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

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:
$8,242,721 was awarded to the Oregon Department of Human Services.

Within Oregon, MIECHV provided/served:
1,135 families
15,135 home visits
965 children

Oregon Performance Highlights:

- **98.6%** of caregivers enrolled in home visiting had continuous health insurance coverage for at least six consecutive months.
- **95.4%** of caregivers were asked if they had any concerns regarding their child’s development, behavior, or learning in postpartum home visits.
- **Rose to the Challenge**: In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of home visits per family increased from the previous year and the number of families exiting prior to program completion decreased from 29.7% to 25.4%.

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

In Oregon:

- **70.7%** of households were low income.
- **27.0%** of households included someone who use tobacco products in the home.

Potential Beneficiaries:
In Oregon, an estimated 210,500 families could benefit from home visiting with sufficient funding.*

- **45%** of families met one or more priority criteria.
- **17%** of families met two or more priority criteria.

Oregon Families Receiving Home Visiting:

**Race**
- White (84%)
- Black (4%)
- Asian (2%)
- Multiple (6%)
- American Indian/Alaska Native (3%)

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

**Ethnicity**
- Hispanic or Latino

**Child’s Age**
- 34% Infants <1
- 58% Toddler 1-2
- 8% Preschool 3-5

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

- Child <1: 18%
- Single Mother: 18%
- Parent with no high school diploma: 6%
- Pregnant woman or mother <21: 2%
- Low income: 23%

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