

# TARGETED OUTREACH for PREGNANT WOMEN ACT

## What is TOPWA?

The Targeted Outreach for Pregnant Women Act (TOPWA) is a program for high-risk pregnant women who may not seek proper prenatal care, who suffer from substance abuse problems, or who are infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). TOPWA provides these women with links to much needed services and information.

## Who is eligible for TOPWA?

- ♦ All women who are pregnant and have no prenatal care
- ♦ Women who are pregnant and HIV infected
- ♦ Women who are pregnant and using drugs or alcohol
- ♦ TOPWA assists ALL eligible pregnant women, even those with no documented citizenship

## Services Offered by TOPWA

- ♦ Help with getting prenatal care
- ♦ Help with getting substance abuse treatment
- ♦ Free pregnancy testing
- ♦ HIV testing and education
- ♦ Help with getting family planning services
- ♦ Pregnancy support and health education
- ♦ Linkage to community resources
- ♦ Education on other STDs/Hepatitis and referrals for testing



## Can I have a healthy baby if I have HIV?

yes!

If a pregnant woman who is infected with HIV receives proper prenatal care and takes her medications to treat HIV during her entire pregnancy, there is about a 98% chance that the baby will not have HIV.



## If I have HIV, what do I need to do after my baby is born?

- ♦ Do NOT breastfeed
- ♦ HIV-exposed infants should be tested for HIV routinely for up to 18 months. Make sure your doctor tests your baby regularly.
- ♦ HIV-exposed infants should be given the proper medications as instructed by medical professionals

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## What will happen to my baby if I use drugs or alcohol?

Babies born to mothers who use drugs or alcohol have a greater chance of having physical and/or developmental problems.



## Can I still have a healthy baby if I quit now?

*yes!*

It is never too late to quit! Talk to your local TOPWA provider about getting help with your drug or alcohol problem.

## If I am eligible what does TOPWA have to offer?

- ◆ Assistance receiving Medicaid
- ◆ Transportation assistance
- ◆ Assistance with enrollment in Healthy Start, WIC and other social service programs
- ◆ Family Planning Assistance
- ◆ Help with HIV medications and proper prenatal care
- ◆ Baby showers and gifts
- ◆ Education on topics such as stress management and self-care for a healthy pregnancy

## Contact your local TOPWA provider today!

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*"A baby is born with a need to be loved and never outgrows it."*

*-Frank A. Clark*