

Home Visiting Programs Build Strong Texas Families

In 2023, there were 58,120 confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect. **Texas children deserve better, and together, we can prevent this from shaping their future.** Most families want what's best for their child, and placing blame on a parent is not the solution. Children thrive in stable, safe and supportive families, and the best way to protect Texas children is by providing support to the adults in their lives.

We can prevent child abuse and neglect.

Home visiting is a prevention strategy that brings trained staff (nurses, social workers, and/or child development specialists) to support expectant mothers and new families to promote positive parenting. Home visiting is a two-generational approach that reduces risk factors while simultaneously increasing protective factors that support caregivers and their children. There are over a dozen different evidence-based home visiting programs in Texas that are voluntary and free for families.

Home visiting programs are proven strategies to strengthen families.

- **Improves maternal and newborn health:** 69% reduction of infant deaths, 50% reduction in low birthweight babies, and 36% fewer subsequent teen births.
- **Improves school readiness:** 45% reduction in language delays.
- **Improves family economic self-sufficiency:** 83% increase of mother's in the labor force, 20% reduction in months on welfare.
- **Reduces child injuries, abuse and neglect:** 35-45% reduction in ER visits and 28-48% reduction in child abuse and neglect.
- **Reduces crime and domestic violence:** 53% reduction in child arrests at age 17.*



*Outcomes provided by the numerous home visiting programs including Parents as Teachers (PAT), Healthy Families, HIPPY, Family Connects, Nurse Family Partnership (NFP), and Triple P.

2023 Home Visiting Programs at a Glance*



178,439
home visits provided



16,449
families served



16,582
children served

Only 3% of eligible families received services.

Expanding and Strengthening Home Visiting in Texas.

In 2022, TexProtects successfully advocated for the reauthorization of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) grant program at the federal level, a primary funding source for home visiting and prevention programs throughout Texas communities. **Thanks to this recent federal advocacy, MIECHV funding in Texas is set to nearly double by the Fall of 2027.**

Return on Investment

For every \$1 invested in home visiting programs, there is a return between \$1.80 and \$5.70.*

While this is fantastic news for Texas families and communities, we must be prepared



for this positive development. Between now and 2027, **TexProtects will work to ensure that its network of home visiting providers, the Texas Prevention Network, has the tools and knowledge to leverage this increased federal funding and to strengthen and expand the services they provide to families throughout the state.** Together, we can all play a part in supporting Texas families and ultimately reducing child maltreatment.

*Data provided by the National Home Visiting Resource Center.