START EARLY | Consulting

Sector Snapshot: Home Visiting

Building Responsive Home Visiting Systems For Family and Workforce Success

Families and home visitors deserve seamless, responsive systems of support, and Start Early Consulting is uniquely qualified to co-design solutions with state and local communities. Why? Start Early delivers home visiting and doula services, advances innovative policy and program solutions at our annual **National Home Visiting Summit**, and leverages decades of systems building experience with partners across the country. Strong home visiting systems are our passion.

A home visiting engagement with Start Early Consulting tackles root cause issues, helps shift mental models, and elevates creative solutions so that system-level changes can be long-lasting and sustainable. **Our work includes:**

- Cross-sector alignment for coordinated service delivery and system efficiencies
- Seamless integration of home visiting into the prenatal to five continuum of care
- Smart advocacy strategies to raise awareness and funding support
- Coherent, comprehensive strategic planning roadmaps aligned across programs

HOME VISITING: SAMPLE ENGAGEMENTS

Colorado Department of Early Childhood: Start Early Consulting supported the Department to develop strategies to partner with and support local school districts to expand access to home visiting programs by leveraging education funding. Start Early developed materials and facilitated a series of conversations to demonstrate the benefits of home visiting for school readiness outcomes and to increase awareness about the ways to use ESSA and other funds.

First 5 Region 3: Start Early Consulting worked with California's Region 3, which comprises 10 counties, to improve cross-agency home visiting coordination and collaboration and develop new strategies to promote the health and wellbeing of the home visiting workforce.

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Close Up: Center for the Coordination of Oregon's Home Visiting Systems

Designing a Provider-Centered Funding Model for Home Visiting in Oregon

The Opportunity: Oregon's home visiting providers juggle multiple contracts across state agencies, navigating different rules, requirements, and timelines. The Center for Coordinating Oregon Home Visiting Systems wanted to explore creating a more coordinated system for cleaner data, consistent metrics, cross-program comparisons, and provider ease, while retaining flexibility for programs to still meet the needs of their communities.

The Approach: Start Early worked with leaders to:

- Analyze and review lessons learned from other state models
- Identify governance and decision-making protocols as a critical gap to achieving strong, coordinated funding in the future

The Result: Oregon is now in the first stage of designing a coordinated funding system where the state will carry more of the coordination burden, so providers can spend less time managing contracts and more time serving families.

What's Next: Start Early Consulting is partnering with Oregon's home visiting community to create a systems change plan. This includes:

- Identifying opportunities for braided funding at the state level
- Clarifying state and local governance rules
- Defining core standardizations alongside local flexibilities
- Using cost modeling to set realistic, sustainable funding expectations

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HOME VISITING: PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

California: First 5 Region 3

Colorado: Colorado Department of Early Childhood

North Carolina: Smart Start of Mecklenburg County

Oklahoma: Oklahoma State Department of Health

Texas: Department of Family and Protective Services

CONSULTING SUPPORT FOR HOME VISITING

- Leadership Advising
- Strategic Planning for Systems Change
- Policy Analysis & Development
- Advocacy Strategy & Development
- Systems Assessment & Mapping
- Centering Family & Provider Voice
- Implementation Support