



## State Activity: Home Visiting

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Iowa Early Care Best  
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# Purposes

- Outreach/resource and referral
  - Find isolated or high risk families and link to services
- Improve parenting skills and behavior
  - Train parents in parenting
  - Improve family environment and health
- Enhance child health and development
  - Educate parents about development and offer screening and intervention services

# 2007 Survey

## National Center for Children in Poverty

- 35 states report programs
- Plus 3 that support locally based programs
- New report on the national survey due out by end of the year

# Statewide Reach

- Missouri – Parents as Teachers pilot started in 1981 and then in all MO school districts in 1985
- Oklahoma – Nurse Family Partnership model, called Children First began with pilot in 1996 and by 1998 it was in all 77 counties

# New Trends

- Legislator concern about effectiveness of models/ comparing outcomes
- Concern about quality/ service delivery
- Greater coordination through state-level cabinets, commissions, working groups, system planning
- More programs in states, not choosing only one model
- More services being delivered at home (Part C)
- Thinking about continuum of services to meet the differing needs of families
- Spending triple the amount reported in 2000 survey

# State/local Challenges

- Managing multiple programs
  - Agency collaboration, shared authority, integration
  - State-level working group
- Quality and implementation
- Financing
  - Using federal funds
- Data
- Expansion based on effectiveness

# Programming Challenges

- Matching services to families
- Avoiding duplication of effort
- Training/professional development
- Overall approach – lead visitor, welcome assessment and referral, triage
- Supervisor training
- Model consistency and effective implementation

# State Support to Local

- Screening tools
- Collect core data and use common evaluation tools
- Data reporting and tracking outcomes
- Training tools for staff and supervisors
- Provide technical assistance
- Streamline RFP/application/financing
- Program monitoring and improvement
- Promote collaboration





# Keys to Effective Services

- Consistent delivery of the service elements
- Well-trained and competent staff
- High quality supervision that includes observation
- Organizational capacity
- Links with other community resources
- Consistent implementation of program components.

# New York Proposal

- Goal – 3 components
  - Universal prenatal care
  - Post partum screening
  - Comprehensive home visiting
- Start with universal and then identify needs and deliver more targeted services

# State Activity 2006 & 2007

- Minnesota funding and planning multidisciplinary approach
- Maine - Targeted intervention focus on postpartum depression
- New Mexico - Funding Medicaid match
- New York - universal/targeted ideas
- Tennessee - new Nurse Home Visitor program with 10 year expansion to all low-income first time mothers (200% FPL)
- Pennsylvania - new Ounce of Prevention program for first time mothers
- Nebraska – use of the Early Childhood Endowment for home visiting and approaches for 0-3.

# 2007 Appropriations to Home Visiting Strategies

13 states increased funding (prelim data)

- Pennsylvania- Increased funding to the Pennsylvania Nurse Family Partnership by \$4.8m.
- Louisiana - Increased funding for Building Early Strengths Together (BEST) by \$4.6m.
- Washington - Increased funding for two areas of home visiting by \$5.2 m.
- Missouri - Increased appropriations to Parents as Teachers by \$2 million for a total of \$34 m.
- Alabama - Appropriated \$1.7 million in new funding for the HIPPO program through the Education Trust Fund.
- Colorado - Increased funding for the Nurse Family Partnership program by almost \$1m.



# Examples of state spending on home visiting

- Missouri - \$34 m
- New York - \$25 m
- Maine - \$24 m
- Kentucky - \$20 m
- Virginia - \$20 m
- Hawaii - \$15 m
- West Virginia - \$10 m
- Block grants/endowment – Illinois, Nebraska

Source: Kay Johnson, Project THRIVE and Johnson Group Consulting



## NCSL Technical Assistance

- Research
  - Identify experts
  - Provide testimony
- Assist with policy development

For more information:

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