

UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF HOME VISITING ON FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

Families know firsthand that home visitors make a difference in their health, their children's health and their ability to meet their goals to move forward. What families say about the power of home visiting is backed up by data that many Virginia programs obtain to measure their effectiveness and inform their continuous efforts to improve.

The data show that proactive investments in home visiting could minimize the much larger costs that Virginia often pays when families don't get the help they need to be healthy and productive. For example, it can be far more expensive to pay for infants to stay in a NICU than to pay for home visiting.

HOME VISITING'S IMPACT ON VIRGINIA FAMILIES

BEFORE HOME VISITING...

20-25% of teen moms in Virginia had a repeat pregnancy.

19% of targeted moms had premature babies.

77% of babies and toddlers in targeted families had a regular medical provider or "medical home".

An estimated 74% of Virginia's children had all their regular immunizations.

AFTER HOME VISITING...

After home visiting with Resource Mothers, only 3% of teens had a repeat pregnancy.

Moms who received home visiting with CHIP for 4 months prenatally, 12% had premature babies.

99% of families enrolled had a medical home, after home visiting with CHIP.

88% of children had all of their immunizations after home visiting with Healthy Families Virginia.

*data provided by CHIP, Healthy Families Virginia and Resource Mothers Program

Results of National Models

The Nurse- Family Partnership (NFP), one of the most rigorously evaluated home visiting models, recently expanded to Virginia. A recent study compiled the data from the several evaluations of this in many communities and found that implementing the NFP model can yield significant cost savings.

By a child's 18th birthday, state and federal government cost savings due to NFP's outcomes will average \$23,485 per family served or 2.2 times NFP program costs.

The largest savings accrue to Medicaid - making up over half of the cost savings per family served. Medicaid cost savings are due to increases in immunizations and increased Medicaid graduation and reductions in pregnancy complications, pre-term births, early childhood injuries, child maltreatment, and youth violence and substance abuse.ⁱ

Cost Savings in Virginia



Health care costs - CHIP and Optima partnered on a 2002 study to compare the health care costs of a high-risk pregnancy and delivery for mothers who received CHIP's home visits and case management services and Optima's phone support line and medical services. **The mothers receiving CHIP services saved Optima \$2,287 per pregnancy and delivery.**ⁱⁱ



Increased employment - About one third of parents are working when they enroll with CHIP. After one year of enrollment, 41 percent of parents are working. **The additional parents who are now employed could add \$3.5 million to Virginia's economy if they work at least 30 hrs/week in a low- wage job.**ⁱⁱⁱ



Avoid bad outcomes - Without any home visiting services, Healthy Families Virginia evaluators estimated that there would be 587 founded cases of abuse and neglect in the over 12,500 families served over 5 years time. Instead, after these families participated in home visiting with Healthy Families there was only 137 founded cases of abuse or neglect indicating that Healthy Families prevented 450 cases of abuse or neglect. **Each case of abuse and neglect costs taxpayers \$63,871.**^{iv}

ⁱNurse Family Partnership Home Visitation: Cost, Outcomes, and Return on Investment

ⁱⁱCHIP Saves Money

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^{iv}FY2008-2012 Healthy Families Virginia Statewide Evaluation