

The Positive Impact of

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



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:

## \$6,860,927

was awarded to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health<sup>1</sup>

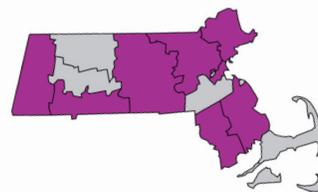
Within Massachusetts, MIECHV provided/served:\*

## 1,793 families

## 23,470 home visits

## 1,699 children

### Massachusetts MIECHV Program At-a-Glance



- Rural:** None
- Urban:** Berkshire, Bristol, Essex, Hampden, Middlesex, Plymouth, Suffolk, Worcester

Evidence-based models providing MIECHV-supported home visiting services in Massachusetts include:<sup>^</sup>



Early Head Start



Healthy Families America<sup>®</sup>



Parents as Teachers.

# Massachusetts Performance Highlights:<sup>^</sup>



- ◆ **92.6%** of caregivers enrolled in home visiting were screened for depression within 3 months of enrollment or within 3 months of delivery
- ◆ **88.2%** of caregivers enrolled in home visiting were screened for intimate partner violence within 6 months of enrollment

**Racial Equity:** MA MIECHV has embedded a focus on racial equity into program operations to address structural racism through: home visiting contract procurement, 2020 Needs Assessment, community engagement, state and local level trainings, and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) by piloting the Racial Equity Data Roadmap

## Family Needs<sup>^</sup>

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

### In Massachusetts:

- ◆ **81.5%** of households were low income
- ◆ **21.9%** of households reported a history of child abuse or maltreatment
- ◆ **18.9%** of households included a pregnant enrollee under age 21

## Massachusetts Families Receiving Home Visiting

### Race\*

- White (50%)
- Black (19%)
- Asian (2%)
- Multiple (29%)



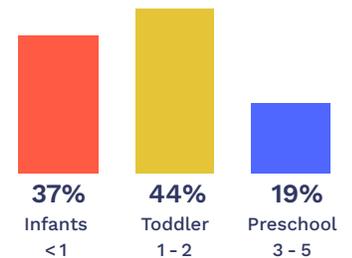
To protect confidentiality, race categories with less than 10 respondents have been omitted. Percentages may not add to 100%

### Ethnicity\*

**55%**

Hispanic or Latino

### Child's Age\*



## Potential Beneficiaries:

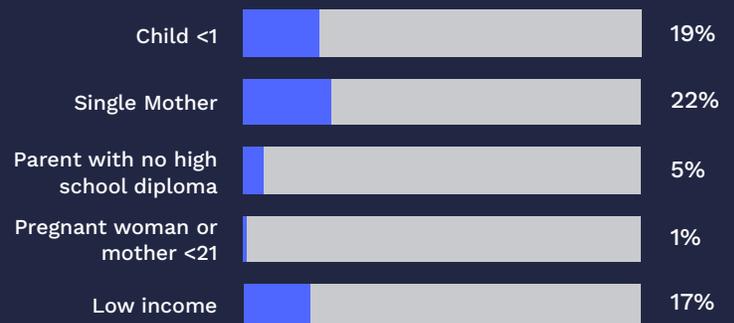
In Massachusetts, an estimated 334,600 families could benefit from home visiting with sufficient funding.\*

- ◆ **44%** of families met one or more priority criteria.
- ◆ **15%** of families met two or more priority criteria.

419,700 children could benefit from home visiting with sufficient funding.\*



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



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