



Healthy Opportunities for Parents to Experience Success (HOPES)

Healthy Opportunities for Parents to Experience Success - Healthy Families Iowa (HOPES-HFI) is an evidence-based home visiting program for families that begins during pregnancy or at the birth of a child and can continue until the child reaches preschool age. The program follows the national Healthy Families America model of home visiting. A standard tool is used to identify level of risk and screens for the family conditions and characteristics that impact child development growth, development, and health. Examples include family coping skills, parenting skills, and family functioning. Following the screen, families identified as "high-risk" are offered HOPES-HFI services and voluntarily agree to participate.

Healthy Families Iowa (HFI) Program Goals:

1. Promote optimal child health and development.
2. Improve family coping skills and functioning.
3. Promote positive parenting and family interaction.
4. Prevent child abuse and neglect, as well as infant mortality and morbidity.

HOPES-HFI is available in nine Iowa counties: Black Hawk, Polk, Woodbury, Scott, Lee, Hamilton, Clinton, Buchanan, and Muscatine. All eleven programs providing HOPES-HFI with state grant funds have been awarded national accreditation by Healthy Families America.

Funding and support for HOPES-HFI was established in 1992 through legislation with funds distributed to ten counties identified as having the highest needs. State funds at that time were allocated to the Iowa Department of Public Health for contract management. In FY04 the Department of Human Services initiated a contract with the Iowa Department of Public Health for \$200,000 of federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds to expand the HOPES-HFI grant after a reduction in state grant allocation for HOPES-HFI. As an effort to promote collaborative efforts to integrate all Early Childhood programs, in FY06 legislation was changed requiring transfer of funds from IDPH to the Office of Empowerment. In this fiscal year funds for the HOPES HFI program were once again allocated to the Iowa Department of Public Health for contract management.

Program Specifics

- Voluntary home visiting program following HFA standards (critical elements).
- Provides support to overburdened (high risk) families with children during the prenatal to preschool years.
- Identifies families through a standardized screening process.
- Identifies barriers and develops an individual family support plan (family goals) based on the family's strengths and needs.



Program Quality 2017

Number of Children participating in HOPES HFI programming: **576**

This is 141 more children than FY16.

Number of families participating in HOPES HFI programming: **482**

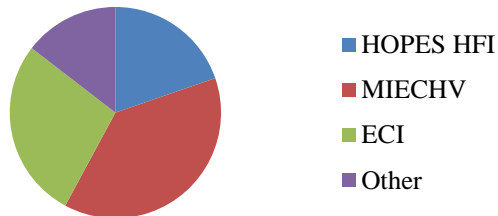
This is 137 less families than FY16.

Number of home visits to families in the HOPES HFI program: **7138**

This is 1351 less home visits than FY16

with the change in data systems we believe the data is much more accurate than years past

Contributing Funding Streams



Efficiency: Average annual cost per family \$1300.00

- *All 11 HOPES HFI programs are Healthy Families America Accredited*
- *Iowa is without an instate trainer at this time, therefore most programs attend training in Omaha, Nebraska. Iowa is in the process of training an Iowa HFA Integrated Strategies trainer who will be able to provide in state training for HFA programs.*

Program Outcomes 2017

Prenatal Enrollment –

- 46% of caregivers were enrolled prenatally
- This is a 3% increase from FY16

First time Mothers –

- 46% of those enrolled were 1st time Mothers
- This is a 2% increase from FY16

Maternal Depression screening –

- 47% of Mothers were screened for maternal depression
- 42% of Mothers screened were referred to services due to positive maternal depression screen.
- 55% of Mothers served were already receiving services for depression.

Developmental Delays –

- 79% of children were screened for developmental delays
 - This is a 3% decrease since FY16
 - 16% of children who receive the ASQ 3 screening screened positive.
 - 32% of children who screened positive were referred to services.
 - 30% of children screened were already receiving services.

For more information on the IDPH HOPES HFI program please contact program management pj.west@idph.iowa.gov or kristy.johnson@idph.iowa.gov