

Home Visiting Program

Puerto Rico

Puerto Rico Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program is funded in part through federal investments from the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (Home Visiting Program), and provides voluntary, evidence-based home visiting services to at-risk pregnant women and parents with young children.

The Home Visiting Program, which builds upon decades of scientific research, provides voluntary, culturally-appropriate, individually-tailored supports to families in their homes, including providing information about children's health, development, and safety, and when appropriate, referrals to support services.

Through federal grants from the Home Visiting Program, in fiscal year 2015, home visitors in Puerto Rico:

- made 1,898 home visits to 250 parents and children in 143 families;
- enrolled 105 new parents and children to the program; and
- served families living in communities in 4 counties across the state, or 5% of Puerto Rico counties, of which 1 county, or 25%, is rural.

The Home Visiting Program in Puerto Rico:

- initiated and developed an evidence-based home visiting network;
- provided reflective practice supervision to Familias Saludables Puerto Rico staff;
- had community support at local and state level with written MOUs; and
- created a state-level data collection system to increase efficiency and quality of data regarding the Puerto Rico Home Visiting Program.

Like all Federal Home Visiting Program grantees, Puerto Rico uses a home visiting model that is proven effective. Puerto Rico leverages federal funds to implement the following evidence-based model to serve children and families across the state:

- [Healthy Families America](#)

Counties with home visiting services funded by federal grants from the Home Visiting Program (as of February 2016)*:



Rural counties:
Jayuya

Non-rural counties:
Barranquitas, Maunabo, Orocovis

More about Puerto Rico:

[Maternal & Child Health Measures and Grants in Puerto Rico](#)

The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program is administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in close partnership with the Administration for Children and Families (ACF). The Program supports at-risk pregnant women and families, and helps parents of children from birth to kindergarten entry tap the resources and hone the skills they need to raise children who are physically, socially, and emotionally healthy and ready to learn.

Research shows that home visits by a nurse, social worker, early childhood educator, or other trained professional during pregnancy and in the first years of life improve maternal and child health, prevent child abuse and neglect, increase positive parenting, and enhance child development and school readiness.