How We Can Help

Through a grant from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, six Child Evaluation Centers located throughout New Jersey have been established as Regional FAS Centers.

These centers evaluate your child and make recommendations. Your child's physical growth and intellectual and emotional development are related, so we offer an experienced team of interdisciplinary professionals. This team consists of a developmental pediatrician, nurse, psychologist, physical and occupational therapists, speech pathologist, social worker and/or family counselor.

The team approach helps us evaluate your child efficiently. At the end of the evaluation, a comprehensive report and intervention plan may include:

• **Diagnosis**: medical and psychosocial conditions

 Case Management: referrals to community resources, outpatient services, and school-based programs

• **Monitoring**: medical and/ or behavioral monitoring and case management

 Counseling: family support, behavior modification and education planning



Child Evaluations Centers are located throughout the state

Locations

Northern NJ FASD Diagnostic Center Susan Adubato, Ph.D., Director <u>abubatsu@umdnj.edu</u> 30 Bergen St. ADMC 1608 Newark, NJ 07107 (973) 972-8930

CHATT-Child Evaluation Center
Barbara Caspi, Ph.D., Coordinator beaspi@sbhcs.com
Newark Beth Israel Medical Center
Affiliate of St. Barnabas Health Care System
201 Lyons Avenue
Newark, NJ 07112
(973) 926-4544

Child Evaluation Center at Jersey Shore Univ. Medical Center Denise Aloisio, MD 1944 Route 33, Suite 101-A Neptune, NJ 07753 (732) 776-4178

Children's Specialized Hospital Ambulatory Care Center Uday C. Mehta, MD, MPH, Director Lori Ioriatti, MSN, CPNP – Coordinator Lloriatt@childrens-specialized.org 150 New Providence Road Mountainside, NJ 07092 (908) 301-5511; (908) 301-5500

South Jersey Healthcare Child Development Center Lori Schaffer <u>SchafferL@SJHS.com</u> 1038 East Chestnut Avenue, Suite 140 Vineland, NJ 08360 (856) 507-2721

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Specialty Care Center in Atlantic City Alicia Bashian, MSW, LCSW <u>bashian@email.chop.edu</u> 4009 Black Horse Pike Mays Landing, NJ 08330 (609) 677-7895 The Facts About

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD)



What you can do to help your child

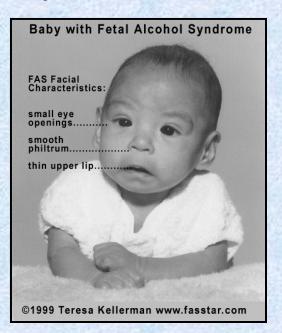


www.beinthekNOwnj.org

What is Fetal Alcohol Syndrome?

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) is the most preventable cause of cognitive impairments and other developmental disabilities. FAS is a group of birth defects caused by alcohol consumption during pregnancy. Babies with identifiable facial characteristics, stunted growth and possible brain damage are said to have Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS). Although the physical characteristics of FAS may subside over time, brain damage is permanent.

Not all babies who are exposed to alcohol prenatally develop the full fetal alcohol syndrome. These babies can be described as having **Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD).** Babies with FASD may not have the identifiable facial characteristics, but will have significant learning and behavioral difficulties.



Are you noticing some or all of these behaviors in your child?

- Difficulty learning to read, write, or remember information
- Difficulty controlling behavior
- Difficulty understanding rules and expectations requiring constant supervision
- Difficulty learning from mistakes or from punishment
- Low frustration level
- Acts without thinking/poor judgment
- Easily distracted inability to sit still
- Unusual physical appearance

Any of these may indicate developmental problems caused by FAS or FASD.

Without appropriate support services, children with FAS or FASD may have a higher risk of developing secondary problems.

Of individuals affected by FAS/FASD, many may:

- develop mental health problems
- have trouble with the law
- be confined to prison, drug/alcohol treatment centers or mental institutions
- have disrupted school experiences
- exhibit inappropriate sexual behaviors

If you think your child may have FAS/FASD, or if you consumed alcohol while you were pregnant, please talk with your child's doctor as soon as possible or call one of our Regional Centers listed on the back of this brochure.

Although there is no cure for FAS or FASD, if children get help early, they may perform much better in school and in life.