



Residential Treatment Referral Process

The Pregnant and Parenting Women (PPW) programs are licensed by the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) under the guidelines of the American Society for Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Level of care 3.3/3.5 Residential Treatment Programs. The services offered are clinically managed, high-intensity, and population-specific. They are designed for people with substance use disorder who also have serious psychological or social issues and who need 24-hour oversight because they are at risk of imminent harm or relapse.

The residential treatment programs will provide family-centered treatment services for women with up to 2 children. The programs provide clinical services for the mother and referral services, childcare services, and supportive services for the family. Every program is unique and has developed various services to support the needs of the family. Programs do not provide every service, but the standard services that most programs provide are:

- Individual and group substance use disorder treatment counseling services including treatment planning
- Nutrition classes
- Financial planning/management
- Self-sufficiency/esteem classes
- Time management/planning
- Parenting classes
- Bonding opportunities for mother and child
- Life skills training/learning to manage self and children
- Safe sleep education
- Family recreational activities

Child Services include:

- Onsite child-care supervision
- Transportation to school/camp
- Transportation to HeadStart programs
- Homework time
- Early childhood services
- Recreational activities
- Prevention services

Upon admittance, individuals can practice early recovery skills, while experiencing the support of others in a recovery-oriented setting, which prepares them for successful transition to a lower level of care within the community.

Referral Process

Pregnant women with up to 1 child and parenting women with 1-2 dependent children are referred for approval by a Gender Specific Services (GSS) staff for a PPW placement based on the ASAM Criteria. The criteria gauges women's readiness for the level of care by assessing the individual using the ASAM Dimensions

The ASAM dimensions are comprehensive and take in all aspects of the person's life. The use of these dimensions helps to determine the intensity of services needed:

Dimension 1: Acute intoxication and/or withdrawal potential.

Dimension 2: Biomedical dimension

Dimension 3: Emotional, behavioral, or cognitive conditions and complications

Dimension 4: Readiness to change.

Dimension 5: Relapse, continued use, or continued problem potential.

Dimension 6: Recovering/living environment.

The GSS Office uses a priority list based on federal and state priorities to determine placement:

1. Pregnant women/Pregnant Intravenous Drug User (IDU)
2. Pregnant with a Child
3. Substance Exposed Newborn (SEN)/ child welfare involved
4. Women with Children
5. Integration of child welfare – (ICW) (Anyone who lives in the house with the children who are involved with CPS, excluding the parent).
 - a. This only applies to referrals from Prince George's County and Baltimore City.

To make a referral, please email gss.unit@maryland.gov. The GSS Team will then send you the following two documents to complete and return to the same email address:

1. Pregnant and Parenting Women (PPW) Placement Criteria
2. Universal Consent for Release of Confidential Information

For additional information on the PPW program, please contact Karol Harmon at Karol.harmon1@maryland.gov or Suzette Tucker at suzette.tucker@maryland.gov.