

Home Visiting Program

Massachusetts

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

- Made 35,985 home visits to 5,016 parents and children in 2,682 families
- Enrolled 1,654 new parents and children to the program, or 33% of participants
- Served families living in communities in 8 counties across the state, or 57% of Massachusetts counties, of which 0 counties are rural

The MIECHV Program in Massachusetts:

- Screened 85% of women enrolled in the program for intimate partner violence within 2 months of enrollment and then at 6-month intervals
- Reported that 98% of children in the home visiting program who were screened for communication at 12 months met the required developmental milestones
- Developed and implemented the Welcome Family Program in six pilot sites from September 2013 through June 2016. Over 2,800 families received a one-time Welcome Family visit and 3,794 referrals to community services were made during Welcome Family visits

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

- [Healthy Families America](#)
- [Parents as Teachers](#)
- [Early Head Start - Home Based Option](#)

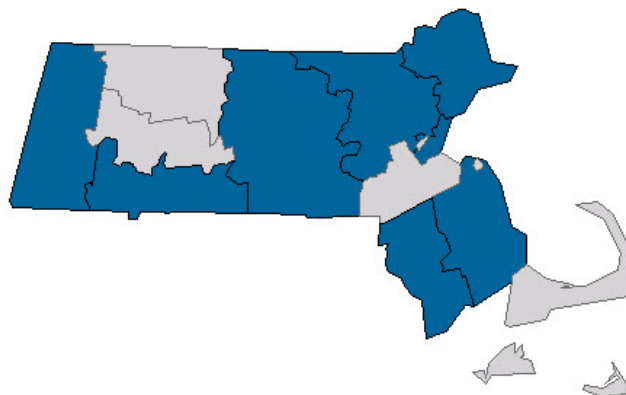
Counties with home visiting services funded by federal grants from the MIECHV Program (as of March 2017):

Rural counties:

None

Non-rural counties:

Berkshire, Bristol, Essex, Hampden, Middlesex, Plymouth, Suffolk, Worcester



More about Massachusetts:

[Massachusetts Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program](#)

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

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

The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program is administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in 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.