

# Florida Home Visiting

Home visiting started in local communities that wanted a better way to help families. Along the way, home visiting efforts have attracted support from private donors and local, state and federal governments. That's because the research shows home visiting helps parents and improves outcomes for children, especially for the most vulnerable families.



## Investment

Florida receives \$6 million annually in federal Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) funding to support home visiting programs in high-need communities. Eleven projects, covering 14 of 29 eligible Florida communities, were selected for funding through a competitive process.

Programs are implemented by local Healthy Start Coalitions, hospitals, federally-qualified health centers, and other community-based organizations. MIECHV funds leverage public and private funding that supports a continuum of community programs, including Florida Healthy Start, Healthy Families Florida, HIPPIY, Early Steps and Early Head Start. MIECHV is critical to coordinating these programs so families get services that best meet their needs and preferences. During 2013-14, local home visiting sites in Florida served 929 of the most at-risk families. Programs provided more than 10,000 home visits and retained nearly 72% of families during the year. Outcomes are carefully monitored in six benchmark areas to ensure program impact.

## Partnership

The MIECHV program is being implemented in Florida through a public-private partnership. Led by the Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions, Inc. the goal of the Florida MIECHV is to improve health and developmental outcomes for at-risk children through evidence-based home visiting programs. State and private funds also support additional home visiting programs.

## Contact:

Carol Brady, Project Director  
Florida MIECHV Initiative  
Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions, Inc.  
1311 N. Paul Russell Rd., Ste. A204  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
904-608-8046  
[www.flmiechv.com](http://www.flmiechv.com)

# Investing Early. Changing Lives.

CeCe, a 19-year-old high school student, was very upset when she learned she was pregnant during a sports physical. She never thought she would be pregnant in high school.

CeCe was frightened but she confided in her mother and started prenatal care. Her doctor recommended the Nurse Family Partnership program and she enrolled. She met her nurse home visitor and over the next nine months received much needed education and support.

She worked with her nurse home visitor to develop a list of goals and a plan for achieving them. She learned about healthy pregnancy and good parenting. She focused on positive steps for her future and the future of her baby.

Despite her pregnancy and the birth of her baby boy, CeCe maintained a 3.5 GPA, making up any assignments missed because of doctor appointments or postpartum recovery.

With perseverance and encouragement, CeCe graduated with honors and is currently enrolled in the Early Childhood Development program at the local community college.



CeCe is a loving and attentive mother. She will continue to receive education and support from her nurse home visitor until her son reaches age 2.

CeCe and Benjamin are looking forward to the future—a future made brighter because of home visiting and NFP!

## MIECHV-Supported Home Visiting Programs

