



Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD)

Prenatal exposure to alcohol and other drugs is the leading cause of preventable birth defects in the country.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) is an umbrella term describing the range of effects that can occur in an individual whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy. These effects may include physical, mental, behavioral, and/or learning disabilities with possible lifelong implications.

The term FASD is not intended for use as a clinical diagnosis. It refers to conditions such as fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS), fetal alcohol effects (FAE), alcohol-related neurodevelopmental disorder (ARND), and alcohol-related birth defects (ARBD).

Each year, as many as 40,000 babies are born with an FASD, costing the nation about \$4 billion. (Source: FASD Center for Excellence)

A person with FASD may need multiple services involving numerous agencies in various service systems spread across a number of locations. It is rare to find coordination of services or case management for persons with FASD. Depending on the individual's specific needs, several dozen providers may be involved.

Although the various effects of FASD are permanent conditions, specific symptoms may be treatable or manageable. People with FASD can grow, improve and function in life with proper support.

FASD is a 100 percent preventable birth defect. All women of child-bearing age need to know not a single drop!

**Ohio's FASD
Initiative**

800-788-7254
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