



National Home Visiting Week

April 21-25, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Laura Bartus, Communications Manager
Laura.Bartus@cffde.org | 973-975-2556 (call or text)

Direct interviews with CFF Home Visitors are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Children & Families First Celebrates Inaugural National Home Visiting Week April 21-25

DELAWARE (April 21, 2025) – Monday began the first-ever National Home Visiting Week, taking place April 21-25, 2025, an observance to celebrate and recognize home visitors and the positive impact they make on maternal and child health outcomes.

For Children & Families First (CFF), one of Delaware's longest-standing and most respected non-profits, this newly minted observance offers an opportunity to highlight the organization's trailblazing efforts, bringing the Nurse Family Partnership program to Delaware back in 2010 and expansion of services with the addition of the Healthy Families Delaware program in 2012. CFF joins home visiting partners from across the state, which also include Parents As Teachers and Early Head Start Home-Based, to celebrate our collective efforts to help children and families to thrive.

"We're grateful to The Institute for the Advancement of Family Support Professionals and U.S. Senators Grassley and Warner for their advocacy to recognize home visiting at the national level," stated CFF CEO, Kirsten Olson, "Here in Delaware, it was our honor to be present for the Delaware House and Senate Home Visiting Resolution last week, where home visitors had the opportunity to be recognized in both Chambers. We further thank Governor Matt Meyer for his proclamation declaring April 21-25 as Home Visiting Week in Delaware."

Home visiting connects pregnant and parenting families with young children to trained family support professionals who provide customized coaching and guidance through pregnancy and the early stages of a child's development. Utilizing a variety of evidence-based models, home visiting supports healthy birth outcomes, increases family self-sufficiency and helps children enter school fully prepared to succeed.

"There are many aspects to our home visiting programs that I wish more people knew," stated Zakiya Bakari-Griffin, CFF Chief Programs Officer, "They're free for those who qualify. Home visiting doesn't have to be at your home, we can meet you wherever it's easiest for you. Most of all, they're 100% voluntary. You choose to participate because you want the best life and future for you and your baby - and we help you achieve it"

Throughout the week, Children & Families First will elevate the work of home visitors by sharing stories and impact data through their social media channels. Those interested in learning more about the inspirational and vital work happening in our communities are encouraged to follow along by searching Facebook and Instagram for Children & Families First or @cffde.

Olson highlighted a specific call to action from the public, *“The best way to join in this celebration and really honor home visitors is to help us increase the awareness. Learn more about NFP and HFD on our website, and the range of services that are available to families at all stages at <https://dethrives.com/>. Share the information we post on social media so it reaches wider audiences. Encourage your own physicians and obstetricians to learn about the programs. By doing these simple things, you can be the connection between a pregnant mom who doesn’t know where to turn, and the life-changing help she and her baby deserve.*

Full program descriptions, including how to enroll or refer, who qualifies, and answers to many frequently asked questions for CFF’s home visiting programs can be found online at www.cffde.org/healthybabies , by calling 302-604-6301 any weekday between 9am and 4pm, or sending an email to info@cffde.org.

About Children & Families First

Children & Families First is a leading non-profit organization in Delaware, dedicated to meeting the needs of children and their families. With a history dating back to 1884, CFF offers a wide range of programs and services designed to empower parents and caregivers, bolster family strengths, and advance the well-being of children, ensuring that our whole community thrives. www.cffde.org.

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