

EXPAND HOME VISITING

Virginia leaders have long recognized the value of early childhood home visiting as an effective strategy for improving health and well-being of families and their young children.

Yet, less than 10% of targeted families receive home visiting services that are proven to improve health outcomes, prevent child abuse, and enhance school readiness.

Home visiting programs consistently demonstrate strong evidence of effectiveness in a number of domains including maternal and child health, behavioral health, family self-sufficiency, parent-child relationships and child maltreatment.



PLEASE support the Governor's maternal and child health budget package, which includes:

- **Medicaid reimbursement for home visiting**

Establishing home visiting as a Medicaid service will create a more sustainable revenue stream that allows home visiting programs across Virginia to scale up and maximize their impact so more women, children and families can be served.

Home visiting is a holistic approach, customized to meet the needs of families. We recognize that families and young children also need access to other early childhood programs, and you can help those families by:

- **Supporting the consolidation of early learning programs within the Dept. of Education**
- **Supporting increased preschool access for 'at-risk' 3 and 4 year olds and fund quality improvement efforts.**
- **Supporting HJ51 (Del. Sickles) to study the feasibility of implementing a statewide early childhood mental health consultation program for children from birth through age five.**

#HomeVisitingWorks

A retrospective analysis found a **40% reduction** in preterm birth rates among Virginia women who received home visiting versus a comparison group. National research suggests that the average inpatient cost of a preterm birth is around \$30,000.

Feasibility Study on the Development of a Home Visiting Pay for Success Pilot Program, Virginia Department of Health, 2018.

For more information:
EarlyImpactVA.org

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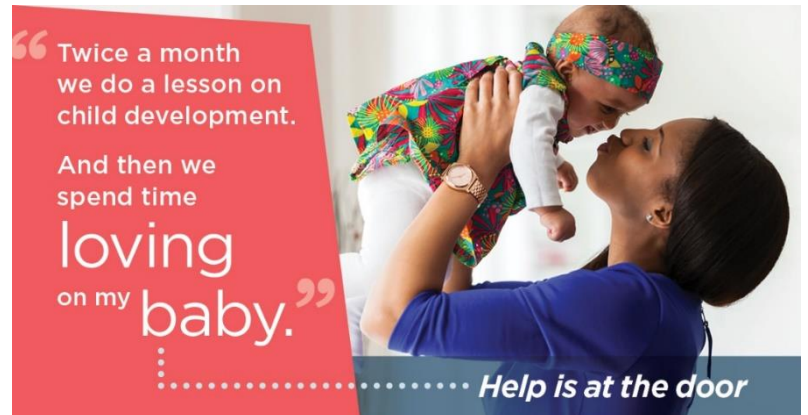


What is home visiting?

Home visiting connects expectant parents and families with young children to a trained, family support professional who provides customized coaching and guidance through the early stages of a child's development. Home visitors help parents understand their role as their child's first, and most important, teacher. Home visitors help families realize their strengths, and unlock their child's potential.

Home visiting benefits moms, families, children, and the community.

- Moms and babies are healthier
- Children are better prepared for school
- Children are safer
- Families are more self-sufficient
- Home visiting programs save money in the long run



To meet the diverse needs of families and communities throughout the Commonwealth, Virginia is home to seven evidence-based models of home visiting. Those programs are CHIP of Virginia, Early Head Start, Healthy Families, Healthy Start/Loving Steps, Nurse Family Partnership and Parents as Teachers. While these programs cover 123 out of 133 localities, we are serving less than 10% of families that would benefit from home visiting.

Virginia's Home Visiting Programs



What is Early Impact Virginia?

In 2018, budget language from the General Assembly granted Early Impact Virginia the authority and responsibility to systematically track and report annually on the key activities and outcomes of Virginia's home visiting programs. Early Impact Virginia partnered with the Governor's office to convene a Leadership Council charged with developing the plan to guide the state's investment in home visiting. In May 2019, the Children's Cabinet adopted Virginia's Plan for Home Visiting, which called for funding strategies that create stable, predictable revenue streams and leverage relevant statewide programs, including Medicaid.

Early Impact Virginia represents all seven home visiting models across the state, and convenes those partners regularly to develop and implement strategies that support continuous improvement, professional development and sustainability of home visiting programs.

For more information:
EarlyImpactVA.org

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