

FFPSA PREVENTION SERVICE

HFA SITES

Service Name: Healthy Families America

Service Code: 7702

What? (Summary of service)

Healthy Families America (HFA) is a strengths-based, family-centered child abuse and neglect prevention program. Programs are voluntary for participant families and always free. Local HFA programs are designed to support 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 program provides services to families, in their home, with tiered intensity levels based on family success. Families and home visitors work together as partners to ensure that children are able to grow up healthy, safe, and on-track. Home visitors provide information, guidance, and encouragement for positive parenting practices, child development, and family resilience in stressful times.

Who? (Target population)

- Pregnant or parenting families with a child less than 24 months old.
- Lancaster Co. target population is the oldest child in the family must be less than 22 months
- Young adults being served by DCFS that are pregnant and/or are parenting.
- B2i clients who are parenting or pregnant

How long? (Length of service)

- HFA remains a voluntary program throughout the family's enrollment. HFA requires that home visiting services be offered a minimum of three years and may continue up to five years.
- Families work and grow through well-defined criteria that determine the intensity of services until graduation from the program.
- The identified CFS family program case doesn't need to remain open, for the family to continue to engage with HFA. If the family's SDM recommends case closure and there are no identified safety threats, the worker can move forward with case closure and HFA can remain in the family home.

Why? (Needs service could help meet)

- Provides emotional support and encouragement to parents
- Teaches & supports appropriate parent-child interaction and discipline
- Provides periodic developmental assessments and referrals if delayed

- Links families with community services, health care, child care, and housing
- Encourages self-sufficiency through education and employment
- Provides child development, nutrition, and safety education

Where/Who? (Service Area/Counties/cities service is offered, name of provider, website, contact information, phone number)

- Brochures for the specific HFA sites are located in the Resource Library→ Standard Work Instructions→ Ch.7 Services (7.5.3-7.5.14)

Process for Referring Families to HFA

- If a child is identified as a Candidate for Foster, the CFSS will do the following:
 - a. CFSS completes a Prevention Plan (Foster Care Prevention Plan SWI, 1.7)
 - Ensure that child(ren) is not placed in formal out of home care.
 - If the family is in agreement to participate in HFA at **anytime** during the case, submit a green phone referral to the applicable HFA provider. This can include when the family has been found **SAFE** and recommendation is for **CASE CLOSURE**. **Healthy Families America is a prevention service that DHHS can refer families without having an open case, funding doesn't depend on having the case open and the service will continue**
 - CFSS completes a **COLLATERAL** green phone referral on NFOCUS
- Information to include on the Green Phone Referral:
 - Service Code: Healthy Families America – 7702
 - Provider: List the Provider ID# for the agency providing the service
 - Include parent/caregiver name, phone number, and address
 - Include good times during the day to contact the parent/caregiver and if they prefer to be called or sent a text message
 - Leave unit, type and frequency section blank
 - In ESA, When deciding which of the 2 agencies to refer the family to:
 - a. Ask the family for their preference or any prior history working with one of the agencies
 - b. Families that have a member with a serious medical condition should be referred to VNA
 - c. VNA and NCHS will work together to ensure referrals are best fit for the agency vs. the other agency.