Home Visiting 101: The Importance of Home Visiting
Learning Guide for Ongoing Professional Development

Note to Learner: Early Impact Virginia encourages you to complete the training and activities with the support of your supervisor. The notes below will guide you in preparing to take the training, following up with your supervisor after the training, supporting transfer of learning into daily practice, and extending learning through individual supervision.

Ongoing: View the Professional Development Program and each EIV training module as an investment in skills and knowledge to help improve home visitor effectiveness.

Before the training:
- Learner and supervisor review course objectives and home visitor competencies
- Learner rates knowledge of learning objectives

During the training, the learner:
- Completes activities
- Reflects on own response
- Identifies questions and concerns
- Prints Reflective Responses to share with supervisor
- Completes post-training evaluation

After the training:
- Learner:
  - Rates knowledge of learning objectives
  - Completes post-training activities, as required
  - Develops an action plan for applying skills and knowledge in daily practice
  - Meets with supervisor to:
    - Review pre- and post-training activities
    - Discuss reflections, questions, and concerns
    - Review action plan for applying skills and knowledge in daily practice
    - Assess personal learning goals, transfer of learning, and action plan

This 45-minute online module introduces the profession of home visiting and its importance for children, parents and families. It provides information about early brain development, toxic stress, ACEs and protective factors. The module includes a description of Virginia home visiting programs as part of a larger system of care for children and families. The module also includes guidance for developing a resource and referral tool kit through community mapping.
Virginia Home Visitor Competencies Addressed:
1.1.a. Recognizes the parent/caregiver-child relationship is the foundation of early development.
1.1.b. Describes the importance of early parent/caregiver-child relationships and consistent, responsive interactions in building relationships that promote health, development, and learning.
1.2.b. Understands and explains the ways in which the parenting role is influenced by a parent’s own experiences as a child.
2.3.a. Explains how various factors such as parents’ mental and physical health, poverty, child abuse and neglect, culture, the mother’s prenatal care and experiences, and early substance exposure affects the child’s development, well-being, and brain development.
3.1.a. Recognizes and communicates the importance of social support, social connections, and community involvement to family well-being.
3.1.b. Increases awareness of family resources within the community and the ways in which to access these resources.
6.8.a. Uses referral skills to assist families in accessing and effectively using a broad range of community resources as well as in developing informal support systems to meet their needs.
6.8.b. Demonstrates a working knowledge of community resources, including formal social institutions and informal networks in the community that provide social, financial, health, and other services to children and families.
6.8.c. Collaborates and communicates with other service agencies to ensure that the child and family receive services for which they are eligible and that the services are coordinated.

Before the Training

Rate Your Knowledge (Scale of 0 to 5, 0 = no knowledge, 5 = significant knowledge)

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<tr>
<th>Learning Objective</th>
<th>Before the Training</th>
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<td>Describe the importance of home visiting.</td>
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<td>Describe the benefits of a Maternal Child Health Continuum of Care.</td>
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<td>Describe Virginia’s system of home visiting, including Early Impact Virginia as a resource.</td>
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<td>List ways that individual home visitors can enhance collaboration in their communities to better serve children and families.</td>
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My personal learning goals for this training are:
1._______________________________________________________________________
2._______________________________________________________________________
3._______________________________________________________________________
After the Training

Reflections on what I learned:

Questions and concerns I identified:

Develop a Resource and Referral Tool Kit. Map your local community resources, using:
- Community Mapping Tool (pages 4 and 5)
- Virginia 2-1-1
- Early Impact Virginia Directory of Home Visiting Programs

Interview twelve (12) community resources using the list of questions provided (page 6).

Action Plan: (Each learner’s plan will be unique. To get you started, some ideas are listed below.) As a result of this training, I will...
- Teach parents about the importance of brain development, “serve and return” and reduction of toxic stress.
- Address protective factors during home visits.
- Develop a family-friendly list of community resources.
- Plan collaborative team meetings with families and the other agencies who serve them.

My Action Plan

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<th>Action</th>
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Post-Training Homework Assignment

1. Map local community resources and identify how they could meet a family's needs

2. Visit the Virginia 211 information and referral website and search for services in your community (http://www3.irissoft.com/rich/)

3. Discuss with your supervisor-mentor the importance of helping families locate community resources.

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Virginia 2-1-1
Get Connected. Get Answers

2-1-1 VIRGINIA provides a wide variety of free health and human service referrals. Search our database by category and geographic area. Or, you can talk with a certified call specialist by dialing 2-1-1 toll free, seven days a week from 8:30 a.m. to midnight.

In many cases, people end up going without needed assistance because they don't know who to ask or where to begin. Get started on your search with 2-1-1 VIRGINIA!

http://www.211virginia.org

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About Community Mapping

When we don’t know how to reach a destination or where we can find what we’re looking for, a map helps us find our way.

Using a map, we can locate where we are, and the possible routes we could take to our destination. When you hear the word "mapping" you probably think of a traditional street map that tells you where something is located and how to get there.

Community mapping does the same thing, except it helps you locate resources in your community.
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Community Resources

- VA 211
- Education & Vocational Services

- VA 211
- Safety & Crisis Support

- VA 211
- Food & Transportation

- VA 211
- Shelter & Housing

- VA 211
- Health & Medical Care

- VA 211
- Fuel & Utilities

Health Education Design Group, IIHHS, James Madison University, 2017
Questions to Ask Representatives of Community Resources

1. What is your contact information?

2. Where are you located?

3. What are your hours of operation?

4. Who is your target population?

5. What are your eligibility requirements?

6. What is the charge for your services?

7. Does Medicaid and/or private insurance cover the services you provide?

8. Who can make a referral? Can individuals self-refer?

9. How can I make a referral? Are there specific forms I should use?

10. Do you offer services to families who do not speak English?

11. Do you provide interpreters or resources in other languages?

12. Do you have any informational brochures I can share with clients?