

Virtual Home Visits Strengthen American Families

Virtual home visits are a critical tool for families and providers...



...maximizing flexibility while maintaining results.

The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program connects young families with evidence-based support that provides parents with information and reinforces skills to help them raise healthy children. During home visits, professionals including nurses, social workers, early childhood educators, and specially trained parents visit families of infants and young children in their home, coaching parents on a wide range of topics including nutrition, safety, positive parenting techniques, and tracking developmental milestones.

Home visits typically occur in-person; however, virtual home visits can offer critical flexibility that keep families in the home visiting program.

During the pandemic,

97%
of visits
were virtual.

The option to use telephone and video technology allowed providers to adapt quickly to pandemic restrictions. MIECHV providers were able to continue to provide resources and support to families during the public health crisis while maintaining high standards of care.

Virtual home visits give providers and families the option to connect using video calling technology or over the telephone. Home visiting programs find that providing families with the option for virtual visits in addition to traditional in-home visits best promotes family choice, creates flexibility for families and providers, improves families' comfort, and supports continued service delivery during disruptions such as illness, incarceration, lack of transportation, and severe weather.

Families benefit from the flexibility that virtual visits provide.

Ensuring that virtual home visiting can continue across MIECHV-funded home visiting programs will help families and maintain consistent visitor support in challenging circumstances.

Families across the country rely on the program and the flexibility offered by virtual visits. Offering the option to receive essential home visiting services through video technology or over the telephone is important to the future of the program.

Continuing to evaluate the benefits and implementation of virtual home visiting will ensure that families receive high quality services.

The virtual option meets families where they are while supporting workforce and family retention. New studies designed to confirm that virtual home visiting continues to meet the high standards of MIECHV and demonstrate success are a key part of making virtual home visits a permanent part of MIECHV.

About Us

The Home Visiting Coalition (HVC) is a diverse group of organizations committed to the well-being of children, working to continue and expand federal support of home visiting to strengthen families in communities across the country.



nationalhomevisitingcoalition.org