

Home Visiting: Supporting Parents at the Start



Home Visiting Works!

Rigorous evidence-based studies of high quality home visiting programs show multiple positive outcomes for children and their caregivers, according to a 2014 National Conference of State Legislatures report, *Home Visiting: Improving Our Outcomes for Children*:

- Reduces the number of low-birth weight babies,
- Reduces child abuse and neglect rates by 50%,
- Improves school achievement, and
- Increases graduation rates.ⁱ

Here's how to invest in Home Visiting in Wisconsin:

- **Stabilize funding**

Restore funding by 20% - or \$2 million to continue home visiting to more than 1,600 high-risk families and their children in Wisconsin.

- **Increase the number of families visited**

With gradual investment over time, double the number of families with young children served by the Family Foundations Home Visiting, as recommended by the Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council.ⁱⁱ

More about Home Visiting

In Wisconsin, home visiting services are managed jointly by the Department of Health Services and the Department of Children and Families. Using evidence-based strategies, the Wisconsin Family Foundations program improves outcomes for children and families through educating and supporting parents through training and other resources.

ⁱ <http://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/home-visiting-improving-outcomes-for-children635399078.aspx>

ⁱⁱ <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/ecac/2015-ecac-annrpt.pdf>

What a Home Visit offers

- **A trained Home Visiting professional meets parents and babies in the home environment- helping to create rich learning opportunities that build on everyday routines and activities to support child development.**
- **For families, a connection to community resources such as well-baby medical and dental visits, Head Start, mental health services, housing and food assistance, transportation and follow up to ensure that appointments are not missed.**
- **Curriculum that helps parents support their children's development and learn positive guidance practices.**