

# Health Access Nurturing Development Services



**KRS 211.690; STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 194A.050(1)** authorizes the Cabinet for Health Services to implement a voluntary statewide home visitation program for the purpose of providing assistance to at-risk parents during the prenatal period until the child's third birthday.

**02 KAR 4:120** establishes the eligibility criteria, services, provider qualifications, and hearing rights for participants of the Health Access Nurturing Development Services (HANDS) Program.

**FUNDING:** HANDS is funded through Kentucky's Master Tobacco Settlement at \$9 million; CHFS leverages this investment to receive an additional \$17 million in federal Medicaid funds. The majority of funds are used as Medicaid match and remainder supports services to families without Medicaid. This investment provides significant savings to the state through improved outcomes listed below. HANDS is carried out as a core public health service by local health departments and employs over 500 staff in 120 counties.

### GOALS of HANDS:

- Positive pregnancy outcomes
- Optimal child growth and development
- Children live in healthy/safe homes
- Family self sufficiency

**HOME VISITORS FOCUS ON:** Medical Homes, Immunizations / Well-Child, Home Safety Checklists, Developmental Screening, Basic Care, Child/Social Emotional/ Brain Development, Nurturing Parent Child Relationships and Strength Based Support to Families.

### ACTIVITY of HANDS (FY 2000 - FY14):

ACTIVITIES of HANDS	FY14	FY 00 – FY 14
Families Receiving Services	8,517	71,671
Assessments	5,147	76,877
Home Visits	149,804	1,866,499
TOTAL Services	154,951	1,943,376

### MOST RECENT EVALUATION:

All studies are based on 1+ prenatal HANDS visits versus families that did not enter HANDS.  
Evaluators - UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY RESEARCH FOUNDATION; data from July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012; n=4,506.

#### MATERNAL OUTCOMES:

- **ADEQUATE PRENATAL CARE** – 14% more than similar high risk families that did not participate
- **PREGNANCY-INDUCED HYPERTENSION** – 49% less than similar high risk families that did not participate
- **MATERNAL COMPLICATIONS DURING PREGNANCY** – 40% less than similar high risk families that did not participate

#### CHILD OUTCOMES:

- **PREMATURITY** – 26% less than similar high risk families that did not participate
- **LOW BIRTH WEIGHT INFANTS** - 46% less than similar high risk families that did not participate
- **INFANT DECEASED IN HOSPITAL** – 94% less than similar high risk families that did not participate
- **CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT** – 47% less than similar high risk families that did not participate

### PREVIOUS OUTCOME STUDIES:

All studies based on 1+ prenatal HANDS visits; Evaluators: [UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY RESEARCHERS](#)\*- data from 2008 HANDS participants; n=5,034, [REACH of Louisville](#)\*\* - data from 2005-2009 HANDS participants; n=21,436

- **INFANT MORTALITY - 74% less likely than STATEWIDE\*\***

Comparison of HANDS and Non-HANDS ER utilization rates (2004-2006), of 104 counties studied, HANDS recipients demonstrated lower rates of ER usage in all but two counties.

- **ER VISITS** – 50% LESS LIKELY THAN STATEWIDE
- **EDUCATION**- 26% improvement
- **EMPLOYMENT** - 14% initially to 28% at the end of intervention



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