



Home Visitors' Monthly Resource Bulletin October 2024

New this month:

1. Save the date for the Alaska Home Visitor's Alliance Virtual Summit on Friday January 24, 2025 9:00-4:00pm!

Upcoming Events:

1. Home Visiting with Families Recently Arriving in our Neighborhoods and Communities Part Two: Recently Arriving Families, Core Stressors, and the Social Determinants of Health and Mental Health. October 30 11:00-12:00pm AKST
2. Fifth Annual Prenatal-to-3 Research to Policy Summit October 22 10:00-11:30am AKST
3. Home Visitor ECHO Series! This series is all about supporting the home visiting workforce in adapting best practices, promoting equity, and increasing client engagement and retention. Registration link below!

See Resource Sections Below for Families and Home Visitors!

[Click Here](#) - Help Me Grow AK Developmental Screening Training: A Tool for Family Engagement and Tracking Healthy Growth

If you have any additions to the bulletin, please send them to: hva@a2p2.org

NEW THIS MONTH:

HOME VISITING VIRTUAL SUMMIT 2025

SAVE THE DATE

JANUARY 24, 2025 | 9 AM - 4 PM



Together for Families. Together for Growth.

FREE TO PARTICIPATE

QUESTIONS?
CONTACT REANNE HONEMANN-QUEJA AT
HVA@A2P2.COM OR 907.885.4012.



SAVE THE DATE! Alaska Home Visitor's Alliance Virtual Conference

January 24, 2025 9:00-4:00pm

We are excited to announce the Home Visitors Alliance Virtual Conference, on Friday January 24, 2024, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM! Our conference theme is *"Together for Families. Together for Growth."*

Join us for a day filled with insightful sessions led by engaging and expert presenters who are leaders in the field. This event is designed to inspire, inform, and provide you with the latest strategies, best practices, and tools to elevate your work as a home visitor. It is free to participate.

Stay tuned for more information about registration and speakers!

UPCOMING EVENTS:



Home Visiting with Families Recently Arriving in Our Neighborhoods and Communities

Part 2: Recently Arriving Families, Core Stressors, and the Social Determinants of Health and Mental Health

Wednesday October 30, 11:00-12:00pm AKST

Families arriving in the U.S. from around the globe bring with them the strengths of their diversity and their determination to reach safety, freedom, and opportunity. They also bring with them a wide range of needs that may have accumulated in their home countries driving them to leave, while on their journey, and once they've arrived. Home visitors know their communities' resources and how to connect families to them and can provide vital supports for families new to our neighborhoods. Join us to find out more about these families' strengths and aspirations, and the social determinants of health and mental health that home visitors can help these families face so that they can recover, heal, and, eventually, flourish.

[Register Here!](#)



Fifth Annual Prenatal-to-3 Research to Policy Summit

October 22nd 10:00-11:30am

Join over a thousand state lawmakers, advocates, researchers, and practitioners for a virtual event to spotlight the investments that states made in 2024 to support young children and their families.

At this webinar, participants will:

- Gain access to the NEW 2024 Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap
- Get a preview of an upcoming 5-year lookback on progress in state implementation of evidence-based policies
- Hear from states who succeeded this year in building momentum for major legislative progress
- Learn about the newest research on prenatal-to-3 policy, including our new evaluation of the evidence for early literacy programs and income supports

- Gain insights into opportunities to advance policies for infants, toddlers, and their families in 2025

Register here!



Join the Home Visiting ECHO for FY25!

September 17 | October 15 | November 19 | December 10 | January 21 | February 18 | March 18 | April 15

8:30am - 10:00am (AKST)
8 Sessions on the 3rd Tuesday of the month (exception in Dec)
Free Zoom Event
Free Continuing Education Offered

The Home Visiting ECHO is a virtual learning network intended for Home Visiting professionals to interface with each other and a team of experts in Alaska. This series is all about supporting the home visiting workforce in adapting best practices, promoting equity, and increasing client engagement and retention. Each session will include a brief presentation followed by Q&A, and guided discussion or Home Visiting Story as an integral part of the learning experience. This series is intended for Home Visiting Professionals, Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program, and families with home visiting experience. Please note the new session time and the date exception in December!

This activity is jointly provided by the State of Alaska DOH Division of Public Health and the UAA Center for Human Development. This project was made possible by funds from Preschool Development Grant – Birth through Five (PDG B-5) grant number 90TP0103.

Download a calendar ics file to save this series event. This file will serve as a placeholder on your calendar. A personalized Zoom link will be sent via email 60 minutes before the session begins.

<<https://chd.box.com/s/yug3hm1yq5z26s29tvk0j248pzpjhw>>

**To participate in this live event you must sign up for a free iECHO account and register for the series. Learn more about iECHO at www.iecho.org*

If you have any questions or require accessibility accommodations to attend these sessions, please contact chdecho@alaska.edu.

Register for the ECHO Series
Here!

FAMILY RESOURCES:



Division of Public Assistance



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Online Application

New Mobile Friendly Online Alaska SNAP application now available online!

In Alaska, the **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program** is administered by the DoH, Division of Public Assistance, and provides food benefits to low-income families to supplement their grocery budget so they can afford the nutritious food essential to health and well-being.

[Apply Here](#)

Divisions of HealthCare Services (program and policy administration) and Public Assistance (program eligibility)



Apply for Denali KidCare and DenaliCare!

The only way to know for sure if you are eligible is to apply!

Children up to the age of 19 and **pregnant women** may be eligible if you meet the income guidelines.

For ease, peace of mind and to receive a confirmation number, click below.

You can also apply at [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) or with a paper application available for download [here!](#)

Submit documentation and changes

Keep Your Child's Future Bright
Visit your Healthcare Provider
on Time Every Time



Well Child Schedule	
3-5 DAYS	Yearly From Ages 4-20 years
1 MONTH	
2 MONTHS	
4 MONTHS	
6 MONTHS	
9 MONTHS	
12 MONTHS	
15 MONTHS	
18 MONTHS	
24 MONTHS	
30 MONTHS	
36 MONTHS	

Children on Denali KidCare, young adults on DenaliCare, ages 19 up to age 21, and pregnant women on DenaliCare **may be eligible for transportation services to get to and from medical appointments** under the Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis Treatment (EPSDT) Medicaid service provision administered by the DoH, [Division of Health Care Services \(DHCS\)](#).

[Click here for more Information on EPSDT Transportation Services](#)

online and find your closest DPA Office [here](#).

Apply online for Denali KidCare or DenaliCare here!

As of February 1, 2024, the Alaska DoH will now provide 12 months of postpartum Medicaid coverage to:

- Medicaid recipients whose pregnancy ended or will end on or after February 1, 2024;
- Medicaid recipients who are no longer pregnant but who are still within a 12-month postpartum period; and
- Individuals that are no longer receiving Medicaid benefits but had a pregnancy end in the last 12 months.

Action for beneficiaries:

- The individuals affected above do not need to submit a Medicaid application to receive these extended postpartum Medicaid benefits. Previously, postpartum coverage ended at 60 days.

Additionally, the income limit for Medicaid coverage will increase to include pregnant women with countable income under 225% of the federal poverty level:

Apply to Know for Sure!

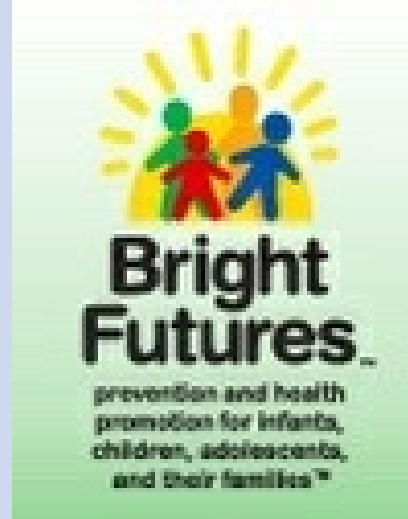
EPSDT services recommended by AAP and BF for children and adolescents at periodic well child visits:

[Click here - AAP/BF Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care](#)

American Academy
of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



WHAT IS BRIGHT FUTURES?

Bright Futures is a vision and a philosophy of children's health care. It is also a set of up-to-date guidelines, offering a practical, strength-based approach to children's health and well-being, birth through adolescence.

Bright Futures is dedicated to the principle that every child deserves to be as healthy as possible. The best health care involves a trusting relationship between a child and family, a health care provider, and their community.

Bright Futures For Families

Families' roles are essential in the health of their children. What families do every day plays a huge role in the health and well-being of children, including those with special health care needs. Partnership with health care providers is invaluable. When families and health care providers work together, sharing their knowledge and experience, children—and their families—thrive.

The *Family Pocket Guide* guides all families including families with Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN).

[Download the Bright Futures Family Pocket Guide](#)

Division of Senior and Disabilities Services (DSDS)

**Alaska Medicaid Home and Community Based Waiver (HCBW)
Services General Overview**

[Click Here for Alaska DSDS HCBW](#)

According to [Medicaid.gov](https://www.medicaid.gov), Alaska offers four Medicaid Waivers, two of which are for children and/or youth. You can read a synopsis of them [here](#).

States seeking additional flexibility in design of their Medicaid programs may apply for formal waivers of some statutory requirements from the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The Alaska HCBWs represent a set of services Alaska Medicaid developed under provisions of Section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act. **Home and community-based services (HCBS): Section 1915(c) waivers.** Section 1915(c) waivers authorize states to provide Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) as an alternative to institutional care in nursing homes, intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, and hospitals.

Medicaid waiver programs offer people who meet an institutional level of care the opportunity to receive care in the home or community instead of in an institution. **In Alaska**, there are **two Medicaid HCBWs available to children and/or youth** who meet Medicaid eligibility and level of care requirements. They are:

1. **The Child with Complex Medical Conditions (CCMC) Waiver - (AK Children with Complex Medical Conditions Waiver (0263.R06.00))**
2. **Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) Waiver - (AK Individualized Supports Waiver (1566.R01.00))**

To be determined eligible for one of these waivers, **a person must be found to be eligible for Alaska Medicaid and be enrolled with the Alaska Division of Medical Assistance (DMA).** The eligible person must also meet the Level of Care. A Plan of Care must be developed and agreed upon between the consumer, or parent/guardian, and providers of service. Furthermore, there must be a provider agency with the capacity to provide the desired service in a safe responsible manner.

As a "Point of Entry" and to obtain more information on the IDD Waiver, you can reach out to the Developmental Disabilities Resource Connection (DDRC) and click Roster found [here](#).

To find out more about the CCMC Waiver, contact the Aging and Resource Disability Center (ARDC). More information and locations found [here](#).

HOME VISITOR RESOURCES:



Touchpoints are periods in the first years of life, during which children's spurts in development result in disruption in the family system. The succession of touchpoints in a child's development is like a map that can be identified and anticipated.....

Learning Opportunities

Trainings and
Workshops

New Brief! A Conceptual Framework for Family Engagement in Early Childhood Home Visiting

[Download Brief Here](#)



The Home Visiting Evidence of Effectiveness (HomVEE) review is a thorough assessment of home visiting models that target families with pregnant women and children from birth to kindergarten entry (up to age 5).

The review determines which models have enough evidence to meet the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) criteria for an “evidence-based early childhood home visiting service delivery model”.

HomVEE's work helps policymakers and program administrators understand which models are effective.

NEW - [Home Visiting Evidence of Effectiveness \(HomVEE\) Systematic Review - Handbook of Procedures and Evidence Standards: Version 2.2 - April 2024](#)

This updated version of the handbook includes procedures related to HomVEE's review of virtual home visiting research. It also includes updates to clarify HomVEE's definition of subgroups, limits the eligibility of certain findings for review, and strengthens standards for validity.

[Download Version 2.2 Handbook Here](#)

NEW BRIEFS FROM HOMVEE

New briefs on prioritization and public comments.

HomVEE is also releasing two new briefs:

1. The first **summarizes the updated process for prioritizing models for review.**
2. The second **summarizes public comments received in response to HomVEE's request for comment in summer 2023.**

[Brief 1](#)

[Brief 2](#)

**Build Research
Knowledge**



With Online Training

The Mothers and Babies research team at Northwestern University has released an [online training to build home visitors' knowledge and confidence](#) partnering on research projects. The free, self-paced training is available via the Home Visiting Applied Research Collaborative website.



NEW - What We're Reading—Home Visiting, Mental Health and Nursing - May is National Mental Health Awareness Month and National Nurses Month!

- [Effect of a Community Agency–Administered Nurse Home Visitation Program on Program Use and Maternal and Infant Health Outcomes: A Randomized Clinical Trial](#)
- [Implementing Goal Mama: Barriers and Facilitators to Introducing Mobile Health Technology in a Public Health Nurse Home-Visiting Program](#)
- [A Program Evaluation of the Nurse-Family Partnership: How Therapeutic Relationships Foster Resiliency in First-Time Mothers](#)
- [Risk Assessment Practices Among Home Visiting Nurses and Child Protection Caseworkers in Colorado, United States: A Qualitative Investigation](#)
- [Perinatal Mental Health Support and Early Childhood Home Visitation During COVID-19](#)

Subscribe to NHVRC Mailing List

Professional Development Offerings for Early Childhood Leaders and Staff

Building thriving organizations that create positive staff, family and child outcomes.

Click [here](#) for the Essentials of Home Visiting Self-Paced, Online Learning - High quality learning to Enhance Family Professionals.

What the Field Is Saying

- 94% of participants report satisfaction and 91% would recommend The Essentials of Home Visiting to a colleague
- 76% of participants report applying what they learned within one week of engaging with The Essentials of Home Visiting experience

*"(The Essentials of Home Visiting) allows **rural home visitors** to attend trainings and not use excessive time and money traveling. This is so important in the current financial climate. The interactive components ... also allow (participants) to form relationships and feel part of ... a learning community."*

....Start Early snippets to ensure a System of Care that is family-centric, equitable, and transparent....

In short, a successful family-centric early childhood system is one that *practices* authentic and inclusive family engagement and *results* in positive, equitable, and supportive experiences for families.

Rather than focusing on preparing families to engage with the system, prepare the system to include families as co-designers.

[Click here for Start Early Professional Development](#)

Home Visitor Professional Learning Path - Online

Missed a webinar? Find online training resources at link below!



[Learn More](#)

If you have any questions, need more information, or have a resource to share, please reach out to hva@a2p2.org, we'd love to hear from you!

Connect with us!





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