



Spectrum Health Pennock Women's Health CenteringPregnancy® Program



"It's a good way to get support and give support to other pregnant moms, and it's good for moms with more than one child to be able to teach new moms."



Enhancing Perinatal Care in Our Community

As the story of Spectrum Health Pennock evolves, patients' lives and their wellbeing are transformed. We are witnessing dramatic improvements in the health of our community—yet we recognize there is much more to accomplish.



"Regardless if you are a first-time mom or have multiple children, it is an amazing experience. It is a comforting, supportive environment!"

Maternal and infant mortality rates are shockingly high throughout our country, region and right here in West Michigan. Maternal mortality rates have dramatically increased in the last ten years throughout the United States, and in West Michigan, infant mortality rates are no better than average. The most disadvantaged of our society suffer an even more disproportionately negative impact. At Spectrum Health Pennock Hospital, we have a meaningful opportunity to improve the health of pregnant women and their unborn child by transforming prenatal care through the CenteringPregnancy® Program.

CenteringPregnancy® aims to reduce preterm births and the cost of care; increase breastfeeding rates; decrease rates of sexually transmitted infections; and help women develop family planning goals. In December 2015, the Spectrum Health OB/GYN Residency Practice launched the CenteringPregnancy® Program in Grand Rapids, and because of its tremendous success we now have evidence that demonstrates this is an impactful and sustainable program.

More than 150 women have participated, with 92 percent of participants reaching full-term in their pregnancy. Addressing preterm births through the CenteringPregnancy® program is helping us reach our goal of saving lives and improving the health of mothers and babies. Because CenteringPregnancy® also addresses health inequalities through greater access to care; we will better serve the mothers and babies at greatest risk.



"It's very helpful. I love it so much. Everybody I meet that's pregnant, I tell them about it!"

One of the benefits of being part of a larger system is the ability to bring proven programs and best practices for patient care into Barry County. With your philanthropic support, this evidence-based program will become a permanent part of the Spectrum Health Pennock Women's and Infant Health program. To start and sustain this program for future generations, our goal is to establish an endowment by raising \$140,000.

The time is now. Please join us—your generosity will open a new chapter in the Spectrum Health Pennock story, transforming the lives and health of expecting mothers and babies throughout greater Barry County.