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

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:
$8,193,590 was awarded to the Children’s Trust Fund of South Carolina

Within South Carolina, MIECHV provided/served:
1,304 families
17,934 home visits
1,072 children


Evidence-based models providing MIECHV-supported home visiting services in South Carolina include:

- Healthy Families America
- Nurse-Family Partnership

Parents as Teachers

South Carolina MIECHV Program At-a-Glance

Rural: Abbeville, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Cherokee, Clarendon, Georgetown, Greenwood, McCormick, Newberry, Oconee, Orangeburg, Williamsburg

South Carolina Performance Highlights:

- **96.6%** of children enrolled in home visiting had a family member who read, told stories, and/or sang with them on a daily basis.
- **95.7%** of infants enrolled in home visiting were always placed to sleep on their backs, without bed-sharing or soft bedding.
- **Well Child Visits Learning Collaborative:** Convened a quality improvement learning collaborative among local implementing agencies focused on improving well child visit completions. Despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, SCMECHV continued to see improvement in this performance measure in 2020.

Family Needs

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

In South Carolina:

- **84.3%** of households were low income.
- **14.8%** of households reported a history of child abuse or maltreatment.
- **14.0%** of households included a pregnant enrollee under age 21.

Potential Beneficiaries:

In South Carolina, an estimated 266,400 families could benefit from home visiting with sufficient funding.*

- **53%** of families met one or more priority criteria.
- **23%** of families met two or more priority criteria.

334,200 children could benefit from home visiting with sufficient funding.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infants &lt;1</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toddler 1-2</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool 3-5</td>
<td>48%</td>
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</tbody>
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South Carolina Families Receiving Home Visiting

**Race**

- White (39%)
- Black (51%)
- Multiple (8%)
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (1%)

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

**Ethnicity**

- 20% Hispanic or Latino

**Child’s Age**

- 65% Infants <1
- 32% Toddler 1-2
- 3% Preschool 3-5

The estimated percentage of families who could benefit in South Carolina met the following priority criteria:*:

- Child <1: 19%
- Single Mother: 29%
- Parent with no high school diploma: 7%
- Pregnant woman or mother <21: 3%
- Low income: 26%

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