



Advancing the Maternal & Child Health VISION  
ASSOCIATION OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS 2013 ANNUAL CONFERENCE



### Integration of Healthy Homes Practices into Home Visitation Programs

Results of a Survey of 7 Evidence-based Programs

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 **Policy Objective:**

Integration of healthy homes practices into maternal and child health home visitation programs.

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CDC: "Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Program. The Committee notes that \$350m will be spent by DHHS to conduct home visiting programs in fiscal 2012 through the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program; this funding appropriated by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, is \$100m for than the fiscal year 2011 level. **The Committee intends** the Health Resources and Services Administration and CDC to work together to ensure that activities previously funded through Healthy Homes will be **fully incorporated** into the Home Visiting Program (p 78)."

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HRSA: "Healthy Homes—The Committee supports efforts by HRSA to fund evidence-based maternal, infant and early childhood home visiting programs that are consistent with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

The Committee is aware of **nurse home visiting programs in New York State, Rhode Island and Oklahoma that have adopted healthy homes activities as part of their programming.**

This integrative approach of identifying and preventing environmental health and safety hazards in the homes of high-risk pregnant mothers and their babies is a cost-effective and efficient strategy for preventing disease and injury among the Nation's most vulnerable families.

**The Committee recommends that expand and incentivize the implementation of these integrative programs** in consultation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention."

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### Survey Objectives

1. Willingness and interest in healthy homes
2. Training (online/in person) for program service deliverers
3. Potential of incorporating a short assessment form- pediatric environmental home assessment to identify health and safety hazards in the unit
4. Possibility of referral to healthy homes grantees to follow up on identified hazards
5. Any perceived barriers to integrating healthy homes practices into home visiting




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### Programs Surveyed




Family Check-up






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### Interview Questions (1/3)



- Who are your target clients?
- How are families recruited?
- Who administers the services?
- What are the objectives of the program?
- How is the curriculum created?
- How often is the curriculum reviewed?
- What is the process for integrating new material and practices?

Leadership  
Quality &  
Action

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### Interview Questions (2/3)



- What are your program's practices?
  - Likelihood of adding training content?
  - Could programs incorporate a short assessment form to identify home health and safety hazards?

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### Interview Questions (3/3)



- How does the program achieve sustained results? Is there currently a referral process?
- What are barriers to integrating Healthy Homes practices.

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## Healthy Steps

**GOODNESS OF FIT**

- Healthy Home Specialists conduct a safety check
- Referral to services in the community important to program.

**POTENTIAL BARRIERS**

- Time

**PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

- Focus on a child's physical and cognitive development and medical costs of unhealthy homes.
- Integrate healthy homes questions into the medical assessment
- Connect families to healthy homes services.

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## Healthy Families America

**GOODNESS OF FIT**

- Family Assessment Workers conduct an assessment; Family Support Workers provide home visits
- Each site chooses their curriculum

**POTENTIAL BARRIERS**

- Decentralized program structure
- Limited local HFA resources

**PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

- Focus on parent child relationship
- Partner nationally and locally to organize trainings
- Facilitate referral to healthy homes services

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## Home Instruction for Parents of Pre-School Youngsters

**GOODNESS OF FIT**

- Only half of the program delivered through community-based organizations.
- Referral and attention to health are an expectation of the program

**POTENTIAL BARRIERS**

- Funding
- Inconsistent comfort level with materials outside the academic literacy curriculum

**PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

- Align with the cognitive development and impact of learning framework.
- Offer training to home visitors at annual pre-service training.

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## Parents as Teachers

**GOODNESS OF FIT**


- Home visiting delivered by Parent Educators.
- Program requires a developmental screening, a hearing test, a vision test and a health screening .

**POTENTIAL BARRIERS**

- Parent Educators may see the inclusion of healthy homes practices as another burden.

**PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

- Provide trainings.
- Facilitate partnerships with local healthy housing agencies to connect families with resources.
- Integrate the Pediatric Environmental Home Assessment.
- Present at the annual conference.



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## Nurse-Family Partnership

**GOODNESS OF FIT**


- Services provided by a Registered Nurse.
- Nurse discusses and provides information on healthy pregnancy and child safety as mandated in the program.
- The curriculum and content are participant driven (information may not reach every enrolled mother)
- The program has a strong focus on referrals

**POTENTIAL BARRIERS**

- New information and practices need to be evidence based.

**PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

- Seek to have healthy homes content included in model curriculum



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## HRSA Update

- All models will include a lead prevention intervention/adaption for MIECHV-funded home visits.
- Some models committed to providing this information to all home visiting participants, regardless of funding source, while others could only commit to do so for those families served with MIECHV funding



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