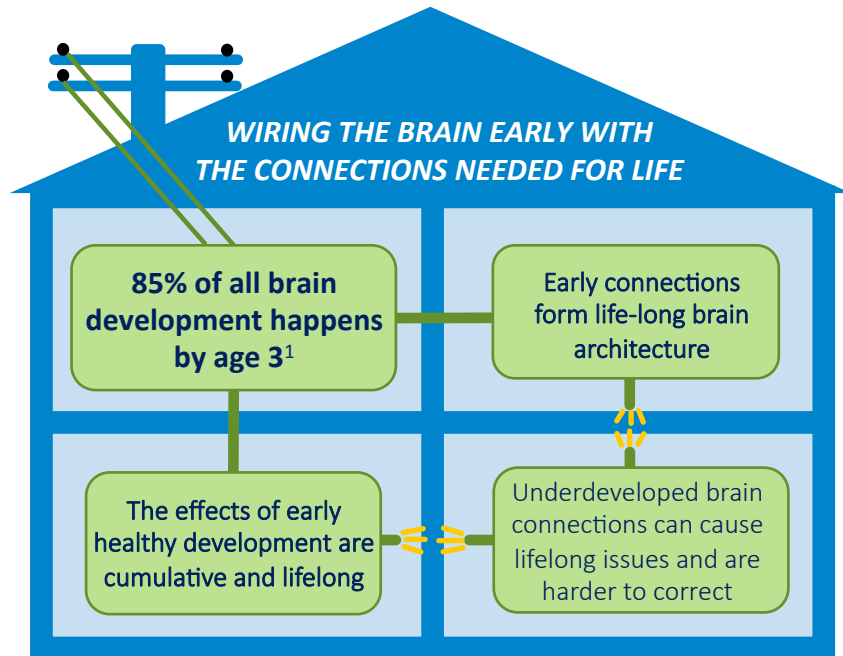


# Targeted Home Visiting: Invest In Our Future When It Matters Most

The first three years of a child's life are critical to making sure everyone has the opportunity to live happy, healthy, fulfilling lives.

Children who meet healthy physical and cognitive development benchmarks during the first three years are more likely to be prepared for school, have stronger relationships, and ultimately have healthier, more stable and prosperous lives.



## It's all about parent-child relationships

During the first three years of life, a positive, healthy relationship with a parent or caregiving figure is the most important factor for successful development<sup>2</sup>. These relationships not only provide a safe and healthy environment for physical growth, but also positive interactions that support healthy emotional and social development, and learning.



# 1 in 3

**infants and toddlers live in poverty in Minnesota<sup>3</sup>**

Research shows financially stressed families are more likely to have strain and instability that pressures relationships between parent and child.<sup>4</sup>

## Why Targeted Home Visiting?

Home visiting provides voluntary stabilizing support for at-risk families where they are most comfortable, at home and in their community. Trained professionals, and paraprofessionals, provide parents with the tools they need, empowering them to support their family and child, from pre-natal and pediatric health care to establishing connections to social and community services.

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## Everyone Wins When Families Stay on Track

High quality home visiting programs are proven to be one of the best ways to support strong early development because they promote long-term self-sufficiency by strengthening or restoring the critical family and social structure for parents and children.

Everyone benefits when all families stay on track, and high quality targeted home visiting programs are proven to deliver those results.

Studies of national evidence-based models show improved outcomes in child health, child development, maternal life course and child abuse prevention.

### Improved child health & development

- 18% higher k-readiness<sup>5</sup>

### Improved material outcomes

- Significant decrease in maternal depression among high risk mothers<sup>6</sup>
- 37% increase in material employment<sup>7</sup>

### Decreases in child abuse or maltreatment

- Decrease in child maltreatment and abuse<sup>7</sup>

## Targeting Home Visiting Coalition Vision

*All Minnesota families of children age prenatal to three who are at risk for poor mental health, physical health, social, and educational outcomes will have access to intensive, targeted home visiting services to help them succeed in school and in life. Services will be voluntary, high-quality, outcome-focused, and tailored to the resources in each community.*

## Policy Agenda

### Goals:

- Increase quality among all providers of targeted home visiting services
- Increase access to high quality targeted home visiting services for families at risk (e.g., teens, children at risk of abuse/neglect)

### 2016 Legislative Platform:

1. Advocate for funding of pilot projects to expand targeted home visiting services using new statewide quality standards for evidence-informed programs.
2. Seek funding to implement baseline training for new home visitors authorized by the 2015 Legislature.
3. Support increasing Medicaid reimbursement rate for targeted home visiting with public health nurses.



### Citations

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7. Home Visiting: Recent Program Evaluations. 9 (1), 1999.