

Maternal Early Childhood Sustained Home-Visiting

Maternal Early Childhood Sustained Home-Visiting (MECSH) aims to improve the health, development, and social well-being of families with new babies in need of additional sustained support. The model supports positive transitions to parenting, positive parenting skills, future-oriented and aspirational thinking, problem-solving skills, the ability to mobilize resources, and healthy relationships.

What is the model's approach to providing home visiting services?

Home visits take place based on the child's age. Families may receive three prenatal visits. After the child's birth, families receive visits weekly until the child is 6 weeks old, every 2 weeks until the child is 12 weeks old, every 3 weeks until the child is 6 months old, every 6 weeks until the child is 12 months old, and every 2 months until the child is 2 years old. MECSH recommends families initiate services prenatally, but allows for families to enroll until the child is 2 months old.

MECSH's service population includes the following:

- **Expectant caregivers**
- Families with low incomes
- Caregivers who are unmarried or single
- Caregivers with limited access to education
- Families with a history of substance use or in need of treatment
- Families with a history of child abuse or neglect/involvement with child welfare system
- Families experiencing mental health concerns, including maternal depression and anxiety

Who is implementing the model?

Home Visitors

MECSH was implemented by 101 home visitors in 2020. The model requires a bachelor's degree in nursing for home visitors. Home visitors are required to maintain a caseload of 20 to 30 families.

Supervisors

MECSH was implemented by 24 supervisors in 2020. The model requires a bachelor's degree in nursing for supervisors.

Where is the model implemented?



MECSH operated in 14 local agencies across 2 states in 2020. MECSH also operated outside the United States and its territories in Australia, South Korea, and the United Kingdom in 2020.

The NHVRC is led by James Bell Associates in partnership with the Urban Institute. Support is provided by the Heising-Simons Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views of the foundations. For details about the methodology, see the 2021 Home Visiting Yearbook.





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Families Served Through Evidence-Based Home Visiting in 2020



Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. • To protect confidentiality, race and ethnicity categories with 10 or fewer caregivers were replaced with *.