



Fayette County

May 2011

Health Beat

Healthy Choices • Healthy People • Healthy Communities

Healthy Families

What is the Healthy Families America Initiative? Healthy Families America (HFA) is a national initiative to help parents of newborns get their children off to a healthy start. Participation in HFA services is *strictly voluntary*. HFA offers home visiting and other services to families in over 450 communities, with a ninety percent acceptance rate. In 1992, Prevent Child Abuse America, formerly known as the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, launched Healthy Families America in partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities. The initiative promotes positive parenting and child health and development.

According to a report released by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, “the earliest years of a child’s life are society’s most neglected age group, yet new evidence confirms that these years lay the foundation for all that follows.”¹ Programs that begin working with parents right after birth stand the greatest chance of reducing the risk of child abuse for several reasons:

1. new parents are eager and excited to learn about caring for their babies;
2. positive parenting practices are supported before patterns are established;
3. children need to be immunized from childhood disease during the first two years of life;
4. the most critical brain development occurs during the first few years of life.

Who are HFA’s Partners? HFA programs collaborate with other family support organizations to most effectively utilize scarce resources, provide a comprehensive array of services to families, and avoid duplication of services. Prevent Child Abuse America and national partners such as the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Association of Children’s Hospitals and Related Institutions, the National Head Start Association and the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, have been collaborating to facilitate partnerships among state and local affiliates so that services will be available for families with young children.

What are Healthy Families America’s Critical Elements? All HFA programs adhere to a series of Critical Elements, which represent the field’s most current knowledge about implementing successful home visitation programs. Critical Elements serve as the framework for program development and implementation.

Service Initiation

- Initiate services parentally or at birth.
- Use a standardized assessment tool to systematically identify families who are most in need of services.
- Offer services voluntarily and use positive outreach efforts to build family trust.

Service Content

- Offer services to participating families over the long term (i.e., three to five years), using well-defined criteria for increasing or decreasing frequency of services.
- Services should be culturally competent; materials used should reflect the diversity of the population served.
- Services are comprehensive, focusing on supporting the parent as well as supporting parent-child interaction and child development.
- All families should be linked to a medical provider; they may also be linked to additional services.
- Staff members should have limited caseloads.

Staff Characteristics

- Service providers are selected based on their ability to establish a trusting relationship.
- All service providers should receive basic training in areas such as infants, and services in their community.
- Service providers should receive thorough training specific to their role to understand the essential components of family assessment and home visitation. cultural competency, substance abuse, reporting child abuse, domestic violence, drug-exposed infants, and services in their community.
- Service providers should receive thorough training specific to their role to understand the essential components of family assessment and home visitation.

1. Starting Points: Meeting the Needs of our Youngest Children. (New York: Carnegie Corporation of New York) April, 1994.

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April 2011 Statistics



**Fayette County
Health Department**
416 W. Edwards
Vandalia, IL 62471

Phone:

Main # (618)-283-1044
WIC 283-5037
Home Health 283-7262

Fax:

WIC 618-283-4195
Admin 618-283-5038
Home Health 618-283-5039



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Clinics

By Appointment Only

Tuesdays 8:00-12:00
1:00-4:00

- Lab Clinic
- Adult & Adolescent Immunizations
- TB Testing

Fridays (Schedule Varies)

- Children's Immunizations
- TB Assessments
- Lead Screenings

Family & Clinical Services

WIC

Active WIC Clients.....	775
WIC Services.....	247
Breast Feeding Contacts.....	120
Breast Feeding Peer Counseling.....	97

Family Case Management

Active Families.....	312
EPSDTs.....	53
Pregnancy Tests.....	5
ASQ:SE.....	134
Edinburghs.....	35
Developmental Screenings.....	158
Home Visits.....	2
APORS Visits.....	5
Healthwork Clients.....	17

Healthy Families Illinois

Families Served.....	38
Home Visits.....	83
Assessments.....	14

Doula

Families Served.....	16
Home Visits.....	23
Doula Assisted Deliveries.....	3

TPS

Clients.....	17
Graduated High School/GED.....	0

Genetics

Screenings.....	25
Clinics.....	0
Patients Seen In Clinic.....	0
Paternity Testing.....	0

Immunizations

Children.....	371
Adult.....	6
Lab Draws.....	24
Adult Injections.....	8

Lead

Lead Screenings.....	17
Active Lead Cases.....	2

Flu

Clinics.....	0
AdultFlu Vaccinations.....	0
Pneumonia Vaccinations.....	1
Child Flu Vaccinations.....	0
Child Flu Mist.....	0

Diabetes

Diabetes Participants.....	369
New Participants Enrolled.....	0
Annual Follow Ups.....	23

Smoking Cessation

New Break the Habit Smoking Cessation ..	
Clients.....	1
Tobacco Quitline Calls.....	38

Communicable Disease

New Cases.....	1
Cases Closed.....	2

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

STD Cases Received & Reported.....	1
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Tuberculosis

Investigations.....	0
New Prophylactic Patients.....	0
New Active Cases	0
TB Tests.....	16
TB Screenings.....	8

HOME HEALTH

Number of Current Patients.....	60
Total Served	80
Total Number of Visits	570
Foot Care.....	55

HOSPICE

Number of Patients	8
Number of Volunteers.....	18
Families in Bereavement	154

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Food Safety

Inspections.....	19
Re-Inspections	3
Spot Checks.....	0
Complaints	4
Pre-Openings.....	1
Permits Issued	13
On-line Course	1

Tanning

Inspections.....	2
Re-Inspections	0

Private Sewage

Plan Approvals	5
Installations.....	7

Potable Water

Wells Permitted.....	2
Wells Constructed.....	1
Water Samples	3
Non-Community	0

Complaints

Sewage Complaints	10
Nuisance Complaints	4
Resolved Complaints.....	1
Referred Complaints	6

Wells Sealed.....

12

Real Estate Surveys.....

0

Vandalia Lake.....0

West Nile Bird Submission.....

0

Subdivision Review.....

0

Rabies Specimen Submission.....

0