

HVSA Consent to Share Identifiable Data

An important role for the Home Visiting and Services Account (HVSA) is to monitor and evaluate the implementation and outcomes for home visiting services supported by the HVSA. Understanding who is being served, their experiences, and the impact of home visiting services for these families, provides important information for assuring the right services are reaching the right communities. To understand what works for families in the home visiting program, it is necessary to collect and share family and child health and social information with the Department of Children Youth and Families (DCYF) and the Department of Health (DOH) who manages the data reporting and evaluation for the HVSA.

What is Shared?

- ✓ A majority of the data collected by home visitors from families is reported to DOH for all families receiving any HVSA-funded services. This routine program data includes basic demographics, visits received and information on health status and services received during those visits (e.g., breastfeeding status, parent-child interaction assessments completed).
- ✓ For families authorizing the sharing of identifiable data, additional data elements are shared with DOH, including child name, parent name, parent date of birth, residential address, and ProviderOne number for child and/or parent if enrolled on Medicaid.

How do Families Consent?

- ✓ The [HVSA Parental Authorization to Share Information](#) (aka. Consent Form) is available on the DCYF Home Visiting website. Home visitors should discuss and seek authorization from families within the first three home visits, as data collection will be a routine function of participating in the home visiting program. A suggested best practice is to include this authorization as part of the enrollment process.
- ✓ The second page of the consent form contains sample language for home visitors to use when discussing the authorization with families.
- ✓ This Consent Form serves two purposes. First, it documents acknowledgement by parents and caregivers that their routine information will be shared with the

State of Washington. Second, it documents consent or refusal to share direct identifiers (names, addresses) with the State of Washington.

How is the Identifiable Data Used?

- ✓ Direct identifiers are needed to link HVSA families served with other state-sponsored databases to understand the success of our families across the continuum of services.
- ✓ Direct identifiers are only used by DOH and DCYF to establish a linkage with another data source. Once the linkage with other data is complete, the direct identifiers are removed prior to analyses of the linked data.