



Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Just the Facts

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Ohio's FASD
Initiative

800-788-7254

www.notasingledrop.org

- Prenatal exposure to alcohol is the leading cause of **preventable** birth defects in the country.
- Each year, as many as 40,000 babies are born with an FASD, costing the nation about \$4 billion. (Source: FASD Center for Excellence)
- FASD is an irreversible, lifelong condition that affects every aspect of a child's life and the lives of the child's family – there is no cure for FASD.
- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the US Surgeon General, there is no known safe amount or safe time to drink alcohol during pregnancy.
- It has been estimated, the cost of FASD to Ohio taxpayers for providing special services for education, juvenile justice, medical and mental health services, foster care and unemployment is nearly \$300 million every year. (Source: Ohio Department of Health)
- Raising a child with FASD is 100 times more expensive than preventing FASD in a child.
- Due to a combination of factors, most go undiagnosed. In fact, of the estimated 114,000 Ohioans living with FASD, only 300 have been clinically diagnosed. (Source: Ohio Department of Health)
- Early diagnosis and treatment for FASD can help children reach their fullest potential, lessen secondary disabilities and problems, and help families better understand and cope.
- FASD is 100 percent preventable.
- Sept. 9 is International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day.