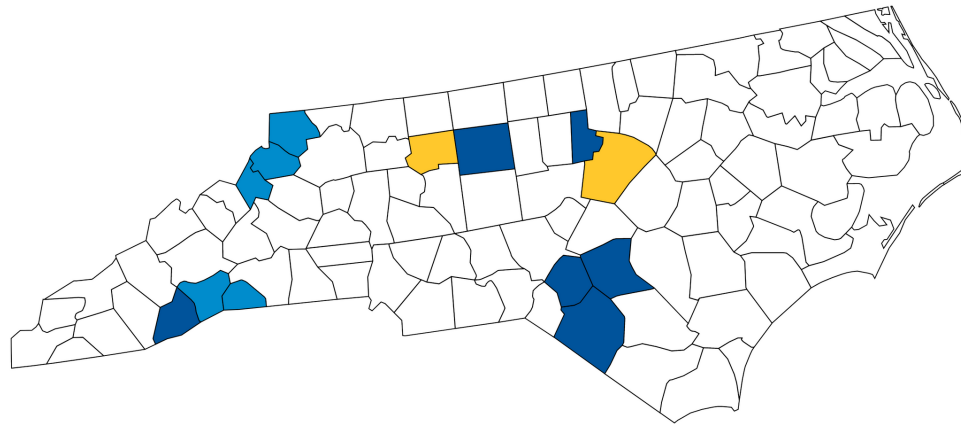


Family Connects North Carolina Snapshot

August 2021



Family Connects (FC) is in various stages of dissemination across 13 North Carolina counties:

Durham, Guilford, and Transylvania Counties, along with the Southeastern Region* (includes Cumberland, Robeson and Hoke counties) are implementing the FC model.

Northwestern Region* (includes Ashe, Avery and Watauga counties) and **Henderson County*** (includes Polk county) are actively planning to launch the FC model.

Wake and Forsyth Counties are exploring opportunities for the FC model.

**These sites operate with funding from a federal Preschool Development Grant and in partnership with Smart Start.*

Family Connects North Carolina Calendar Year 2020 Data

Total Integrated Home Visits (In-Person + Virtual): **5,932**.

The nurse home visitor assigned **97% of families** to a matrix score of 2 or higher (the rating scale is between 1-4, with 4 being a severe risk) on at least one protective factor, indicating a need for additional education or a referral to a community support.

Primary Caregiver Race

American Indian & Alaskan Native: 0%
Asian: 6%
Black or African American: 35%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: 0%
White: 43 %
More than one race: 2%
Other: 14 %

Primary Caregiver Ethnicity

Hispanic: 15% Not Hispanic: 85%

Child Insurance Status

Public: 55% Private: 44% None: 2%

The Family Connects model is an **evidence-based** approach to supporting all newborns and their families. It aims to strengthen the local continuum of care and facilitate links between families and community resources. By reaching all families in a community, Family Connects improves health outcomes at the population level.

Rigorous **research** has shown that Family Connects has **positive impacts** on important outcomes, including:

- 44% reduction in Child Protective Services investigations through child age 2 years, and 39% reduction through age 5
- 50% less total infant emergency medical care between birth and infant age 12 months
- Family Connects mothers were 30% less likely to experience possible postpartum depression or anxiety
- Family Connects mothers were more likely to complete their six-week postpartum health check

Sources:

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Goodman, W.B., Dodge, K.A., Bai, Y., Murphy, R.A., & O'Donnell, K. (2021). Effect of a universal postpartum nurse home visiting program on child maltreatment and emergency medical care at 5 years of age: A randomized clinical trial. *JAMA Network Open*, 4(7), e2116024. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.16024>.

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