

Home Visitors are Partners in Family Resilience.

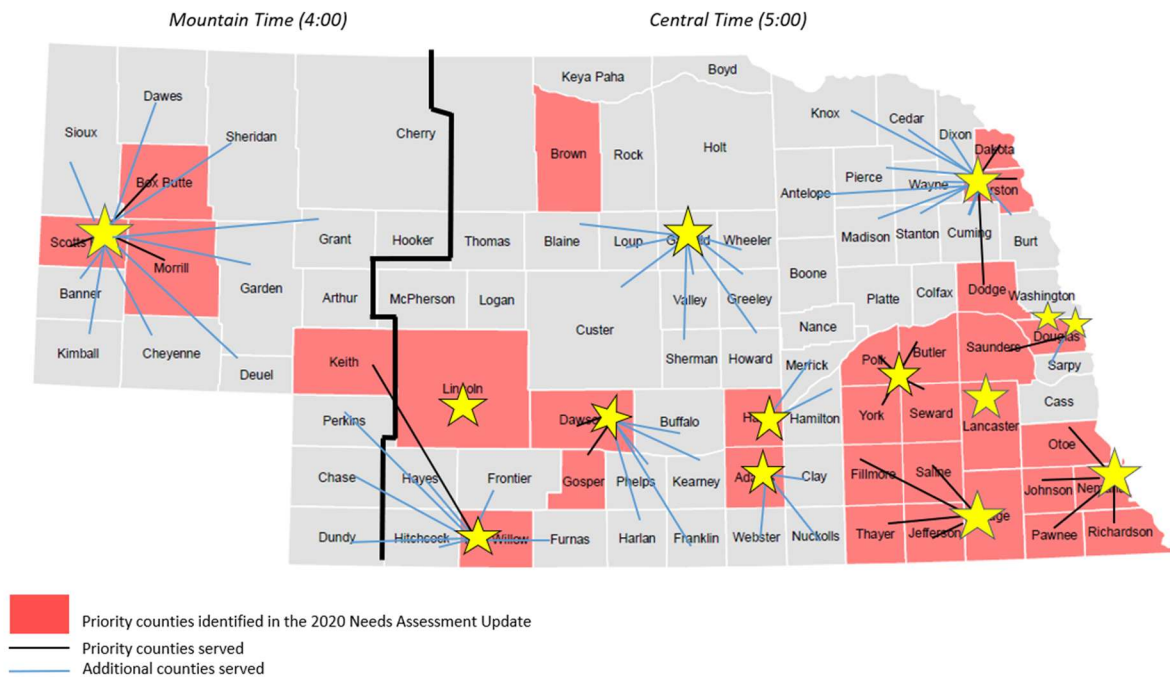


Community-based * Voluntary * FREE

Support for Pregnant or Parenting families of children birth to age 5 who may struggle with significant life stressors such as poverty, exposure to violence or substance abuse, teen parenting, or military families with one or both parents in service.

The **Nebraska-Maternal, Infant & Early Childhood Home Visiting (N-MIECHV)** program is evidence-based, utilizing the **Healthy Families America** model of home visiting.

We are **STRENGTHS-BASED**, and **FAMILY-CENTERED**.



- ★ **Public Health Solutions Healthy Families America** (*Gage, Saline, Fillmore, Thayer, Jefferson counties*)
- ★ **Northeast Nebraska Community Action Healthy Families** (*14-county service area; priority counties: Dakota, Thurston, Dodge*)
- ★ **Visiting Nurse Association Healthy Families America** (*Douglas County*)
- ★ **Nebraska Children’s Home Society Healthy Families America** (*Douglas, Sarpy, Lincoln counties*)
- ★ **Lincoln-Lancaster Healthy Families Home Visiting** (*Lancaster County*)
- ★ **Healthy Families Nebraska Panhandle** (*8-county service area; priority counties: Box Butte, Scotts Bluff, Morrill*)
- ★ **Healthy Families Nebraska-Two Rivers** (*9-county service area; priority counties: Dawson, Gosper*)
- ★ **Healthy Families Nebraska-Loup Basin** (*9-county service area*)
- ★ **Healthy Families Nebraska-Central District** (*Hall, Merrick, Hamilton counties*)
- ★ **Healthy Families Nebraska Heartland** (*Adams, Clay, Webster, Nuckolls counties*)
- ★ **Healthy Families Nebraska-Four Corners** (*York, Polk, Butler, Seward counties*)
- ★ **Healthy Families Nebraska-Southwest** (*9-county service area; priority counties: Keith, Red Willow*)
- ★ **Growing Great Kids in Southeast Nebraska** (*Otoe, Johnson, Nemaha, Richardson, Pawnee counties*)

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Purpose: To strengthen and support families as a whole to improve lifespan health outcomes and prevent child maltreatment.

Eligibility: Pregnant or Parenting families of very young children that struggle with significant life stressors, increasing the risk of poor lifespan health outcomes and child maltreatment.

- ✚ Poverty
- ✚ Homelessness
- ✚ Under 21 years of age
- ✚ Involvement in child welfare
- ✚ Exposure or use of substances and/or tobacco
- ✚ Exposure to violence
- ✚ Low student achievement or developmental delays
- ✚ Military families with multiple deployments

Healthy Families America programs target families that are pregnant or within the first 90 days after the birth of the child. If a family is involved in child welfare, research shows success enrolling within the first 24 months after the birth of the child.

- ✚ Healthy Families is a VOLUNTARY program that requires services are offered for a minimum of 3 years.
- ✚ Families receive weekly visits for about an hour. As they grow and progress through their goals, the intensity of visits decreases, until the home visitor isn't needed anymore.

N-MIECHV demonstrates advancement on SIX Benchmark Areas through 19 Performance Measures that are collected at the family level.

- ✚ Maternal and Newborn Health
- ✚ Maltreatment, Injury and Emergency Room Visits
- ✚ School Readiness and Achievement
- ✚ Domestic Violence and Crime
- ✚ Family Economic Self-Sufficiency
- ✚ Coordination of Referrals and Resources

Model and Curriculum

The Healthy Families America evidence-based MODEL is how you talk to parents.

Each program site chooses an evidenced-based CURRICULUM that's right for their community. The Curricula is what you talk to families about at each visit.

Curricula Implemented in Nebraska:

- ✚ Growing Great Kids
- ✚ Partners for a Healthy Baby
- ✚ Parents as Teachers
- ✚ Circle of Security – *often with another curriculum as an enhancement of services*
- ✚ Mothers and Babies (Maternal Depression) – *often with another curriculum as an enhancement of services*

Validated Screening Tools are used on a regular basis to assess and make appropriate, timely referrals:

- ✚ Maternal Depression
- ✚ Child(ren)'s Physical, Emotional and Social Development as they Grow
- ✚ Family strengths and Personal Stressors
- ✚ Substance Use
- ✚ Safety in the home
- ✚ Safe sleep environment
- ✚ Relationship Violence

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Home Visitors, Family Support Specialists, Parent Coaches—whatever they are called, home visitors are **Early Childhood Professionals** and **Resource Experts**. Specially and intensively trained, N-MIECHV home visitors complete 90-100 hours of professional development annually. Home visitors can be nurses, social workers, early childhood educators, and even past participants! We have multi-lingual/multi-cultural home visitors to reflect the needs of the community, and many choose to train to further support families, such as becoming a Certified Lactation Counselor or Child Passenger Safety Technician.

All our programs are funded through a braiding of Federal and State funds:

- ✚ **Federal MIECHV Formula Grants:** \$2,394,983 in 2024
- ✚ **State General Funds:** \$2,000,000 in 2024
- ✚ **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF):** \$4,500,000 in 2024

N-MIECHV Awesomeness:

- ✚ Since inception of the N-MIECHV program in 2011, we have served **1442+** families.
- ✚ Current statewide capacity is 766.
- ✚ N-MIECHV collaborates with organizations and agencies statewide to provide individual resources for families.
- ✚ We partner with Children and Family Services to engage families in order to minimize or prevent further involvement with child welfare.
- ✚ Over 90% of our caregivers enrolled are screened for relationship violence, depression, and substance use within the first 3 months.
- ✚ Over 90% of enrolled families were supporting early language and literacy development with their children.
- ✚ 96% of all enrolled families use safe sleep environments for their children, without bed-sharing or using soft bedding.

Success Stories:

- We have a family that graduated from HFA in July 2020 after 5+ years with the program. She was lucky enough to have the same home visitor the entire time. Mom dealt with substance use, housing issues, and CPS. Mom went through a tough custody battle with the children's father and is still dealing with issues involving this. The Home Visitor was one of the only people mom felt was on her side supporting her through it all. Mom has stable housing and will be three years sober in October 2020. Mom is comfortable advocating for herself and was asked to be a part of the Community Café parent Leadership.
- A teen mom was very difficult to get excited or involved in activities with her baby. During a curriculum activity one day, she got really excited about seeing her baby do new things and made the connection on how babies' brains grow and develop based on how she interacts with him! "It was a win not only for baby but mom as well."
- We had a mother graduate from the program this month. She remained in the program despite the loss of her son, who was our target child. The Home Visitor continued to support mom for several months after the death of her child. This mom is currently involved in group therapy, individual counseling and meeting her work goals. She has loved Healthy Families America Services!



For More Information Please Contact:

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