

Home Visiting Task Force

Charge:

- Advance a comprehensive vision for home visiting that includes improving the quality of and access to evidence-based home visiting programs for all at-risk families;
- Increase coordination between home visiting programs at the state and local levels, as well as between home visiting and all other publicly-funded services for families; and
- Serve as the advisory body for Illinois' federal Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) grant program funded by the US Department of Health and Human Services.

FY2018 Priorities:

- Improve quality of and access to evidence based home visiting programs for all at risk families
 - Support the analysis of a needs assessment and "Risk and Reach" report to ensure that home visiting services are directed towards the communities and families that would most benefit from them, and ensure that the findings of the analysis are used to consider the location and type of services across funding streams that would most effectively serve families.
 - Add evidence-based home visiting to the continuum of reimbursable services provided through Medicaid in Illinois and continue to explore additional alternative financing mechanisms for home visiting (e.g., health, child welfare).
- Continue to encourage legislative support for and implementation of the federal and state funding streams.
- Increase coordination between home visiting programs at the state and local levels as well as between home visiting and all other publicly-funded services for families
 - Guide the implementation of the Home Visiting-Child Welfare (I-PPYC-HV) and Home Visiting for Homeless Families pilots and identify lessons learned and implications for policy and practice to inform recommendations and guidance for future expansion of the pilots.
 - Lead, in partnership with key stakeholders from the home visiting and Early Intervention systems, a process to implement recommendations identified by a core group of representatives from both systems in order to increase collaboration between them. This may include determining a regionally-based structure that improves coordination and collaboration between the systems in order to ensure more effective and efficient referrals for families.
- Continue to provide strategic guidance on the implementation of the Illinois Family Connects program, analyze preliminary evaluation findings in order to determine the next steps for the program, and identify ways in which the program can be expanded within the current pilot communities and to additional communities in Illinois.
- Maintain the number/percentage of families served through home visiting in the 13 communities funded through the MIECHV grant and continue to leverage opportunities for continuous quality improvement among the programs.

Metrics:

- Identify what data sets are currently available across home visiting funding streams to measure services provided and program impact, and develop a strategic approach to increase alignment across data systems;
- Increase the number/percentage of new mothers who are offered a home visit soon after the birth of their baby in order to determine their needs for support and refer them to appropriate services; and,
- Increase the number of financing mechanisms for home visiting.