



# HOME VISITING IN DELAWARE

## Home Visiting Models

Delaware has a wide range of home visiting models across the state including evidence-based home visiting models as well as promising practice programs.

The four evidence-based home visiting models funded by MIECHV in Delaware are:

- **Healthy Families America**
- **Parents as Teachers**
- **Early Head Start**
- **Nurse Family Partnership**



Home visiting services are available in all 3 Delaware counties.

In fiscal year 2021, the MIECHV program provided services to 615 families, including 587 children served in over 7,000 visits.

### Investment

In Delaware, home visiting enjoys state and federal support. Each funding stream fills a crucial gap in services and serves as a catalyst for attracting additional support for programs.

The Delaware Home Visiting Community Advisory Board (CAB) oversees the coordination of home visiting services within the early childhood system to ensure quality service delivery. The CAB promotes a cross-sector collaboration among relevant state and community-based organizations to reduce duplication and advance common goals. The CAB is comprised of providers, policy makers, and other advocates and includes numerous stakeholders such as: the Division of Family Services, birthing facilities, a Community-Based Child Abuse and Prevention (CBCAP) grantee, the Division of Prevention & Behavioral Services, the Division of Public Health (DPH), the ECCS Coordinator, Family Court, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Medicaid managed care organizations, the Office of the Child Advocate, Head Start, United Way, and all home visiting programs.



## Delaware Thrives Home Visiting Resources

For more information on Delaware Thrives, check out the following resources:

- [Delaware Thrives Home Visiting Home Page](#)
- [Delaware Thrives Home Visiting Provider Page](#)
- [Delaware Thrives Home Visiting Materials Page](#)

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### Robust Program Outcomes

Overall, the MIECHV-supported sites fare well on the majority of benchmarks, particularly early childhood-related benchmarks. The following are some of the successes reported during FY 2021:

- Almost 90.0 percent of newly-enrolled mothers this year were documented as receiving a depression screening with the PHQ-9;
- Roughly 80.0 percent of prenatally enrolled mothers this year were reported as receiving a postpartum care visit within three months of delivery;
- 85.6 percent of primary caregivers enrolled were documented as receiving an observation of parent-child interaction by a home visitor using either the CHEERS or PICCOLO.
- 82.2 percent of children enrolled in home visiting were reported as receiving an ASQ screening at the age-appropriate time interval;
- 86.8 percent of enrolled children were reportedly in a household in which a family member was documented as reading, telling stories, and/or singing songs with the child most days during a typical week; and
- Over 90.0 percent of newly-enrolled primary caregivers were documented as being screened for intimate partner violence.

### Effects of COVID-19 Pandemic

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has tremendously affected the provision of home visiting services. To ensure the safety of participating families and home visiting staff, home visits were mostly provided virtually since early 2020. The COVID-19 crisis has also resulted in the need for additional resources for the home visitors related to the curricula and mental health treatment.

“I love to have the opportunity to invest in how children begin to grow and develop. Meeting these families in their homes provides me with the chance to really understand and recognize the family’s environment. The home is where each child’s learning begins!” – *Parent Educator, Parents as Teachers*

“Our recent shift to virtual home visiting has provided families with vital information, resources and support in the safest and most engaging manner possible.” – *Home Visitor, Parents as Teachers*

