Upstream Strategies: 
Pregnancy and Newborn Supports for New Parents

NCSL Child Welfare Fellows | June 27, 2023

What is Home Visiting?

- Voluntary
- Trained Professionals
- Evidence-based
- Prevention-oriented
Home Visiting Intersects with Numerous Policy Domains

- Maternal & Child Health
- Prevention of Child Maltreatment
- Health
- Child Welfare
- Early Childhood
- School Readiness
- Social & Emotional Skills
History of Home Visiting in the U.S.

1899
Mary Richmond publishes her manual for home visiting, “Friendly Visiting Among the Poor: A Handbook for Charity Workers.”

1935
Congress passes Title V, the Maternal and Child Health Program.

1960s
The War on Poverty emphasizes support for early child care and development.

1994
Head Start expands home visiting to children from birth to age 3 (Early Head Start).

1974
Congress passes the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act

1970s
C. Henry Kempe proposes home health visiting to prevent child abuse and neglect.

2009
HHS launches HomeVEE to review the evidence base for home visiting models.

2010
Congress invests $1.5 B in home visiting through Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood, Home Visiting (MIECHV) program.

2018
Congress reauthorizes MIECHV funding for an additional five years.

2021
American Rescue Plan Act $150 M to support MIECHV.

2022
Congress reauthorizes MIECHV funding for an additional five years (first-ever funding increase).
Funding Streams

To support home visiting

- Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood, Home Visiting (MIECHV)
- Title V MCH Block Grant
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
- Medicaid (administrative or medical assistance to women and children)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)
- State general fund, required state matches and other state and local special funds (e.g., tobacco settlement and taxes)
- Early Head Start

Source: Johnson Group
**Evidence of Model Effectiveness**

- Child development and school readiness
- Child health
- Family economic self-sufficiency
- Linkages and referrals
- Maternal health
- Positive parenting practices
- Reduction in child maltreatment
- Reductions in juvenile delinquency, family violence and crime

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model Name</th>
<th>Positive Parenting</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Development and School Readiness</th>
<th>Child Maltreatment</th>
<th>Economic Self-Sufficiency</th>
<th>Family Violence and/or Crime</th>
<th>Linkages and Referrals</th>
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<td>Attachment and Behavioral Catch-Up (ABC)</td>
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Legislative Action
Resources

- **NCSL Resources**
  - [Webpage](#) | Home Visiting: Improving Outcomes for Children
  - [Report](#) | Early Childhood Home Visiting: What Legislators Need to Know
  - [Legislative database](#) | Early Childhood including home visiting

- **External Resources**
  - [National Home Visiting Resource Center](#)
    - [Annual Yearbook](#)
    - [Institute for the Advancement of Family Support Professionals](#)

- **Let’s Connect**
  - Alison.May@ncsl.org
  - 720-713-0319
All children and families live a purposeful and happy life with hope for the future.

NCSL Child Welfare Fellows

June 27, 2023
Home visiting makes families, children, and communities stronger.
Healthy Families America works with 70,000 families each year, with nearly 600 sites in 38 states, DC, and five US territories.
“The biggest impact [to me] would be all the parenting skills. I was young when I first became a mom, and I didn’t have all those tools. HFA makes me a better mom, a better person.”

• ASHLEY, NEBRASKA
HFA Advantage: How we get results

Relational Health & Attachment

Trauma Informed Practice

Reflective Capacity
Decades of research have shown positive results and sustained impact with HFA families.

- Reduced recurrence of maltreatment by 1/3
- 5x more likely to enroll in school or training programs
- 27% fewer families were homeless
- 48% fewer low-birthweight infants
- 30% fewer intimate partner violence incidents resulting in injury
- 26% fewer children receive special ed services

For more information and citations, see HFA’s Evidence of Effectiveness at https://www.healthyfamiliesamerica.org/our-impact/evidence-of-effectiveness/
HFA 2022 Funding Sources

- State: 46%
- MIECHV: 19%
- TANF: 11%
- Local Gov't: 8%
- Other Federal: 4%
- Private: 3%
- Other: 9%
- Other Federal: 4%
“I learned something new every week, every visit. This program has a lot of resources, a lot of places and help that we can get that we would otherwise not get elsewhere.”

– CARLA, NEBRASKA
Raising the next generation, together.
We are the Tennessee Chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America.

**About Us**

*We provide hands-on support* through Home Visiting.

*We create lasting impact* by working with parents and their children, reaching two-generations at once.

*We are changing the landscape for families* through advocacy and education.
Mission

To create a future for children and families filled with promise and prosperity
Vision

To see all children in Tennessee thriving in safe, stable, and nurturing families and communities.
How We Are Funded

- Funded by 4 grants
- TN Department of Health (DOH) funds home visiting
- 92% of our funding comes from state and federal grants
**The Science**
Support Healthy Brain Development

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<tr>
<th><strong>ABUSE</strong></th>
<th><strong>NEGLECT</strong></th>
<th><strong>HOUSEHOLD DYSFUNCTION</strong></th>
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<td>Sexual</td>
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<td>Substance Abuse</td>
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<td>Divorce</td>
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Priority Populations

- Low-income
- Pregnant or first-time mom under the age of 21
- History of child abuse or neglect or has had interactions with child welfare services
- History of substance abuse or need for substance abuse treatment
- Users of tobacco in the home
- Attained low student achievement or has a child with low student achievement
- Serving/served in the Armed Forces
How We Connect With Parents

- Community Partnerships
- Community Events
- Call Center Referrals
- Community Health Access and Navigation in TN (CHANT) Referrals
- Word of Mouth
Program Basics

- Must meet priority population criteria
- Moms must be pregnant and/or have delivered their child within the last 3 months
- Participation is confidential, free, and completely voluntary
- Our home visitors can stay with families and continue to provide support until the child’s 5th birthday
Structure & Staff

2 Regional Program Managers
• oversee daily operations

8 Supervisors
• provide reflective supervision and support to home visitors

40 Home Visitors
• serve about 15-20 families each
The Home Visitor Experience

- Meeting parents where they are
- Relationships
- Helping children thrive
- Celebrating family milestones
- Bridging the gaps
What a Home Visit Looks Like

- Family Resource & Opportunities for Growth Scale (FROG)
- Relationship building
- Tools
- Curriculum
- Family questions/concerns
- Resources
- Family goal plans
- Scheduling
Thank you! Questions?
Upstream Strategies:
Pregnancy and Newborn Supports for New Parents
Guided Panel Discussion
Reflection and Share Out

In your journal

➢ Jot down 1-2 things you learned during this session.

➢ Jot down 1-2 ways you might use what you learned in your state.
2023 Indy Legislative Summit

Aug. 14-16, 2023
Take a 15-minute break.  
See you back here at 10:15 a.m.