

SPRING 2019 EDITION

NEWSLINK



THE GOOD NURSE
NFP FEATURED IN WOMAN'S DAY

**A Lifeboat in the Midst
of a Raging Typhoon**

GOAL MAMA
TOGETHER, WE'RE GOING PLACES.

**CELEBRATE
NURSES WEEK
MAY 6-12**

 Nurse-Family
Partnership
Helping First-Time Parents Succeed™

A LIFEBOAT IN THE MIDST OF A RAGING TYPHOON



When the emergency room nurse told Amanda she was pregnant, she thought she was delivering good news. It seemed to the nurse that Amanda, then 31 and married, should be happy that the vomiting, exhaustion and other symptoms that brought her to the hospital were not signs of an illness.

"The nurse was very taken aback when I started crying," Amanda said.

But there was no way a stranger could have imagined what her life was like back then.

Amanda had been using drugs since she was 13. She had been addicted to heroin and, though she had managed to graduate from college with a degree in communications, her life was a mess.

"My husband was using drugs," she said. "We were living in a couples' shelter on the Upper East Side and I was on methadone."

"I was unhappy and scared about life in general, so

when I found out I was pregnant, I was super confused and didn't know what the right decision would be. In my heart, I wanted to have a baby, but in my head there were all these problems. I had no place to live; I didn't have a job; I was on methadone."

Her husband's addiction was relentless and he had been arrested repeatedly for crimes related to his drug use. "I couldn't depend on him," she said. "He was one of the main stressors in my life."

Eventually, it was her sister-in-law who listened to her fears and anxieties, and ultimately told her that it was clear she wanted this baby. She said, "Far less capable women do this," Amanda recalled. "I hung onto those words."

She decided to keep the baby, but she was overwhelmed about what lay ahead.

Amanda moved to a residential treatment center for pregnant women on methadone and one of the other residents told her about Nurse-Family Partnership. "She told me that when she was pregnant, she had this nurse, and that she was amazing," Amanda said.

She was eight weeks pregnant, sick and scared, and knew she needed help, so when she contacted the Targeted Citywide Initiative site of New York City Nurse-Family Partnership and met nurse Abby, it was like the world had magically produced a lifeboat in the midst of a raging typhoon.

"When I sat with her for the first time, the feeling she gave me was of being supported. It was a huge relief. She didn't judge me. She gave me the feeling that things were going to be OK."

Amanda's mother had died when she was 13, so she has very few memories of being nurtured by a mother.

"She was there to answer all my little questions and calm my anxieties," Amanda said.

Nurse Abby told her what to expect through pregnancy and childbirth and, step-by-step, taught her how to breastfeed, change a diaper and care for her son.

Ezra was born with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome, a form of withdrawal from the methadone Amanda took throughout her pregnancy. He was in the neonatal intensive care unit for five weeks.

"It was really hard for me to see him suffering because I kept thinking, 'This is my fault,'" Amanda said.

"I never used throughout my pregnancy, thank

God," she said. But after Ezra was born, she was determined to get off the methadone that had helped her deal with her addiction.

"It was hard to go home without him. I felt really bad," she said, but Abby came with her to the NICU and sat with her, helped her work with the neonatal nurses and helped her cope with the emotional trauma of seeing her baby being treated for withdrawal.

"Then I took him back to the center with me and right away I knew things were going to be OK. I had a very, very good feeling about it. It was the best thing that ever happened to me."

Amanda started detoxing right after Ezra was born. It wasn't easy, but she was highly motivated. "I had this bigger picture about why I was doing this. I had a purpose. It kept me going."

Soon after he was born she also learned that she carries the breast cancer gene. Her grandmother is a breast cancer survivor and her mother died of ovarian cancer. So, when Ezra was not yet a year old, she underwent a double mastectomy.

"I wasn't allowed to pick him up for six weeks," she said. "It was a hard, painful recovery, but I had my nurse around to help and guide me."

"She helped me keep the picture in my head. 'You're doing this because you're a good mom.'"

Amanda and Ezra stayed in the center for his first year and then she began searching for her own place and a job to support them.

"I had to turn down a lot of jobs because of child care," she said. (cont.)

““””

WHEN I SAT WITH ABBY FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE FEELING SHE GAVE ME WAS OF BEING SUPPORTED. IT WAS A HUGE RELIEF. SHE DIDN'T JUDGE ME. SHE GAVE ME THE FEELING THAT THINGS WERE GOING TO BE OK.

AMANDA, NFP GRADUATE AND NATIONAL OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Ezra was 2 when they graduated from the Nurse-Family Partnership program, but the relationship with Abby was still very close.

"Right after we graduated, about a month later on my birthday, Abby sent me an email saying that Nurse-Family Partnership had just created a new job. She said, 'It's perfect for you.'"

Amanda had become a volunteer ambassador for Friends of New York City Nurse-Family Partnership explaining the program to women she encountered and recommending it to those who were struggling.

"I read the job description and applied," Amanda said. "I loved Nurse-Family Partnership so much and in this job I would literally be doing what I already was doing, though in a more formal way. I wanted other girls to get the kind of help I was getting."

Now, Amanda lives in Queens and works for Nurse-Family Partnership doing outreach at churches, community centers, homeless shelters and other facilities, talking to vulnerable first-time moms and encouraging them to seek help.

"Often they are reluctant to go into the program until I tell them I went through it myself, that I was

homeless and on methadone," she said.

"Sometimes these girls look at me like 'What does this lady know?' Then I tell them that I was on the streets and that I shot heroin for 10 years."

"Being very open about where I've been and telling my story is my biggest asset. It helps me give back to my community."

At this point, Amanda is a busy single mom who is proud of her life and all she's accomplished. She underwent a hysterectomy this fall to prevent future gene-related cancers, so she's very grateful that she made the decision to keep her son. She knows now that it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

"If you met Ezra, you would have no clue that he has grown up with any kind of hardship," she said. "He's very smart; he laughs all the time. He's just the best. He has a lot of personality, no developmental problems, no physical problems."

Amanda's family is also back in her life.

"They thought I was going to die an addict," she said. "Everybody is amazed and really, really, really grateful that I got clean and I have this amazing boy that everybody loves so much."

In addition to her job and caring for an active 3 ½-year-old, Amanda remains deeply committed to Narcotics Anonymous.

"I have my friends and basically we're all in recovery," she said. "I'm grateful every day that I'm clean. I know if I use, everything goes out the window."

She knows that addiction is a powerful force and her counselors remind her that "a kid can't keep you clean."

But, she said, something "flipped in my head" when Ezra came along.

"I can't imagine doing anything to jeopardize my son's life. I know my role as a mother is so important."

"The absence of a mother in your life makes you realize how important that presence is."

"I know – I really, really know – how just a hug is so important to him."



**"THAT PROGRAM
MEANS YOU LOVE ME"**

**- Ezra to His Mom
about NFP**

GRADUATION CELEBRATIONS



NATIONAL NURSES WEEK



NATIONAL NURSES WEEK 2019
AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION



**CHANGING COMMUNITIES
HELP US REACH MORE FAMILIES**

**BETTER WORLDS
START WITH
GREAT
MOTHERS.**



AND GREAT MOTHERS START WITH US



At Nurse-Family Partnership we know the difference we make for moms and babies. Help us meet our goal of reaching 100,000 new mothers. Please share our video! We invite you to email this video, post it on social media and play it at events.

THE POWER OF FEEDBACK BUILDING A CULTURE OF CURIOSITY

STANFORD SOCIAL INNOVATION *review*



As children, we exercise curiosity by the minute.
As adults, we need to relearn how to use it.
As leaders, we need to foster it across our organizations.

Nurse-Family Partnership has institutionalized the practice of gathering end-user and partner feedback, influencing changes to its systems, services and business model.

It's a model that any nonprofit or for profit can apply to improving and even transforming its strategies.

Feedback ultimately creates deeper relationships and greater equity between an organization and the people it seeks to help — in essence, giving nonprofits the best chance to get it right.

Nurse-Family Partnership today prioritizes a complementary source of gauging what works: listening to Nurse-Family Partnership moms and national network partners.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

FOSTER - HBO DOCUMENTARY SPOTLIGHTS NFP ON MAY 7

At last year's Symposium, we previewed FOSTER – a documentary film – that will premiere on HBO Tuesday, May 7.

NFP was hugely impactful in the life of one of the characters in the film, Jessica Chandler, who shared how vital her NFP nurse Doljai Chaikumnerd was in her life. Doljai is a NFP nurse in Los Angeles, California.

Right now, there are over 400,000 children and youth in the foster care system. It's an issue that affects every community, but remains hidden in plain sight.

The new film FOSTER goes beyond sensational headlines & stereotypes to provide a compelling look into the child protection system by immersing us in the lives of the children, youth, parents, and foster parents who experience it, and the professionals who work tirelessly every day in the field.

Watch the film, premiering on May 7 on HBO: hbo.com/foster and find out how you can help make a difference to help children & families thrive - not just survive. Please check local listings for time.



CAPTURING GREAT MOMENTS



We love sharing your news and photos.
Send to marketing@nursefamilypartnership.org.



This Mother's Day, give the perfect gift: a donation in her honor to Nurse-Family Partnership.

Let's celebrate the strength, resiliency and accomplishments of moms across the country. Your donation supports those moms and babies at greatest risk.

Give today and send the special mom in your life a personalized Mother's Day e-Card.

DONATE TODAY

Better Worlds Start with Great Mothers.
And Great Mothers Start with Us.

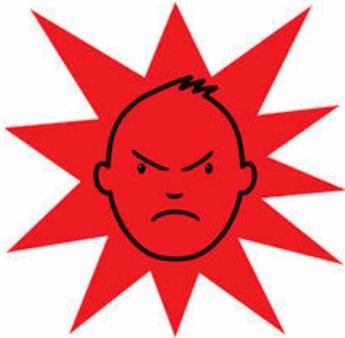


NEFL NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP ENCOURAGING FAMILIES TO SUCCESSFULLY MEET THEIR GOALS

Kiriana Mathis found out she was pregnant in the middle of her tenth-grade year of high school and endured many of life's hard setbacks, but that didn't stop her from achieving her goals. Since joining the Nurse-Family Partnership program, Kiriana graduated at the top of her class, raised a healthy baby boy to the age of two and married her high school sweetheart at age 19.

[READ KIRIANA'S FULL STORY](#)

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.



IDENTIFYING PROBLEMATIC BEHAVIOR AGRESSION IN BOYS IS A FAMILY MATTER

Psychologist & Wall Street Journal columnist Susan Pinker explains the benefits of early interventions like Nurse-Family Partnership in preventing aggression in young boys. Citing two research papers written by NFP Founder Dr. David Olds, Pinker notes that NFP Nurses teach moms to respond to the first signs of aggression in their child's development that often go unnoticed until it's too late.

[Read the Article*](#)

*A Wall Street Journal subscription is required to read the full article.



TENACIOUS CAREGIVER AWARDS RECOGNIZING OUR NETWORK PARTNERS

To celebrate the incredible impact that all Nurse-Family Partnership nurses and network partners have on families, we wanted to formally recognize and support our amazing teams. We were honored to present the inaugural award in 2018 to Cheryl Spicer, NFP Nurse at Sadler Health Center Nurse-Family Partnership in Carlisle, PA.

NFP nurses requested we expand the scope of this award and we've done just that. Nurses, supervisors, administrators and teams can all be nominated. Tenacious Caregiver awards will be presented at the 2019 National Symposium in Nashville, Tennessee in September. Stay tuned to meet the 2019 Tenacious Caregivers!

[NOMINATE HERE](#)

THE GOOD NURSE



JOAN RIEMER, R.N. DELIVERS HOPE AND A TRUNK FULL OF DIAPERS

This Nurse Helps New Moms When They're Most Vulnerable.

This Woman's Day feature article is a profile on Joan Riemer, NFP nurse at Clark County Public Health in Washington, and follows her work visiting young families. Joan represents all of our NFP nurses – inspiring women and changing lives each day.

[READ WOMAN'S DAY
ARTICLE NOW](#)



MEET OUR NFP PARENT AMBASSADORS



The heart and soul of Nurse-Family Partnership has always been the amazing moms who participate in this program. The Parent Ambassador program utilizes the voices of NFP moms and graduates by equipping them with the training and support needed to be leaders in their community and advocates for all NFP families.

PARENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAM PRIORITIES:

Supporting NFP advocacy efforts (Local, State and National levels)
 Sharing NFP mom success stories
 Increasing awareness about NFP

NFP PARENT AMBASSADOR OBJECTIVES:

- Serve as dedicated parent advocates for NFP to help increase visibility, accessibility and sustainability of the program nationwide.
- Help advance NFP's public policy priorities.
 Be a resource to ensure that the perspectives and contributions of parents and alumni are integrated into NFP's advocacy strategy and other activities.
- Help grow the NFP National Advocacy Network.
 Lead efforts to engage and train current moms and alumni to be involved in grassroots advocacy.



“ ”

I WANTED TO GIVE BACK BECAUSE THIS PROGRAM HAS LITERALLY CHANGED MY LIFE.

— ALLISON, NFP PARENT AMBASSADOR

INTRODUCING SIX NFP GRADUATES WHO WILL TRAVEL THE COUNTRY TELLING THEIR STORIES AND ADVOCATING FOR NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

One woman learned she was pregnant just before her husband was to be deployed in the military. Another feared for her future as the father of her child descended into addiction.

Confronting these daunting challenges is all in a day's work for the team at Nurse-Family Partnership, which provides specially-trained registered nurses who make home visits for the first two years of a child's life to first-time moms facing poverty and some of the toughest problems life can throw their way.

The Parent Ambassadors, who are graduates of the national Nurse-Family Partnership program, will engage policymakers and the public on the local, state and national levels to build awareness

and understanding of the benefits of the program to families and communities.

"We are excited to have our Parent Ambassadors in the field sharing their experiences and creating greater understanding for how dramatically lives can be changed with the support of Nurse-Family Partnership," said Sarah McGee, chief policy and government affairs officer. "They are proof of the effectiveness of this program for families and communities."

They will serve as advocates for NFP families and work to increase access to the program nationwide. They also will be a sounding board for leaders at NFP to ensure that the program is continuously responsive to the changing needs of families, and will help spread the word about the program through social media and personal outreach.

Each cohort of Parent Ambassadors will serve for two years.

WELCOMING NEW LEADERS

Nurse-Family Partnership's National Board of Directors provides governance, stewardship, and leadership to help the organization advance its mission. We are honored to have a dedicated group of professionals who volunteer their time and expertise in the pursuit of helping first-time parents succeed.

We are pleased to announce Christian Soura as our new Board Chair and acknowledge long-time Directors Brett Hanselman, Bob Hill and Michele Ridge as Emeritus Members.

We also welcome two new Board Members: Cathy Cooney and David Perez.



CATHY COONEY

Originally from Kansas City with strong ties to the Midwest, Cathy Cooney resides in Carbondale, Colorado with her husband, Thomas. Previously the Chief People Officer at Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, Inc., Cathy also served as Executive Vice President of Human Resources for Care Fusion, a medical technology company. Before spending 14 years in the healthcare industry, Cathy worked in Human Resources at PepsiCo and Frito-Lay. She is currently pursuing professional certification in Executive Coaching through Georgetown University. Cathy brings strong skills and experience in change management, building culture and employee engagement and governance to NFP.



DAVID PEREZ

Recently retired, David served as President and CEO of Terumo BCT, a Lakewood-based subsidiary of Terumo Corporation, for which he also served as a Chairman. Under his leadership for nearly two decades, the company grew its revenue almost six-fold, nearing \$1 billion, and introduced multiple innovative products that have fundamentally changed and improved blood transfusion and cellular therapies. David brings a significant skillset to NFP, including experience building organizational culture, succession planning, and building operational consistencies in a data-driven and complex healthcare business. He currently resides in Lonetree, Colorado with his wife, Karen.

NFP Board of Director Members

STORYCORPS

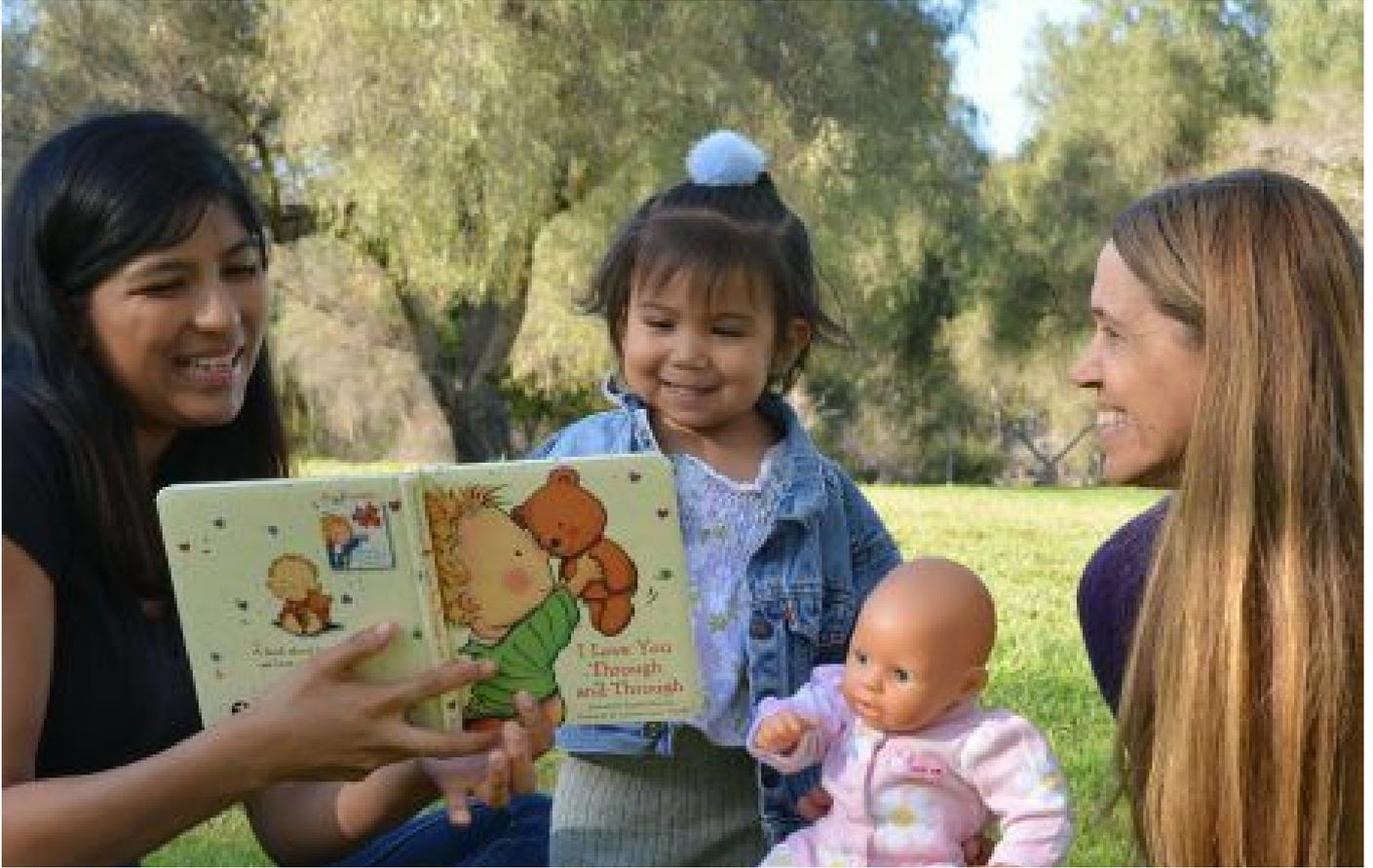


Photo Credit: Susan Hill, Photo Darkroom

YOU ARE THE BEST MOM YOUR BABY COULD EVER HAVE!

During her senior year of high school, Cynthia Chavez got pregnant and faced doubt from others in being a teen mom. She says it was the haters who helped her. With determination and grit, Cynthia proved them wrong! Cynthia accomplished her goals to graduate high school and become a confident mom with the support of her Nurse-Family Partnership nurse, Cathleen Colby. Cynthia's desire to set a good example for her daughter was her inspiration to overcome obstacles and accomplish her goals.

**LISTEN
NOW**

JOIN THE CONVERSATION



Nurse-Family Partnership
 > /nursefamilypartnership

In addition to research and outcome data, [Nurse-Family Partnership](#) prioritizes feedback from moms and implementation partners to gauge what works.

Institutionalizing feedback can provide the innovation engine for any nonprofit, changing its culture for the better.

ow.ly/rcgx30npCIM
 #feedbackempowers
 St...



How End-User Feedback Can Become a Nonprofit's Inno...

Measurement & Evaluation How End-User Feedback Can Become a Nonprofit's Innovation Engine Nurse-Family Partnership has institutionalized the practice of gathering end-user and partner feedback, influencing changes to its systems, services, and business model. share comment print order reprints rel...

Our favorite posts of the season! Keep spreading the word!



NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

2019 NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

SEPTEMBER 16-18, 2019
 LOEWS VANDERBILT HOTEL

NASHVILLE, TN

Are you interested in sponsoring, exhibiting, providing scholarships for nurses to attend this SOLD-OUT event, building community & brand awareness, connecting with 500+ healthcare professionals & suppliers?

For more information regarding Sponsorship & Exhibitor Opportunities, please contact Mely Trujillo at melyora.trujillo@nursefamilypartnership.org or 415.812.9272. You can also visit our website: www.nursefamilypartnership.org/national-symposium-sponsors.

ELIZABETH SLATER JASPER CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER

Elizabeth Slater Jasper, who has been part of the executive team at the Nurse-Family Partnership National Service Office for more than five years, has been named chief legal officer at Nurse-Family Partnership.

“Throughout her work on the legal team at Nurse-Family Partnership, Elizabeth has distinguished herself as a leader with exceptional strategic acumen and a strong understanding of organizational culture,” said Frank Daidone, president and CEO of Nurse-Family Partnership. “We look forward to working with her in her expanded role.”

The new position broadens her responsibilities to include providing strategic direction for human resources and leading the legal team at NFP.

[Read the Full Press Release](#)



\$13.5 MILLION AWARDED NFP RECOGNIZES 23 NETWORK PARTNERS

We are pleased to announce that NFP has awarded over \$13.5 million to expand its reach to serve more vulnerable families and impact local communities across the country. The Incentive Fund initiative is part of Nurse-Family Partnership’s strategic plan to double the number of families served by 2023. These Incentive Fund Awards will add over 80 new NFP nurses to serve more than 1,800 moms.

Incentive Fund Awards were presented to local network partners that have been successfully changing outcomes for moms and babies in poverty. These awards will also support the launch of three new local Nurse-Family Partnership programs.

The following 20 network partners received Incentive Fund Awards to expand NFP programs headquartered in these communities:

Casa de los Niños, Tucson, AZ
Riverside County, Riverside, CA
Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc., Hollywood, FL
Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions, Inc., Tallahassee, FL
Health Choice Network of Florida, Inc., Miami, FL
Healthy Start Coalition of Hillsborough County, Tampa, FL
Northeast Florida Healthy Start Coalition, Inc., Jacksonville, FL
Panhandle Health District, Hayden, ID
Southern Nevada Health District, Las Vegas, NV
Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY
The Center for Family Safety and Healing at Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Columbus, OH
Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association, Dayton, OH
The MetroHealth System, Cleveland, OH
Central Susquehanna Community Foundation, Berwick, PA
Geisinger Clinic, Bloomsburg, PA
McLeod Regional Medical Center, Florence, SC

York County First Steps, Rock Hill, SC
South Dakota Department of Health, Aberdeen, SD
Any Baby Can of Austin, Inc., Austin, TX
ChildStrive, Snohomish, WA
Thurston County Public Health & Social Services, Olympia, WA
Virginia Mason Memorial, Yakima, WA

In addition, incentive funding provided three new local network partners with support to launch new Nurse-Family Partnership programs headquartered in these communities:

Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions, Inc., Tallahassee, FL
Healthy Start Coalition of St. Lucie County, Fort Pierce, FL
Mahoning County Educational Service Center, Canfield, OH
Catholic Health System, Buffalo, NY

[Read Full Press Release](#)

CELEBRATING OUR GOAL MAMA PARTNERS



Nurse-Family Partnership, Hopelab and Ayogo teamed up to answer the question: *How might we use technology to amplify the impact of the NFP program?*

Getting to Goal Mama was a journey that involved; understanding the needs of NFP moms and nurses, listening, learning and gathering insights.

We then collaborated with 32 nurses from the NFP Innovations Advisory Committee to brainstorm ideas.

After analyzing the research data and running the top ideas through feedback cycles with nurses, moms and leaders, the winning idea emerged:

A mobile App and companion nurse dashboard that NFP moms and nurses can use together to set, track and reach moms' goals.

Moms and Nurses helped build the product by defining must-have features. Once built we went back to nurses to conduct pilot studies with five NFP network partners. We took what we learned from the pilot study and have created an app and dashboard that we are excited to share with NFP nurses and moms.

We will begin a phased national roll-out, beginning with the Texas and Pennsylvania state meetings in May.

NFP anticipates rolling out Goal Mama to all network partners across the country through 2020, helping 2,000+ Nurse Home Visitors amplify their impact with over 50,000 moms!



H O P E
L A B

Ayogo is an award-winning team with a passion for healthcare outcomes and improving patients' lives.

HopeLab is a nonprofit foundation working to improve the health and well-being of children and young adults by translating behavioral research into real-world digital solutions.



““““

WE UNDERSTAND THAT ENGAGEMENT BEGINS WITH EMOTIONAL CONNECTION AND GOAL MAMA EXISTS TO FACILITATE THIS CRUCIAL CONNECTION BETWEEN NURSE AND MOM.

— MICHAEL FERGUSSON,
CEO & CO-FOUNDER OF AYOGO



MARGARET LAWS
CEO OF HOPELAB

from Frank Daidone

MOMS WITH OPIOID ADDICTIONS D

WE SUPPORT MOMS WITH OPIOID ADDICTIONS THROUGH THERAPEUTIC RELATIONSHIPS AND NOT STIGMA.

Let's Be Frank— families harmed by opioid addictions are all around us. Sometimes it's moms who struggle with this epidemic. Most times we aren't aware of who around us silently deal with the crisis.

A young woman next to me sobbed quietly as we sat in a court room with 42 others about a year ago. We were there on jury duty selection for a Fentanyl-death related case. The judge told us the case involved a drug dealer of the powerful synthetic opioid. The deal went wrong and a young man in his 30s died. The woman who quietly sobbed next to me finally burst into tears.

"MY FIANCÉ DIED OF OVERDOSE LAST YEAR," SHE SAID.

More than 74,000 people died of an opioid-related overdose in 2017. It's tragic but predictable that the number continues to climb by the thousands. Over the past decade synthetic opioid deaths have doubled past heroin related deaths. Fentanyl is now the deadliest drug in America.

I've seen the magnitude of the crisis but it's always difficult to put it in perspective the complexity of the populations affected.

No matter how many first responders, state officials, or NFP Nurses I spoke with or how many New York Times Opioid Diaries I watched— it still didn't bridge the gap of understanding.



AN ADDICTION THAT AFFECTS ALL

I finally saw how rampant this devastating crisis had become.

Out of the 44 people questioned for jury duty that day at least ten felt the harm of the opioid epidemic. 1 out of 4 people had family members and close friends who died or suffered from opioid addictions. I could hear the emotions of pain and loss surface through their voices as they shared their story.

Our selected group of jurors finally spent the next three days reviewing evidence of the drug deal gone wrong. We learned that the dealer suffered from an opioid addiction himself and sold the drugs to his friend— not a stranger.

To me, the random selection of 44 people with so many personal stories dealing with opioid addiction represented the magnitude and proximity of the crisis. This experience still has a profound emotional effect on me, and reminds me about three truths:

1. OPIOID ADDICTIONS IMPACT NEW MOMS
2. NFP ADDRESSES THE ROOT CAUSES OF ADDICTION
3. WE SUPPORT MOMS IN A NON-JUDGMENTAL WAY

THE NEED FOR EARLY INTERVENTION

Newborns and children suffer when moms don't have a supportive network to help them recover from addiction. Many moms are weighed down by burdens of circumstance. Some of those burdens are isolation, abuse, poor health and extreme poverty which can fuel addictions.

Every 15 minutes a baby with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome is born in the U.S. This type of drug withdrawal in newborns is caused when opiates are used during pregnancy. This is a five-fold increase since 2000 and it continues to rise with each passing year. To stop this statistic, moms with opioid addictions need early intervention programs and not stigma.

ESERVE SUPPORT

Our program has a proven track record of helping to prevent or address health risks resulting from substance abuse, including opioids and heroin, while also demonstrating significant government cost savings. Programs like Nurse-Family Partnership are a part of the long-term proactive solution to the opioid crisis.

AMANDA'S STORY

Amanda first found out she was pregnant while unemployed, homeless and on methadone treatment. She eventually connected with NFP nurse Abby through the residential treatment center she stayed in.

After Amanda graduated the program she became an outreach specialist at NFP. Now she talks to vulnerable first-time moms in churches, community centers, homeless shelters and other facilities around New York. She encourages them to seek help and when they show reluctance, she tells them her story.



“SOMETIMES THESE GIRLS LOOK AT ME LIKE, 'WHAT DOES THIS LADY KNOW?' THEN I TELL THEM I WAS ON THE STREETS, THAT I SHOT HEROIN FOR 10 YEARS.”

- AMANDA

[Read Amanda's Story](#)

THE NEED FOR CONTINUED RESEARCH

Since the 1990's heroin addictions that began with opioid use have increased from 20% to 75%. Women opioid users have increased from 17% to 50% and the age of the first-time heroin use has increased from 16 to 22 years old. This means the population of women who are opioid users and have the potential to get pregnant has increased.

Moms are given opioid prescriptions after birth and the rates they are being refilled is on a dramatic climb. It's estimated that Medicaid alone will pay over one trillion dollars for treatment over the next 20 years to address this crisis. There is a dire need for effective

interventions tailored to protect families since the epidemic shows no signs of slowing.

Research conducted by pioneers like our founder, Dr. David Olds, show the effects opioid use disorder has on parenting, relapse and neonatal abstinence syndrome. This research proves that this rampant crisis in our communities requires swift action paired with proven solutions for both treatment and education.

OUR COMMITMENT

We commit to support the most vulnerable moms who deal with addictions through an approach that is therapeutic and non-judgmental.

We ask you join us in our commitment to support all first-time moms. Help us by sharing Amanda's story online through social media and amplify her mission of offering our program to more first-time mothers and parents.

Read our fact sheet to learn more about how NFP Nurses use their skills to help moms and children affected by substance use.

HELP US MEET OUR GOAL OF REACHING 100,000 NEW MOTHERS.

IF YOU KNOW A FIRST-TIME MOM UNDER 28 WEEKS PREGNANT AND IS LOW-INCOME WHO IS INTERESTED IN A FREE PERSONAL NURSE HAVE HER CALL OR TEXT US AT 884.637.6667.

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