



# 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.