

Strengthen Families by Investing in Home Visiting

The statewide home visiting workgroup, comprised of New York State **maternal, infant and early childhood home visiting** programs and advocates, has compiled a joint budget ask to better support children and families across New York State in the 2016-17 SFY budget.

Maintain \$26.8 million and invest an additional \$11.5 million in maternal, infant, and early childhood home visiting to adequately fund a continuum of supports and services for families.

▶ Healthy Families New York (HFNY):

- **Maintain \$23.3 million** in funding.
- **Add \$4.5 million** in new funding to:
 - » restore \$3.5 million to 2008 funding levels. This funding will cover increased capacity at existing sites, workforce development and local level service enhancements (mental health, fatherhood, community coordination).
 - » \$700,000 to expand services in unserved areas (200 slots).
 - » \$300,000 to support a site not currently funded.

▶ Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP):

- **Maintain \$3.5 million** in funding.
- **Add \$2.5 million** to preserve current program sites as well as to support growth in new communities and/or expand existing teams.

▶ Parents as Teachers (PAT):

- **Invest \$3 million** in new funding to expand capacity to 1,000 families across the state.

▶ Parent-Child Home Program, Inc.:

- **Invest \$1.5 million** in new funding to expand capacity to 300 additional families across the state.



Home Visiting Makes a Difference



A story about Health Families New York

Mom, Dad and their 10-month-old son are a Healthy Families New York family. Mom and Dad were both in their early 20's when they began the program; the child is a very happy, healthy baby. In the early stages of visitation, Dad was seldom home for visits because of his work schedule, but the FSW was aware that Mom was keeping all handouts and sharing them with the father. His work schedule changed, so he began to be regularly involved. Parent-child interaction between Mom and baby and between Dad and baby is excellent, with lots of play, laughing, teaching, and reading. There is a great "dance" that goes on when they are together. Dad was observed playing with a 19-month-old baby girl from another family. He was holding her under the armpits, and "flipping" her. She was enjoying this immensely, and was laughing very loudly as they played together. The baby was watching his daddy play with the other baby, and he wanted to play as well. He crawled over to his father, and raised his arms to be picked up and flipped. The Dad looked down at him, put the little girl down and gave her a toy, picked up his son and said to him, "Daddy can't flip you like I did her. Your brain isn't developed enough yet to be tossing you around." Dad picked up an appropriate toy for his son, winked, and said, "Healthy Families taught me that"!

