

Michigan Department of Community Health and the

Great Start System Team

Affordable Care Act:

Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program

UPDATE

July 23, 2010

This is the third in a series of communications with individuals and organizations who are interested in Michigan's response to the *Affordable Care Act (ACA) Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)* that was issued by HHS on June 10, 2010. For detailed information about the requirements of this program, please go to <http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/UpdateOffer?id=19148> where you can view and download the FOA referenced above.

On July 22, 2010 the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and Administration for Children and Families (ACF) released their announcement regarding the opportunity for stakeholders to comment on how to assess evidence of effectiveness of home visiting program models. **Comments are due by August 17, 2010.** The Michigan Department of Community Health and the Great Start System Team will be working together to comment on the proposed criteria, and we strongly encourage all interested stakeholders to carefully review the proposed criteria and provide their own comments directly to HHS. Please see below for the text from the federal announcement.

Ongoing communications in this series of Updates about the Home Visiting program in Michigan will be distributed to interested stakeholders and posted on the following web sites:

- Maternal Infant Health Program web site at www.michigan.gov/mihp
- ECIC web site at www.greatstartforkids.org

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FEDERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and Administration for Children and Families (ACF) are soliciting comment on how to assess evidence of effectiveness of home visiting program models for pregnant women, parents and caregivers of children birth through kindergarten entry. A Federal Register Notice will be published in the Federal Register tomorrow. However, it is available for public inspection today at the Federal Register's "Public Inspection Desk" at http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2010-18013_PI.pdf. It can also be found by going to http://www.ofr.gov/inspection.aspx#spec_H and scrolling three-quarters of the way down the page to "Health Resources and Services Administration," where it is the first notice listed.

The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program, authorized by Section 511 of Title V, as amended by the Affordable Care Act, is designed to strengthen and improve home visiting programs, improve service coordination for at risk communities and identify and provide comprehensive evidence-based home visiting services to families who reside in at risk communities. The legislation specifies that 75% of program funds supporting home visiting services must be used to support "evidence-based" home visiting program models.

This Notice proposes criteria to be considered in assessing whether home visiting models have evidence of effectiveness and describes the methodology for a systematic review of evidence, applying the criteria proposed in the Notice. The final criteria for evidence of effectiveness of home visiting models will be included in the program announcement inviting eligible entities to apply for funding under the Affordable Care Act Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program.

The criteria proposed in the Notice apply only to the home visiting program for States and territories authorized by Section 511(c) of Title V. Based on a careful review of available research evidence on home visiting interventions with Tribal populations, the Secretary will issue a separate Notice proposing alternative evidence-based criteria for identifying home visiting models likely to improve outcomes for families in Tribal communities.