

Regional Home Visiting Coordination & System Building Siskiyou County - Year 3 Systems Survey Highlights

Context

Beginning in 2016, The Ford Family Foundation began funding a Regional Home Visiting Systems Coordination (HVSC) project. The vision for the project is for Siskiyou County to have a coordinated home visiting (HV) system that strengthens and benefits all home visiting models as part of each region’s birth-to-five early childhood development system.

The long-term goal for the project is to improve outcomes for children and families and expand the region’s capacity to serve more families. The work is primarily focused on:

- Improving **internal communication** between and among home visiting providers;
- Increasing **community awareness** about the availability and benefits of home visiting;
- Development of a **coordinated referral system** to connect families to the best match home visiting or other family support programs; and
- Development of a regional **home visitor professional development plan** to promote shared learning.

To assess changes across three years of the project, a systems survey was administered with key stakeholders to provide a second cross-sectional data point, following baseline in 2016, and annually thereafter.

Figure 1 shows the number of respondents by year. In 2019, 19 respondents represents a 68% response rate.

Figure 1. Number of survey respondents by year



Table 1 on the following page presents the percent of respondents who, on average, “Agree” or “Strongly Agree”, with the survey items that make up the domain at each time point. The survey domains reflect components of effective HV leadership/governance and a coordinated HV system.

Key Accomplishments

The major accomplishments in year 3 of the HVSC project as reported by stakeholders, include:

Governance & Planning

- An increasing sense that HV program leaders have the knowledge of one another’s programs in order to collaborate successfully.
- Increasingly, members of the HV collaborative group report understanding how the HVSC project can support improved outcomes for children and families.

Internal Communication

- There is a high level of respect and understanding amongst HV stakeholders.
- There is a growing sense that there are sufficient networking opportunities between HV providers and programs.

Professional Development Plan

- The HV collaborative group has strengthened the sharing of professional development training resources, and respondents are increasingly aware of a cross-program professional development plan.

Coordinated Referral System

- Informal referral agreements are effective.
- More people feel there are clear policies and procedures for obtaining family consent and releases for HV programs.

Opportunities for Year 4

Areas for continued deepening of work in year 4 of the HVSC project as reported by stakeholders, include:

- An action plan to guide steps for improving the HV system could be better utilized to engage program partners.
- The HV collaborative group could benefit from the development of effective referral agreements and improved MOUs.
- Finalize and pilot a coordinated referral form and process to strengthen the HV referral system.
- The HV collaborative group could continue to develop a range of strategies to help families learn about the HV services available, understand the benefits of HV, and build trust with families to feel comfortable accessing HV services.
- Continue to build HV systems capacity to meet the needs of culturally and linguistically diverse families.

Similarly, survey respondents shared some of their hopes in their own words for the coming year of the project:

“Bringing knowledge and education to families who do not know about or receive services.”

“Coordinate referral system for all parenting services.”

Table 1. Survey Domain (% A/SA)	Example Question from Each Domain	2016	2017	2018	2019
Communication & Collaboration	There is effective communication between HV program leadership within the county involved in the collaborative.	25%	84%	93%	95%
Governance & Planning	The HV collaborative has a shared, common vision.	56%	90%	93%	95%
Roles & Responsibilities	The HV collaborative group has ample knowledge of local needs and resources.	71%	83%	93%	94%
Equity	HV programs currently have the capacity to meet the needs of culturally and linguistically diverse families in our community.	50%	78%	83%	59%
Program Improvement & Data Use	The HV collaborative has collected and assessed data about the needs and resources for children and families in our region.	50%	94%	89%	100%
Community Awareness	Families in our community understand the benefits of home visiting.	44%	44%	52%	35%
Referral Process	Our community uses a shared/common referral form to facilitate family access to HV services.	25%	32%	33%	35%
Professional Development	The HV system effectively shares professional development and training resources.	43%	94%	82%	94%
Sustainability	HV programs work together to increase funding and support all home visiting programs.	14%	71%	58%	83%