



Nurse Home Visiting for Pregnant, Birthing and Parenting People who have Substance Use Disorder.

Amy Wenger RN-IBCLC and Heidi Gillespie, RN

We have nothing to disclose



Visiting Nurses Have Always Been Supporting Families



Maternal-Child Health Nurse Home Visitors are the 'Unicorns' of Health Care





Nurse Home Visiting is Available in Every County in Vermont.

Serving:

- **Pregnant/Postpartum People**
- **Newborns, Infants and Children**
- **Supporting Parenting/Foster Families**

For Parents who have SUD or are on MAT Nurses are trained to provide:

- **Perinatal and Postpartum Clinical Nursing Assessments**
- **Infant/Pediatric Clinical Assessments**
- **NOWS/ESC Assessments**
- **Lactation Support and Consultation**
- **Sustained Nurse Home Visits**
- **Responsive Nurse Home Visits**
- **High Risk/Complex Medical and Social needs.**
- **Individualized Care Coordination**
- **Pregnancy, Postpartum, Developmental Screenings**
- **Resource Assistance and Referrals**
- **Strength Based-Family Centered**
- **Advocacy, Connection, and Love**





Beyond the Clinical Lens.

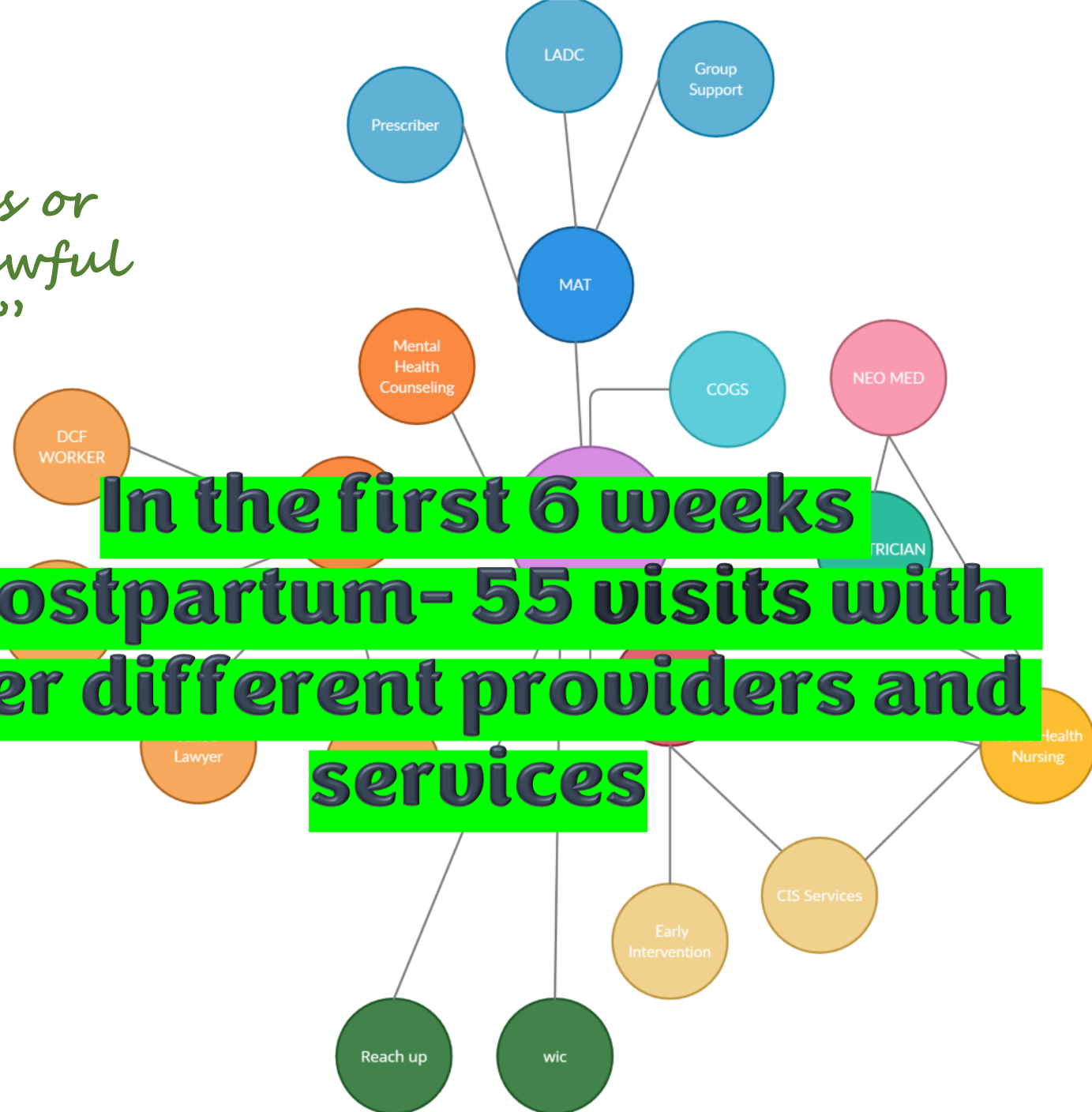
Nurse Home Visitors Connect to the Bigger Picture in a System that is not set up to support Pregnant, Birthing, and Postpartum People who have SUD in the way that they need and deserve to be cared for.

Jane's Journey

"I often must choose my babies or my recovery. I feel guilty and awful every day I cannot do both."

- 26 years old
- Mother of three
- Two in DCF custody
- Lives in remote area
- Food insecurity, housing insecurity, unsafe transportation
- Trauma, PTSD, IPV, Depression
- Substance misuse for 10 years
- MAT with all three pregnancies
- Traveling 200+ miles per day/services
- Relapse after the first two pregnancies within first year postpartum

In the first 6 weeks postpartum- 55 visits with her different providers and services



“You took the time to listen and really notice what was going on. You connected me and my boys to so many resources that I did not know existed. You were like our very own Mary Poppins; you came in and you saw me. It saved my life.”
-Home Visiting Client of Twin Boys



Mary Poppins???

Practically Perfect in
Every Way??????



I beg your pardon?

Nurse Home Visitors are *Practically Useful* in Many Ways

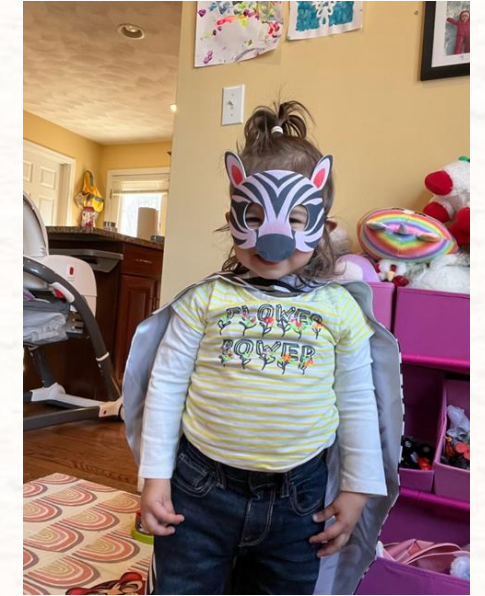


“Just a Spoon Full of Sugar Helps the Medicine Go Down”



Trauma Informed Practice
'Disclosure is a gift, never the goal.'

“In Every Job that must be done There is an Element of Fun”



“Anything Can Happen if you Let it”



We are all in this Together
One Referral opens a Whole Village of Support and Resources

Wow, this sounds wonderful for my patients. How do I make a referral?

Anyone can refer their patients to have their very own nurse home visitor throughout their pregnancy and postpartum journey. This is already here, right in their community waiting for them.

How you talk about it to your patients makes a difference:

“We are so lucky here in Vermont. We have a great extended community of nurse home visitors that will come and can help you get ready to have your baby and support you after. They can get you connected to many resources and are specially trained to care for you. I really recommend it.

I am going to make a referral for you, Okay? “

Thank You!