

What is Perinatal Linkage?

Perinatal Linkage is a free support service designed to assist pregnant women who are living with HIV.

Perinatal Linkage connects clients to prenatal care, Healthy Start, WIC, and other programs or services.



Perinatal Linkage



Florida Department of Health

Perinatal Linkage
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HOW HIV IS TRANSFERRED:

The HIV virus from the mother can infect the baby:

- During pregnancy
- During labor and delivery
- Through breastfeeding (HIV is found in mother's milk)
- By pre-chewing food to feed a baby or child (Passed by infected blood in the saliva of the person pre-chewing the food).

PERINATAL LINKAGE PARTNERS:

- Food Stamps
- Healthy Start
- Medicaid
- WIC
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)
- Ryan White Part B
- Sterilization and/or Family Planning

PERINATAL LINKAGE GOALS:

- To prevent the transmission of HIV from mother to baby.
- To educate pregnant women living with HIV about pregnancy needs and resources for meeting those needs.
- To provide confidential support and counseling to pregnant women living with HIV.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Where is Perinatal Linkage located?

Perinatal Linkage is located at the Florida Department of Health in Escambia County, HIV/AIDS Regional Program Office covering Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, and Walton counties.

How can I enroll in the program?

Ask your healthcare provider for a referral to the program, or call the Perinatal Linkage Coordinator at (850)595-6500 x1506.

What if I need transportation?

Perinatal Linkage works with area resources to coordinate transportation to appointments.

Will I have to tell anyone? Family, partner, boss, friends, etc.

Not unless you want to. Health information will be kept confidential according to privacy practices and laws.