

# Ohio Department of Health Help Me Grow Home Visiting

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# The Help Me Grow System of Supports





Early Childhood Home Visiting

**Ohio**

Department  
of Health

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# What is Home Visiting?

- Two generation program that provides expectant parents and families necessary resources and skills to raise children healthy, happy and ready to learn.
- Located in the home so families feel at ease, and convenient with no travel required.
- Family and prevention focused.



# Who Can Be Served

- Expectant families or caregivers of a child under the age of two whose family income is not in excess of 200% of the federal poverty level.
- Eligibility is also based on model and funding source:
  - Moms & Babies First (Any income)
  - Healthy Families America (85%/15% split)
  - Nurse Family Partnership (Prenatal or 28 weeks/First-time or Multips)
- Risk factors are gathered during intake to assist in determining eligibility based on model and funding stream criteria.
- Families can receive services from both Home Visiting and Early Intervention.

# System Goals

1. Improve maternal and child health
2. Prevent child abuse and neglect
3. Encourage positive parenting
4. Promote child development and school readiness

# Home Visiting

- Early childhood home visiting programs provide support, parent education, and connections to community resources to eligible pregnant and parenting women and families.
- Services are voluntary, regardless of the source of the referral.
- Services are designed to help women achieve healthy pregnancies and births; ensure young children are healthy, developing to their full potential, and ready to start school; strengthen parenting practices and reduce child maltreatment; and support family self-sufficiency.

# What Home Visitors Do

- Help pregnant women prepare for baby's arrival
- Conduct health, developmental, environmental, and relationships screenings
- Deliver education and information about early childhood growth and development and positive parenting practices
- Facilitate enjoyable parent-child interactions
- Support parent-driven, family oriented, and self-sufficiency building goals plans
- Collaborate with social service coordinators also working with families
- Acknowledge and celebrate child and family successes
- Assist with transition planning for the children and family to the appropriate settings

# Core Service Components



# Ohio Models



Counties: 72  
Capacity: 6,295 slots



**MOMS & BABIES FIRST**  
Ohio's Black Infant Vitality Program

Counties: 10  
Capacity: 1,174 slots



Counties: 26  
Funding: 2,123 slots

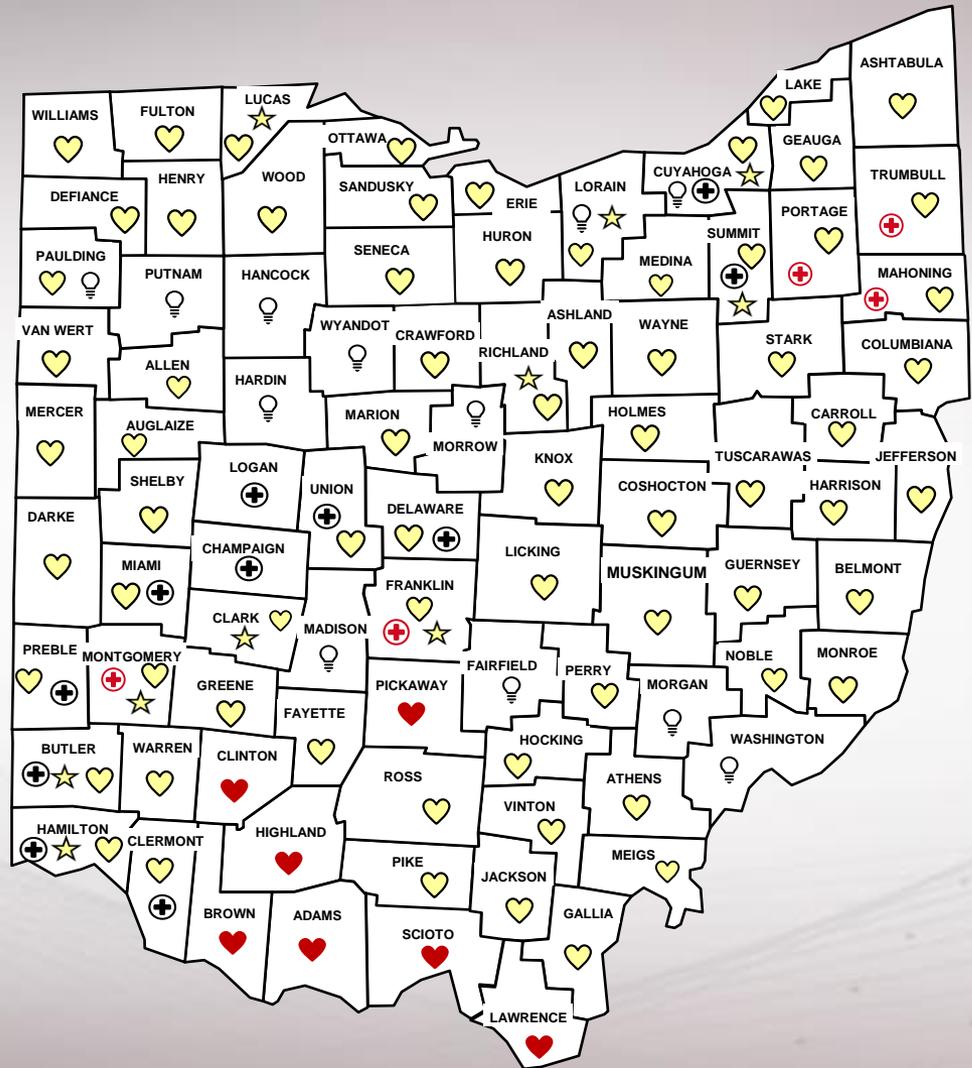


**Parents as Teachers**

Counties: 21  
Funding: 889 slots

# ODH Funded Models

- ★ Moms & Babies First
- ⊕ Nurse Family Partnership
- ⊕ Nurse Family Partnership – Expanded Eligibility
- ♥ Healthy Families America
- ♥ Healthy Families America: Expanded Eligibility for PCSA Referrals
- 💡 Parents as Teachers



# Healthy Families America

- Eligibility:
  - Pregnant women or families with children under 3 months
  - Services until child reaches 5
- Visit Frequency
  - Families have a calculated risk-level that determines visit frequency
- Caseload:
  - Maximum of 25 families
- Curriculum
  - Programs choose evidence-based curriculum



# Moms & Babies First

- Eligibility:
  - African American pregnant women
  - Services until a child reaches 1
- Visit Frequency
  - At least monthly
- Caseload:
  - Maximum of 40 families
- Model/Curriculum Highlights
  - Home Visitors hold Community Health Work certification or AA
  - Partners for a Healthy Baby curriculum



# Nurse Family Partnership



- Eligibility:
  - First time mothers who are at 28 weeks or less in pregnancy
  - Services until the child reaches 2
- Visit Frequency
  - Twice per month on average
- Caseload:
  - Maximum of 25 families
- Model/curriculum highlights
  - Partners in Parent Education
  - All home visitors are nurses
  - Requires extensive training and shadowing



# Parents as Teachers

- Eligibility:
  - Pregnant women or families with young children
  - Services until child reaches 5
- Visit Frequency
  - At least monthly
- Caseload:
  - Maximum of 40 families
- Curriculum/Model Highlights
  - Required to use Parents as Teachers
  - Programs complete annual report and are accredited every 5 years

# ODH HV Demographics: SFY 2021

## Number of Caregivers Enrolled



## Income



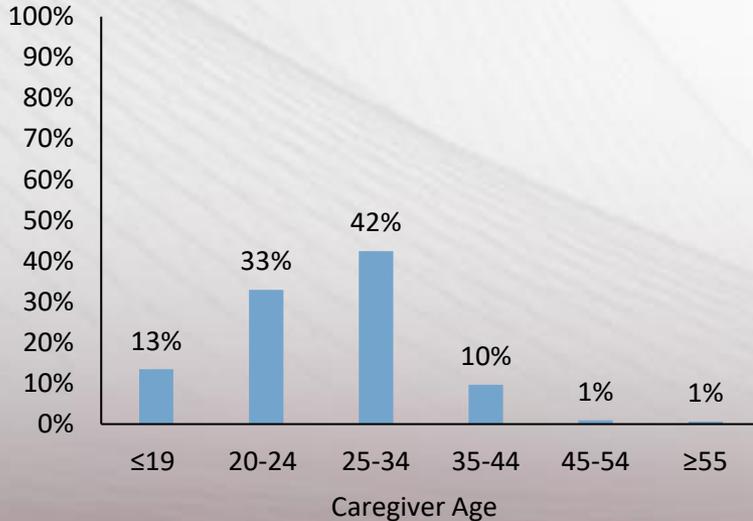
**99%** of households are at 200% or below the federal poverty level at enrollment.

## Education

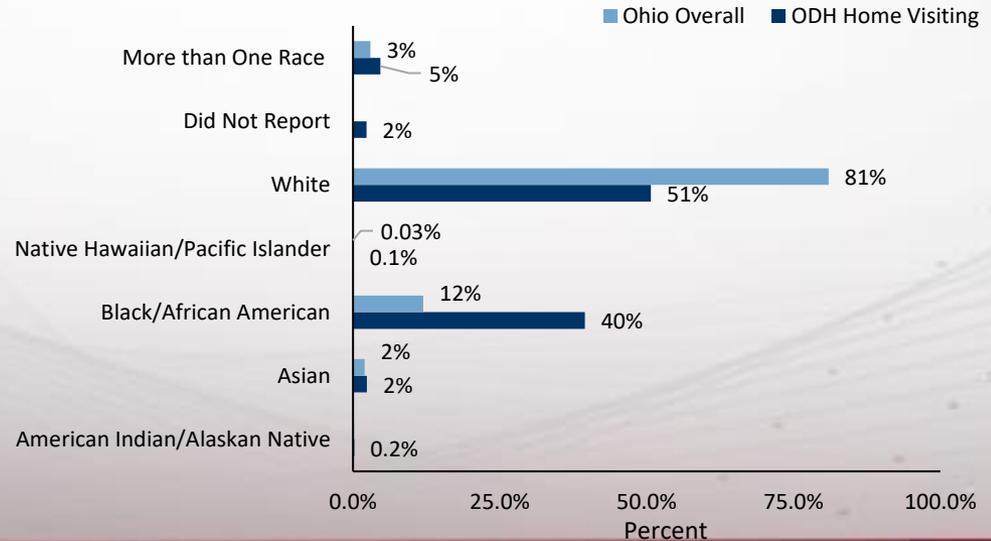


**23%** of primary caregivers have less than a high school diploma at enrollment.

## Caregiver Age At Enrollment



## Caregiver Race



A woman with dark hair in a bun, wearing a white lab coat, is holding a baby. She is looking down at the baby with a gentle expression. The baby is wearing a white diaper. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

# Home Visiting Expansion

# Expansion Goals

- Driven by the following:
  - Governor Mike DeWine's goals of increasing access to evidence-based home visiting.
  - Increase in State General Revenue Funding (GRF) of an additional \$1.95 million per year of the biennium.
  - Recommendation from Governor's Advisory Committee on Home Visiting to access all available state and federal funding sources.

# Rule and Statutory Revisions

- January 2022 – Help Me Grow rule revisions
  - Removed Associate degree requirement, aligned education qualifications to model standards
  - Removed risk factors as eligibility requirements
  - Changed eligibility determination from program to central intake
- July 2022 – Statutory revision
  - Changed exit age from 3 years to 5 years of age  
(Programs must follow model requirements for age of exit.)

# Expansion Funding

## Medicaid

- Leveraging state and federal Medicaid funding for services aligned to Nurse Family Partnership model
- Increased from 6 counties in 2020 to 26 counties

## Families First Prevention

- Leveraging federal funding for Healthy Families America and Parents as Teachers for prevention services referrals from local public children's services agencies

## Expansion Grants

- Leveraging state prevention services in partnership with ODJFS to provide expansion grants
- Awarded \$1.26 million to increase by approximately 850 slots

# Model Expanded Eligibility

	Prenatal under 28 weeks	Prenatal 29 weeks to delivery	Up to 3 months	Up to 6 months	6-24 months	Model Specific Notes
 <p>Nurse-Family Partnership <i>Helping First-Time Parents Succeed</i></p>	 					If provider agrees and is approved for expanded eligibility, all moms.
 <p>Healthy Families Ohio</p>	 					If a provider applies for the Child Welfare Protocols (CWP), families referred by children's services up to 24 months.
 <p>Parents as Teachers</p>	 					Model allows for enrollment through 24 months; Ohio rules previously limited to 6 months.
 <p>MOMS 4 BABIES FIRST Ohio's Black Infant Vitality Program</p>	 					No changes for this model; enrollment during pregnancy only; all incomes.

# Model Expanded Eligibility

- Healthy Families America
  - Child Welfare Protocols approval from national office and Department of Health
  - Family referred from public children services agency
  - Child up to 24 months of age
  - Services must be voluntary
  - Services are offered for three years

# Progress- Expansion Capacity- Building

- **October 2019-** 7 counties without HV services
- **Current-** All 88 counties with HV services
  
- **October 2019-** 13 counties with more than one option
- **Current-** 27 counties with more than option; 7 with 3 or 4 options
  
- **October 2019-** 6 counties with NFP services
- **Current-** 26 counties with NFP services



# Meet Sierra

# Home Visiting Program Consultants



A photograph of a baby lying on its back on a light-colored surface. The baby is smiling and looking towards the camera. Its right hand is resting on its right knee, and its right foot is held up near its head. The baby is wearing a blue and white patterned diaper. The background is plain white.

**Questions?**