

Ohio's Families are Raising Our Future

Home Visiting Makes Ohio Stronger.



The Center for
**MATERNAL &
YOUNG CHILD
HEALTH**

Expanding funding for evidence-based home visiting is critical for our families and communities.

What Is Home Visiting?

Voluntary, evidence-based home visiting programs are a prevention strategy used to support pregnant moms and new parents as they deal with the challenges of raising babies and young children. Home visitors meet with parents one on one 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. Visits by caring, experienced professionals who provide families support and connections to needed resources and services can help families leverage their strengths so they can thrive.

“ Recently I had a family where the father was deployed for active duty in the military. He was deployed to Afghanistan and had not seen his pregnant wife since she was 12 weeks pregnant. I was assigned as the home visitor and was able to support this young first-time mom after the birth of her baby. The mother needed emotional support that she received through the [home visiting] program as well as referrals for mental health counseling for postpartum depression. The family was reunited finally when the baby was 3 months old and the father got to hold his infant daughter for the first time. ”

- Home Visitor, South Central Ohio Educational Service Center

What is MIECHV?

The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program is a federal-state partnership that provides evidence-based home visiting services in all 50 states, D.C., 5 territories, and 25 tribal communities. It is a cornerstone of evidence-based public policy with bipartisan support that provides funding to Ohio to develop and implement voluntary, evidence-based home visiting programs that improve outcomes for children and families at risk for poor outcomes.

MIECHV enjoys bipartisan support because the program is a proven strategy to:

- Improve maternal and child health.
- Prevent child abuse and neglect.
- Reduce crime and domestic violence.
- Increase family education level and earning potential.
- Promote children's development and readiness to participate in school.
- Connect families to needed community resources and supports.

MIECHV Supports Ohio Families.

All families need support, but for parents living in poverty and facing other risk factors, the access to support and resources that home visiting programs provide becomes even more critical. Ohio targets community needs when determining at-risk populations to serve through the MIECHV Program.

While Ohio has invested substantial state funds to leverage the MIECHV federal investment, MIECHV funds alone serve a critical population of Ohio families.



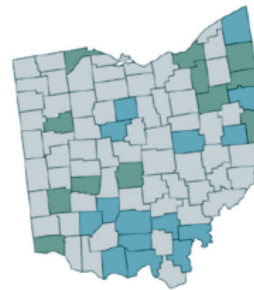
Ohio MIECHV by the Numbers

Annual MIECHV Investment in Ohio, FY21:
\$7,711,212 ¹

In 2020, MIECHV funds supported services for:

- 1,914 Ohio children
- 2,178 Ohio families
- 25,557 home visits in Ohio ²

Ohio MIECHV Program At-a-Glance: ³



Rural: Adams, Ashtabula, Clinton, Columbiana, Coshocton, Crawford, Fayette, Gallia, Harrison, Marion, Meigs, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Vinton

Urban: Allen, Clark, Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lucas, Mahoning, Montgomery, Stark, Summit, Trumbull

What can Congress do NOW for Ohio's families and communities?

MIECHV programming has a lasting impact on families and communities in Ohio. MIECHV funding expires at the end of September 2022. Congress must act NOW to reauthorize MIECHV to sustain current services and reach more families with the critical support they need.

In Ohio, the availability of MIECHV programming only served 10% of households identified as those needing the service. ⁴

Ohio families ask Congress to:

Increase MIECHV funding to reach more families and better support the workforce over the next five years. The program has been level-funded at \$400 million annually. Scaling up MIECHV over the next five years with increases of \$200 million annually is required to reach more families and better support the workforce over the next five years.



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1. HRSA, FY 2021 Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Awards
2. National Home Visiting Resource Center, MIECHV State Data Tables: Ohio
3. HRSA, Ohio's MIECHV Program FY 2020
4. The Ohio Department of Health (ODH), MIECHV Needs Assessment Update, 2020