

Over the past decade, and especially in the past four years, Washington has increasingly prioritized home visiting to meet the needs of our most vulnerable children and families. Evidence shows that when families receive home-based support:

- Children are healthier and better prepared for school
- Parent-child bonds are stronger
- Abuse and neglect are less likely

Keys to Washington's Home Visiting System

In a unique and successful public-private partnership, Thrive by Five Washington and the Department of Early Learning collaborate to administer the Washington Home Visiting Services Account (HVSA). There are four key functions in the HVSA.

- **Serve families:** With home visiting, families are better equipped to give their children a great start in life. The HVSA continues to expand to serve more families; it has 36 grantees with the capacity to serve approximately 2,100 families statewide in state fiscal year 2015. We know that the earliest years are most important for development, and to have the greatest impact, the HVSA invests in our youngest learners. About 95 percent of children served are under age 3.
- **Ensure high quality:** The HVSA is focused on maintaining and improving quality by building capacity and focusing on accountability. Important investments in quality assurance and evaluation enable the use of data to inform policy and practice. Measuring success requires the HVSA to invest in evaluation and continuous quality improvement initiatives.
- **Centralize program support:** Training and technical assistance benefit home visitors and the families they serve. The HVSA provides individualized and targeted coaching and training that will add up to more than 750 hours in state fiscal year 2015.
- **Empower communities:** The HVSA portfolio opens the door to diverse models and programs, to meet diverse community needs. Three programs in rural areas were launched as the result of a yearlong community-specific planning process. In state fiscal year 2015, the HVSA funding is reaching at least 21 Washington counties, plus a tribal-specific home visiting program in the coming year.

What is

Home Visiting?

Either before their child's birth or in their child's first few years of life, families are voluntarily matched with trained professionals who provide information and support related to children's healthy development, the parent-child relationship, and the importance of early learning in the home. The benefits of home visiting span more than one generation.

Pivotal moment in Home Visiting

Federal funding is in year four of a five-year grant. State and federal funds are leveraged with private dollars. Maintaining existing public and private investment in home visiting will sustain current services but not enable expansion. DEL and Thrive are developing a finance and sustainability strategy for the HVSA.

Families enrolled, by geography

Washington is geographically diverse, and its many regions have different communities, needs, and resources. The HVSA values investing funds in communities across the state—especially in those communities that are underresourced. For a complete list of programs, visit thrivebyfivewa.org/hvsa-wa

HVSA Funding Streams

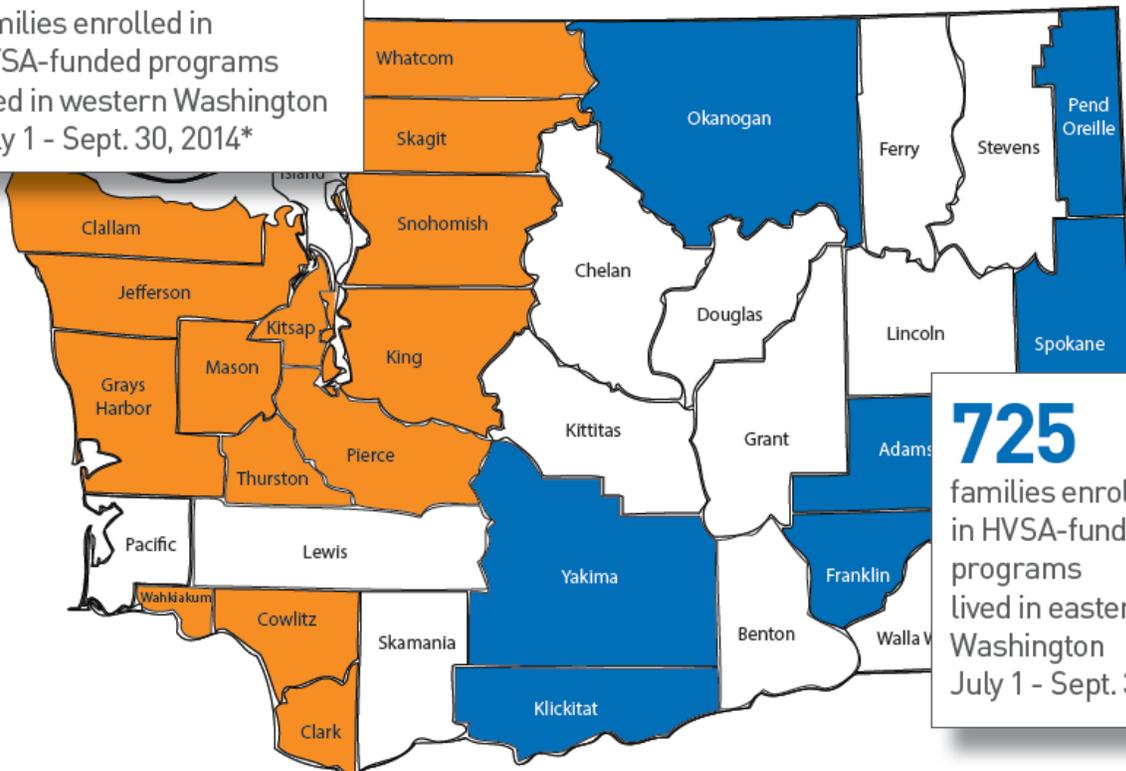
State Fiscal Year 2014-15
Projected

- Private: 18%
- Federal: 71%
- State: 11%

Total investment: \$15 million

840

families enrolled in HVSA-funded programs lived in western Washington July 1 - Sept. 30, 2014*



725

families enrolled in HVSA-funded programs lived in eastern Washington July 1 - Sept. 30, 2014*

* Latest figures available from July 1, 2014, to Sept. 30, 2014. Some programs are new, and because of the intensive nature of home visiting, it can take months to reach full enrollment. Full enrollment of all current HVSA-funded slots would be about 2,100 families.