



Home Visiting Investment Task Force Member Orientation



COLORADO
Department of Human Services



Defining **Home Visiting**

Home Visiting programs are national evidence-based programs that support families and children from birth to age six in their own home.

Families enrolled in home visiting programs demonstrate:

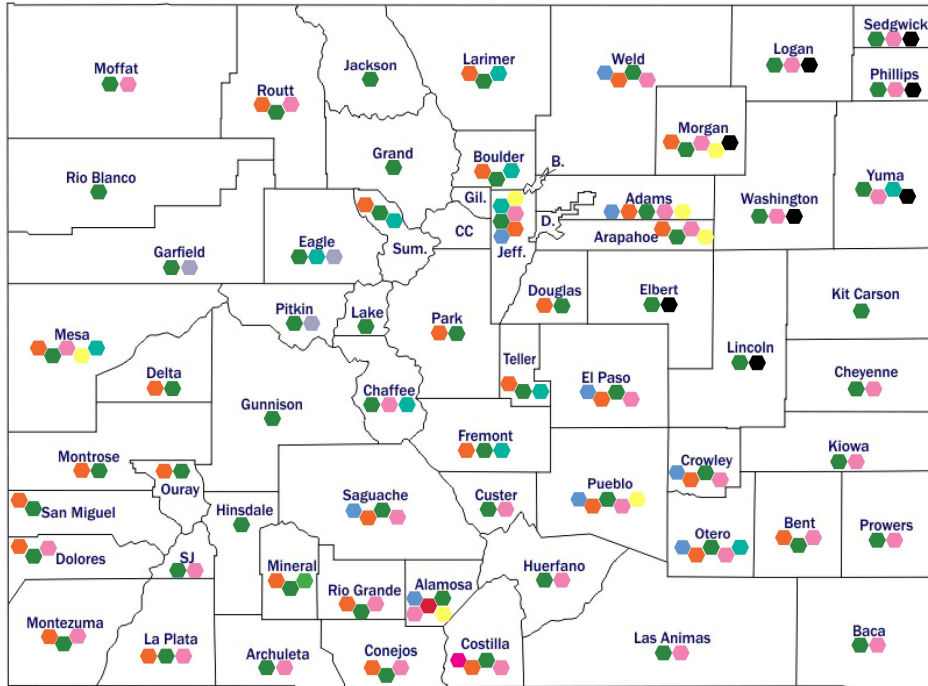
- Reduced child maltreatment
- Improvements in child health
- Increased maternal health
- Improved positive parenting practices
- Increased knowledge of child development
- Improved financial health and economic self sufficiency
- Less family violence

Home Visiting Landscape

- Colorado has seven evidence-based home visiting models being implemented.
 - SafeCare Colorado
 - Nurse-Family Partnership
 - Parents as Teachers
 - Early Head Start and Home-Based Head Start
 - HealthySteps
 - Home Instruction for the Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY)
 - Healthy Families America
- There are also several locally developed home visiting programs.
- In addition, there are efforts underway to bring two additional evidence-based programs - *Child First* and *Family Connects*.
- These programs are all different based on who they serve, duration, content covered, and intended outcomes.



Home Visiting Coverage Map



County Coverage: Denver (D) ●●●●●●●●●●
 Gilpin (Gil) ●●●●●●●●●●
 Clear Creek (CC) ●●●●●●●●●●
 Broomfield (B) ●●●●●●●●●●

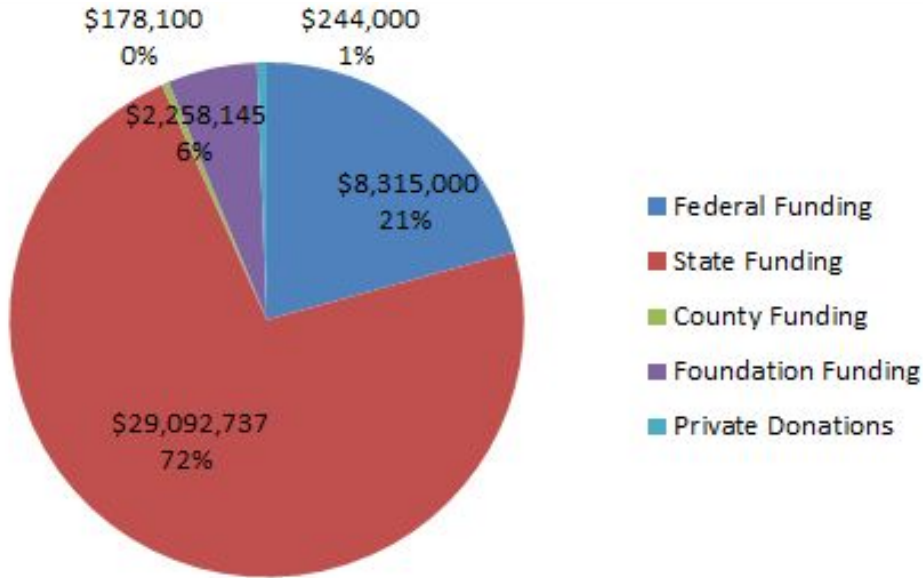
Note: Seven metro counties, including Denver County, have been discussing ChildFirst®.

Home Visiting programs are available in all Colorado counties and reach over **10,000** families per year.

Even with these programs, only a small percentage of families (3-8% of families at any time) are served due to lack of resources, eligibility criteria, and difficulty accessing the right services at the right time based on family need.

- The home visitation programs funded by the State of Colorado are:
- Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters ([HIPPY](#)) ●
 - Parents as Teachers ([PAT](#)) ●
 - Nurse Family Partnership ([NFP®](#)) ●
 - [SafeCare® Colorado](#) ●
 - [HealthySteps®](#) ●
 - Early Head Start, Early Head Start-Home Based Option ([EHS-HBO](#)) ●
 - [Healthy Families America](#) ●
 - [Baby Bear Hugs](#) ●

Existing Funding Landscape



Total: \$40,087,982

In 2019, the investment amount of \$40,087,982 is aggregated funding (Government - Federal, State, and Local - and Foundation) for evidence-based home visiting models and other known programs.

This baseline number is comprehensive but not exhaustive. The estimate did not include all Medicaid reimbursements for all programs or county investment in locally developed home visiting programs.

Task Force Overview

- Created by the Early Childhood Leadership Commission (ECLC) **to address the scaling of home visiting services in Colorado**
- Task Force was designated in June 2021, for one year, until June 2022 subject to annual review and reauthorization.
- Task Force meets on the Third Thursday of each month from 8:30-10:30 am.
- **Six work groups were created** to develop the recommendations within the plan
- All materials, the final plan and the charge are available on the [ECLC website](#).



Home Visiting Investment Task Force Charter

ECLC Areas of Opportunity

Three Areas of Opportunity that are most critical to continue the advancement of work in early childhood across the state.

Area 3: Support improved family health and economic security through a Two Generation approach

Task Force Responsibilities

- Guide the implementation of the HV Investment Plan
- Create and further the continuum of home visiting services in Colorado and guide the release of the future funding solicitations from the Office of Early Childhood, including Federal MIECHV funding
- Define the scope of home visiting to include any voluntary program touchpoint with parents/caregivers that have children up to age 6 across a continuum of intensity (one visit up to meeting for several years) for the purpose of ensuring child and family well-being.

Task Force Members

Carsten Baumann - Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Melissa Buchholz - Assuring Better Child Health & Development

Katherine Casillas - Kempe Center

Alexa Chenoweth - Parent Representative

Heather Craiglow - Colorado Department of Human Services

Deborah Daro - Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago

Kelly Dougherty - Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Kendra Dunn - Colorado Department of Human Services

Samantha Espinoza - Colorado Children's Campaign

Courtney Everson - Colorado Evaluation and Action Lab, University of Denver

Senator Rhonda Fields - Colorado Senate, Co-Chair

Brooke Greenky - Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing

Scott Groginsky - Office of the Governor

Kristina Heyl - Early Childhood Leadership Commission

Lisa Hill - Invest in Kids

Jenny Lerner - Colorado Department of Education

Lesla Nesbit - Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation

Ida Rhodes - Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pueblo, Co-Chair

Christy Scott - Colorado Department of Human Services

Ruth Seedorf - Baby Bear Hugs

Kellie Teter - Denver Health

Heather Tritten - Parent Possible

Sherri Valdez - Early Childhood Council San Luis Valley

Jade Woodward - Illuminate Colorado



Role of Task Force member

Members:

1. Meetings are open to all interested persons and active participation is encouraged
2. Members are all representatives of various sectors and programs and included for subject matter as well as personal expertise
3. Members are asked to consistently prioritize and attend one workgroup and may attend other meetings
4. Designated Task Force members are voting members and approve the final implementation plan, changes, and report of the Home Visiting Investment Taskforce. The positions are appointed by CDHS to provide for cross-sector representation and the membership categories are referenced in the [ECLC HV Charter for Implementation](#).



Home Visiting Investment Plan

Purpose

To strengthen family capacity and maximize children's development potential across Colorado.

Method

The plan will scale a continuum of culturally and linguistically appropriate evidence-based home visiting services and other family - strengthening supports. Colorado families will have access to the home visiting services that most benefit them and their communities.

Outcome

When fully implemented and funded, a minimum of **1700 additional families will receive home visiting services (a 20% increase)** over the next five years.

Parent Feedback

Parent representatives were invited to participate in the task force

- A survey (in English and Spanish) **received 1,431 responses**

A focus group consisting of **13 parent participants** was held

Results of the survey and focus group included the following areas of improvement identified by families:

- Help **building social capital** would be appreciated
- Desire for **system coordination** so that data gathering did not have to be repeated
- Parents were primarily offered home visiting through medical facilities, reporting the **trusted relationships** at those facilities was beneficial
- There is a need for **marketing to increase awareness**
- Recommended **including fathers, partners, spouses and other family members** in programming and visits.



Strategies

Availability and Collaboration

Expand capacity by 20% to reach additional families based on an analysis of gaps and opportunities for expansion

Extend access to culturally and linguistically appropriate family services by using diverse means of service delivery

Create systems to provide all new parents the opportunity to discuss concerns and learn about resources by capitalizing on formal and informal sources of support.

Coalition and Advocacy

Establish a broad coalition of home visiting support across the early childhood system in Colorado

Advocate for the expansion of MIECHV funding during reauthorization

Develop consistent messaging stakeholders can use to educate and raise awareness of home visiting needs and services

Host an annual “Home Visiting Awareness Day” at the Colorado State Capitol

Strategies

Financing and Funding Opportunities

Grow and diversify investments in home visiting utilizing private, local, state and federal resources

Explore tax and fee structures to support early childhood and family outcomes

Align COVID-19 stimulus funding with implementation plan

Innovation and Learning from COVID-19

Expand virtual home visiting service delivery and improve access for families

Link existing efforts and identify strategies for cross-agency data sharing for families receiving home visiting services

Bring together existing evidence-based models and emergent home visiting practices to better meet multiple family needs

Strategies

Outreach, Marketing and Awareness

Hire an outreach and engagement coordinator to increase family and partner knowledge

Create home visiting family advocates to increase the capacity of parents to build social capital

Create shared messaging for community use

Qualified Workforce

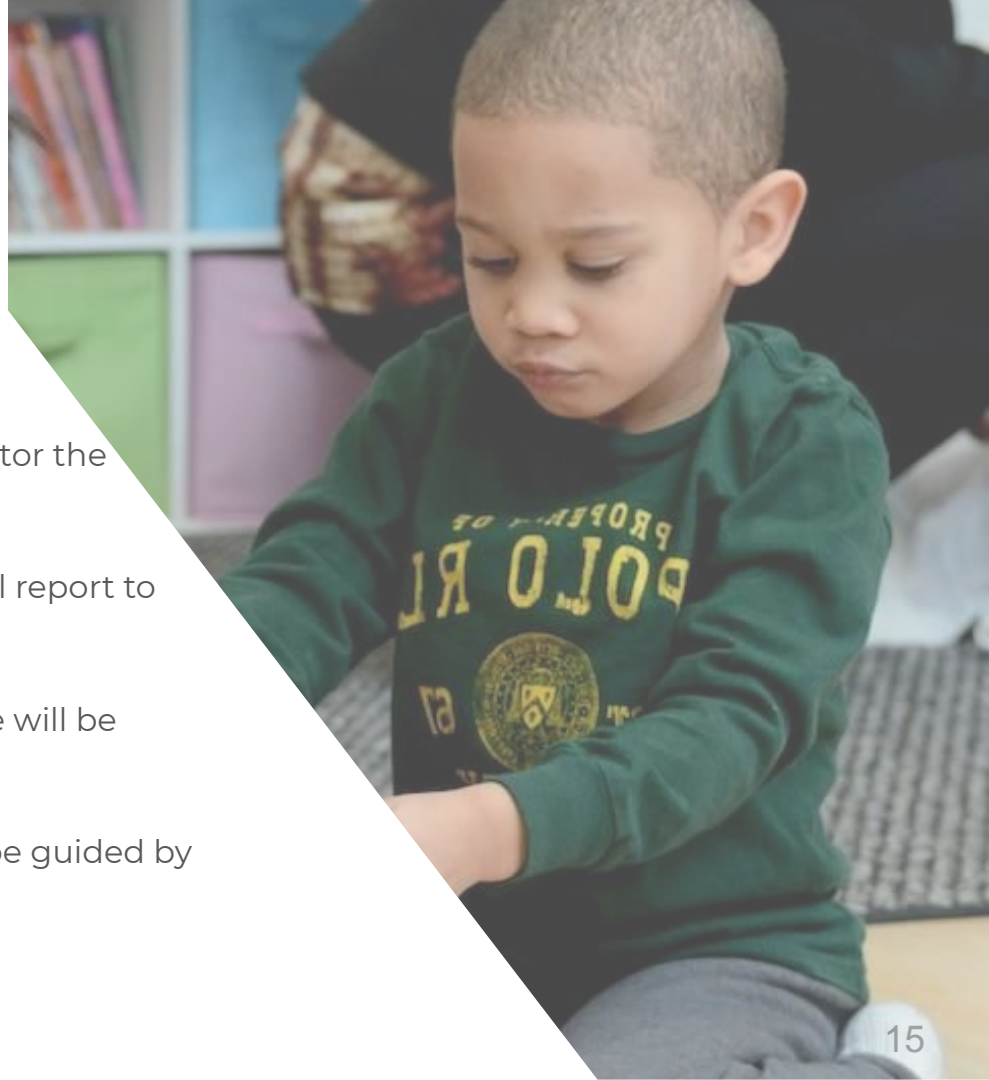
Increase the benefits and compensation for home visitors

Support efforts to recruit and train a diverse workforce

Increase workforce retention by elevating home visitor voices and expanding strategies to promote professional and personal wellbeing

Implementation Steps

- The ECLC will annually reauthorize the home visiting task force to oversee implementation
- A robust implementation plan is being developed
- The home visiting investment task force will monitor the future implementation
- The home visiting task force will submit an annual report to the ECLC
- Staffing and facilitation support for the Task Force will be provided by CDHS
- All future state investments in home visiting will be guided by the Investment Plan



Home Visiting Task Force Documents

Review of Home Visiting Task Force documents

- a. [Workgroup responsibilities](#)
- b. [Agenda templates/notes access](#)
- c. [Parking Lot](#)
- d. [Implementation SOW and Tracking](#)
- e. [Roster of members](#)

Conclusion

When this plan has been fully implemented:

- Home visiting services will be **expanded and offered in culturally-appropriate ways**
- Increased advocacy and partnerships will result in **more consistent service provision**
- Streamlined funding will allow for **maximum utilization of funds**
- Embracing **innovations will allow for further reach and impact**
- **Consistent, shared messaging** will align Colorado behind supporting home visiting
- A minimum of **1,700 additional families** will be engaged in home visiting annually.



A photograph of three young children in a classroom. On the left, a young boy with curly hair is seen from the back. In the center, a young girl with long hair and a white hair clip is holding a pink ribbon. On the right, another young boy is seen from the back, wearing a red shirt and blue overalls. The background shows classroom shelves with alphabet blocks and educational toys. The entire image has a light blue overlay.

Questions?

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