

Nurse-Family Partnership *in* Vermont



Nurse-Family Partnership® (NFP) is an evidenced-based community health program that helps transform the lives of vulnerable mothers pregnant with their first child. Each mother served by NFP is partnered with a registered nurse to receive home visits from prenatal through the baby's second birthday. Mothers, babies, families and communities all benefit.

NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP GOALS

- 1** Improve pregnancy outcomes by helping women engage in good preventive health practices, including thorough prenatal care from their healthcare providers, improving diet and nutrition as well as reducing the use of cigarettes, alcohol and illegal substances.
- 2** Improve child health and development by helping parents provide responsible and competent care.
- 3** Improve the economic self-sufficiency of the family by helping parents develop a vision for their own future, plan future pregnancies, continue their education and find work.

92% babies born full term

97% babies received all immunizations by 24 months

88% mothers initiated breastfeeding

POSITIVE OUTCOMES FOR Vermont

Cumulative data as of 12/31/16, clients served by Vermont's Nurse-Family Partnership.

MOMS' DEMOGRAPHICS AT ENROLLMENT

● **MEDIAN AGE: 21**

● **89% UNMARRIED**

● **82% RECEIVE MEDICAID**

cumulative as of 12/31/16

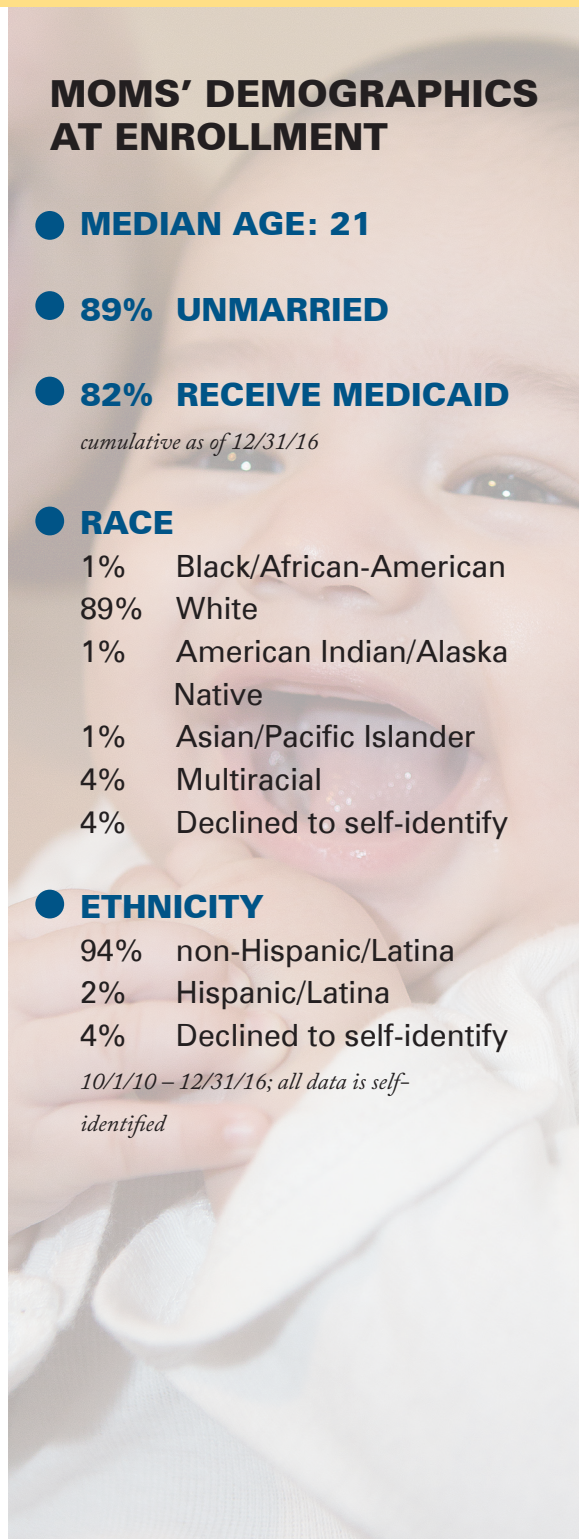
● RACE

- 1% Black/African-American
- 89% White
- 1% American Indian/Alaska Native
- 1% Asian/Pacific Islander
- 4% Multiracial
- 4% Declined to self-identify

● ETHNICITY

- 94% non-Hispanic/Latina
- 2% Hispanic/Latina
- 4% Declined to self-identify

10/1/10 – 12/31/16; all data is self-identified



Nurse-Family Partnership *in* Vermont

Established In 2012
691 Families Served
12 Counties Served
5 Agencies

Based on a review of 41 NFP evaluation studies, Dr. Ted Miller of the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation predicts that nationwide every dollar invested in NFP will yield a return on investment to government of \$4.50 and to society of \$6.50.

NFP IN VERMONT

The state of Vermont established the Children's Integrated Services (CIS), which is a framework for providing early childhood services and supports for pregnant or postpartum women and families with children from 0 to 6 years old. These services include nursing and family support that primarily focus on health promotion, prevention, physical health and development; specialized child care; early intervention; and early childhood and family mental health, with a primary focus on social-emotional development. The system utilizes a "no wrong door" philosophy and a coordinated team approach to facilitate service delivery for families that is seamless, holistic and family-centered.

As part of the Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program, Vermont chose to integrate evidence-based nurse home visiting into the menu of CIS services available to families. Nurse-Family Partnership is embedded in the statewide network of community-based home health agencies. The home health agencies that currently implement NFP include the Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice, the Franklin County Home Health Agency, the Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice, the Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice and the Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice of Vermont & New Hampshire. All five agencies have a long history of providing myriad health-related community supports and services, such as maternal child health and medically-focused nursing, rehabilitation, community wellness and prevention, psychiatric nursing and medical social work, among others.

The Vermont Department of Health functions as the lead agency for the MIECHV program and, in collaboration with the Vermont Department for Children and Families, designated Nurse-Family Partnership as its evidence-based home visiting model for this federal initiative. The state initially used formula funding to launch three NFP programs in Caledonia, Essex and Orleans Counties (known locally as "The Northeast Kingdom"), Franklin and Lamoille Counties, and Bennington and Rutland Counties.

In September 2012, Vermont was awarded a competitive MIECHV program grant that supported expansion to Orange, Washington, Windham and Windsor Counties—bringing service coverage to 12 of 14 counties. The state is actively seeking funding to bring the program to the two remaining counties. While NFP services are fully funded through the MIECHV program, state officials are exploring Medicaid and other funding options to support long-term sustainability.



NATIONAL RECOGNITION

"Programs such as the Nurse-Family Partnership — in which nurses visit first-time, low-income mothers to provide information on nutrition and parenting — may be a more focused (and cost-effective) way to increase the school readiness of at-risk kids."

Michael Gerson, "Discipline, With Love," The Washington Post, Oct. 2, 2014

"...the Nurse-Family Partnership, one of my favorite groups fighting poverty in America. It sends nurses on regular visits to at-risk first-time moms. The nurses warn about alcohol or drug abuse and encourage habits of attentive parenting, like reading to the child."

Nicholas Kristof, "Cuddle Your Kid!" The New York Times, Oct. 20, 2012

"Another example is the Department of Health and Human Services' Home Visiting Program. It funds evidence-based approaches to home visiting, such as the Nurse Family Partnership, to help first-time, low-income mothers ensure their children are healthy and ready to learn. As a result, more disadvantaged mothers are receiving quality help at a critical period in their children's lives."
- American Enterprise Institute, February 2017



National Service Office:
1900 Grant Street, Suite 400 • Denver, CO 80203-4304 • nursefamilypartnership.org

Interested in learning more about NFP in VT?
Please contact us at:
businessdevelopment@nursefamilypartnership.org