

The State Home Visiting Advisory Group Role & Responsibilities

The Florida Home Visiting Advisory Group was established to oversee system development activities, specifically the statewide implementation of Coordinated Intake & Referral (CI&R) through the state's Healthy Start program.

The Advisory Group includes representatives of the state's major home visiting programs, including Nurse-Family Partnership, Healthy Families Florida, Parents as Teachers, Early Head Start, Healthy Start, and Early Steps, as well as state agencies and funders. Meetings are staffed and coordinated by Florida MIECHV and the Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions.

Foundational values of the group, identified by members include:

- The importance of using data to improve the system of care;
- The value of implementing parallel processes – modeling expectations for relationship building at both the state and local levels;
- Recognition that participation in CI&R included reciprocal responsibilities – FAHSC/Healthy Start will facilitate referrals and provide access to the system, but home visiting program partners are expected to update information on program capacity and disposition of referrals which is critical to ensuring a feedback loop.

Members prioritized the following activities:

- Examination of statewide data, including information on program capacity;
- Identification of system improvement opportunities;
- Establishment of baseline data to measure system effectiveness;
- Comparison of CI&R information with internal program data;
- Provision of consistent guidance and reinforcement to local programs, including behavioral changes needed to move away from volume to quality referrals that result in successful engagement and retention;
- Joint problem solving when issues arise at the local level.

In addition to its oversight role in the statewide implementation of CI&R, the group will also be used as a forum for sharing information and collaborating on projects and policy development to improve the delivery of home visiting and other early childhood services in Florida.

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