



Naomi Goldstein  
Director, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation  
Administration for Children and Families  
US Department of Health and Human Services  
330 C St. SW, Washington DC 20201

April 19, 2021

Dear Director Goldstein,

The Association of State and Tribal Home Visiting Initiatives (ASTHVI) is a collaboration of administrators of home visiting funds dedicated to supporting the effective implementation and continuous quality improvement of home visiting programs. We are writing to respond to the proposed revisions to procedures and standards that guide the Home Visiting Evidence of Effectiveness (HomVEE) review's single-case design research detailed in the Federal Register Notice published on March 22, 2021.

ASTHVI is grateful for the chance to provide feedback on the HomVEE single case design standards. We also want to thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the updates to HomVEE's procedures and standards last year. Our members appreciate the thoughtful consideration of stakeholder feedback, the subsequent changes that were made in response, and the resources that have since been released detailing the final revisions.

To accurately capture member feedback, ASTHVI held a call with home visiting administrators from around the country. In that conversation, administrators felt that the proposed changes to single case design research are warranted, with the elimination of the 5-3-20 rule and the increased flexibility for applying certain single case design standards standing out in particular as positive updates. The changes proposed in the notice are limited in scope and remove or reduce restrictions that have the potential to limit evaluations. Members expect that these changes will be helpful for smaller home-grown models seeking to establish an evidence base and larger, more established models reviewing new adaptations. This is especially important as the field assesses the effectiveness of new virtual practices developed and implemented during the pandemic.

Thank you for your attention to these comments. ASTHVI looks forward to working with you to improve health, child welfare, and early education outcomes for even more children across the country.

Sincerely,

Catriona Macdonald  
ASTHVI Executive Director