The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV Program) supports the Louisiana 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 Louisiana:

- Made 20,668 home visits to 3,556 parents and children in 1,927 families
- Enrolled 1,889 new parents and children to the program, or 53% of participants
- Served families living in communities in 39 counties (parishes) across the state, or 61% of Louisiana parishes, of which 17 parishes, or 44%, are rural

The MIECHV Program in Louisiana:

- Provided information on injury prevention to 95% of clients enrolled at 6 months postpartum
- Trained new staff and implemented the Parents as Teachers evidence-based home visiting model, which is new to Louisiana, in order to reach more families and better meet the needs of the communities in northeast Louisiana
- Indicated that home visitors were among the first to respond to the Great Flood of 2016, staffing medical special needs and other shelters in South Louisiana

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

- Nurse-Family Partnership
- Parents as Teachers

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

- **Rural parishes:**
  - Avoyelles, Bienville, Caldwell, Claiborne, East Carroll, Franklin, Madison, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Red River, St. Landry, St. Mary, Tensas, Vernon, Washington, West Carroll, Winn

- **Non-rural parishes:**
  - Bossier, Caddo, Calcasieu, Cameron, East Baton Rouge, Grant, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Ouachita, Plaquemines, Rapides, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Union, Webster, West Baton Rouge

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.