



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

Office of Head Start 330 C St., SW, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Washington DC 20201 | [eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov](http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov)

January 7, 2016

Myra Jones-Taylor, Commissioner  
Connecticut Office of Early Childhood  
165 Capital Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Commissioner Jones-Taylor:

I am writing this letter in support of Connecticut's grant application for the Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Expansion Grants, Limited Competition (HRSA-16-172).

As Director of the Office of Head Start (OHS), I am pleased to offer my support for Connecticut's grant application to expand the Early Head Start (EHS) Home-Based Model through MIECHV funding. We have reviewed and approved your state's plan for continued MIECHV funding in existing EHS sites. Further, OHS supports your state's participation in the national evaluation and other related efforts to coordinate evaluation and programmatic technical assistance through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

To ensure full compliance with all Head Start Program Performance Standards and model fidelity, the Office of Head Start requires each state to direct all questions and need for technical assistance to OHS. This will help OHS to facilitate ongoing communication and support to your state.

We look forward to continuing to work with your state and its partners in implementing the EHS Home-Based Option.

For additional assistance, please contact Patty Marickovich at [Patricia.Marickovich@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:Patricia.Marickovich@acf.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Blanca E. Enriquez".

Blanca E. Enriquez  
Director  
Office of Head Start



January 11, 2016

Myra Jones-Taylor, Commissioner  
Connecticut Office of Early Childhood  
165 Capitol Avenue, Room G29  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Dear Commissioner:

The Child First National Program Office (NPO) is in support of the CT Office of Early Childhood (OEC) submitting an FY16 MIECHV Formula Grant application that proposes maintaining funding levels for the current capacity of the MIECHV funded Child First sites. Eight affiliate agencies in CT are providing Child First services with a total of 14 MIECHV funded Teams. This is helping to meet a huge demand in high need communities that were not being served prior to MIECHV.

In its relationship with affiliate agencies, the National Program Office provides significant ongoing technical assistance and monitoring of model fidelity. A substantial portion of our CT Clinical Director's time is spent supporting the MIECHV funded sites for activities that go above and beyond the technical assistance provided to other non-MIECHV sites. In addition to the data that the Child First Data & Quality Enhancement Department already collects on model implementation and outcomes, they collect additional data to meet HRSA requirements and provide frequent reports to the OEC on the MIECHV funded sites. We believe that the NPO plays a key role in assuring the delivery of high quality services to vulnerable families with young children in our state. In addition, we believe we add significant value to the MIECHV program and the overall quality of the home visiting system in Connecticut.

All of the MIECHV funded sites are currently meeting Child First implementation standards and have received Child First accreditation. In addition, they have met MIECHV Benchmarks over the past two years. However, in the event in the future that a site were not to meet model standards after completing a performance improvement plan, Child First NPO would request transfer of MIECHV funding to a site that meets all fidelity requirements.

The Child First National Program Office looks forward to further developing its relationship with the OEC as a collaborative partner to further the excellent work of the MIECHV program.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Darcy Lowell, M.D.".

Darcy Lowell, MD  
Founder and CEO  
Child First, Inc.



January 7, 2016

Myra Jones-Taylor, PhD  
Commissioner  
Connecticut Office of Early Childhood  
165 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Commissioner Jones-Taylor,

Thank you for your continued support of mothers and young children in Connecticut through the provision of direct services by Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP). Based on the conversations with Renée Nogales, your Business Development Manager from the NFP National Service Office regarding any planned changes proposed in NFP implementation in your FY16 grant submission to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as part of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV), I am pleased to provide this letter of agreement. The NFP National Service Office agrees with the Office of Early Childhood's the plan to maintain the current implementation level at the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeastern Connecticut through the current grant period. We also support your agency's participation in both the national evaluation and in any of HRSA's efforts to coordinate evaluation and programmatic technical assistance.

We look forward to our ongoing partnership with your team and the VNA of Southeastern Connecticut to implement NFP with fidelity.

Sincerely,

Molly O'Fallon, RN, CS  
Director of Quality, Nursing Department  
Nurse-Family Partnership National Service Office



# Parents as Teachers

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January 8, 2016

Myra Jones-Taylor  
Connecticut Office of Early Childhood  
165 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Ms. Jones-Taylor,

This letter serves as approval to the Connecticut state plan for the implementation of Parents as Teachers under the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) initiative's formula funding opportunity for Fiscal Year 2016.

We appreciate the continued implementation of the Parents as Teachers model in the selected communities.

We are especially pleased with the attention to fidelity, professional development and continuous quality assurance. As the model developer, we stand ready to assist the CT PAT state office, affiliates and program staff with training needs and technical assistance, which are critical to yielding good outcomes. Compliance with Essential Requirements is important and all current PAT sites are affiliates and continue to work towards successful implementation of the model

As indicated before, we look forward to a long and rich relationship with the State of Connecticut. Please feel free to engage us in any meetings or discussions related to the MIECHV and Parents as Teachers. This is a true partnership indeed on behalf of all the children and families that will be served by this effort. Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

Cheryle Dyle-Palmer, M.A.  
Executive VP and COO  
Parents as Teachers National Center  
2228 Ball Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63146  
www.parentsasteachers.org



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