

The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program

The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program provides federal funds to states, territories, and tribal entities to develop and implement evidence-based, voluntary home visiting services to improve family outcomes. The home visiting programs made possible by MIECHV pair families who often have limited support and resources with trained home visitors, including health, social service, and child development professionals. These professionals meet with parents one-on-one, often from pregnancy through their child's kindergarten entry, to help lay the foundation for the health, development, education, and economic self-sufficiency of the entire family. Tailored home visiting services can break generations-long cycles of poverty, addiction, and abuse, making MIECHV a critical piece of the continuum of care for children from birth through age five.

MIECHV gives states flexibility in choosing an approach that best meets local needs. Grantees must spend the majority of their funding to implement evidence-based home visiting models that prioritize families living in “at-risk” communities, which the law defines to include communities with concentrations of poor maternal and child health outcomes; domestic violence; substance abuse disorders; or child maltreatment, among other factors.

At a Glance

■ **Created:**
2010

■ **Who this Program Serves:**
Families living in “at-risk” communities as identified in a statewide needs assessment.

◆ **Number of Participants**
In FY 2021, MIECHV served 140,000 parents and children (71,000 families) in 925,000 home visits.

● **Delivery Method:**
Professionals meet with parents in their homes from pregnancy through their child's kindergarten entry to provide mentoring and support on children's health and development; positive parenting techniques; and long-term planning. During the pandemic, visits transitioned to telephone or video visits, helping families identify COVID-19 related resources and continue access to critical health, early care and education, and family economic supports.

■ **Federal Funding:**
FY 2013-FY 2022: \$400 million annually
American Rescue Plan:¹ \$150 million
FY 2023: \$500 million, FY 2024: \$550 million,
FY 2025: \$600 million, FY 2026: \$650 million,
FY 2027: \$800 million

¹. One time funds to support the transition to virtual home visits; training for home visitors; and emergency supplies for families.

