



State of Alaska Department of Health



Division of Public Health

Section of Women's, Children's & Family Health

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Home Visiting in Alaska

- The Department of Health is the home of the federal Maternal Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program
- Data Analyst time is shared between home visiting programs
- Allows for greater alignment and coordination to support evidence-based home visiting services statewide
- Home visiting services align with Title V Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) reporting requirements
- Shared training and communication
 - Weekly listserv
 - Home Visiting ECHO
 - Home Visiting Summit
 - Home Visiting Alliance



Overview

State of Alaska Parents as Teachers (PAT)
Program as an Evidence-Based Model



What is Parents as Teachers?

Parents as Teachers is:

- **Voluntary**
- Free of costs for families
- Evidence-based home visiting
- Promotes the optimal early development, learning and health of children
- Supports and engages parents and caregivers
- Prenatally through kindergarten
- Located in various types of organizations including, health departments, nonprofit organizations, hospitals, and school districts



Parents as Teachers as an Evidence-Based Model

Parents as Teachers National supports three types of programs that are found in Alaska:

1. Subscribers
2. Partners
3. Affiliates – only Affiliates are considered evidence-based



Parents as Teachers as an Evidence-Based Model

FOUR MODEL COMPONENTS:

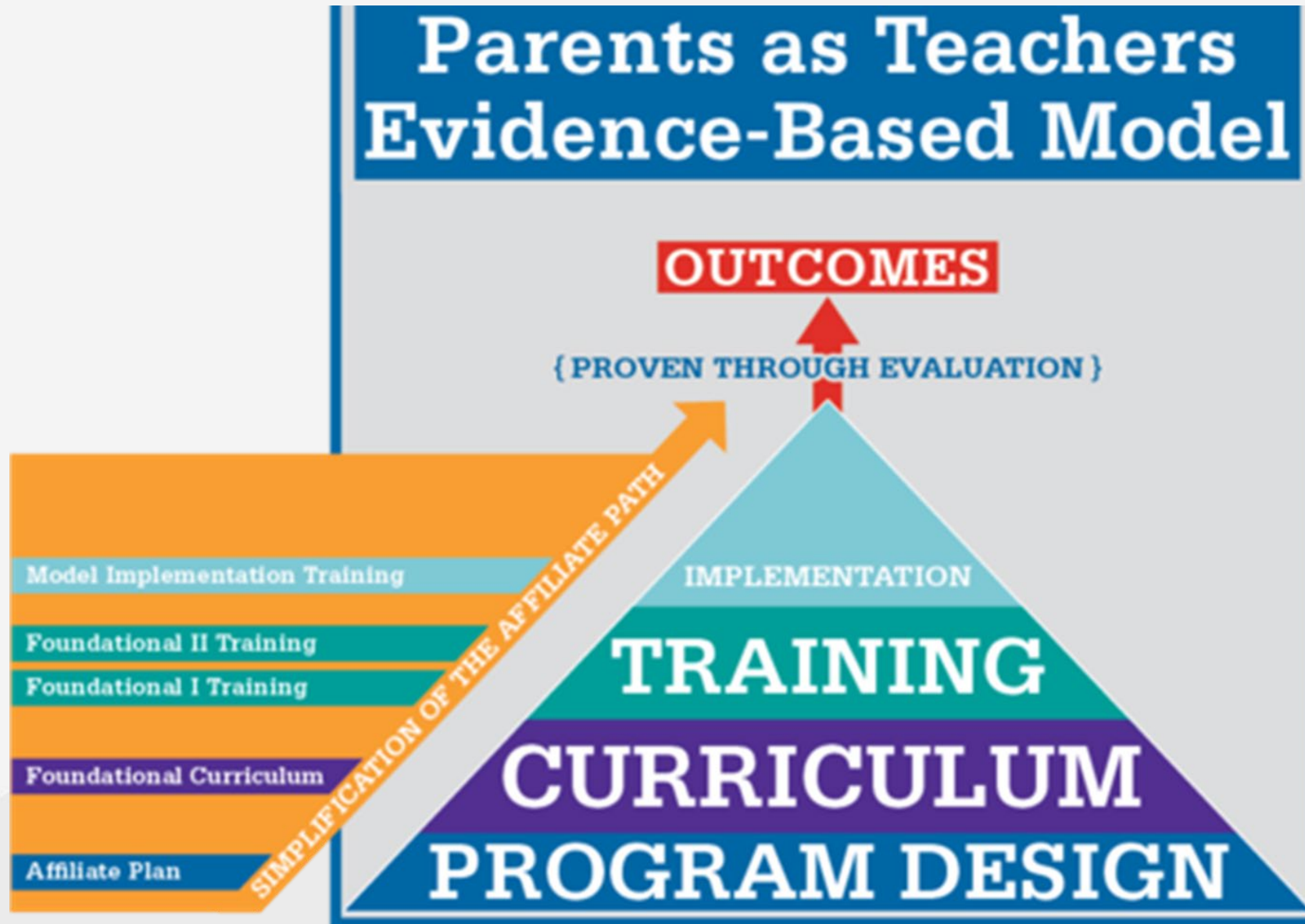
- Personal Visits
- Group Connections
- Resource Network
- Child Screening



SEVEN PRIMARY GOALS:

- Increase parent knowledge of development and improve positive parenting practices
- Early detection of developmental delays and connection to services
- Improve parent, child and family health and well-being
- Prevent child abuse and neglect
- Increase school readiness and success
- Improve economic well-being
- Strengthen community connectedness

Parents as Teachers as an Evidence-Based Model



Parent Educators

- Minimum qualification for a parent educator is a high school diploma
- Many parent educators have lived experience to better connect to the families they serve
- Parent educators go through rigorous training with Parents as Teachers National
- Full-time first year parent educators complete no more than 48 visits per month
- Full-time parent educators in their second year and beyond complete no more than 60 visits per month



Family Experience and Stressors

Families with one or fewer stressors receive at least 12 personal visits annually

Families with two or more stressors receive at least 24 personal visits annually

Examples of stressors:

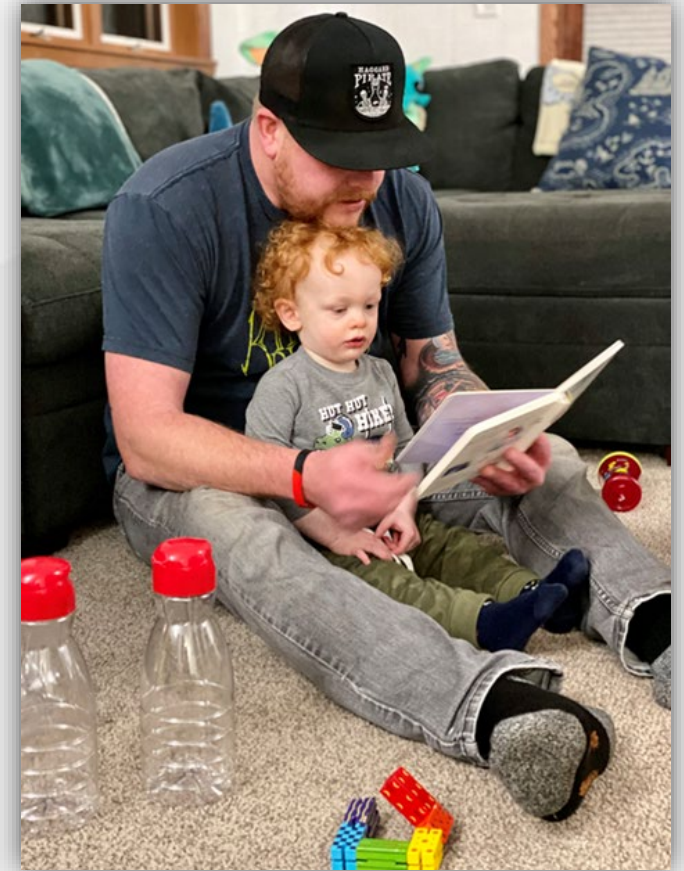
- Young parents
- Child with a disability or chronic health condition
- Low income
- Parent with mental health issues
- Substance use disorder
- High school diploma or equivalency not attained
- Recent immigrant or refugee family
- Foster care or other temporary caregiver
- Housing instability



Parents as Teachers Affiliates in Alaska

State of Alaska Grantees

- Kids' Corps Inc. – Anchorage
- Alaska Family Services – Mat-Su Valley
- Association for the Education of Young Children Southeast - Juneau
- RurAL CAP -
 - Kodiak
 - Haines
 - Toksook Bay (new in 2023)
 - Anchorage (new in 2023)



Fiscal Year 2022 Service Delivery

Capacity:

- Funded for 146 families
- 166 families served – 13 to 101 families per grantee
- 209 children served – 19 to 129 children per grantee
- 1,569 completed home visits
- 4,369 participants in group activities
- 67% (111) families experienced 0-1 family stressors
- 33% (55) families experienced 2 or more family stressors
- 57% (95) families had income <200% of the federal poverty level



Fiscal Year 2022 Service Delivery (continued)

- 89% of parents read, sang songs, or told stories to their children daily (an early childhood pre-literacy measure)
- 152 children with an Ages and Stages Questionnaire developmental screenings completed
 - 11 referrals to services made
- 150 children with hearing and vision screenings completed
 - 1 hearing and 3 vision referrals to services made
- 144 children with caregiver-child interaction assessments completed
- Families were linked to 108 unique community organizations across the state
- 75 group activities hosted by grantees with over 4,000 attendees



Fiscal Year 2022 Program Cost

- Total funding: \$474,700
- Total grantee funding: \$434,000
- \$60,000 - \$145,000 per grantee
 - Most grant costs go towards personnel (80% nationally)
- Averaged \$2,614 per family served
- Averaged \$2,077 per child served
- This cost varies greatly by the area in which the family is served and the amount of family stressors identified
- Nationally Parents as Teachers cost per family ranges between \$4,000-\$6,500
- Nationally, Parents as Teachers cost per child ranges between \$1,150-\$3,650



Fiscal Year 2023 Delivery

- 4 grantees serve families in Juneau, Mat-Su Valley, Anchorage, Kodiak, and Haines
- Initiated a partnership with the Office of Children's Services
 - Toksook Bay
 - Additional families in Juneau
 - Additional families in Anchorage – high stressors only
- Final data from program evaluation in Fiscal Year23 will be available after July 30, 2023
- Provided Parents as Teachers National training for new staff or programs intending to become Affiliates



Fiscal Years 2024-2026

- A request for proposals went out earlier this spring for the next grant cycle of Fiscal Year24-Fiscal Year26
- The request for proposals reflects Alaska Reads Act requirements
- Grantees will be chosen based on the quality of the application and the availability of funding
- The request for proposals requires a budget that maintains \$3,000-\$5,000/per family served
- Reinstatement of the Parents as Teachers State Office



Program Evaluation

- To date we have linked 189 of 592 PAT-served children born between 2009-2021 to DEED education records
 - 123 of the 189 had non-missing Alaska Developmental Profile (ADP) assessment results
 - The ADP is assessed upon entry to school based on teacher observations
- Preliminary summary analysis highlights:
 - 45% of the Juneau PAT children met the DEED ADP standard versus 36% of the comparison group
 - 28% of PAT children in households with low educational attainment met the standard versus 11% of the comparison group
 - PAT children underperformed in households with a single parent and with first time parents – pointing to an opportunity for targeted quality improvement projects



Program Evaluation Next Steps

- Annually link additional data submitted by grantees to administrative records to expand our evaluation dataset
- Add discipline records and 3rd/4th grade reading scores from DEED into the research dataset
- Link child maltreatment records from the Office of Children's Services
- Reassess program effects using the quasi-experimental evaluation as sample size increases
- Align grantee screening assessment tools to allow for program-wide evaluation of parental involvement and child health and development outcomes
- These efforts will satisfy the evaluation required by the Alaska Reads Act



Questions?

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