The Positive Impact of Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) in Missouri

MIECHV provides federal funds to states, territories, and tribal entities for voluntary, evidence-based home visiting services. Home visitors meet with parents one on one from pregnancy through their child's kindergarten entry to help lay the foundation for the health, education, development, and economic self-sufficiency of the entire family. Visits by caring, experienced professionals who provide families support and connections to needed resources and services can help families leverage their strengths so they can thrive.

Since 2013, MIECHV has been level-funded at $400 million annually and pre-pandemic estimates showed MIECHV reached only 3-5% of eligible families nationwide. As MIECHV is set to expire on September 30, 2022, reauthorization offers Congress the opportunity to provide additional investments that will enable home visiting programs to reach more families. The National Home Visiting Coalition, of which FFYF is a member, recommends a five-year reauthorization that would increase funding by $200 million annually (reaching $1.4 billion in FY2027); doubling the MIECHV tribal set-aside from 3% to 6% to reach more families in American Indian and Alaska Native communities; and continuing to allow virtual home visiting implemented with model fidelity as a service delivery option for families who choose it.

Within Missouri, MIECHV provided/served:

- **542** families
- **10,334** home visits
- **569** children

In FY21: **$3,793,258** was awarded to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

Missouri Performance Highlights:

- 99.3% of caregivers enrolled in home visiting were screened for intimate partner violence within 6 months of enrollment.
- 92.0% of infants enrolled in home visiting were always placed to sleep on their backs, without bed-sharing or soft bedding.
- Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI): Missouri MIECHV conducted a four-part virtual Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Learning Opportunity for all home visitors in August 2020 and virtually convened the Second Annual Leadership Academy in September 2020 to support supervisors in becoming CQI leaders and champions.

Family Needs

States tailor their programs to meet community needs, with priority given to certain populations listed in the law.

In Missouri:

- 86.2% of households were low income.
- 25.8% of households reported a history of child abuse or maltreatment.

Missouri Families Receiving Home Visiting

Race

- White (60%)
- Black (35%)
- Multiple (4%)

To protect confidentiality, race categories with less than 10 respondents have been omitted. Percentages may not add to 100%.

Ethnicity

- 7% Hispanic or Latino

Child’s Age

- 15% Infants <1
- 54% Toddler 1-2
- 30% Preschool 3-5

The estimated percentage of families who could benefit in Missouri met the following priority criteria:

- Child <1: 20%
- Single Mother: 22%
- Parent with no high school diploma: 5%
- Pregnant woman or mother <21: 3%
- Low income: 23%

Potential Beneficiaries:

In Missouri, an estimated 340,900 families could benefit from home visiting with sufficient funding.

- 48% of families met one or more priority criteria.
- 18% of families met two or more priority criteria.

In Missouri, an estimated 434,600 children could benefit from home visiting with sufficient funding.

- 16% Infants <1
- 34% Toddler 1-2
- 50% Preschool 3-5

References:
- National Home Visiting Resource Center (NHVRC) 2021 Yearbook, MIECHV State Data Tables (FY2020)
- HRSA Home Visiting Program Fact Sheets