

Envisioning Your Home Visiting Expansion

Why You Need a Home Visiting Continuum

At its core, a home visiting continuum is a service delivery strategy. So developing a process to carefully design your continuum will support and encourage home visiting services. There are a variety of avenues to consider, which will help you determine the best approach in your continuum building journey.



One Size Doesn't Fit All

A home visiting continuum moves services beyond a uniform approach, offering different choices for families and an opportunity to support a range of interventions that address different outcomes. Research, for example on [precision home visiting](#), is helping us better understand what works best for a range of family characteristics, needs, and desires, to achieve a specific outcome.



Why do you want to build a home visiting continuum?

Here are some things to consider:



What are the motivations behind previous or other existing efforts?



How will this effort align with other systems' goals and efforts, or other state or community initiatives (e.g., early childhood system development plans, preschool initiatives, Title V goals)?

Alignment and integration add a layer of complexity, but create many opportunities for leveraging funding and achieving efficiency in service delivery.



How are issues of equity and inclusion being addressed?



What are current community trends? How has the community changed since home visiting was introduced?



How do funding requirements or expectations impact your motivation?

It's not unusual for funding opportunities or guidelines to drive the expansion process.



Expansion Strengthens Your Prenatal - 5 System

System development that includes a home visiting continuum can be an antidote to a patchwork and disconnected approach to building strong community support that uplifts babies and their families. In addition, being intentional about how and where to expand home visiting services can increase the equity in your system.



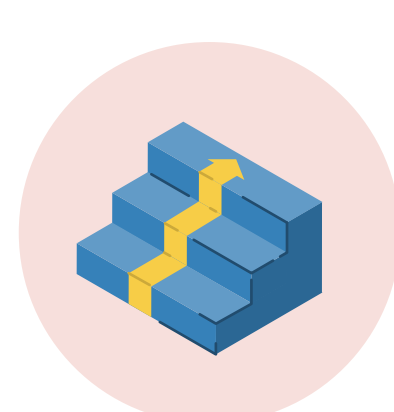
"Home visiting was a great first step for us to bridge a more comprehensive coalition focused on policy gains across the continuum of early care and education and child and maternal health, as opposed to what we had been doing, which was multiple campaigns elevating one line item in our state budget. We realized that more success can be achieved by highlighting these intersections as opposed to working in silos."

Kati Brillhart

Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children

Your Vision is Unique

Creatively conveying your particular set of services is often informed by your home visiting definition and other factors that are important to your community. The most important thing to remember is that there's no "right" way.



Helpful questions to consider for your vision:

Which aspects of home visiting services are most important for you to articulate?

What continuum criteria will demonstrate alignment with your goals and vision?



Collaboration Is Key

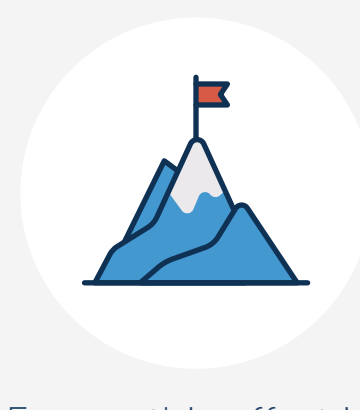
Making sure your process incorporates shared decision-making power with providers and families is an effective way to ensure collaboration.



Are all stakeholders at the table?



Identify equitable roles and responsibilities for all partners



Ensure this effort is resourced



Accept this is a process



"If you do not have diverse voices at the table, you will only see it through the lens of those who are there...We hold up lived experience and family voice in the same way we hold up data and research."

Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn

Minnesota Coalition for Family Home Visiting



"It's incredibly important to have a range of programs and services available to families, because the focus really has always been what families need, and how can we provide services that meet the family's needs and not just a one size fits all system."

Diane Dellanno

Advocates for Children of New Jersey



"We are continuing on this march to expand and never go back."

Emily Allen

Idaho Voices for Children



"It's a long-term process but it needs to be a thoughtful process and again, center families in that. What do families need?....Being realistic about how long it's actually going to take, having a lot of patience, being thoughtful, centering families, I think those are our keys in this work."

Diane Dellanno

Advocates for Children of New Jersey



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