The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV Program) supports the California Home Visiting Program and provides voluntary, evidence-based home visiting services to at-risk pregnant women and parents with young children.

The MIECHV 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 MIECHV Program, in fiscal year 2016, home visitors in California:

- Made 31,007 home visits to 6,125 parents and children in 3,561 families
- Enrolled 2,544 new parents and children to the program, or 42% of participants
- Served families living in communities in 24 counties across the state, or 41% of California counties, of which 5 counties, or 21%, are rural

The MIECHV Program in California:

- Increased the percentage of target women screened for postpartum depression to 94% from 80% in fiscal year 2015
- Screened 98% of target women for domestic violence within 6 months of enrollment

Like all MIECHV Program grantees, California uses evidence-based home visiting models that are proven to improve child health and to be cost effective. California leverages federal funds to implement the following models to serve children and families across the state:

- Healthy Families America
- Nurse-Family Partnership

Counties with home visiting services funded by federal grants from the MIECHV Program (as of March 2017):

- **Rural counties:**
  - Del Norte, Humboldt, Nevada, Siskiyou, Tehama

- **Non-rural counties:**
  - Alameda, Butte, Contra Costa, Fresno, Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Madera, Merced, Riverside, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, San Mateo, Shasta, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Yolo

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.