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

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.

In FY21:
$8,828,477
was awarded to the New York State Department of Health¹

Within New York, MIECHV provided/served:*
3,023 families
37,247 home visits
2,369 children

New York Performance Highlights:

- 98.1% of caregivers enrolled in home visiting were screened for depression within 3 months of enrollment or within 3 months of delivery.
- 90.4% of caregivers enrolled in home visiting were screened for intimate partner violence within 6 months of enrollment.
- 72.9% of caregivers were asked if they had any concerns regarding their child’s development, behavior, or learning in their postpartum home visit.

Family Needs

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

In New York:

- 55.1% of households were low income.
- 16.5% of households included a pregnant enrollee under age 21.
- 15.9% of households reported a history of child abuse or maltreatment.

New York Families Receiving Home Visiting

Race

- White (24%)
- Black (56%)
- Asian (5%)
- Multiple (11%)
- American Indian/Alaska Native (3%)
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (<1%)

Ethnicity

- 47% Hispanic or Latino

Child’s Age

- 44% Infants <1
- 45% Toddler 1-2
- 11% Preschool 3-5

Potential Beneficiaries:

In New York, an estimated 985,700 families could benefit from home visiting with sufficient funding.*

- 50% of families met one or more priority criteria.
- 19% of families met two or more priority criteria.

1,308,400 children could benefit from home visiting with sufficient funding.*

- 16% Infants <1
- 35% Toddler 1-2
- 48% Preschool 3-5

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