



HOME VISITING IN DELAWARE

Supporting families from pregnancy through early childhood with trusted, community-based care.



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Home visiting in Delaware connects families with trained professionals who provide guidance, resources, and support during pregnancy and early childhood. Through trusted, relationship-based care, home visitors strengthen parenting, promote healthy development, and connect families with the services they need to thrive.

WHO IS SERVED

- Expectant parents and pregnant women.
- Parents and caregivers of young children.
- Families with children from birth through kindergarten entry.
- Families living in communities experiencing greater barriers and risks to positive maternal and child health outcomes.
- Families who choose to participate in voluntary home visiting services.

WHAT HOME VISITORS DO

- Build trusted, supportive relationships with families.
- Meet regularly with families in their homes or through approved visit formats.
- Help families identify strengths, set goals, and create plans.
- Support healthy pregnancy and parenting practices.
- Provide education on safe sleep, breastfeeding, nutrition, child safety, and healthy habits.
- Encourage positive parent-child interactions through talking, reading, playing, and praising.
- Screen for areas of need and connect families with appropriate services and resources, such as health care, WIC, Medicaid, housing, parenting support, and other community services.



HOW IT WORKS

IN DELAWARE, HOME VISITING:

- Supports healthy pregnancies and child development.
- Strengthens parenting skills and confidence.
- Connects families with critical health and community resources.
- Helps identify needs early and reduce risk over time.

PROGRAM STATS

661

Families
Served



3

Counties
Reached
(Statewide)

39

Home
Visitors



PROGRAM IMPACT

Home visiting in Delaware is making a meaningful difference for families and communities. The Home Visiting Program provides support to families to help their children grow, learn, and thrive. The benefits for families participating in the program have been clear, and families have experienced improved maternal and child health, earlier detection of possible developmental delays or disabilities, improvement in school readiness and achievement, an increase in regular health care provider visits, and a reduction in stress levels.

Home visitors
meet families where
they are, building
trust that leads to
lasting change.

A CLOSER LOOK

Delaware's Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program supports evidence-based home visiting services for pregnant women and families with young children. Delaware offers five evidence-based home visiting models, with MIECHV funding supporting three models: Healthy Families Delaware (HFD), Parents as Teachers (PAT), and Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP). Through these MIECHV-supported programs, families receive voluntary, no-cost services tailored to their individual needs, including home visits, parenting education, child development guidance, resource sharing, and connections to health and community services. Home visiting professionals work alongside families to strengthen parenting skills, promote healthy parent-child relationships, create safe and nurturing environments, and support children's healthy growth and development. By investing in families during the critical early years, MIECHV-supported home visiting helps Delaware parents and children build a strong foundation for lifelong health, learning, and well-being.

WHAT WE OFFER

- Strengths-based, family-centered partnerships.
- Respectful collaboration with families, communities, and colleagues.
- Evidence-based practice, program fidelity, and continuous improvement.
- Data-informed decision-making to ensure effective and responsive service delivery.

PROGRAM IMPACT

Home visiting in Delaware is making a meaningful difference for families and communities. By meeting families where they are, these programs help improve maternal and child health, support early learning, and build a stronger foundation for long-term success.

HOME VISITING IN DELAWARE • Learn more at DEThrives.com.



Sometimes, the right support at the right time can make all the difference in a parent's journey — and a child's future. Healthy Families Delaware (HFD) recognizes the strengths of every family while providing guidance, encouragement, and connections to resources from pregnancy through a child's third birthday. When one Delaware mother enrolled in HFD, she was navigating an unexpected home birth, challenges bonding with her newborn daughter, and significant mental health struggles. With the compassionate support of her Family Support Specialist, she connected with mental health services and resources, gained confidence and parenting skills, and built a stronger, more nurturing bond with her daughter. Reflecting on her experience, she shared that the program made her feel "very supported and never judged" and helped her become the mother she is today — a powerful reminder that investing in parents can create lasting positive outcomes for children and families.

DELAWARE HOME VISITING

PROGRAM DETAILS

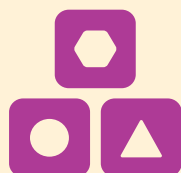
INFORMATION

SERVICE AREA



Statewide: Kent, Sussex,
and New Castle Counties

WHO DELIVERS SERVICES



Family Support Specialists

VISIT FORMAT



In-home and/or virtual



COST



No cost to families

ELIGIBILITY



Birth parents, adoptive parents,
foster parents, kin caregivers, etc.

MODELS



Parents as Teachers (PAT),
Healthy Families Delaware (HFD),
Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP).

Source: <https://data.hrsa.gov/topics/maternal-child-health/miechv>



DELAWARE HEALTH
AND SOCIAL SERVICES
Division of Public Health

GET CONNECTED

Learn more or refer a family: DEThrives.com

