

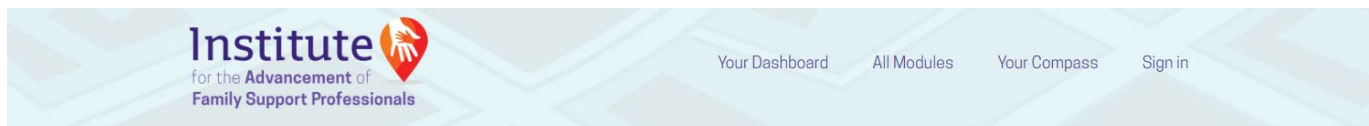
Perinatal/Infant Health

Objective 2.4 MCH Universal Home Visiting

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REPORT – October 2021 through September 2022

Home Visiting Workforce: Home visiting staff is required to complete online training through the [Institute for the Advancement of Family Support Professionals](#) which is a national home visiting competency training platform with existing content for use by anyone at no cost. A checklist of required trainings was provided to aid grantees in tracking progress.



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MCH Intensive Home Visiting Pilot Project: In August 2022, Title V staff reconvened the partner organizations on this project after several positions turned over at KDHE. Title V staff from the Bureau of Family Health, KDHE Overdose Data 2 Action staff in the Bureau of Health Promotion, and staff from University of Kansas Lifting Young Families to Excellence (KU LYFTE) met monthly to discuss progress toward recruiting families for home visiting services when the infant has Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS). KU LYFTE navigators reported challenges with getting referrals from hospitals and birthing centers, so the group brainstormed other community organizations that serve families and infants with NAS. Nine LYFTE clients received intensive home visiting support.

Local MCH Agencies:

- Reno County Health Department provided home visiting services to 64 clients. Fewer community outreach events were held, than previous years due to COVID-19 but internal referrals from WIC increased to connect the clients with the service they need. Other sources of referrals included Hutchinson Regional Medical Center, Hutchinson Clinic OB/GYN and pediatric clinics. A nurse makes rounds to all new moms at the hospital and holds standing meetings with the other partners to work through any snags in the referral process or clients' barriers to care.
- Riley County Health Department served 126 clients with home visits. They received an increased number of referrals from Women's Health Group (WHG) due to a more streamlined referral process. Among those referrals, they observed an increase in the proportion of women in their first trimester. Riley County's MCH nurse created informational packets about home visiting for WHG to share with their clients at the 10-week, 28-week, and postpartum visits. She also partnered with WIC dietitians on Ft. Riley to include MCH information with the WIC information that a person receives with they deliver at Irwin Army Community Hospital. A Riley County Health Department bilingual navigator/MCH home visitor assisted Title V staff in interviewing an MCH home visiting client about her experience with the program.
- Saline County Health Department provided home visiting services to 346 clients through an expansion of their home visiting service area to include McPherson County. They received the Universal Home Visiting Expansion Project grant to obtain the resources necessary to expand and enhance their home visiting service. They promoted their expanded availability directly to the community through television appearances and podcasts, and to providers during community partner meetings and mailed letters/brochures.
- Southeast Kansas Multi-County Health Department served 161 clients with home visits. The MCH Home Visitor for Allen and Anderson County worked with the Southeast Kansas Community Action Program, Early Head Start, Healthy Families America, Kansas Children's Service League, and Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas (CHC-SEK) to foster bi-directional referrals based on a client's needs at any given time. The Bourbon and Woodson County Home Visitor reached out to Ascension Via Christi Clinic in Ft. Scott and CHC-SEK's Pregnant Woman Clinic to establish a referral process for families who can benefit from MCH home visiting services. They also attended several community events to meet potential clients, including a Mommy & Me support group, health fairs and community baby showers. Several southeast Kansas home visiting clients expressed their gratitude to the home visitors, especially for the time they spent providing breastfeeding support during the formula shortage. Clients also expressed gratitude for the supplies and education they received at the community baby shower.
- Sedgwick County Health Department served 119 clients with home visits through their Health Babies program. They expanded outreach to Hunter Health Clinic which is a federally qualified health center in Wichita that was created to offer care to Native Americans, and today serves all people. Sedgwick County Health Department sets up a table at Hunter Health on Fridays when they have OBGYN walk-in hours for clients. It has helped build relationships with Hunter Health clients, so they become more comfortable and receptive to home-based services. Healthy Babies staff also visits the WIC clinic at their health department to facilitate a warm handoff from the WIC Coordinator to the Healthy Babies home visitor.
- Shawnee County Health Department served 72 home visiting clients. They continued to receive referrals from the hospital and WIC. They followed up on 439 postpartum referrals by phone or letter but must maintain a balance of the number of clients served to people on staff. Multiple home visitor positions have been vacant for an extended time. Their MCH RN completed Car Seat Safety Technician training and offered installation and assessment to families interested in a home visit.
- Seward County Health Department served 195 clients with home visits. They continued to receive internal referrals from WIC and the health department clinic. They started promoting home visiting services to one of the largest churches in Liberal and at the Liberal Area Coalition for Families.

PLAN – October 2023 through September 2024

Home Visiting Workforce: The 2023 Kansas Home Visiting Conference will be held virtually on August 29th and 30th. Conference planning is finalizing keynote presentations and breakout session topics. This conference is open to all Kansas Home Visiting staff free of charge.

Local MCH Agencies:

- Clay County Health Department will establish a new partnership with Clay County Medical Center to receive referrals to the health department's Universal Home Visiting Program. They will establish a written agreement and referral protocol to include use of the IRIS referral tracking system. A minimum of five referrals will come from Clay County Medical Center by the end of the program year.
- Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department will conduct a Universal Home Visit for each of their families enrolled in MCH. They will continue to receive referrals from the health department's WIC and Family Planning programs. The first personal visit families receive is a Universal Home Visit where they receive screening and education and when appropriate a referral to Healthy Families America home visiting services. They anticipate serving 36 families with Universal Home Visiting in the current program year with an increase to 45 families served in the Block Grant Plan year.
- Saline County Health Department will increase the number of home visits provided by 20% (n=94). In State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2022, 472 home visits were provided. This will be achieved by promoting the service at community events and to the medical community. Planned outreach includes: a provider brunch and learn to providers at Saline Regional Health Center, presentation of MCH/BaM to first-year medical students at the FQHC and community baby showers in Saline and McPherson counties. Saline County Health Department will hire another full-time MCH nurse to increase the capacity for community partnerships and service coordination.
- Seward County Health Department will establish a new partnership with their WIC program to receive referrals for home visiting. They will also ensure that 100% of their home visiting clients have education documented during their visits. Currently, 95% of clients were provided education according to data reports.
- Southeast Kansas Multi-County Health Department will work to increase client engagement with home visiting, from a baseline of 73% of visits occurring in person to a target of 90% of visits in person.
- University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita (KU) will establish a new partnership with Ascension Via Christi Hospital and Family Medicine Clinics to receive referrals to their home visiting program by embedding a home visitor within their clinical service systems. One new written agreement and referral protocol will be developed with the referring partner. Referrals (n=25) will be provided to KU by Ascension Via Christi.

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