

Home Visiting Fact Sheet



**Welcome Baby
anticipates serving
over 15,000 babies
born each year
by 2020.**

What are the Benefits of Home Visiting Programs?

- High-quality, voluntary home visiting can improve both immediate and lifelong family and child outcomes including school readiness, child health, maternal health, positive parenting practices and reductions in child maltreatment. (homvee.acf.hhs.gov/outcomes.aspx)
- Creating stable, supportive environments for at-risk children in their early years benefits society by building more self-sufficient families and a well-developed workforce. Home visiting programs can pay for themselves by generating long-term savings.

What is voluntary home visiting?

Voluntary home visiting programs pair families with trained professionals who provide ongoing information and support services in the families' homes during pregnancy and up to three or more years after the child's birth.

Pew Center on the States, August 2011

What Does First 5 LA's Voluntary Universal Home Visiting Program Look Like?

- The Welcome Baby program is designed to work with families to enhance the parent-child relationship and the health, safety and security of the baby. The program also assists families in accessing support services when needed in First 5 LA's 14 *Best Start** Communities.
- The Welcome Baby program offers hospital- and home-based services for pregnant women, mothers and their families.

Effects of Welcome Baby Home Visiting: Findings from the 36-month Child and Family Survey**

- Children have better communication and social skills than comparison group.
- Parents display more teaching behaviors and are more encouraging than comparison group.
- Parents are more responsive and show more affection than comparison group.

California Hospital Medical Center, in partnership with Maternal Child Health Access, began implementing the Welcome Baby Pilot in Best Start Metro LA in 2009. All hospitals currently participating include:

- Antelope Valley Health Partners
- California Hospital Medical Center
- Centinela Hospital Medical Center
- Citrus Valley Medical Center - Queen of the Valley Campus
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital
- Miller Children's and Women's Hospital Long Beach
- Northridge Hospital Medical Center
- Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center San Pedro
- Providence Holy Cross Medical Center
- St. Francis Medical Center
- St. Mary Medical Center
- Torrance Memorial Medical Center
- Valley Presbyterian Hospital
- White Memorial Medical Center

**Best Start is First 5 LA's place-based investment effort. The number of visits are based on a family's address. It is intended to improve the lives of young children and their families by positively impacting the systems and environments in which they live, learn and play.*

***Child and Family Survey/pilot evaluation was conducted by Urban Institute and their partners at UCLA*

- Welcome Baby has two tiers of service based on family need and community of residence. The first tier represents a level of service that is beneficial to most families and creates an opportunity to engage and refer families with additional needs to appropriate services in their community. The second tier consists of intensive services that are best suited to families who need a greater level of support and will provide support for three-five years.
- First 5 LA has committed \$24.7 million for Welcome Baby and \$12.4 million for intensive evidence-based voluntary home visiting services for FY 2017-18.
 - Best Start communities chose one or two out of a choice of 4 First 5 LA approved evidence-based models for the second tier of service:
 - Healthy Families America
 - Parents as Teachers

The Federal Government's Home Visiting Program

- The Federal Maternal Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program began in March 2010, when the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) of 2010 was signed into law. The Act authorized the creation of MIECHV, which allows collaboration and partnership at the federal, state, tribal, and community levels to improve health and developmental outcomes for at-risk children through evidence-based home visiting programs. Funding is no longer tied to the ACA, and was authorized through September 2017.
- Total fiscal year 2017-18 MIECHV funding for California is \$22 million.

California's Home Visiting Program

- The California Home Visiting Program receives funding from the federal MIECHV program.
- Programs are meant to target participant outcomes which include: improved maternal and child health, prevention of child injuries, child abuse and maltreatment, reduction of emergency department visits, improvement in school readiness and achievement, reduction in crime or domestic violence, improvements in family economic self-sufficiency, and improvements in the coordination and referrals for other community resources and supports.
- Currently, the California state program is supporting funding for two of the 13 federally-approved programs: Healthy Families America and Nurse-Family Partnership.
- L.A. County is receiving \$1.53 million for FY 2017-18 to support the two state-approved programs in the county.



According to a 2005 RAND Corp. study, high-quality home visiting produces positive outcomes for high-risk participants that, over time, yield returns of up to \$5.70 per taxpayer dollar spent.

Since the MIECHV Program was enacted in 2010, it has been implemented in 544 communities in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and five territories to serve about 15,000 families.



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