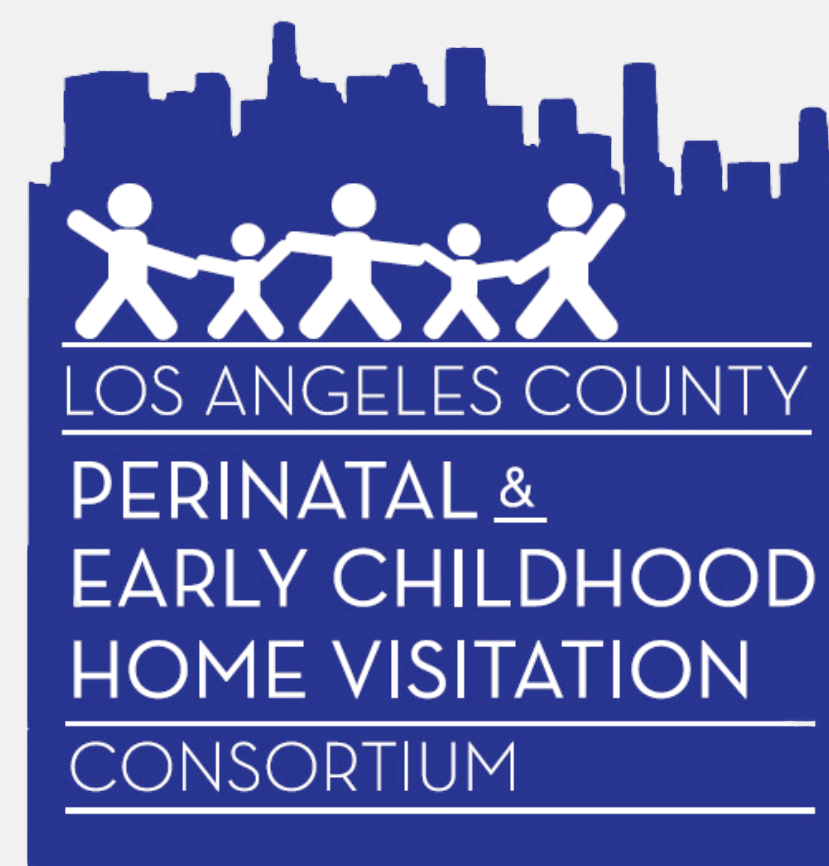




How Home Visiting Supports Immigrant Families in Los Angeles County



Laurel Murray, Policy Specialist &
Lynnette Marquez, Policy Administrative Assistant

LA Best Babies Network
Los Angeles, California



INTRODUCTION

Immigrant families across the county, state and country are experiencing heightened fear, uncertainty, and barriers to accessing health and social services. Home visiting programs have emerged as trusted, relationship-based interventions that help families remain connected to critical supports while reducing the impacts of toxic stress.

This poster highlights the incredible work that home visiting programs are doing to support immigrant families in Los Angeles County.

It also explains how the LA County Home Visiting Consortium supports the heroes who are doing this important work.

DEMOGRAPHICS

LA County is home to over 3 million immigrants. In 2023, California was home to over 205,000 lawful residents who were living with undocumented family members.

About 89% to 92% of children with immigrant parents in the Los Angeles metro area were born in the United States and are U.S. citizens.

Currently in California, it is estimated that 1.1 million children have at least one parent who is undocumented, and about 18% of Angelenos live in mixed status families.

According to KidsData.org, there are more than 560,000 children ages 0 to 5 in Los Angeles County, and in FY 2023-24, more than 31,000 children received home visiting services through the Consortium's network of programs.

WHAT IS THE CONSORTIUM?

The Los Angeles County Perinatal and Early Childhood Home Visitation Consortium is a collective body made up of more than 60 member organizations focused on parental and child health.

The Consortium coordinates cross-sector collaboration, disseminates policy guidance, builds workforce capacity, creates peer learning opportunities, and elevates frontline experiences into policy discussions.

LA Best Babies Network provides backbone support for the Consortium and supports dozens of home visiting programs and hundreds of home visitors through training, technical assistance, communications, and policy and advocacy.

HOW HOME VISITORS HELP

Responding to community needs:

- Arranging to drop off food to families that are scared to leave their homes
- Providing families with "Red Cards" with valuable information on their civil rights
- Being flexible and consistent with visits
- Referrals, coordination and connections to trusted resources

Trauma informed, compassionate care:

- Strengths-based encouragement
- Nonjudgmental support
- Culturally inclusive and respectful

Reliable sources of information to help parents make informed decisions:

- Home visitors are uniquely positioned to be trusted, consistent resources for families, especially during periods of fear and uncertainty

Home visiting programs are for ALL families:

- Programs support all families, regardless of immigration status

The two-generation approach improves outcomes for families in many ways:

- Child health, development and school readiness
- Parental resiliency and mental health
- Home safety and emergency preparedness planning

STORY FROM THE FIELD

"When the ICE raids started last year, many of our families were skipping doctor's appointments due to fears of being detained. I had one mom in particular who was very fearful to go to appointments for herself and her baby, so I explained that ICE cannot go into doctors' offices. I also suggested that she have her partner drop her off and pick her up right at the front door of the clinic. That way they would not be out for too long. The family felt confident in this suggestion, so they no longer needed to skip appointments for mom and baby." - Arlene, Parent Coach Supervisor

HOW THE CONSORTIUM SUPPORTS HOME VISITORS

Training: Multiple trainings on immigrant rights and how to support immigrant and mixed-status families, including a 3-part series from Neighborhood Legal Services LA:

1. "Supporting Immigrant Families: Access to Benefits & Resources Through a Public Charge Lens" (392 registrants)
2. "Immigration Legal Framework and Referral Process" (442 registrants)
3. "Immigrant Workers' Rights and Finding Work" (444 registrants)

Resource sharing: Equipping home visitors with reliable, up-to-date information to share with their clients

Advocacy: Sharing opportunities for organizations to sign onto letters that support immigrant families; social media campaigns to raise awareness of immigrant experiences; tracking legislation that impacts immigrant families

Support: Creating safe spaces for home visitors and Consortium members to share their experiences and to get support from colleagues

WHY IT MATTERS

From a Policy Standpoint:

Policies like the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R. 1), which represents the largest cuts to health care and food assistance in U.S. history, have chilling effects among immigrants and their families. New work requirements, more frequent eligibility redeterminations, and immigration-based restrictions are creating enrollment barriers and fears, even among families who remain legally eligible for benefits.

Research from the Urban Institute shows these kinds of policy shifts produce a measurable chilling effect: eligible families increasingly forgo services such as routine medical appointments and food assistance programs due to fear of immigration enforcement consequences.

Adverse Childhood Experiences:

ACEs research links early exposure to toxic and/or chronic stress and instability, including immigration-related fear, to measurable, long-term impacts on child development and health outcomes.

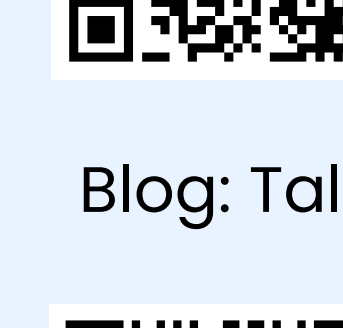


ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

The Stronger Families Blog: Support Resources for Immigrant Families in L.A. County



The Consortium's Resources for Parents



Blog: Talking to Kids About ICE and Immigration



Recap and Resources from the Consortium's Immigrant Rights Training Series

For more information, visit www.HomeVisitingLA.org



@homevisitingla
@labestbabies

LA BEST BABIES NETWORK
Healthy Babies. Our Future.

Dignity Health.
California Hospital
Medical Center