

Promise 1000 Home Visitation Collaborative



The Issue

Promise 1000 connects this region's vulnerable families to supports that optimize the beginning years of life for young children prenatal to three – the first 1,000 days of life. A collaborative initiative of United Way of Greater Kansas City, Children's Mercy Hospital and the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City, Promise 1000 includes home visiting provider agencies already engaged to develop and implement a structured, collaborative home visiting system for at-risk children under 3 years old and their parents to:

- » Improve maternal and newborn health
- » Reduce the incidence of child maltreatment and intimate partner violence
- » Increase school readiness
- » Improve economic self-reliance and safety of participating families

The Opportunity

A regional network of metropolitan Home Visiting Agencies (HVAs) has collaborated over the past 5 years and launched Promise 1000 in May 2016. This network is part of a coordinated system of care for early childhood, encompassing young child health and well-being, family well-being and stability, school readiness, and the medical home for stronger health results.

The Approach

The target population for Promise 1000 is families with children from pregnancy to 36 months of age with at least one of the following risk factors – single parent, low income, received late or no prenatal care, under 22 years of age, substance abuse and/or intimate partner violence.

Using data collection and quality improvement, the collaborative aims to ensure that home visiting is delivered by highly qualified, trained and committed home visitors who can establish a trusting relationship with parents at a critical time. Home visitors support parents on topics related to child safety, health care and development as a means to prevent medical, psychosocial and developmental problems. This strengthens the emotional bond between parent and child and provides information and skills that help children reach their full potential. With the help of United Way 2-1-1, they also link families to community resources, emphasizing the important role communities play in helping parents raise healthy and successful children.

Why it matters

The centerpiece of the collaborative is home visitation, guided by scientific research confirming that a stimulating and nurturing environment is essential for optimal brain development, which in turn leads to readiness for school and good health. Home visiting is also among the few evidence-based interventions recognized to prevent child abuse and neglect and other adverse childhood experiences that not only negatively impact the child's physical and mental health but also become a major risk factor for the leading causes of illness and death as adults.

An efficient home visiting network includes:

- » A centralized recruitment, initial intake, and referral system
- » A standardized data collection system for measurement of ongoing effectiveness of services, including shared outcomes, standards and quality measures
- » A formal quality improvement process to help agencies improve their outcomes
- » Consistent professional training and core competencies
- » A tie between home visiting and the medical home
- » A program to help mothers overcome depression that works in conjunction with home visitation
- » A funding structure that supports a home visitation system that results in improved outcomes for children and families home visitation

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Focus on Results

Promise 1000 is modeled after Every Child Succeeds (ECS), a collaborative evidence-based home visitation program based in Cincinnati with key partners including Cincinnati Children's Hospital and the United Way of Greater Cincinnati. A highly successful initiative, ECS consistently produces strong health outcomes including:

- » The infant mortality rate for families enrolled in the ECS Program is 4.7 per 1,000 live births compared to 9.9 per 1,000 for the City of Cincinnati
- » 94 percent of children have an identified medical home
- » 98 percent of children are on target developmentally with gross, fine motor skills, personal and social skills
- » 70 percent of mothers with major depressive disorder recover following In-Home Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Treatment
- » 77 percent of mother initiate breast-feeding

Early results from Promise 1000 include enrolling 414 children by 2016. Key metrics include:

- » Initiation of breastfeeding
- » Duration of breastfeeding
- » Screening for maternal depression
- » Establishing a health goal for the child
- » Attendance at well child checks
- » Home visitor's participation in the medical home

Five out of the six key metrics showed improvements during the first year of Promise 1000, including a 28 percent increase in adherence to well child check-up guidelines and a 17 percent increase in home visitors screening for maternal depression. Additionally, through a partnership with The Family Conservancy, Promise 1000 provides In-Home Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for depressed moms.

In 2017, new key metrics for Promise 1000 will include developmental screening, birth spacing, health care utilization for the child, child maltreatment, as well as maternal health and preventing pre-term delivery.

Home Visiting Grantees

- Child Abuse Prevention Association** | Healthy Family Connections
- Children's Mercy Hospital** | Healthy Families Children's Mercy
- Children's Mercy Hospital** | TIES
- Cornerstones of Care** | Healthy Families Home Visitation
- Easter Seals Midwest** | Easter Seals Home Visiting Services
- Kansas Children's Service League** | Healthy Families Johnson County
- University of Kansas Medical Center Research Institute** | Project Eagle Early Head Start Home Visiting
- Start at Zero** | Start at Zero Home Visiting
- Turner USD 202 School District** | Turner Parents as Teachers
- USD 500 Kansas City** | Kansas Public Schools KCKPS Parents as Teachers
- The Family Conservancy** | Moving Beyond Depression