



## Long-Term Connections

The Family First Prevention Services Act (Family First) became federal law on February 9, 2018, as part of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018. Family First is a landmark child welfare law that aligns with the principle that children do best in families.

For the family with a child that is substance-exposed, stabilization begins first with treating and caring for the baby. But without connections to local and state agencies who provide needed social services, as well as provide for basic physical needs, a family can be left without hope. At Jacob's Hope, we help families connect with organizations that can provide tools for long-term success.

- Partner with State Agencies
  - Our Behavioral Health team created a resource packet of state and local organizations which specialize in rehabilitative care and counseling of families.
  - These agencies are experts in their fields and can provide resources and services.
  - Jacob's Hope establishes contact with each agency that is able to provide resources to families of our infants as they move on to success in life.
  - Parents or caregivers are given information on organizations who may assist them in their own treatment plans and ongoing therapeutic care.
  
- Local Resources for Success
  - By connecting our families to resources close to where they live, the ability for them to receive the help they need improves significantly.
  - Local organizations understand the specific needs of each community, and so connections to care are the most effective.
  - Our resource guide is offered to all families in need.
  - Local agencies have offered to come directly to Jacob's Hope to present parenting classes to help families gain stability and feel hopeful about their future.
  
- Ongoing Follow-up
  - The time spent at Jacob's Hope in the care and treatment of the infant is just the beginning for families.
  - Families receive future contact with Jacob's Hope to reassess their current need.
  - Follow-up surveys are completed at three, six, nine, and twelve months from initial care.
  - Connections to additional resources are made at that time to assure family stability and long-term success.