Home visiting is one of the best ways to meet the needs and change the trajectory of Washington state’s youngest and most vulnerable children and their families.

**HOME VISITING: A Two-Generation Approach**

High-quality home visiting is a proven way to support and strengthen families in those foundational first years of life. Working together, trained home visitors and parents talk about prenatal care, infant care, child development and parenting skills. As a result, children are healthier and better prepared for school; parent-child bonds are stronger; and abuse and neglect are less likely.

The power of home visiting comes from the relationship and trust between the home visitor and the parent. For many parents, this relationship gives them the strength to leave abusive relationships, go back to school, or find a new job that helps them better provide for their family. Home Visitors also provide a valuable connections to other community services and ensure coordination of resources.

Nearly 1 in 4 of Washington state’s 37,000 eligible families receive home visiting, leaving more than 29,000 families unserved.

**Home Visiting Works**

Rigorous research continues to prove the short- and long-term benefits of home visiting. While outcomes vary depending on the model used, home visiting is proven to result in:

- Healthier births
- Improved parenting practices and parent-child relationships
- Reduced child abuse and neglect and need for child welfare services
- Early detection of health issues and developmental delays
- Increased preschool and kindergarten readiness
- Reduced crime or domestic violence
- Improved family economic self-sufficiency
- Improved coordination and referral for other community resources
More than 90% of children receiving home visiting services with HVSA dollars are under age 3.

HOME VISITING SERVICES ACCOUNT: INVESTING IN WASHINGTON FAMILIES

In 2010, the state Legislature created the state’s Home Visiting Services Account (HVSA) to expand high-quality services to our most vulnerable families by bringing together and leveraging public and private funding sources. The HVSA funds a portfolio of home visiting models to help meet the diverse needs of families and communities. The HVSA has made Washington state a national leader in home visiting.

HOME VISITING SERVICES PRIORITIZE FAMILIES WITH CERTAIN RISK FACTORS:

- Teenage parents (or mothers)
- Underserved populations
- Families experiencing the “Big 3”:
  - Domestic violence
  - Substance abuse
  - Mental health issues
- Homeless families
- Families with multiple young children between birth to age 5 not currently connected to early learning resources

FAMILIES SERVED BY HVSA IN 2018

BY RACE

- Caucasian: 65%
- Multiple Races: 19%
- Black: 7%
- Native American: 6%
- Unknown: 2%
- Pacific Islander: 1%
- Asian: 1%

BY ETHNICITY

- Hispanic: 50%
- Not Hispanic: 49%

BY COUNTY

- Adams: 75
- Chelan: 32
- Clallam: 121
- Clark: 22
- Cowlitz: 65
- Douglas: 40
- Franklin: 100
- Grays Harbor: 67
- Jefferson: 17
- Kitsap: 20
- King: 329
- Lewis: 71
- Lummi: 85
- Okanogan: 38
- Pierce: 187
- Skagit: 98
- Snohomish: 158
- Spokane: 205
- Suquamish: 12
- Skamania: 25
- Whatcom: 450
- Yakima: 48
- Yakima: 50

TOTAL 2,421

(Another 6,000+ families receive home visiting services outside of the HVSA)

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