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Frederick Health Announces International Certification

Healthcare system recognized for expanding access to newborn care and family resources

Frederick, MD – December 12, 2023 Frederick Health is pleased to announce that Family Connects Frederick County has achieved certification as a Family Connects International (FCI) Community Partner. This marks the shortest time from launch to certification in the history of this program.

Family Connects Frederick County offers support by providing each family with a 90-minute in-person visit. During the visit, nurses conduct a health and well-being assessment for the baby and the parents as well as provide resources tailored to the family's needs. Since it launched in early 2023, nearly 1,100 families have benefited from this service.

This program met numerous rigorous standards to obtain certification as a community health initiative. As this program continues to grow, we hope to accomplish the following positive outcomes in our community:

- Mothers complete their 6-week postpartum visits at higher rates
- Mothers 30% less likely to experience postpartum depression or anxiety
- A reduction in the impact of race disparities for African American families
- A 44% lower Child Protective Services investigation through age 2
- A 50% reduction in infant emergency room visits over the first two years of life.

"We are making it easier for families with newborns to get support when and where they need it," said Pilar Olivio, Executive Project Manager of Family Connects Frederick County. "Through thoughtful implementation and successful teamwork, we look forward to offering this important program to more families."

Starting early 2024, Family Connects Frederick County will be expanding operations to serve all birthing families that reside in Frederick County, regardless of where they deliver.

"By expanding and improving our services, we continue to support our mission to positively impact the well-being of every individual in our community," said Heather Kirby, Vice President of Integrated Care and Chief Population Health Officer with Frederick Health. "More families are benefiting from these services, leading to a healthier community and more positive outcomes."

About Frederick Health

Frederick Health provides comprehensive healthcare services to the residents of Frederick County. The system includes Frederick Health Hospital, Frederick Health Medical Group, Frederick Health Employer Solutions, Frederick Health Home Care, and Frederick Health Hospice. Frederick Health Medical Group is a multi-specialty practice with more than 100 providers, 22 specialties and 25 locations across the county. The system has several ambulatory care locations, the freestanding James M Stockman Cancer Institute, four urgent care locations, and the Frederick Health Village. With 4,000 team members, Frederick Health provides a full spectrum of healthcare and wellness services to support its mission to positively impact the well-being of every individual in our community.

For more information on Frederick Health, visit www.frederickhealth.org/newbornvisit