

YMCA
Community
&
Housing
Initiatives



## **Importance of Early Intervention**

The early years of a child's life are a critical developmental period. Interventions during this time can create a foundation for future success. Effective Home Visiting starts early — prenatally or postpartum — to reach families when they are most receptive to information. Priority will be given to admission of parents-to-be and families with children under three months of age.

For More Information Contact:

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## **Scope of Services:**

The program's entry target is parents-to-be and families with children under three months old, however families with children up to two years of age may be admitted as resources allow. Once eligible for the program, services can be provided until the child reaches six years of age.

Services can be provided weekly, with visits ranging from one to two hours.

#### **Entrance Criteria:**

Entry to the program is voluntary and free of cost. Families are empowered to set their own goals and make decisions based on their own best interests.

#### **Services Offered by Home Visitation Workers:**

#### Promote positive parent-child relationships

Home visitation workers model positive parenting practices and help parents learn to interact with their children in developmentally appropriate ways.

### Improve parenting knowledge and skills

Home Visitation Program provides parents with information about child development, nutrition, safety, injury prevention, appropriate discipline, good communication, problem-solving, and other skills to help their children reach their full potential.

#### **Promote family wellness**

By providing information, support, and linking families with their communities, Home Visitation Workers help families cope with the challenges of raising children.

#### Encourage healthy child development

By helping parents create a safe, stimulating home environment, Home Visitation Program helps to give children a healthy start in life.

# Help families access a network of formal and informal services and supports available in their own communities

Connecting families with community supports reduces isolation. Home Visitation Workers help families build their own support networks and become more self-reliant.

## Help build strong communities

By building community-based partnerships to meet the needs of the family and children, Home Visitation Programs enhance their communities' capacity to plan and deliver services for families with young children