



AMERICA'S OPIOID CRISIS: THE UNSEEN IMPACT ON FLORIDA CHILDREN

AS FLORIDA FAMILIES STRUGGLE WITH ADDICTION, CHILDREN ARE CAUGHT IN THE FRAY.

A GROWING CRISIS



28% MORE
opioid-related deaths
nationwide since 2015.



87.4% of people
in Florida suffering from
drug dependence or
abuse go untreated.



**8.7 MILLION
CHILDREN**
nationwide have a parent
who suffers from a
substance use disorder.

A NEED FOR FAMILY-CENTERED POLICIES

KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER IMPROVES
OUTCOMES AND LOWERS COSTS



**MORE
THAN HALF**

of children placed in foster care
go home to their families. Keeping
families together from the start
helps prevent further trauma and
improves outcomes.

**MEDICAID PAID 81%
OF THE \$1.5 BILLION**

that hospitals billed for treating
babies suffering from opioid
withdrawal in 2012.

Sources for this document are available at
www.aap.org/OpioidFactsheets.

A DEVASTATING TOLL ON CHILDREN

FOSTER CARE PLACEMENTS ON
THE RISE

17,670 FLORIDA
CHILDREN
were placed in foster care in 2016.

19%
WERE INFANTS.

In **44%** of these placements,
parental substance use was a factor.

MORE BABIES BORN EXPOSED
TO OPIOIDS



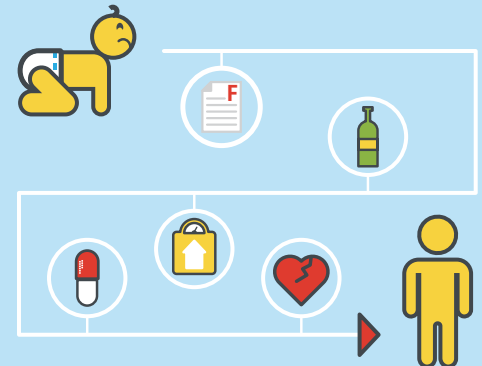
Every **25 minutes** in
America, a baby is
born suffering from
opioid withdrawal,
which can mean:

- 1 LOWER BIRTHWEIGHTS
- 2 RESPIRATORY CONDITIONS
- 3 FEEDING DIFFICULTIES
- 4 SEIZURES
- 5 LONGER HOSPITAL STAYS

A LIFELONG IMPACT

Children dealing with traumatic
experiences can face social, emotional,
physical, and mental health challenges
that last into adulthood.

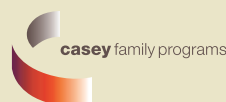
Left unaddressed, early childhood
adversity can lead to **school failure**, risky
behaviors like **alcohol and drug use**, and
increased chance of health conditions
like **obesity and heart disease**.



WHAT YOU CAN DO

RETHINK OUR APPROACH: SUPPORT CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN HEALING TOGETHER

- Create policies that prioritize prevention** and allow children to remain safely with their families during treatment.
- Give providers tools** to recognize, treat, and support children and their parents affected by trauma to lessen the lifelong impact and promote healthy families.
- Ensure families have real and timely access to services** through Medicaid and other prevention and treatment programs.



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