



Health Access Nurturing Development Services

Mission Statement

Kentucky's HANDS supports families as they build healthy, safe environments for optimal growth and development of children.

Vision

Every child is wanted and cared for in a stimulating and nurturing environment.

Goals

- Positive pregnancy outcomes,
- Optimal child growth and development,
- Children live in healthy, safe homes, and
- Families make decisions that enhance long-term independence over meeting short term or immediate needs

HANDS Believes:

- All parents want to be good parents
- All families have strengths
- All parents want their children to be healthy
- Families are responsible for their children
- Families are the primary decision-makers regarding their children
- Communities recognize their roles in children's lives
- Communities recognize that all children must succeed
- Prevention and early intervention improves the community's well being
- Public and private partnerships are vital to a successful program

Guiding Principles

- Participation in the program is voluntary.
- Families are enrolled prenatally or within the first three months after the birth of a child.
- Families are screened, as early in pregnancy as feasible, using a universal screening tool for indicated stress factors.
- Families who screen positive meet with a Parent Visitor who completes an assessment and discusses any questions or concerns about the pregnancy of a baby's first years. All families receive information and learn about community resources for parents. Based on the discussion, some families receive further support through home visitation.
- Services are provided by trained home visitors who assist families in making decisions regarding their children. Intensity may be increased/decreased based on need.
- Services focus on supporting the family, parent-child interaction, child development and personal responsibility.
- Services are provided in a family centered, culturally sensitive manner.
- Each family is assisted in securing a medical provider and received preventive health education.
- Services are available for the family until the child is three years of age.
- Transition goals are developed with the family to support continued growth and development of the child upon completion of HANDS.