

Home Visiting Applied Research Collaborative (HARC)

The Home Visiting Applied Research Collaborative (HARC) is developing and sustaining a research and development (R&D) platform for a network of early childhood researchers and practitioners. The R&D Platform will frame, implement, and report on innovative, transdisciplinary research related to precision interventions to improve meaningful outcomes for at-risk families and communities.

The research network will produce meaningful impacts that will significantly extend the evidence-base of home visiting through research that is informed by and reflects the principles of:

- co-creation
- specificity and precision
- rapid-cycle and iterative methods
- targeting to identify who benefits most
- use of an “active ingredients” approach by identifying the components of interventions that lead to improved outcomes
- innovation beyond interventions and into systems



The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program responds to the diverse needs of children and families in at-risk communities and is required by statute to carry out a continuous program of research and evaluation activities in order to increase knowledge about the implementation and effectiveness of home visiting programs. Johns Hopkins University and its partners were awarded a \$6.5 million five-year cooperative agreement from HRSA for the HARC with a project start date of July 1, 2017.

Products developed by HARC include an introductory brief on [Precision Home Visiting](#), a [methods brief](#), and a [Research Methods Conference](#) to introduce home visiting researchers to innovative and emerging research designs and methods to support precision home visiting, and developed a seed funding program to kick start pilot projects addressing questions of precision home visiting. HARC also hosts an annual “[Collaborative Science of Home Visiting](#)” meeting that provides an interactive opportunity for HARC members to learn about innovative methods to promote precision home visiting.

Further work of the project will focus on expanding the network of researchers and practitioners who engage in this research, developing plans for sustainability and outside funding for research projects, developing new pilot projects to advance the field of precision home visiting, and conducting systematic reviews and syntheses to derive broad based evidence.

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