



**STATE PROFILE 2012**



**NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP IN CALIFORNIA**

Nurse-Family Partnership® (NFP) is an evidence-based, community health program that helps transform the lives of vulnerable mothers pregnant with their first child. Each mother served by NFP is partnered with a registered nurse early in her pregnancy and receives ongoing nurse home visits that continue through her child’s second birthday. Independent research proves that communities benefit from this relationship — every dollar invested in Nurse-Family Partnership can yield up to five dollars in return.

**NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP GOALS**

1. Improve pregnancy outcomes by helping women engage in good preventive health practices, including thorough prenatal care from their healthcare providers, improving their diets, and reducing their use of cigarettes, alcohol and illegal substances;
2. Improve child health and development by helping parents provide responsible and competent care; and
3. Improve the economic self-sufficiency of the family by helping parents develop a vision for their own future, plan future pregnancies, continue their education and find work.

**Positive Outcomes for Clients Served by California’s Nurse-Family Partnership**

**92%** of babies were born full term and 93% were born at a healthy weight - at or above 2500 g (5.5 lbs)

**89%** of children received all recommended immunizations by 24 months

**38%** of mothers who entered the program without a diploma/GED have since earned on and 26% are working to obtain one

**89%** of mothers initiated breastfeeding and 36% continue to breastfeed at child age 6 months

**CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS**

**At intake**

- Median age: 19
- 86% Unmarried
- 64% Medicaid recipients
- Cumulative data as of Sept. 30, 2011

**Race**

- 45% White
- 34% Declined to self-identify/No response
- 10% Black or African American
- 4% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- 3% Multi-racial
- 2% American Indian/Alaska Native
- 2% Asian

**Ethnicity**

- 61% Hispanic/Latina
- 32% Non-Hispanic/Latina
- 7% Declined to self-identify/No response

Data Oct. 1, 2010 - Sept. 30, 2011.  
All data is client self-identified.



In California, Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) programs are implemented by county public health departments serving families in 12 counties: Fresno, Humboldt, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Diego (Central, East, North Central, North Coastal, North Inland and South sites), San Luis Obispo, Santa Clara, Solano and Sonoma.

#### IMPLEMENTING AGENCY CONTEXT

The first California Nurse-Family Partnership Implementing Agencies were launched in 1996 in Fresno, Los Angeles, and Alameda Counties using the Department of Justice's Weed and Seed strategy funding. The successful implementation of these initial NFP pilot sites demonstrated to other California communities that it was possible to replicate a scientific-based health strategy while also tailoring the program to meet the needs of each community.



#### FUNDING AND POLITICAL CONTEXT

Funding for the California Nurse-Family Partnership comes from an array of sources including: Medicaid (TCM), Prop 10, Prop 63, Realignment, County General Funds, Maternal & Child Health funds (MCH), Healthy Start, Federal Financial Participation (FFP), Agency for Children and Families (ACF), United Healthcare/PacifiCare, The California Wellness Foundation, and PIMCO.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM WITH PROVEN AND MEASURABLE RESULTS

##### Societal Benefits

Nurse-Family Partnership is a rare community health programs that is based on evidence from randomized, controlled trials — more than 30 years of research proves that it works. This evidence shows our clients — eligible first-time mothers — that if they follow the program and work with their nurse, they can transform their lives and the lives of their children. Moreover, independent policy research makes clear that every public health dollar policymakers and communities invest in Nurse-Family Partnership could realize up to five dollars in return.

##### National Recognition

- The Washington State Institute for Public Policy, The RAND Corporation and The Brookings Institution have concluded that investments in Nurse-Family Partnership can lead to significant returns to society and government, giving taxpayers a \$2.88-\$5.70 return per dollar invested in the program.
- The Partnership for America's Economic Success finds investments in early childhood programs, such as Nurse-Family Partnership, to be stronger investments than state business subsidies when viewed from a long-term, national perspective.
- The Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence reviewed over 650 programs with published research in peer-reviewed literature. Nurse-Family Partnership is one of only 6% of the programs that clearly work, or even appear promising. The Center fully supports and endorses NFP as one of its "Blueprints" programs.
- The non-profit, non-partisan Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy finds "strong evidence of effects on life outcomes of children and mothers" by Nurse-Family Partnership.

ESTABLISHED: 1996  
FAMILIES SERVED: 12,232



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