

Share Your Story...

Illinois Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Development Home Visiting Program

Home visiting has a demonstrated track record of improving infant and maternal health outcomes. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, it is providing a critical way to engage children and families who are especially vulnerable during this time. Home visitors are on the front lines in supporting families by going above and beyond to quickly adapt and find creative ways to meet the basic needs of children and families.

Through its “Share Your Story” initiative, the Illinois Maternal Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program in the Governor’s Office of Early Childhood Development has provided an opportunity for home visitors to share on-the-ground stories of their experiences, including the bright spots as well as challenges. The focus of these stories is to bring attention to the amazing work they do, to share what has been working in serving families, and to illustrate how home visitors can be supported to continue carrying out their work.

Aunt Martha’s Health & Wellness, Danville

Brighttany Pollitt is a home visitor at Aunt Martha’s Health and Wellness in Danville, IL. Her main goal since the beginning of the pandemic has been to “stay positive”—even on days when she and the program participants she works with feel overwhelmed.

Brighttany shared that issues and concerns related to the pandemic have been challenging to endure. She noted that the biggest impact has been on her clients’ mental health. She has seen them struggling with getting mental health services and medications.

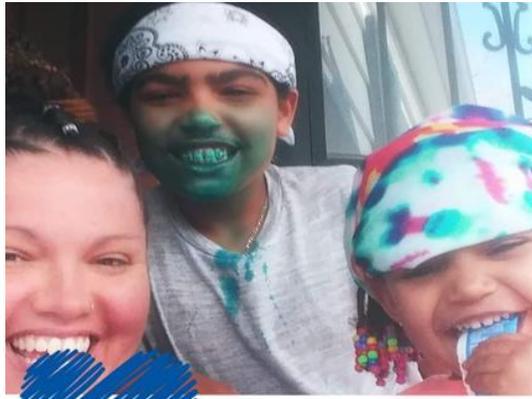
Another challenge that many parents and caregivers are facing is losing their jobs and not being able to buy food for the family. In response, Brighttany has been able to help families by providing them with linkages to resources in the community. She is trying to encourage the families she works with to be positive and find a way to relieve their stress.

For herself, Brighttany stated, “The biggest challenges I have had, is my own mental health and my children staying busy.” The focus of her day is trying to balance the needs of her own children and her work responsibilities. “There are many challenges to get this done day to day.”

When asked what tips or pieces of advice she would give to other home visitors, Brighttany suggested, “Take every challenge one step at a time, one day at a time. Stay encouraged. Don’t give up.”

Agency Mission

Driven by innovation, integration, and care coordination, Aunt Martha’s Health & Wellness is committed to providing an exceptional, unique and comprehensive patient experience. The organization is focused on parents helping to support, educate, and inspire our next generation by strengthening positive parenting skills to influence our children for a life time.



Prevention of
Child Abuse



Brighttany's Inspirational Verse

"For God did not give me the spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind." *2 Timothy 1:7*



Governor's Office of
Early Childhood Development