

FAQ *Frequently Asked Questions*

Q: How can I refer a friend or relative to KOBA?

A: We encourage you to refer someone you care about to the KOBA program. Please call or email us.

Q: If I'm under the age of 18, will I need parental consent for a pregnancy test?

A: No, you do not need parental consent for the pregnancy test. You will be given a free test that you can take in your home. However, participation in the ongoing program does require parental consent.

Q: What area in Ohio does KOBA help?

A: KOBA's services extend only to Stark County.

Q: Who is eligible to participate in the KOBA program?

A: Any pregnant African American women living in Stark County.

Q: What things do I have to pay for with the KOBA program?

A: KOBA is **FREE**. There is no cost to any women in the program.

Q: Will anyone know that I am in KOBA?

A: KOBA is **completely confidential**. KOBA does not share your personal information.



*FREE and confidential
support program
for pregnant
African American women*

Funded by Ohio Department of Health/Federal Government

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“KOBAs help doesn’t just end when you have a baby.”

WHAT IS KOBAs?

Keep Our Babies Alive (KOBAs) is a FREE and confidential outreach program for pregnant African American women in Stark County. KOBAs helps these women get the prenatal care they need, and also educates them on taking care of themselves during their pregnancy.

KOBAs services are funded by the Ohio Department of Health through the Ohio Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative grant. The program’s goal is to reduce infant mortality and reduce low birth rates among the individuals in the African American community.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY KOBAs

DID YOU KNOW? Low birth weight can cause many infants to die unnecessarily. This tragedy can be avoided with proper health care and education. There are a lot of reasons why women deliver a low-birth weight baby. Maybe they didn’t get the prenatal care they needed because they didn’t know they should, or thought they couldn’t afford it. Maybe they smoked, or had problems with drugs or alcohol. KOBAs works to reduce low birth weights through education and proper assistance.

KOBAs is **FREE** and **completely confidential**. Regardless of background, KOBAs helps pregnant women get the prenatal care mother and baby need to stay healthy.



“I knew I had to quit smoking, but just couldn’t kick the habit. KOBAs program helped me, and now my baby and I are more healthy because of it.”

“I didn’t know anything about taking care of a baby. It was nice to have someone who cared enough to help me out.”

“There’s no way I could have gone to my doctor appointments without KOBAs. KOBAs helped me find transportation for my appointments.”

“When I found out I was pregnant I didn’t know what to do, or who to tell. KOBAs was there for me when no one else was.”



“I only work part-time and didn’t have health insurance. KOBAs helped me to apply for medical assistance.”

“KOBAs help doesn’t just end when you have the baby.”



“I don’t know what I would have done without KOBAs.”



The following is a summary of services KOBAs provides during pregnancy and until the baby turns 2 years old.

TRANSPORTATION:

KOBAs offers information on transportation options for doctor visits and other pregnancy - related appointments.

FOOD:

KOBAs helps the mother enroll in supportive programs offering nutritional assistance, food stamps, WIC, etc. KOBAs also makes referrals to appropriate shelters and food cupboards if necessary.

SMOKING CESSATION:

KOBAs educates mothers on the effects smoking has on children during and after pregnancy.

EDUCATION:

KOBAs assigns a trained community health worker to each mother to educate her during each month of her pregnancy and on the child’s development after delivery by using the Partners for a Healthy Baby curriculum.

SUPPORT:

KOBAs assists mothers to apply for eligible assistance.

If you or someone you know is pregnant and needs some help, call 330-493-9928 or visit KOBAs online at www.kobacares.com. It’s FREE and confidential and provides assistance appropriate to the situation.