Idaho

Idaho Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood 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 Idaho:

- made 2,433 home visits to 825 parents and children in 310 families;
- enrolled 610 new parents and children to the program; and
- served families living in communities in 11 counties across the state, or 25% of Idaho counties, of which 5, or 45%, are rural.

The Home Visiting Program in Idaho:

- hosted Data 101 and Continuous Quality Improvement Tool Kit trainings for all local implementing agencies;
- executed subgrants and oversaw scale up, implementation, and evaluation of 6 new local implementing agencies; and
- expanded the Home Visiting Program State-level team to include a State Lead, Data Specialist and Professional Development Specialist.

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

- Early Head Start
- Nurse-Family Partnership
- Parents as Teachers

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

- **Rural counties:**
  - Clearwater, Jerome, Power, Shoshone, Twin Falls

- **Non-rural counties:**
  - Ada, Bannock, Bonneville, Canyon, Kootenai, Nez Perce

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.