

The Positive Impact of

Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) in Alaska



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:

\$1,705,753

was awarded to the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services¹

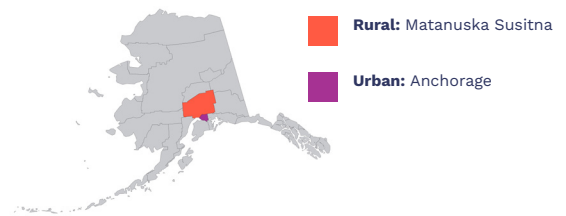
Within Alaska, MIECHV provided/
served:*

214 families

2,113 home visits

164 children

Alaska MIECHV Program At-a-Glance



Evidence-based models providing MIECHV-supported home visiting services in Alaska include:[^]



Alaska Performance Highlights: ^



- ◆ **96.2%** of mothers enrolled in home visiting received a postpartum visit with a healthcare provider within 8 weeks of delivery
- ◆ **91.2%** of caregivers enrolled in home visiting had continuous health insurance coverage for at least 6 consecutive months
- ◆ **Behavioral Health Partnership:** Partnered with a psychiatrist and their Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) specialist to prioritize appointments for Nurse-Family Partnership clients experiencing depression and mental health conditions. Preliminary data shows an improvement in mental health scores for clients after accessing this provider

Family Needs ^

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

In Alaska:

- ◆ **64.1%** of households were low income
- ◆ **19.2%** of households included a pregnant enrollee under age 21
- ◆ **4.7%** of households included a child with developmental delays or disabilities

Alaska Families Receiving Home Visiting

Race*

- White (53%)
- Black (15%)
- Multiple (17%)
- Asian (12%)



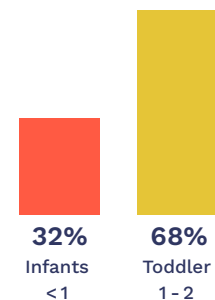
To protect confidentiality, race categories with less than 10 respondents have been omitted. Percentages may not add to 100%

Ethnicity*

22%

Hispanic or Latino

Child's Age*

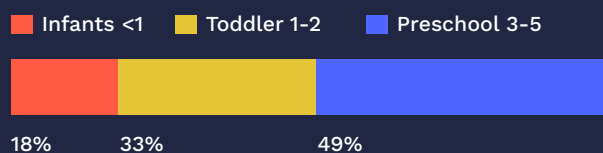


Potential Beneficiaries:

In Alaska, an estimated 47,600 families could benefit from home visiting with sufficient funding.

- ◆ **46%** of families met one or more priority criteria.
- ◆ **15%** of families met two or more priority criteria.

62,200 children could benefit from home visiting with sufficient funding.*



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

