up with families 4 weeks post-visit.

Staff education

Nurses are trained.





Nurse connects
with family and
identifies needs.



Nurse connects
family to
community
resources.



Parent
connects
with infant.



Why a nurse?

1. Timing
2. Knowledge
3. Trust





Cultural competence

Cultural competence is a core value for Family Connects. This is displayed by:

- Providing compassionate, culturally-tailored care to each family
- Offering education in multiple languages
- Adapting services to meet families' unique needs





- All families have needs for health or social **support**
- Community-wide eligibility is **essential** to population change
- Offering the program to every family **reduces** barriers and **encourages** high rate of program acceptance and visit completion

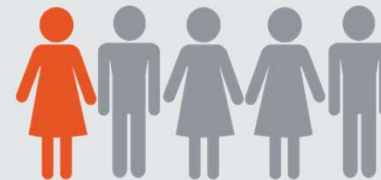


Implementation data

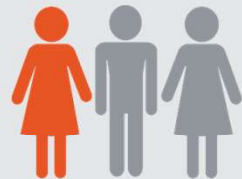
From Family Connects International 2009-2019 (>10,000 families)



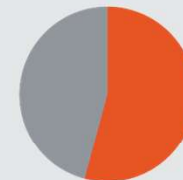
95% of families have nurse-identified risks/needs



1 in 5 have not scheduled a 6-week postpartum visit



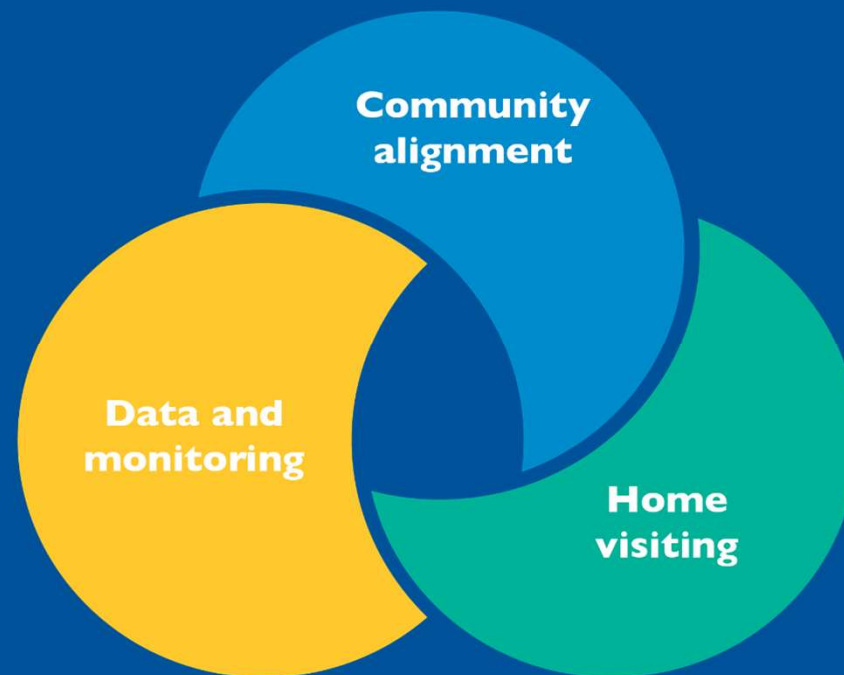
1 in 3 birthing parents have mild or significant depression



55% do not have a regular medical care provider



The Family Connects Model



Community alignment domains



Areas of support

Healthcare

- Maternal health
- Infant health
- Healthcare plans

Infant Care

- Childcare plans
- Parent-child relationship
- Management of infant crying

Safe Home

- Household safety/material
- Family and community safety
- History with parenting

Parents

- Parent well-being
- Substance use in household
- Parent emotional support





Support for healthcare

- **Maternal health**
- **Infant health**
- **Healthcare plans**

Education provided at visit

- Breastfeeding support
- Expectations for urination and bowel movements
- Infant feeding
 - Schedule
 - Proper formula mixing
 - Feeding cues
- Importance of finding a trusted doctor
- When to call your pediatrician



Support for infant care

- **Childcare plans**
- **Parent-child relationship**
- **Management of infant crying**

Education provided at visit

- **Period of PURPLE Crying curriculum**



Support for safe home

- **Household safety/material**
- **Family and community safety**
- **History with parenting**

Education provided at visit

- Safe sleep
- Firearm safety





Support for parents

- **Parent well-being**
- **Substance use in household**
- **Parent emotional support**

Education provided at visit

- Connecting to community resources
- Screenings for substance use, postpartum depression, and interpersonal violence for every parent



RCT evaluation: 6-month in-home interviews

Compared to control families, Family Connects International families had:

- More connections to resources
- More self-reported positive parenting behaviors
- Higher quality parenting behaviors
- Safer home environments
- Higher quality childcare
- Lower self-reported anxiety



RCT evaluation results:

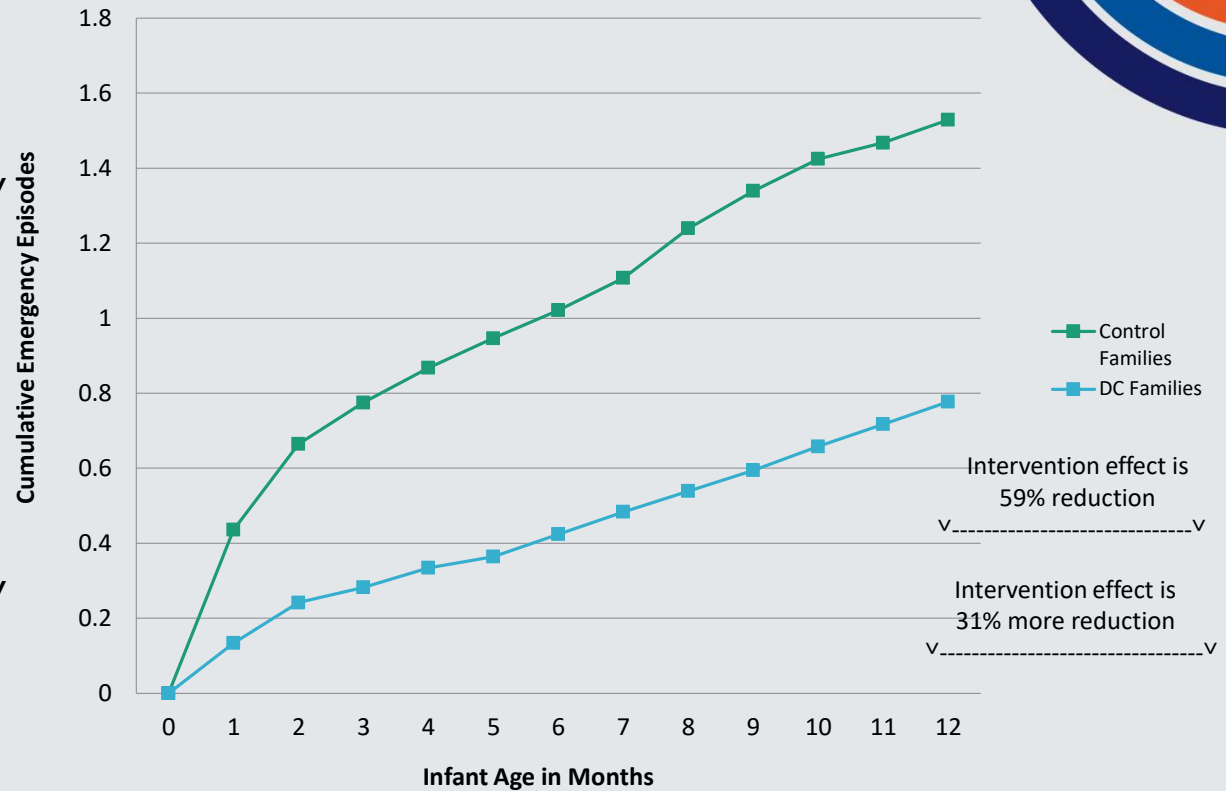
Child hospital administration records

Results at infant aged 12 months from aggregate hospital records

▪ 50% less total infant emergency medical care (ER visits + overnights in hospital)

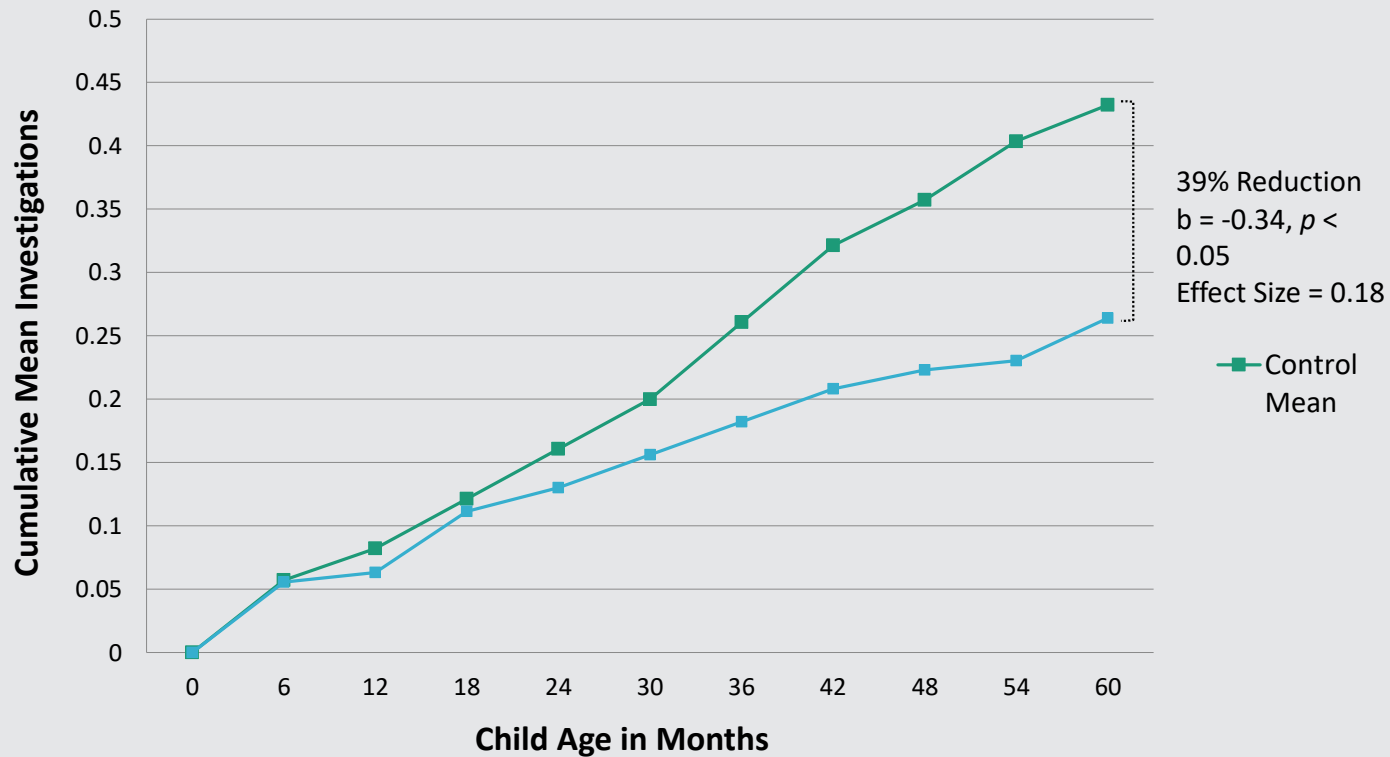
Results at infant aged 24 months from aggregate hospital records

▪ 37% less total infant emergency medical care (ER visits + overnights in hospital)



RCT evaluation results:

Age 60-month CPS investigations



How to Refer Families

www.familyconnects417.com

Let us know if you would like flyers for your office or facility!



FAMILY CONNECTS

SUPPORT from the START

While becoming a parent is filled with joy and anticipation, having a newborn is hard. Babies don't come with an instruction manual.

We're here to help.

The Family Connects program is available for free to all families with newborns who live in Greene County.

Family Connects nurses are here to help with the adjustment and questions that come with a new baby. From the comfort of your home, we provide tips to support your baby's wellbeing and offer connections to community resources that nurture your whole family.

For more information or to enroll in the program, visit familyconnects417.com or scan the QR code.

What you can expect:

- Health checks for parent and baby
- Breastfeeding and infant feeding education
- Resources for managing infant crying
- Safe sleep and home safety education
- Postpartum depression and maternal mental health screenings for parents
- Connections to community resources

Lead Program Staff



Ruth Brown
BSN, RN
Family Connects
Coordinator



Bre Tyger
BSN, RN
Community
Alignment
Specialist



Jill Allen
BSN, RN, CPN
Nurse Lead

AJ0

AJ1



Alexis Johnson
Program
Support
Specialist



Slide 23

AJ0 Hi! My credentials are: BSN, RN, CPN (certified pediatric nurse). Thanks!
Allen, Jill, 2024-01-03T20:41:28.697

AJ1 Technically, I am the Nurse Lead. Thank you!
Allen, Jill, 2024-01-03T20:42:13.760

Trained Nurses



Alisa Smith,
RN
Nurse Home
Visitor



**Angela
Doolittle**
BSN, RN
Nurse Home
Visitor



Toni Cowger
BSN, RN
Nurse Home
Visitor



**Nurse Home
Visitor**



Questions?

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