
 <p>State of Connecticut Department of Correction</p> <p>ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE</p>	Directive Number 8.12	Effective Date 3/16/2026	Page 1 of 3
	Supersedes Placement of Children Born to Incarcerated Women, dated 10/31/2007		
Approved By  Commissioner Angel Quiros	Title Maternal and Infant Care		

1. **Policy.** The Department of Correction, in collaboration with the Office of Early Childhood and the Department of Children and Families, shall promote women's and infant's health before, during, and after pregnancy and provide resources and support to improve outcomes for mothers and their babies.
2. **Authority and Reference.**
 - a. Connecticut General Statutes, Sections 17a-3, 18-69a, 18-69c, 18-69d and 18-81.
 - b. Administrative Directives 6.4, Transportation and Community Supervision of Inmates; and 6.5, Use of Force.
3. **Definitions.** For the purposes stated herein, the following definitions apply:
 - a. **Doula.** A trained non-medical professional who provides education, guidance and emotional and physical support to individuals before, during, and after pregnancy and childbirth.
 - b. **Maternal and Infant Health.** Health, care and wellbeing of women during pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period.
 - c. **Standby Guardian.** An individual who is designated to care for a child in the event of a parent's illness, death, or absence.
 - d. **Transition Visit.** An authorized visit between an incarcerated mother, newborn and the newborn's appointed guardian(s). This visit is the transition period in which the incarcerated mother turns over custody of the newborn to the guardian(s). The Lawrence and Memorial Hospital High-Risk Case Manager or designee shall be present during a transition visit.
 - e. **Unit Administrator.** The Warden of the York Correctional Institution.
4. **Liaison Function.** The Unit Administrator shall appoint a staff member to perform liaison duties between the York Correctional Institution, The Office of Early Childhood, Lawrence and Memorial Hospital or subspecialty care hospital, and the Department of Children and Families.
5. **Intake Procedure.** The Unit Administrator shall ensure that the following procedures are followed when an individual is admitted to the York Correctional Institution:
 - a. Each new admit shall submit a minimum of one urine specimen for pregnancy testing. Each pregnant individual shall be referred to the next available obstetrics and gynecology (OB/GYN) clinic and receive a copy on the YCI pregnancy guide.
 - b. As part of the admissions process, each inmate shall be required to report current contact with the Department of Children and Families.
6. **Prenatal Coordination.** The YCI Parent and Child Services Coordinator, or liaison has primary responsibility for creating a birth plan with the expectant mother. The liaison will coordinate with Lawrence & Memorial, or other designated hospitals. As part of the OB/GYN clinic, the expectant mother shall routinely meet with a YCI's prenatal physician and be afforded opportunities to participate in pre-natal, and post-partum education and support groups led by doulas contracted through the through the Office of Early Childhood.
7. **Use of Restraints and Transportation.** Use of restraints on pregnant women shall be in accordance with Administrative Directives 6.4, Transportation and Community Supervision of Inmates, and 6.5, Use of Force. Transportation to Lawrence and Memorial

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Hospital or other designated hospital shall be in accordance with Administrative Directive 6.4, Transportation and Community Supervision of Inmates. During an emergency, transportation shall be made via ambulance.

8. Birth and Hospitalization. At the start of labor, or at a scheduled time, an incarcerated mother shall be transported to Lawrence and Memorial Hospital to give birth unless a higher level of care at another hospital is determined necessary. No visitors, except for an authorized Doula shall be allowed at the hospital during the incarcerated mothers stay unless authorized by the Unit Administrator.
9. Newborn Hospital Visits.
 - a. In the event the newborn's hospitalization is extended for medical observation and the mother is released back to YCI, the designated facility liaison will make arrangements for the incarcerated mother to visit the newborn at the designated hospital until the newborn is released to the identified standby guardian. Visits shall be documented on form CN 81202, Request for Newborn Hospital Visit and be two times per week and up to two hours per visit, barring any exigent circumstances.
 - b. During hospitalizations for labor and delivery, one (1) transition visit shall be authorized between the incarcerated mother, newborn and the newborn's guardian(s). The guardian must be an approved visitor on the incarcerated mothers DOC visitation list. The Lawrence and Memorial Hospital High-Risk Case Manager or designee shall identify the newborn's guardian(s). The visit shall take place in the incarcerated mothers hospital room and may be up to 30 minutes in length prior to the scheduled discharge of the incarcerated mother. A properly identified child advocate or representative of the Department of Children and Families may also be present. The Unit Administrator shall create and maintain procedures by which these visits are accommodated.
10. Placement of the Newborn. Prior to delivery, the facility liaison shall collaborate with the incarcerated mother to develop a plan for the temporary guardianship of the newborn. The facility liaison shall share the established birth plan and the Designation of Standby Guardian of Minor Form 45a-324 with designated hospital staff, or as directed by the Department of Children and Families (DCF). While the incarcerated mother may designate the individual who will assume guardianship, the birth plan may be overridden if the incarcerated mother is currently involved with DCF or of a referral is made to DCF by hospital staff.
11. Breastfeeding and Lactation Services. Any individual who gives birth while incarcerated at YCI will have the opportunity to pump and store breast milk in a freezer, to be provided to the newborn. The incarcerated mother shall complete form CN 81201, Lactation and Pumping Agreement. Any new admit that was pumping or breast feeding prior to incarceration will also be afforded the opportunity to pump and freeze breast milk, to be provided to the infant. The facility liaison will coordinate breast milk picked up at the facility by the infant's guardian or DCF worker. Pumping individuals will be provided with a secured freezer, breast pump with accessories, breast pads, nursing bras and nursing shirts.
 - a. Individuals that are pumping during their incarceration at YCI may also breast feed their babies during social or DCF visits in designated areas.
12. Emergency. No provision of this Administrative Directive shall prevent a physician from taking necessary action to ensure the well-being of the incarcerated mother or the newborn.
13. Forms and Attachments.
 - a. CN 81201, Lactation and Pumping Agreement;
 - b. CN 81202, Request for Newborn Hospital Visit; and,
 - c. Attachment A, Designation of a Standby Guardian of a Minor

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14. Exceptions. Any exceptions to the procedures in this Administrative Directive shall require prior written approval from the Commissioner.