

2025 POLICY PRIORITIES

At Family Connects International, we believe that all newborns deserve a warm and secure connection to family and community from the start. And we know that these essential connections are often strongest when care for a family's social, emotional, and physical health are in place. Family Connects International is committed to advancing bipartisan solutions that contribute to the sustainability of Family Connects on the national, state, and local levels of government.

- 1. Prioritize the integration of universal newborn nurse home visits to improve maternal health
- 2. Sustain and expand public investments in universal nurse home visits
- 3. Promote policies that build an optimized, efficient system of care

IMPROVING MATERNAL HEALTH

Maternal mortality and morbidity remain pressing public health challenges in the United States. Compared to other high-income countries, the United States has one of the highest maternal mortality rates with preventable complications continuing to put lives at risk.

Family Connects International (FCI) is committed to reversing this alarming trend by integrating universal newborn nurse home visits into a broader system of care that addresses the critical needs of families during the postpartum period. By identifying risks early, facilitating access to care, and providing education and support, we aim to save lives and promote long-term health for babies and their families.

DRIVING SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENTS IN UNIVERSAL NURSE HOME VISITS

Our approach prioritizes sustainable, innovative investments in universal nurse home visits via:

- **Collaborative Advocacy:** We partner with federal, state, and local policymakers to create funding pathways that support universal nurse home visits as part of a holistic family support system
- Access: By championing mixed funding models, we work to ensure that visits can be offered to all families in a community at no cost to the family.
- **Measurable Impact**: Local programs are supported with rigorous training and technical support to ensure that every investment delivers optimal outcomes for children, families and communities.

BUILDING AN OPTIMIZED, EFFICIENT SYSTEM OF CARE

Strong communities build strong families. FCI actively works to align resources and to identify and support the closure of systemic gaps. Local programs bring together community service providers and advocates and foster partnerships with health care providers, doulas, lactation consultants, early childhood programs, and social services. Our collaborative approach ensures that every family can access comprehensive care that's tailored to their needs.

- Transparency and Accountability: Local programs engage in rigorous qualitative and quantitative data reviews that support data driven decision making.
- **Resource Optimization**: Public investments in Family Connects services maximize community assets, enhancing the well-being of families while driving cost-effective solutions.

