



Healthy Families America® (HFA) is the nationally-recognized, evidence-based home visiting program of Prevent Child Abuse America. By supporting parents in the home, HFA builds a strong foundation for nurturing, safe and secure relationships between caregiver and child maximizing opportunities for all children to reach their full potential. Families who voluntarily enroll in HFA work one-on-one with a Family Support Specialist and receive support based on their specific needs. Beginning as early as prenatally or at birth up until the child is five years old.

## HELPING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES THRIVE

Studies have shown that HFA helps parents and children by improving child health, promoting positive parent-child interaction, increasing school readiness, and strengthening family self-sufficiency.

Studies have also shown reduction of child maltreatment among high-risk families enrolled in the program. A randomized control study from Healthy Families New York (HFNY) found for mothers with prior CPS reports, HFNY reduced the rate of confirmed neglect by 33% and the rate of confirmed abuse by 77%, including an 88% reduction in the average number of acts of very serious physical abuse by the age of one.

## INTRODUCING THE HEALTHY FAMILIES AMERICA CHILD WELFARE PROTOCOLS

HFA works with all families, including those who have been involved in the child welfare system. Over the past several years, and with significant input from the field, HFA has developed child welfare protocols that maintain the expected rigor and fidelity requirements providers have expected from HFA for more than twenty-five years.

For child welfare providers who work on the front lines each day and recognize the value of connecting high-risk families to intensive home visiting services like HFA, a challenge arises when families with older infants or toddlers are identified, and HFA services are unavailable due to the child's age. HFA has addressed this gap by introducing the **HFA Child Welfare Protocols**. Families who are referred to HFA from the child welfare system are now able to enroll in HFA services with a child up to 24 months of age. Consistent with HFA requirements, support services will be offered for a minimum of three years regardless of the age of the child at intake, and support will be tailored to the unique needs of each family.

## GETTING STARTED

Existing HFA sites and state systems interested in learning more should contact their HFA Training & TA Specialist at the National Office. Organizations not yet affiliated with HFA and interested in the child welfare protocols should email [HFAMail@preventchildabuse.org](mailto:HFAMail@preventchildabuse.org) and one of our Site Development Specialists will contact you.