

Home Visiting Program

Delaware

Delaware Thrives Home Visiting Program is funded in part through federal investments from the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (Home Visiting Program), and provides voluntary, evidence-based home visiting services to at-risk pregnant women and parents with young children.

The Home Visiting Program, which builds upon decades of scientific research, provides voluntary, culturally-appropriate, individually-tailored supports to families in their homes, including providing information about children's health, development, and safety, and when appropriate, referrals to support services.

Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in Delaware:

- made 8,857 home visits to 1,811 parents and children in 1,098 families;
- enrolled 866 new parents and children to the program; and
- served families living in communities in 3 counties across the state, or 100% of Delaware counties.

The Home Visiting Program in Delaware has:

- implemented a Professional Development Plan that includes reflective supervision;
- implemented a Parents as Teachers program that serves children through age 5 (current legislation impedes Delaware Department of Education/state funding to be used on children over age 3); and
- implemented Help Me Grow, an early childhood system.

Like all Federal Home Visiting Program grantees, Delaware uses home visiting models that are proven effective. Delaware leverages federal funds to implement the following evidence-based models to serve children and families across the state:

- [Healthy Families America](#)
- [Nurse-Family Partnership](#)
- [Parents as Teachers](#)

Counties with home visiting services funded by federal grants from the Home Visiting Program (as of February 2016)*:



■ **Non-rural counties:**
Kent, New Castle, Sussex

More about Delaware:

[Delaware Thrives Home Visiting Program](#)

[National Survey of Children's Health 2011/2012 Delaware Profile](#)

[Title V MCH Block Grant Snapshot for Delaware](#)

The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program is administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in close partnership with the Administration for Children and Families (ACF). The Program supports at-risk pregnant women and families, and helps parents of children from birth to kindergarten entry tap the resources and hone the skills they need to raise children who are physically, socially, and emotionally healthy and ready to learn.

Research shows that home visits by a nurse, social worker, early childhood educator, or other trained professional during pregnancy and in the first years of life improve maternal and child health, prevent child abuse and neglect, increase positive parenting, and enhance child development and school readiness.