



## STATE PROFILE 2010



### CHILDREN FIRST - OKLAHOMA'S NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

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 more than 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 Oklahoma's Nurse-Family Partnership

**91%** of children were born full term

**88%** of children were born at a healthy weight - at or above 2500 g (5.5 lbs)

**83%** of mothers initiated breastfeeding

The Children First infant mortality rate is half the rate of other Oklahoma first-time births (3.4 vs. 8.2 deaths per 100,000 live births)

#### CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS

##### At intake

Median age: 19

81% Unmarried

55% Medicaid recipients

50% Non-Hispanic White

17% Hispanic

14% African American

10% Native American

7% Multiracial/other

1% Asian

\* Non-cumulative data July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009



Oklahoma's Nurse-Family Partnership is considered a statewide initiative. Clients were enrolled in 74 of 77 counties during the state's 2008 fiscal year.

#### IMPLEMENTING AGENCY CONTEXT

In Oklahoma, Nurse-Family Partnership is known as "Children First – Oklahoma's Nurse-Family Partnership" and is delivered through Oklahoma's County Health Department System.

The program is implemented by county health departments throughout the state and two independent city/county health departments in Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Program support is provided by the Children First program staff based in the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

#### FUNDING CONTEXT

The Nurse-Family Partnership program began as a pilot in four counties in 1997 and grew to serve all counties by 1998. In 2009, NFP received \$11.5 million in general revenue from the State Legislature. An additional \$1 million from Medicaid reimbursement for Nursing Assessment funds the program, which served 4,590 families (including 2,464 new families) during the state's 2008 fiscal year.

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

##### Societal Benefits

Nurse-Family Partnership is a rare community health program that has been documented to achieve lasting significant effects through multiple, well-designed randomized, controlled trials. Thirty years of research proves that it

works. This evidence shows our clients – low-income, 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 more than 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 lead to significant returns to society and government, giving taxpayers a \$2.88-5.70 return per dollar invested in the program.



- Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) recognizes Nurse-Family Partnership as an Exemplary Model Program.
- The Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy identifies Nurse-Family Partnership as one of only two early childhood programs that meet its "Top Tier" evidence of effectiveness.
- 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 11 "Blueprints" programs, or 6% of the programs, that clearly work or even appear promising.

ESTABLISHED: 1996  
FAMILIES SERVED: 34,122



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