

### **Health Access Nurturing Development Services**

<u>Health Access Nurturing Development Services</u> (HANDS) is a statewide home visiting program in Kentucky that provides assistance to overburdened parents during the prenatal period until their child is 3 years old. The model's main goals are to promote healthy pregnancies and births, optimal child growth and development, safe homes, and family self-sufficiency.

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

Home visits take place weekly, beginning prenatally, until the child is 6 months old. After the child is 6 months old, visit frequency is determined by the family's level of need. Services are offered until the child is 3 years old. HANDS requires families to initiate services prenatally or before the child is 3 months old.

HANDS' service population includes the following:

- Families experiencing low incomes, unstable housing, or unemployment
- Caregivers who are unmarried or single
- Caregivers with limited access to education
- Families with a history of substance or tobacco use
- Families facing challenges such as marital concerns or inadequate social networks
- Caregivers with delayed or no prenatal care or history of abortion
- Families experiencing mental health concerns

## Who is implementing the model?

#### **Home Visitors**

HANDS was implemented by 209.1 full-time equivalent (FTE) home visitors in 2021. Paraprofessional home visitors must have a high school diploma. Professional home visitors must have a bachelor's or associate's degree in a related field or be a registered nurse or social worker. Home visitor caseloads are weighted based on families' needs; home visitors are expected to maintain an average weighted caseload of 38 to 40 families.

#### **Supervisors**

HANDS was implemented by 50.4 FTE supervisors in 2021. The model requires supervisors to be an advanced registered nurse practitioner, registered nurse, or licensed social worker.

# Where is the model implemented?



HANDS operated in 60 local agencies in 1 state in 2021.

The NHVRC is a partnership of James Bell Associates and the Urban Institute. Support is provided by the Heising-Simons Foundation and previously was also provided by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views of the foundations. For a detailed methodology, see the 2022 Home Visiting Yearbook.





### **Health Access Nurturing Development Services**

Families Served Through Evidence-Based Home Visiting in 2021



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