

PLAY Program

TulareWORKs

CalWORKs Home Visiting Program



What is the Home Visiting Program:



The California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Home Visiting Program (HVP), formerly known as the CalWORKs Home Visiting Initiative (HVI), is a voluntary program that pairs families with home educators who will make regular visits to provide coaching, access prenatal and postnatal care, and other health and social services.

The pairing of home educators with CalWORKs families provides a gentle whole family approach to connect families with necessary resources and improve their parenting skills. Ensuring that their children have a nurturing environment that allows them to thrive and grow.

2 generational approach to service: meeting the needs of parents and their children together (we tend to practice servicing these needs separately)

Tulare County will refer to the Home Visiting Program as the PLAY Program from this point forward.

PLAY support includes but will not be limited to:

- ▶ Prenatal, infant and toddler care
- ▶ Infant and child nutrition
- ▶ Child developmental screening and assessments
- ▶ Parent education, parent and child interaction, child development and childcare
- ▶ Job readiness and barrier removal
- ▶ Domestic violence and sexual assault, mental health and substance abuse resources

GOALS:

- ▶ Increase parent knowledge of early childhood development and improve parenting practices
- ▶ Provide early detection of developmental delays and health issues
- ▶ Prevent child abuse and neglect
- ▶ Increase children's school readiness and success
- ▶ Cope with stress in healthy ways
- ▶ Obtain employment and training opportunities
- ▶ Obtain referrals to resources



Eligibility

To be eligible for the PLAY Program, an individual must meet both of the following criteria:

- A. The individual is one of the following:
 - A member of a CalWORKs assistance unit, including CalLearn teens transitioning to Welfare-to-Work (WTW)
 - The parent or caretaker relative for a child-only case
 - A pregnant individual who has applied for CalWORKs aid within 60 calendar days prior to reaching the second trimester of pregnancy and would be eligible for CalWORKs aid other than not having reached the second trimester of pregnancy
 - An individual who is apparently eligible for CalWORKs aid
- B. The individual is pregnant, or the individual is a parent or caretaker relative of a child less than 24 months of age at the time the family enrolls in the PLAY program.

Reminders

- PLAY Program services shall continue to be offered for 24 months, or until the child's second birthday (whichever is later) or the family elects to terminate their participation in the program.
- The 24 months of PLAY services begins from the date of the first completed home visit.
- CalWORKs families will remain eligible for the PLAY Program, even when the CalWORKs case discontinues.
- An exempt WTW member of the CalWORKs AU is not required to participate in the WTW Program in order to be eligible for the PLAY Program.
- Assistant Unit's that do not include a CalWORKs eligible adult are eligible to participate in the PLAY program except for adults who have been sanctioned due to non-compliance with WTW.

When volunteering in the PLAY Program, families can select the provider of their choice:

- Tulare County Office of Education (TCOE) offers :

Early Head Start (EHS) is a family engagement program that provides support, assistance, and empowerment in order to help parents and families reach their goals. EHS provides families the opportunity to be involved in their child's educational experience while in the program.

- First 5 Tulare County offers :

Parents as Teachers (PAT) builds strong communities, thriving families and children who are healthy, safe and ready to learn. PAT will match parents and caregivers with trained professionals who make regular personal home visits during a child's earliest years in life, from prenatal through kindergarten. First 5 will be utilizing five Family Resource Center sites (FRCs) as key locations to deliver PAT model home visitation services. The FRCs model is designed to reach families where they reside via collaboration and co-location of services at their establishments.

Each Family will receive:

- 24 months of services
- 1 60-90 min home visit weekly
- 1-2 group connection meetings monthly



Tulare County
Office of Education

Tim A. Hire, County Superintendent of Schools

Public Health Partnership

- ▶ Providers will partner with Tulare County Public Health to provide health and safety services to CalWORKs families participating in the PLAY program when the need is identified.
- ▶ Services may include, but are not limited to:
 - Perinatal Wellness Program
 - Tulare County Car Seat Safety Program
 - Safe Asleep Program
 - Women, Infant and Children Program (WIC)
 - Oral Health



CalLearn

PLAY provides mandatory services to CalWORKs recipients under 19 years old who are teen parents or pregnant as part of their CalLearn program.

The CalLearn team members and Home Educators encourage these teens to stay in or return to high school or an equivalent program and earn a diploma or its equivalent.

CalLearn program includes but not limited to:

- ▶ Supportive Services
- ▶ PLAY Program
- ▶ Intensive case management
- ▶ \$100 bonus/sanction
 - Up to 4 a year for grades C or better or sanctioned for D or below or not attending
- ▶ \$500 Bonus Upon Graduation
- ▶ Referrals can be made to mental health and substance abuse services



Home Educators will identify needs as related to care, health, safety and education of the family and provide resources to:



Supportive Services:

Employment Services
Family Stabilization Program

Material Goods:

Items such as safety kits, beds,
education materials or appliances

Laptops 4 Life:

Further enhance education, skills
and job or housing leads

Community Programs:

Toys 4 Tots, Coats 4 Kids, Diaper
Banks

Donations:

Local Organizations

Homeless Assistance Program:

CSET Homeless Support Program
CalWORKs temporary and/or
permanent assistance

Parenting Network PLAY Connection Day at the Park



PLAY families-Laptops 4 Life

Laptops 4 Life (L4L) Program provides laptops to CalWORKs HVP participants giving them digital access to acquire essential skills.



Client Feedback



Gains in Parenting Skills

“I was having a very hard time adjusting to having a new baby with postpartum depression, so it helped having someone come over and talk to me and having someone give me an ease of mind, it made it possible for me and my son to have such a close bond now.”

CLIENT, ROUND 1

“I feel like that brought a lot of awareness to my attention of his development, what things I need to do or get better with. Especially she worked a lot with me with patience. I’ve been a single mom since day one. And I’ve never really had that support from my mother or other family members teaching me how to cope with things. I’ve had trouble with that for a long time. That was the most impact she had, with me personally, teaching me how to become a better mom.”

CLIENT, ROUND 3



Client Feedback



The Home Visitor - Client Relationship

"I'm a single parent, it's having that extra support that some parents, new parents, need ... You have that extra support as you learn how to be a single parent. For [my child] it helps him having extra support as well, instead of just mommy; there is someone else who wants to be involved in his life and help him improve his life. Even if just for an hour, it provides that bond. Build those life skills for him later on."

CLIENT, ROUND 1

"She doesn't just go along with me if I am telling her something and she's not agreeing. She has the best interest for me and my kids. Always happy and doesn't talk down on me or the things I chose to do. Always gives me advice...I had my kids close together; I am a young mom. She is able to make everything comfortable. She is not someone who is out to get me. She is always here to help me."

CLIENT, ROUND 3

Rated 4.50-4.67 out of 5



Staff Feedback:

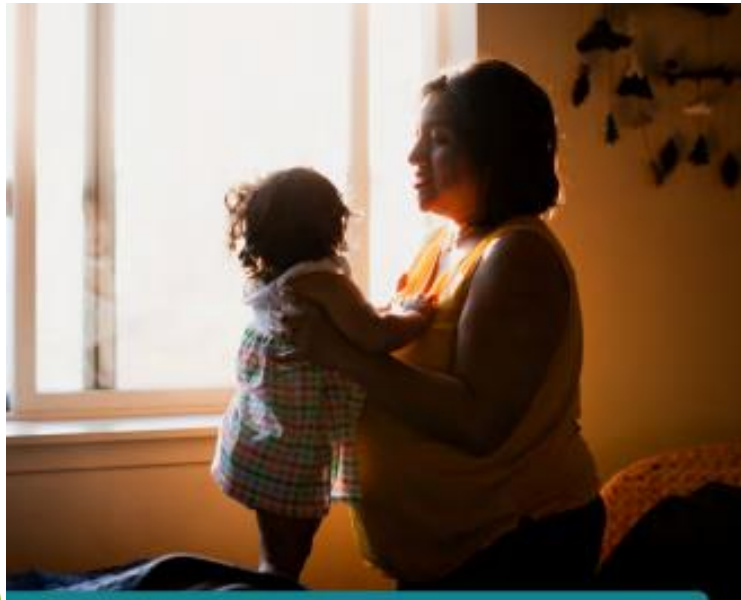
"[We] engage with parents by reaching out to them, introducing the program as an opportunity to partner with us, to share child development information with them and to help them grow their capacity [for] child-parent interactions and bonding, and also become part of their support system, social support system as well, giving us the ability to help direct them to opportunity resources, help them comprehend development for child age."



HOME VISITOR, ROUND 1

"One participant who is new to the area, received no prenatal care because she was homeless. Since participation at the beginning of last month, she has been in permanent housing, [and we] connected her with a nonprofit organization providing material supplies for her baby. Her mentor sees her weekly."

COUNTY LEADER, ROUND 1



Questions?

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