

Prenatal Pilot Program

What is it?

The Prenatal Pilot Program is aimed at improving coordination of services and supports for mothers who are pregnant and at risk of child apprehension. The goal of this program is to prevent children from being apprehended. The best way to prevent children from entering the foster care system and keep them with their birth parent(s) is to have open communication between the mother, her supports and the ministry of social services. This open communication will allow for the mother, her supports and the ministry of social services to work together to ensure the best outcomes for mother and baby.

What does this mean for me?

By agreeing to be a part of this pilot project you are agreeing to work with your community supports and the ministry of social services during your pregnancy. This means consenting to sharing of information between your supports and the ministry of social services about your progress and case plan. This will include sharing information about your health, history of child protection involvement, housing, relationships, mental health, substance use or any other matters that may affect the safety of you and your baby. This will allow us to work together with you in ensuring we have addressed the concerns that may lead to your baby being apprehended. It is important to understand that the goal of this program is to PREVENT baby from being apprehended but this may not always be the case. Your supports and the ministry of social services will work as hard as you do to keep your baby in your care, but if the Ministry is not satisfied that your baby will be safe then we will work with you to explore other options, such as healthy family to avoid apprehension, but agreeing to this program does not guarantee that your baby will remain in your care. It does guarantee that your supports and the Ministry of Social Services will ensure every option and opportunity has been explored to support you in keeping your baby in your care.

Important information to know:

- This program is voluntary and you can choose to relinquish your involvement in it at any time
- This program will require open communication and honesty to ensure you are supported in the best way possible
- Participation requires you sign a consent to share information
- Organizations involved in this project are: Westside Community Clinic, Aids Saskatoon (family prevention program), Sanctum (HART), Saskatoon Health Region (Mental Health and Addictions), Ministry of Social Services (Child Protection)