



# HOME VISITING IN GEORGIA

## Home Visiting Models Used in Georgia

### PARENTS AS TEACHERS

aims to increase parent knowledge of early childhood development, improve parenting practices, detect developmental delays and health issues early, increase children's school readiness and success, and prevent child abuse and neglect.

### HEALTHY FAMILIES

seeks to build and sustain community partnerships to systematically engage overburdened families in home visiting services prenatally or at birth.

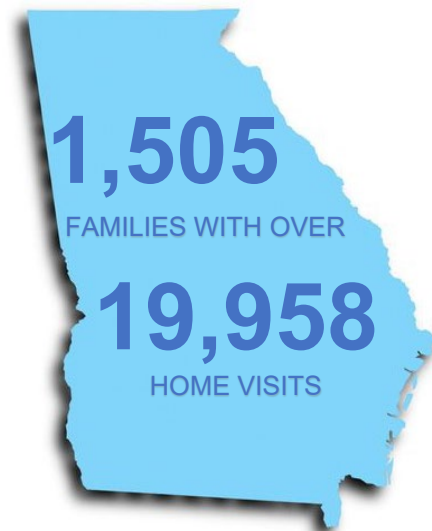
### NURSE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

seeks to improve the well-being of families in three key areas:

1. pregnancy outcomes by helping women improve prenatal health),
2. child health and development (by helping parents provide sensitive and competent caregiving), and
3. parents' life trajectories (by helping them develop a vision for their future, plan subsequent pregnancies, continue their education, and find work).



In 2021, the MIECHV (Maternal Infant Early Childhood Home Visiting) program in Georgia provided services to:



### Sixteen Counties Served:

Bartow, Chatham, Chattahoochee, Clarke, Crisp, DeKalb, Dooly, Glynn, Houston, Jackson, Liberty, Muscogee, Peach, Richmond, Rockdale, Whitfield

For more information, visit  
<https://dph.georgia.gov/homevisiting>



Georgia MIECHV, led by the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH), has the vision to improve health and development outcomes for children and families through the following goals:

- Providing quality home visiting services to women, infants, children, and families.
- Strengthening families by maintaining collaboration with the statewide early childhood system.
- Linking families to community resources and programs to address the needs of participants.
- Being intentional about including fathers in home visiting services and activities.

**For more information, visit**  
<https://dph.georgia.gov/homevisiting>

**CONTACT**

**Natasha P. Worthy, MSW**  
 Sr. Home Visiting Program Manager  
 Georgia Department of Public Health  
 2 Peachtree Street  
 Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
 Natasha.worthy@dph.ga.gov

**Program Activities**

In FY2021, Georgia MIECHV developed several initiatives and professional development opportunities to support its home visiting workforce:

- **Racial Equity Training:** Georgia MIECHV partnered with the Racial Equity Institute to provide “The Groundwater Approach,” a virtual, 3-hour introduction to racial equity for over 160 home visiting staff and other partners.
- **Mothers and Babies:** Georgia MIECHV provided training for all local implementing agencies (LIAs) to deliver this important curriculum in-home to caregivers as a statewide response to depression.
- **Certified Lactation Consultant (CLC) training:** Approximately 40 home visitors received training to become CLCs to help support new parents in their desire to initiate and sustain breastfeeding.
- **Fatherhood Engagement:** MIECHV programs voluntarily participated in the pilot of the National Fatherhood Initiative (NFI) Father Readiness Network Assessment, also known as the Father Friendly Check-Up. This assessment tool gauges the readiness of organizations and their staff to engage fathers using a vigorous 130-point questionnaire across four topic areas: Leadership, Organizational, Program Development, and Community Engagement.

**Accomplishments**



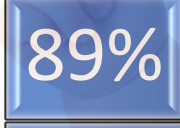
of caregivers were screened for depression within 3 months of enrollment or within 3 months of delivery.



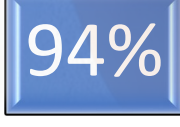
of mothers received a postpartum visit with a healthcare provider within 8 weeks of delivery.



of caregivers received intimate partner violence screening within 6 months of enrollment.



of children practiced safe sleep and were placed on their backs, without bed-sharing or soft bedding.



of children had a family member who read, told stories, and/or sang with them daily.