

# WASHINGTON STATE HOME VISITING COALITION

## HOME VISITING: IMPROVES LIVES, SAVES MONEY

### 2017-19 Budget Request

Invest \$2.7 million in state funding to sustain 210 slots a year (\$1.4 million) and expand to an additional 180 slots in 2018-19 (\$1.3 million).



### Why Home Visiting?

**EARLY TRAUMA** ---> **ALTERS BRAIN** ---> **NEGATIVE HEALTH IMPACTS**

Early trauma (ranging from abuse or neglect to growing up around drug/alcohol abuse) has a profound impact on later health by inducing chronic stress and changing the way the brain behaves. 23% of American children have experienced at least two traumatic events, which range from abuse or neglect, to parental divorce, to witnessing violence or drug abuse. Children who have experienced emotional or physical trauma are **1.5 times more likely to abuse drugs and twice as likely to commit a crime later in life.** (Council for a Strong America, Citizen-Readiness Index, September 2016).

**Voluntary home visiting successfully reduces childhood trauma with incredible results.** In voluntary home visiting, a trained educator helps a family who needs support in developing basic parenting skills. Home visitors educate expectant and new parents about prenatal care, infant care, child development and parenting skills.

Rigorous research has tested and proven the benefits of evidence-based home visiting programs. While outcomes vary depending on which home visiting model is used, programs supported in Washington state may result in:

- **Reduced child abuse and neglect and need for child welfare services**
- **Healthier births**
- **Increased preschool and kindergarten readiness**
- **Improved public safety**
- **Significant return on investment**

**HOME VISITING PROGRAMS**



**50%**  
**LOWER LIKELIHOOD CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

**Coalition Members:** American Indian Health Commission of Washington State • Children's Alliance • Children's Home Society of Washington • Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Washington • Mission: Readiness • Nurse-Family Partnership • Parent-Child Home Program • Parent Trust for Washington Children • Parents as Teachers • Partners for Our Children • Patrick Dunn & Associates • ReadyNation • United Way of King County • Washington Chapter America Academy of Pediatrics • Washington State Association of Head Start and ECEAP

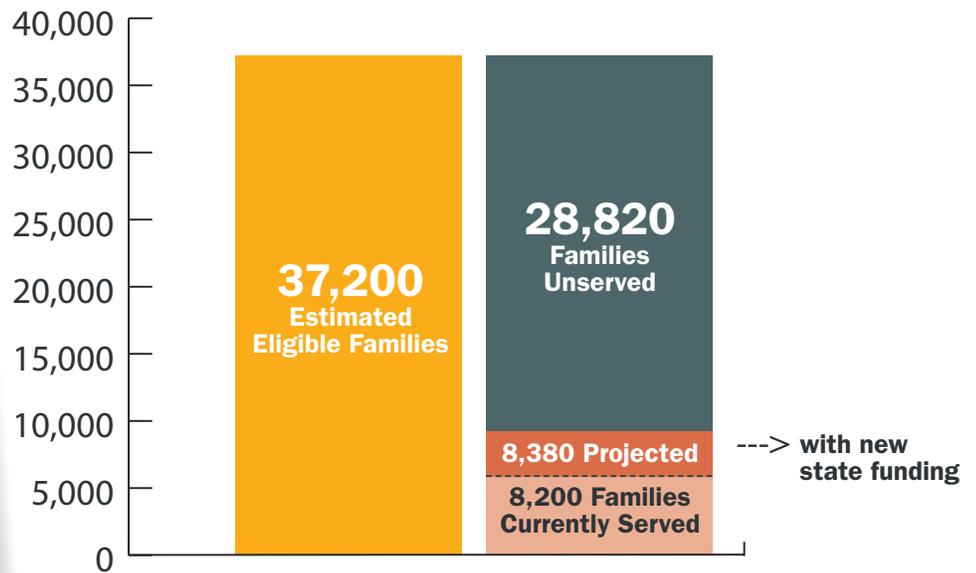
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## What is the Need in Washington?

- Currently, less than 25% of eligible families are served by voluntary home visiting programs in our state through a combination of state, federal, local and private funds.
- The Department of Early Learning estimates that as many as 37,200 low-income families are age and income eligible and may choose to participate in a home visiting program if available in their community.
- Eligibility is currently defined as families at or below 200% of the federal poverty level (\$40,320 for a family of three), with a child age 3 or younger.
- Current funding only serves 8,200 families, leaving 29,000 unserved.



### Less Than 25% of Eligible Families Served



### Primary Home Visiting Funding: 2015-17 Biennium

Federal	<b>\$68.64 million</b>
State	<b>\$8.9 million</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$77.54 million</b>

\*Federal and state funds are augmented by private and local investments.

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