# Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies, Healthy Families

Many parents and caregivers don't know the effects of substance use during pregnancy. Everyone needs the facts!



#### **Alcohol**

- Can cause abnormal growth and development in the baby; the baby's brain is the main target.
- Can lead to changes in learning, attention, reading, memory and difficulty making decisions.
- There is no known safe amount of alcohol or safe time to use alcohol during pregnancy.



## Marijuana

- Affects all parts of the brain.
- Passes easily through the placenta from mom to baby and can interfere with the baby's brain development leading to changes in emotions, learning abilities, and memory.
- Should not be used during pregnancy. There is no evidence that marijuana helps morning sickness.



### **Cigarette Smoking**(nicotine/tobacco)

- Decreases the amount of oxygen available to the developing baby.
- Can lead to low-birth weight and growth deficiencies and affect how the placenta functions.
- Has been associated with an increased risk of stillbirth and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.
- E-cigarettes may contain nicotine and are not encouraged during pregnancy.



#### Second-Hand Smoke

- Anyone who smokes cigarettes or marijuana around the baby can cause second-hand smoke exposure.
- Second-hand smoke exposure can cause problems with asthma, respiratory infections, ear infections and is associated with Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.





- Decrease blood flow and oxygen to the baby and can cause growth problems, low birth weight and changes in brain development.
- Can cause withdrawal symptoms in the newborn that often need to be managed in the neonatal intensive care unit.
- Medications to treat opioid use disorder are safe for both the mother and the baby.



### Methamphetamines

- Transfer easily to the baby during pregnancy and will decrease blood flow and oxygen to the baby.
- · Can lead to pre-term birth, growth deficiencies and problems with the placenta like abruption.
- Can also affect the baby's brain development.



All of these substances can also transfer through breastmilk to the baby. Mothers should avoid substance use when breastfeeding.

Please share this information with family and friends.

