

Appendix K. The NC Perinatal & Maternal Substance Abuse Initiative and the CASAWORKS for Families Residential Initiative

The North Carolina Perinatal and Maternal Substance Abuse and CASAWORKS for Families Residential Initiatives (Initiatives) represent a nationally recognized statewide approach to the social and health challenges associated with family addiction. The [28 programs](#), located in 13 counties across the state, use evidence-based treatment models. All of the programs in the Initiatives are “cross-service area”, meaning they accept women from any part of the state; this helps to meet the need of pregnant and parenting women who do not have gender- or family-responsive treatment in their home communities.

More than 20 years of research show that women are motivated to engage with treatment and recovery by concern for their children or pregnancy but that they are often unwilling to seek treatment if it means leaving their children. The NC Initiatives address this by providing family-responsive care that includes, but is not limited to, behavioral health treatment services for pregnant and parenting women, parenting support, arrangement for treatment and prevention services for children, referral for and coordination with medical care for women, and referral and coordination for pediatric and developmental care for children. Job readiness and job coaching are key provisions in the 8 CASAWORKS for Families sites which have a primary goal of self-sufficiency.

Through a [capacity management system](#) with an online bed availability list, health care providers, Department of Social Services social workers, and treatment providers can refer women and their children to the services they need anywhere in the state. Women in need of services can also access this system to identify appropriate treatment resources statewide. Providers and women can contact the NC Perinatal Substance Use Coordinator at 1-800-688-4232 for assistance identifying a program or managing the referral process. A flyer describing the Perinatal Substance Use Coordinator’s services can be found [here](#).