Home Visiting Helps Children and Families Thrive

June 2026

Home Visiting Supports

- School Readiness
- Child Health
- Maternal Health
- Positive Parenting
- Economic Stability
- Linkages and Referrals
- Reduced Maltreatment
- Reduced Deliquency and Violence

About Voluntary Home Visiting

Welcoming a baby is wonderful—and stressful. Parenting can feel especially hard for families facing financial stress or a parent raising children on their own.

Home visiting can help.

Decades of research show evidence-based home visiting effectively supports pregnant women and families with young children.

In these voluntary sessions, trained home visitors (nurses, social workers, early childhood specialists, mental health clinicians, care coordinators, and paraprofessionals) partner with pregnant women, parents, and caregivers to strengthen the parent-child relationship and support early child-rearing.

About Us

Childhood Begins at Home is a statewide campaign launched in 2017 to build understanding and support for evidence-based home visiting and public investment in Pennsylvania programs.

The campaign brings together child advocacy organizations and Pennsylvania's eight publicly-funded evidence-based home visiting models. Models may address one or more key outcomes: child development and school readiness; child health; family economic self-sufficiency; linkages and referrals; maternal health; positive parenting practices; reductions in child maltreatment; and reductions in juvenile delinquency, family violence, and crime.

So far, the campaign has helped secure funding increases that more than tripled state investment—serving more Pennsylvania families, but still only a fraction of those who need services.

Pennsylvania

634,930

FAMILIES COULD BENEFIT FROM HOME VISITING

Including:

- Families with children under age 6
- First-time pregnant women

Families meeting these criteria are the **most likely to benefit** from home visiting:

- 19% child under age 1
- 31% low-income (<200% FPL)
- 1% mother under age 21
- 21% single mother
- 6% no high school diploma

51% of families meet at least 1 criteria

20% of families meet at least 2 criteria

CURRENT HOME VISITING REACH

3% of PA families who could benefit receive EBHV services

20,006 children

served by EBHV, representing

17,335 families

Susquehanna County

1,610
FAMILIES COULD BENEFIT FROM HOME VISITING

Including:
- Families with children under age 6
- First-time pregnant women

Families meeting these criteria are the **most likely to benefit** from home visiting:

- 19% child under age 1
- 25% low-income (<200% FPL)
- 1% mother under age 21
- 19% single mother
- 7% no high school diploma

56% of families meet at least 1 criteria

910
PRIORITY FAMILIES

20% of families meet at least 2 criteria

310
HIGH-PRIORITY FAMILIES

High-priority families are a subset of priority families; categories are not mutually exclusive

CURRENT HOME VISITING REACH

Evidence-Based Home Visiting (EBHV) models operating in the county:

✓ Nurse-Family Partnership®

2%
of county families who could benefit receive EBHV services

34 children
served by EBHV, representing
32 families

Data reflect publicly-funded, evidence-based home visiting programs

Childhood Begins at Home

STRONG FAMILIES, STRONG KIDS

The proposed 2026–27 state budget level-funds evidence-based home visiting for a fourth straight year, despite rising costs across Pennsylvania. Together, the Community-Based Family Center and Nurse-Family Partnership lines provide $48.4 million in state funding. Home visiting supports pregnant women and families with young children and can reduce long-term human services costs. Without more investment, local programs may struggle to meet need, sustain services, and address workforce shortages. The campaign will keep building support for increased funding ahead of the July 2027 contract period.