

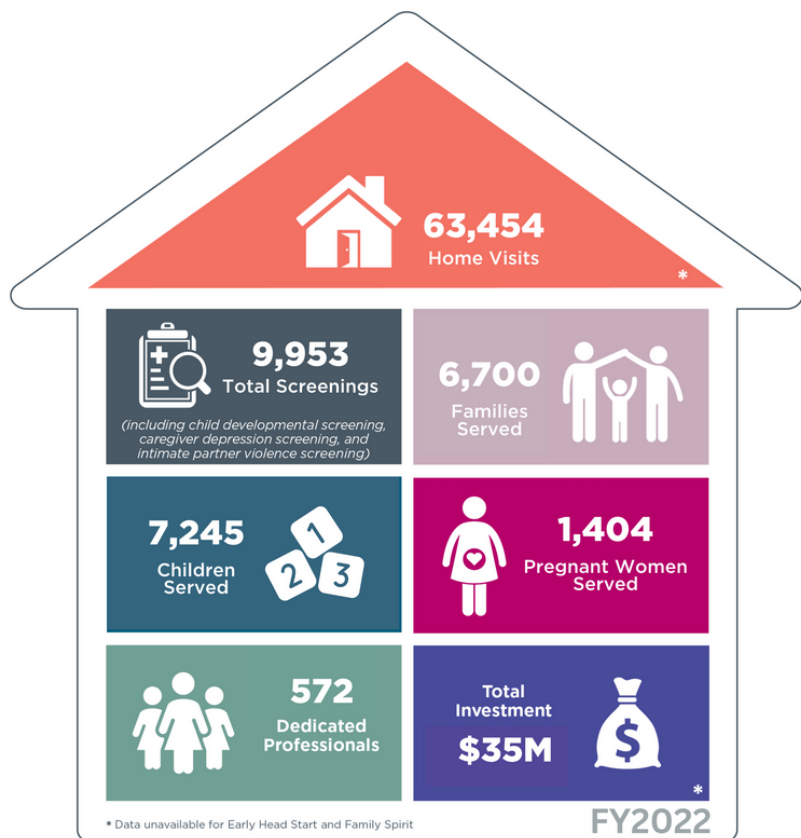
Home Visiting Issue Brief 2023

Home Visiting remains Virginia's most effective strategy for strengthening families and mitigating the impact of increasing violence, decreasing rates of school readiness and a nationwide mental health crisis.

Now, more than ever, Virginia families need access to home visiting.

Home Visiting is PROVEN

- Improved maternal & infant health
- Promote equity & reduce health disparities
- Increase school readiness & social-emotional development
- Build healthy, nurturing relationships
- Cost effective - proven to save up to \$5.70 for every dollar invested



Home Visiting Funding Crisis:

Virginia home visiting programs receive funding through a variety of sources. State funding for home visiting is primarily federally based.

- **TANF funds administered by VDSS: \$13.1 Million**
- **MIECHV funding administered by VDH: \$7.8 Million**
- **State General Funds: \$ 832,000**
- **Local/Private Funds: \$ 11.6 Million**

The state elected to use TANF funding to support home visiting as a 'stop-gap' means of maintaining services following the 2008 economic recession. In recent years, TANF funding reserves have been depleted and the state must now decide how best to continue its commitment to maintaining local services.

OUR ASK:

- **Maintain current level of funding to support current level of services.**
- **Increase funding to offset inflation and support essential workforce recruitment and system transformation necessary to sustain and grow into the future per the Virginia Plan for Home Visiting adopted in 2020.**
- **Require HHR to work together with Early Impact Virginia in SFY'25 to develop the state's plan for sustainable funding, including leveraging available federal funding not currently accessed or fully leveraged, e.g. FFPSA, Medicaid and MIECHV.**



What Our Families Are Saying...

"They truly have helped me keep up with my child's milestones, as well as make sure I'm always well enough to take care of my son... I can honestly say they have saved my son and I's life more than once."
Savannah, Collinsville Virginia

#HomeVisitingWorks

A retrospective analysis found a **40% reduction** in preterm birth rates among Virginia women who received home visiting versus a comparison group. An average savings of \$30,000 per birth.

Feasibility Study on the Development of a Home Visiting Pay for Success Pilot Program, Virginia Department of Health, 2018



What is Home Visiting?

Home visiting connects expectant parents and families with young children to a trained, family support professional who provides customized coaching and guidance through the early stages of a child's development. Home visitors help parents understand their role as their child's first, and most important, teacher. Home visitors help families realize their strengths, and unlock their child's potential.

- **Home visiting benefits moms, families, children, & the community**
- **Moms and babies are healthier**
- **Children are better prepared for school**
- **Children are safer**
- **Families are more self-sufficient**
- **Home visiting programs save money in the long run**

To meet the diverse needs of families and communities throughout the Commonwealth, Virginia is home to eight evidence-based models of home visiting. Those programs are CHIP of Virginia, Parents as Teachers, Loving Steps, Nurse-Family Partnership, Virginia Head Start Association, Family Spirit, Virginia Resource Mothers, and Healthy Families Virginia.

While these programs cover 123 of 133 Virginia localities, **we are serving less than 10% of families who would benefit from home visiting.**



What is Early Impact Virginia?

Early Impact Virginia, established in 2006, is a statewide alliance of early childhood home visiting programs and partners that serve families with children, from pregnancy through age five. Designed to maximize the impact of home visiting by ensuring that all pregnant and parenting families have access to high quality early childhood home visiting programs that best match their needs, Early Impact Virginia represents a workforce of more than 650 dedicated professionals serving 8,000 families in 123 communities across the Commonwealth.

Early Impact Virginia effectively leverages resources through public-private partnership and collaboration to create a more comprehensive, coordinated system while driving innovation to continuously improve program efficiency, service quality and reach.

As both a leader and partner in implementation, Early Impact Virginia is responsible for:

Workforce Development

Guiding through coaching, professional development and technical assistance for high quality services.

Strategic Leadership

Leading in resource development, innovation, efficiency, and advocacy to sustain and expand high quality services.

Collaboration & Partnerships

Collaborating and coordinating home-based services across public and private agencies for greater impact.

Data & Research

Facilitating research through shared data collection, analysis and evaluation for continuous improvement and growth.



In 2019, the Virginia legislature granted Early Impact Virginia the authority and responsibility to lead the Commonwealth's home visiting work. During that same year, EIV worked together with the Virginia Department of Health MIECHV program to align home visiting system building efforts to ensure statewide continuity and leverage resources for greater impact. Subsequently, EIV led the development of a shared vision for this work: Virginia's Plan for Home Visiting. Adopted by Virginia's Children's Cabinet in May 2019, this plan laid the framework for success.

Finally, in January 2022, EIV published a comprehensive strategic plan to fully operationalize Virginia's Plan for Home Visiting.

For more information:

[EarlyImpactVA.org](https://www.earlyimpactva.org)

[EarlyImpactVirginia](https://www.facebook.com/EarlyImpactVirginia)

[EarlyImpactVA](https://www.twitter.com/EarlyImpactVA)