

Babies First! and CaCoon

Manual 2024- Chapter 1



PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION
Maternal and Child Health

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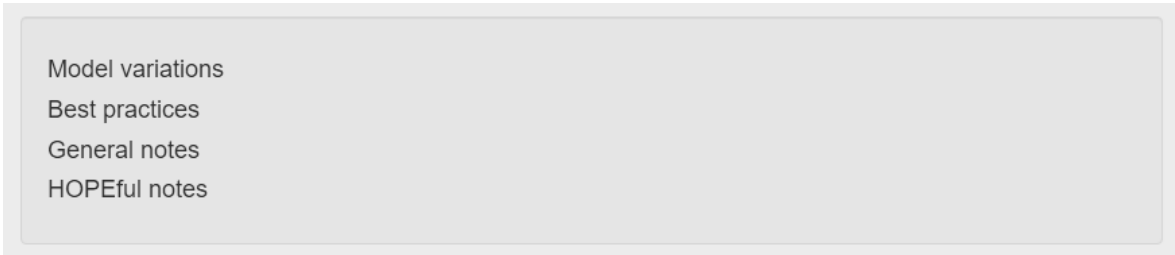
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How to Use This Manual

This manual contains detailed information broken into chapters and sections within each chapter. At times there will be call out boxes to denote acceptable model variations, best practices, and notes. Certain key components (e.g., compliance activities, evidence-based practices) of each program may be highlighted in gray boxes.

Example of gray box:



- Model variations
- Best practices
- General notes
- HOPEful notes

Purpose of the Manual

The purpose of this manual is to provide a detailed program overview and resources for Public Health Nurses (PHNs), community health workers (CHWs), supervisors and administrators to use to support their work in the Babies First! and CaCoon Programs.

In 2023, the effort to combine the Babies First! and CaCoon manuals was undertaken to reduce burden on implementing staff, local agencies, and families. Across the state, the workforce for these programs is often the same or overlapping. For other agencies, they are only implementing one of the programs, usually Babies First!. It is important for programs to keep in mind that services should still be offered to those children who would be eligible for CaCoon, although they will receive Nurse Home Visiting support from a Babies First! case manager. There are also some programs that work with Community Health Workers and others that do not. Differences in programs are referred to as “model variations”. Approved model variations or general best practices are illustrated in tip boxes throughout the manual.

Target Audience of the Manual

All staff members implementing the Babies First! and CaCoon Home Visiting Programs, including but not limited to: Administrators, Nurse Supervisors, Nurse Home Visitors, Community Health Workers, and support staff.

Overview of Public Health Nurse Home Visiting in Oregon

These programs are administered by Local Public Health Departments or partnering local agencies and are tailored to address specific community needs. This localized approach ensures that families are offered the necessary support and resources within their community. Please note, not all programs are available in every county (see map for details).

Model Variation: Babies First!

If a county does not have a CaCoon program, it is important to keep in mind that home visiting services should still be offered to children who experience special healthcare needs. In these cases, best practice recommendations for CaCoon clients should be followed and the Model Variation: CaCoon tip boxes may be helpful. In other words, Babies First! nurses do not have to fulfill CaCoon program requirements, but they do need to be aware of best practices for taking care of children with special healthcare needs.

Babies First! (B1st!): B1st! serves pregnant people and families with babies and children up through age 4 (up to age 5) with an identified need. Program oversight and technical assistance is provided by the State Public Health Division. Local Public Health Departments determine whether they will administer this program and which target populations to prioritize based on community need. B1st! is available in most Oregon counties.

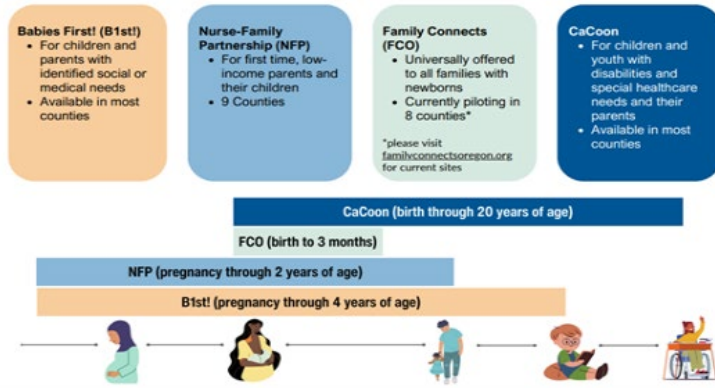
CaCoon: The CaCoon program serves children and youth with disabilities and special healthcare needs from birth through age 20 (up to age 21). The Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs (OCCYSHN) provides oversight and technical assistance for this program. OCCYSHN is housed at the Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU). Local Public Health Departments determine whether they will administer this program and which target populations to prioritize based on community need. CaCoon is available in most Oregon counties.

Family Connects Oregon (FCO): The FCO program offers between one and three home visits to every family with a newborn beginning around three weeks of age. Eligible families may be transferred from FCO to B1st or CaCoon. Oversight and technical assistance are provided by the State Public Health Division and Family Connects International. FCO is currently available in eight Oregon counties with plans to eventually be offered statewide.

Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP): The NFP program primarily serves low-income people who are pregnant for the first time. Families are visited from pregnancy until the child turns 2 years old. Technical assistance is provided by the State Public Health Division and the Nurse-Family Partnership National Service Office. NFP is currently available in nine Oregon counties.

Funding to support these programs depends on the program and the local site but may include: Oregon State General Funds, county general funds, Medicaid reimbursement, federal funds (Maternal and Child Health Title V Block Grant, Maternal Infant Early Childhood Home Visiting), and commercial insurance reimbursement (FCO only).

Public Health Nurse Home Visiting



Babies First! and CaCoon Joint Vision Statement

Every family in Oregon with an identified need who wants a public health home visitor has access to one. Families served by Babies First! and CaCoon feel that their unique needs are being met and that they are supported in living healthful lives. By helping families thrive, we are supporting the well-being of our communities.

Babies First! and CaCoon Joint Values Statement

- We oppose all forms of oppression, including racism, classism, sexism, and ableism.
- We understand that individuals may face unique forms of discrimination, particularly if they belong to multiple oppressed groups.
- We work to remove systemic and social barriers to care.
- We support the inclusion of all parents, including fathers, mothers, non-binary parents, resource parents, grandparents, step-parents, adoptive parents, and all others who have taken on a parental role.
- We offer services that meet parents where they are, reducing life stressors and adding value to families' lives.
- We value lived experience.
- We believe that all home visiting services should focus on the needs of families and be sensitive to the cultural backgrounds of the individuals served.
- We believe that parent partnership is an essential part of home visiting programs.

- We believe that home visiting programs are most effective when they are designed to first and foremost meet the needs of families and children.

Mission

Babies First!

The Babies First! Program is a relationship and strength-based public health nurse (PHN) home visiting program that partners with families to improve pregnancy, family and child health outcomes, and to connect to quality health care and the community supports they have a right to.

CaCoon

CaCoon is a relationship and strength-based public health nurse (PHN) home visiting program that partners with families with children and youth or with disabilities or unique health care needs by supporting them to access and coordinate quality health care and the community supports they have a right to.

Program Acronym List

CCO Coordinated Care Organization

CDRC Child Development and Rehabilitation Center

CHN Community Health Nurse

CHW Community Health Worker

CSHCN Children with Special Health Care Needs

CYSHCN Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

EI/ECSE Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education

EBP Evidence-Based Practices

EIP Evidence-Informed Practice

FOC Father of Child

IFSP/IEP Individualized Family Service Plan/Individualized Education Plan

LHS Legacy Health Systems

LHD Local Health Department

MAC Medicaid Administrative Claiming

MOC Mother of Child

OCCYSHN Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs

ODDS Oregon Developmental Disabilities Services

OHA Oregon Health Authority

OHSU Oregon Health & Science University

OT Occupational Therapist

PHN Public Health Nurse

POC Parent of Child

PT Physical Therapist

RS Reflective Supervision

ST Speech Therapy

SSI Supplemental Security Income

SSDI Social Security Disability Insurance

TCM Targeted Case Management

UCP United Cerebral Palsy

Self-Assessment of Learning Needs

Self-assessments are an important part of program orientation, on-going professional development, and quality improvement. Parallel to the program approach of family-centered and trauma informed practice, we acknowledge the diversity in staff and community needs across Oregon, which also applies to training needs. Only you can assess your individual learning needs: we encourage you to take the Babies First! Self-Assessment of Learning Needs annually. Additional program assessments are also available (see below).

Home Visiting Staff:

- Babies First! Self-Assessment of Learning Needs
(this is a smartsheet that will require you to create a login password).
- Reflective Supervision self-assessment

Program Administration:

- Strengthening Families™ Self-assessment Tool for Home Visiting Programs

- Reflective Supervision program assessment
- 2SLGBTQ+ assessment