## **FASD NPN Communications Bulletin**

A collection of content updates + tips

Issue 14 | June 2025

FASD NATIONAL PARTNER NETWORK

# **Quick Tips**

Prepare to recognize upcoming awareness days in August and September by downloading and incorporating materials from the <u>FASD Video Series Partner Promotion Toolkit</u> and <u>2025</u> FASD Awareness Month Partner Toolkit

#### Back-to-School Prep Day

**August 15, 2025** 

(3) prepare for the upcoming school year, both practically and emotionally

<u>Graphic</u>





#### **FASD Awareness Month**

September 2025

(raise awareness about FASD and advocate for individuals and families affected by the lifelong condition

#### **Graphics**

Use 15+ graphics across social media, emails, websites, newsletters, blogs, or other print and digital communication.

Contact Katherine.Chyka@orau.org if other graphic sizes are needed.









#### **Videos**

Share videos on social media, websites, e-blasts/newsletters, blogs, and more







#### Social Media Post Text

Tailor text for your specific audience, social media channel, and community partners

**Post 1:** September is #FASDAwarenessMonth ♥ Join us as we raise awareness about fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASDs) and the importance of an alcohol-free pregnancy. #FASDNPN

**Post 2:** Nearly 1 in 7 pregnant women report current alcohol use in the past 30 days. Alcohol screening and brief intervention (SBI) is recommended by the USPSTF and is endorsed by major medical professional organizations and CDC. *[insert call to action]* #FASDNPN

#### **Email Signature Block**

Add a graphic to your email signature



#### Newsletter/Blog Text

Use in newsletters, blogs, or other print and digital communications



Services Task Force and endorsed by major medical professional organizations, such

# **FASD NPN Toolkit Updates**

#### \*Updated\* NPN Social Media List

<u>Communication Resources page</u> > FASD NPN Resources > FASD NPN Social Media Accounts

Check out who is on Threads and Bluesky and give them a follow.



#### Flyers in Spanish

NPN Toolkit Custom Materials page > NPN Custom Materials Library > Spanish Materials

Fentanyl Facts Flyer (Spanish)



## Pregnancy and Fentanyl Flyer (Spanish)

<u>View English version</u>



#### Six AAP State Resource Sheets

NPN Toolkit Custom Materials page > NPN Custom Materials Library > Other Digital and Print Materials



#### South Carolina

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#### <u>Maryland</u>



#### <u>Florida</u>



#### <u>California</u>



#### <u>Indiana</u>



#### **NPN Content Stream**

Between April 1 and May 31, 2025, the FASD NPN disseminated 273 social media posts about prenatal alcohol and polysubstance use and FASDs reaching approximately 2,034,674 people. A selection of posts is featured in this section.

**NOTE:** Many NPN organizations are no longer posting on X and have moved to other channels (i.e., Bluesky, Threads). This bulletin now includes NPN Bluesky posts. Threads posts may be included in future publications.

#### NPN PRODUCTS, EVENTS + SERVICES

ACOG promoted their new Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

#### Prenatal care

#### Bluesky | Instagram

"Pregnant or planning to get pregnant? Our new FAQ provides information on prenatal care and a new approach to help you create a more tailored care plan. You could incorporate things like telehealth visits or group prenatal care into your pregnancy journey. Learn more: buff.ly/FpQicXW"

#### Tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and pregnancy

#### Bluesky | Instagram

"Avoiding alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and drugs during pregnancy helps protect your fetus" brain, body, and future. Visit our FAQ to learn how these substances can affect you and your baby's health after birth: buff.ly/FLn9spJ"





## Collaboration Spotlight

University of Nevada, Reno/AAMA's <u>Medical Assistant Partnership for Healthy Pregnancies and Families (MAP)</u> promoted <u>AAP's</u> state resource toolkits

#### X I Instagram

"A brand-new toolkit is now accessible for individuals residing in Maryland who are seeking extra support in helping children with FASDs transition into adulthood. Check it out! <u>@AmerAcadPeds</u> @FASDUnited **#FASDNPN** #FASD buff.ly/2lKU9Qi"

Transitioning Children with FASDs into Adulthood Resource Toolkit for Marylanders for people with FASDs transcoming to adulthood an be of shipping to built by the control trave to to the Aprilar Chimies lower trave to to the Aprilar Chimies lower trave to the Aprilar Chimies Lower that took to the for transcomer to the Chimies with Affair and Aprilar to the Aprilar Survivas.									
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Programs and Service  American Academy of Pediatrics -  Maryland Chapter		×							
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Center for Independent Living		×	Х		X	X			
FASD Collaborative	×	×			X				
FASD United	×	×	×	х	x	-			
Maryland Dept. of Education - Division of Rehabilitation Services			х	х	х				
Medicaid Walver Programs	×	×	×	×	-	X			
Parent to Parent Maryland	×	×							
The Tanogram Way	×								
Special Olympics Maryland	X								
Online Resources									
FASD Information		×	×		X				

## <u>FASD United</u> highlighted key takeaways from their <u>FASD United</u> <u>Symposium White Paper</u>

#### X | Bluesky | Facebook | Instagram

- "... a comprehensive report outlining critical insights, policy recommendations, and actionable steps to advance support for individuals with #FASD. Key takeaways include:
- The urgent need for federal policy reform
- Enhancing early diagnosis and intervention
- Expanding access to lifelong services and supports
- Addressing health disparities and stigma ..."

# 26% of contributors from our White Paper identified as someone who has personal experience with FASD (as a self-advocate or caregiver).

## <u>FASD United</u> highlighted the 'Stigmatizing Imagery' chapter of their <u>Language and Stigma Guide</u>

#### X | Bluesky | Facebook | Instagram

"... This chapter helps you understand the impact of harmful visuals and stereotypes, offering guidance on how to avoid language and imagery that can perpetuate stigma around <u>#FASD</u>. It's essential to approach these sensitive topics with care and compassion, and this guide shows you how to communicate in a way that uplifts rather than alienates. ..."



RELEVANT INFORMATION TO KNOW ABOUT DISCUSSING FASD & PSE

# NASW with UT-Austin released a new <u>Social Work Talks podcast</u> episode: <u>Cannabis Use in Pregnancy</u>

#### Bluesky | Facebook | Instagram

"In this #NASW podcast episode of #SocialWorkTalks, we explore cannabis use during pregnancy and how social workers can raise awareness. Guests: Dr. Roger Zoorob & Dr. Mary Velasquez."

# 🗱 Collaboration Spotlight 🔻

MAP promoted NASW's podcast episode

X | Instagram



#### **EDUCATING + AWARENESS RAISING**

#### FASD United shared facts and resources from their FAOs

#### FASD affects 1 in 20 Americans

#### X | Bluesky | Facebook | Instagram

"#FASD affects 1 in 20 Americans—more common than autism—yet awareness & support don't match its prevalence. ..."

#### Practical tools

#### X | Bluesky | Facebook | Instagram

"Peace of mind is possible—with the right tools! Movement breaks, music, visual schedules & more can help people with #FASD thrive. ..."

#### Supports for people with FASD

#### X | Bluesky | Facebook | Instagram

"People with #FASD bring #creativity & #strength to the world. ♥ With tools like concrete language & calming spaces, they can thrive! ..."

#### FASDs can affect individuals across the lifespan

#### X | Bluesky | Facebook | Instagram

"#FASD can affect individuals across the lifespan in different ways.

Infancy: Birth defects, difficulties in regulation, developmental delays

- Childhood: Developmental delays, behavioral issues, school struggles, challenges with
- Adolescence: Behavioral issues, mental health struggles, academic difficulties, social challenges
- Adulthood: Employment challenges, housing issues, legal struggles, ongoing mental health concerns

FASD is a lifelong condition, but with the right support, individuals can thrive at every stage of life."

#### FASDs occur when prenatal alcohol exposure impacts the developing brain and body

#### X | Bluesky | Facebook | Instagram

"FASD is a spectrum disorder, meaning each person with FASD is affected differently. While 400+ conditions can co-occur, FASD is primarily a lifelong neurodevelopmental condition. Despite challenges, individuals with FASD have many strengths! Early diagnosis, universal screening, & appropriate support—especially for executive functioning—are crucial for success."

#### • 1 in 7 pregnancies are exposed to alcohol

#### X | Bluesky | Facebook | Instagram

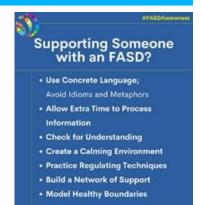
"In the U.S., 1 in 7 pregnancies is exposed to alcohol, which increases the risk of FASD. It's critical to raise awareness and provide support for those affected"

# 🗱 Collaboration Spotlight 🗱

#### MAP promoted FASD United's FAQ fact sheet

#### X I Instagram

"Thank you to @FASDUnited for another wonderful resource on FASD! This wonderful fact sheet provides insight into the diagnosis of FASD, resources available, and a positive perspective on living with FASD. #FASDNPN"



# FASD through the life

. Infancy: Birth defects, difficulties in regulation, developmental

span may look like:

- delays · Childhood: Developmental delays,
- behavioral issues, challenges in school and with peers
- · Adolescence: Behavioral issues, mental health struggles, challenges in school and with peers
- Adulthood: Employment, housing, legal issues, mental health challenges





#### MAP shared new research and events from the field

 Drugs, Alcohol, Pregnancy and the Vulnerable Child - Virtual Training Series

#### X Instagram

"This training series will explore the biological and environmental factors for children and families that impact the ultimate development of children affected by prenatal substance exposure, provide an overview of family- and school-based intervention strategies that can promote long-term growth and development of this high-risk population of children, and address the role of the child welfare system in ensuring best outcomes for all families and their children affected by prenatal substance exposure. **#FASDNPN**"

 Prenatal Cannabis Use and Neonatal Outcomes: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

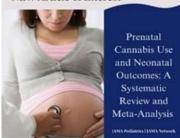
#### X I Instagram

"NEW Article of Interest: Prenatal Cannabis Use and Neonatal Outcomes! 🍑 🖇 To learn more and read the full article: <a href="mailto:buff.lv/UrX5s8m">buff.lv/UrX5s8m</a> #FASDNPN #FASD #Pregnancy"



Drugs, Alcohol, Pregnancy & the Vulnerable Child

#### NEW Article of Interest



# <u>FASD United</u> promoted CDC NCBDDD's Let's Talk video: <u>5 Things</u> <u>Your Doctor Wants You to Know About Alcohol and Pregnancy</u>

#### X | Bluesky | Facebook | Instagram

"Planning for a healthy pregnancy? Here's what your doctor wants you to know. The CDC's new video breaks down 5 key facts about alcohol and pregnancy, including:

- There is no known safe amount of alcohol use during pregnancy
- There is no safe time to drink during pregnancy
- There is no safe type of alcohol during pregnancy

Whether you're a healthcare provider, advocate, or patient, this short video is a must-watch and share. Let's spread the word about prevention and support."

5 things your doctor wants you to know about alcohol and pregnancy.

2



Alcohol use during pregnancy can cause behavioral, intellectual, and physical disabilities, referred to as fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASDs).

# Collaboration Spotlight

MAP highlighted FASD United's FASD NPN Spotlight Series interview with AAP

#### X Instagram

"FASD United has featured our partners at the AmerAcadPeds as one of the valuable organizations part of the CDC's National Partner Network! "AAP has established educational programs on FASDs for pediatricians across the country. **#FASDNPN**"

FASD NPN Spotlight: American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

Apr 21, 2025 — by Andy Kachor in News

FASD United is excited to spotlight each of the organizations that are part of CDC's National Partner, Network (NPM), a collaborative coalition of organizations dedicated to advancing key goals, including reducing prenatal alcohol exposure (PAE) and substance use, enhancing support services and access to care, and improve ) the identification and health of children and families affected by FASDs. As a proud participant in this collaborative effort, we are excited to contribute to public education on FASD and prenatal substance exposure alongside these exceptional partners.

# <u>FASD United</u> shared <u>Laura Bousquet's speech</u> from International Research Conference on FASDs

#### Laura is featured in the NPN PWLE video series!

#### X | Facebook | Instagram

"In a world where #neurodiversity often meets misunderstanding, Laura Bousquet is a guiding light \*A proud parent and self-advocate, Laura represents what it means to thrive with FASD!

Through her story, she invites us to reimagine what success looks like for people with FASD. \*\*



#### **RECOGNIZING AWARENESS DAYS + OBSERVANCES**

# MAP recognized National Alcohol and Other Drug-Related Birth Defects Awareness Week

#### Emily

#### X Instagram

"This week, we recognize the lifelong challenges that individuals with birth defects may face throughout their lives. Education and awareness of these challenges are essential for medical assistants and other healthcare providers!  $\P$  #FASDNPN"

#### Jen

#### X Instagram

"Jen reminds us that fighting for what is right and for those we love is always the #1 priority. We are so grateful to Jen and all the other amazing parents and caretakers who fight for proper diagnoses and recognition! **#FASDNPN**"

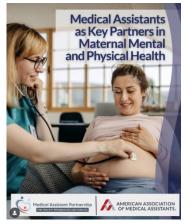
Nestional Alcohol and Other Drug Related Birth Defects Awareness Month
Because my life-giving mother
drank every day, I pretty much have
something going on with every
organ system. This is a lifelong,
whole-body diagnosis.



## <u>AAMA</u> with <u>MAP</u> recognized World Maternal Mental Health Day

#### Facebook | Instagram

"Mental health is a vital part of a healthy pregnancy—and medical assistants play a key role in supporting moms and families. The AAMA partners with Medical Assistant Partnership for Healthy Pregnancies & Families to train medical assistants in promoting alcohol-free pregnancies—protecting both physical and mental well-being from the start. Together, we're empowering medical assistants to make a difference, one conversation at a time."



#### FASD United recognized National Foster Care Month

#### X | Bluesky | Facebook | Instagram

"FASD is significantly overrepresented in foster care—and often goes undiagnosed! Caregivers, professionals, and families need support, understanding, and guidance. If you're navigating foster care and FASD, you don't have to do it alone. Call our Family Navigators for free, one-on-one support"



<u>FASD United</u> recognized Mental Health Awareness Month by promoting their <u>Family Navigator service</u> along with emergency and crisis numbers

## X | Bluesky | Facebook | Instagram

"Knowing where to turn in a moment of crisis can save lives.

988 is the number to text, call, or chat for support with mental health, suicide, or substance use crises.

911 is for emergencies involving immediate physical danger.

If you're navigating the complexities of FASD and feeling overwhelmed, you're not alone. FASD United's Family Navigators are here to help guide you through.

🗾 (202) 785-4585 | Mon–Fri, 9 AM–10 PM ET 🙂 bit.ly/FamilyNavigatorSupport

Share this post to raise awareness of the difference between 988 and 911.

Knowing the right number can make all the difference."



#### Alcohol Awareness Month was observed across the NPN

#### Check out highlights and explore posts:

- <u>ACOG</u> highlighted how alcohol affects <u>women's health</u> and encouraged those who are pregnant or thinking of becoming pregnant to <u>talk with their ob-gyn</u> about why it's important to avoid alcohol during pregnancy
- <u>AWHONN</u> with <u>UAA</u> explained why alcohol guidelines <u>differ for men</u> and women
- FASD United answered questions about alcohol and pregnancy:
  - o How can I stop drinking?
  - o How can I support my pregnant partner?
  - o Can I consume alcohol during pregnancy?
- NASW with UT-Austin stated that there is no safe time or amount of alcohol to drink while pregnancy and highlighted the link between alcohol use and cancer
- <u>NPWH</u> with <u>UAA</u> shined a light on how certified WHNP's role in <u>education</u>, <u>prevention</u>, and <u>support</u> help reduce alcohol-related harm

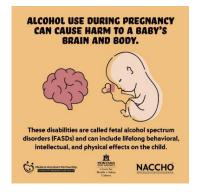
# Collaboration Spotlight

#### UNR and MSU collaborated on a series of posts:

- MAP provided FASD prevalence data, encouraged supporting a pregnant loved one's choice not to drink, shared that it's never too late to stop drinking, and highlighted that alcohol use during pregnancy can cause harm to a baby's brain and body
- <u>NACCHO with MSU</u> highlighted that <u>alcohol can harm a developing</u> <u>baby before a pregnancy is known</u> and acknowledged that <u>alcohol-related harms can be difficult to realize</u> due to alcohol's availability and mass promotion









# <u>FASD United</u> and <u>NASW with UT-Austin</u> recognized National Alcohol Screening Day

FASD United

#### X | Bluesky | Facebook | Instagram

"Today is #NationalAlcoholScreeningDay—a time to check in on drinking habits & health. @NIAAAnews offers tools to assess alcohol use & its risks, including prenatal alcohol exposure & FASD."

NASW

#### Bluesky | Facebook | Instagram

"It's National #AlcoholScreeningDay, a call for social workers to make alcohol #SBI part of routine care and help clients understand common myths about drinking. **#FASDNPN**"



The FASD NPN Communications Bulletin is created by ORAU. Please send any questions, corrections, or suggestions to <u>Katherine Chyka</u>.

Want something included in the next bi-monthly bulletin?
<u>Let us know.</u> We'd love to hear from you!

**QQQQ** FASD NATIONAL PARTNER NETWORK