

LDH-OPH-Bureau of Family Health

Louisiana Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (LA MIECHV)

Louisiana Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (LA MIECHV) is a no-cost, voluntary program that supports the health and well-being of pregnant women and parenting families with young children ages birth to kindergarten entry. Families are matched with registered nurses or parent educators who provide personalized education, guidance, and support to meet each family's individual needs and empower them to reach their goals. LA MIECHV implements two evidenced-based models, Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) and Parents as Teachers (PAT).

"I refer people at every chance I may get...each visit it has helped me grow as a parent and a leader and a teacher for my children"

- MIECHV participant

Who We Serve

Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP)

- ✓ Services and supports are provided to Medicaid- eligible first-time moms and families from pregnancy until the child's second birthday.
- ✓ NFP serves all parishes with the exception of Caldwell, East Carroll, Evangeline, Madison, Tensas, Union, West Carroll.
- ✓ NFP provided 170,911 home visits from 2012-2016, and serves an average of 3,248 families per year.

Parents As Teachers (PAT)

- ✓ Services and supports are provided to Medicaid- eligible expectant or parenting families from pregnancy until the child enters kindergarten.
- ✓ PAT serves Shreveport, Monroe and surrounding parishes.
- ✓ PAT served 449 families in SFY 2016, providing 4,430 home visits.

Why Home Visiting?

Parental love is powerful, but without support, exhaustion and inexperience can make parenting tough. This is where home visiting comes in. Home visiting programs pair families looking for additional support and mentoring with trained home visitors who meet with families at home and partners with them. They work together from pregnancy through their child's kindergarten entry, to help lay the foundation for the health, education, development, and economic self-sufficiency of the entire family.

"Many clients overcome obstacles you can't even imagine...Often, even years after graduation, I get updates from graduates thanking me and telling me how important this program was for them."

- MIECHV Home Visitor

"It's nice to have the home visits to ask questions instead of having to go to a doctor with smaller concerns...I learned a lot about the baby's growth and programs available to me and my family."

- MIECHV Participant, 2015

Louisiana MIECHV Makes a Difference

Improved Health for Mom and Baby

With support from a home visitor, families access quality health care resources to improve birth outcomes and ensure their children have a healthy start. In the program year 2016:

- ✓ cigarette smoking during pregnancy declined by 18%
- ✓ 59% of new moms initiated breastfeeding, up from 53% in 2012
- ✓ 93% of enrolled toddlers were fully immunized

“Nurse visits have helped me better understand my pregnancy and what to expect.”

- NFP Participant, 2016

Economic Self-sufficiency

Home visiting empowers families to pursue career opportunities and stay healthy and productive.

- ✓ 21% more moms aged 18 + participated in the workforce by program end
- ✓ 8% reduction in Food Stamp payments through year 10 post-partum¹

Safe Families and Communities

Home visiting promotes positive parenting practices and supports parents in times of stress, keeping families and communities safe.

- ✓ 30% reduction in child maltreatment through age 15¹
- ✓ 45% reduction in youth criminal offenses, ages 11-17¹

Cost Savings Last a Lifetime

Home visiting programs attract bipartisan support because of demonstrated taxpayer cost savings.

- ✓ NFP has a benefit-cost ratio of up to \$5.70 per dollar invested.²
- ✓ PAT has an estimated benefit-cost ratio of \$3.29 per dollar invested.³

Expected health and financial outcomes for first-time low-income mothers in LA¹

- ✓ 30% reduction in second teen births
- ✓ 45.9 fewer subsequent preterm birth per 1,000
- ✓ 36% reduction in injuries treated in emergency departments, ages 0-2
- ✓ 58% reduction in risk of infant death
- ✓ 18% reduction in preterm first births
- ✓ 30% reduction in closely spaced second births

Snapshot: Greater Baton Rouge

LA MIECHV has served the Greater Baton Rouge area since 2000.

- ✓ With a team of 11 staff, NFP provided 13,464 home visits in the Greater Baton Rouge Area between 2012-2016.
- ✓ 309 families were served in 2016. The program grows by an average of 16% each year.
- ✓ 26% reduction in cigarette use during pregnancy
- ✓ 53% initiated breastfeeding
- ✓ 25% reduction in experience of violence during pregnancy