

# **Postpartum planning** What's important to you?

- Rest & recovery
- Bonding
- Nutrition
- Support
- Relationship

# Postpartum Plan

#### Meals

Meal train link and list of people to help - https://www.mealtrain.com Organise a big cookup and freeze meals? Organise meal delivery service? List the people who can help us. . . Create a snack box to have next to feeding station Consider one handed meals, meals easily reheat/ defrost i.e. soup Hydration - drink bottle with straw

Care for other kids on hard days List of people who can help

Cleaning Who can help? What do I need done to relax? How will we divide tasks?

#### Organisation

How can we reduce our mental load of running a household? Consider shopping list on a Woolies app and do click and collect Bulk buy items for 3 months - reducing shopping trips Direct debit bills and finances so you don't have to remember to make transfers/ payments



#### Breastfeeding

- What is our plan for breastfeeding:
- Where will I do this? Do I have a set up ready?
- Are there particular things I might need to do ahead of time?
- Who can we reach out to for support if we are struggling?
- Where is my nearest lactation consultant?
- Do you want to do a class on breastfeeding?
- How will partner support breastfeeding-snacks, settling, nappies, bringing baby to you
- Do you know what to do in the first few days if something goes awry?

## Companionship

- Who might I reach out to if I'm lonely?
- Who is someone you can call that will be there to listen?

### **Emotional Wellbeing**

- On the big days, who can I reach out to for support?
- If I feel lonely, who can I call?
- What are activities I enjoy doing that either energise me or make me feel rested?
- Do I have a good GP? Research/ ask about family centred GP's in the area
- What hobbies can/do I want to continue doing with our new baby? What support do I need to make this happen?

## Sleep and settling

Sleep situation:

- Where will the baby sleep?
- If baby isn't sleeping, how will we manage things?
- Who gets up if baby needs soothing but not feeding? Can we share night duties? Do we need extra help?
- Can you make a plan for nights that involve you both in the early days progressively shifting as needed over time?
- Can extra time be taken off work for partner if baby is particularly unsettled or your'e suffering sleep deprivation?



### Sleep and settling of bigger kids

Infant and bigger kid settling:

- What are naps/bed time going to look like?
- How can you prepare older children for the changes to come (not just with sleep, but everything else too)

#### Return to work plan

Return to work/school plan:

- Who takes other kids to school?
- When is partner back at work?
- When are you planning on going back to work?
- On the big days, who can you reach out to for support?
- Do you need support in the transition back to work? Who looks after bub?

#### Visitors

- Consider labour and birthing support team
- Consider visitation in hospital will you and who will you be comfortable with if you are lying/ sitting down topless/ ice pack on perineum/ wound dressing on/ tired/ feeding/ settling your baby?
- Time limit on visitors
- Great visitors help you by bringing food, coffee, asking what you need doing, limiting time spent with you.
- Consider number of visitors in your first week home
- Remember to 'keep baby in mind' advocate for your baby, do not withhold feeding/ settling your baby if you are seeing those hunger/tired cues.
- Immunisation status of visitors
- Do not placate to visitors, they will meet your baby and be a part of their life.