

Help Me Grow



Department of
Children & Youth



The Home Visiting Central Intake Bulletin
eNewsletter for Home Visiting providers
March 2025

Welcome back to The Home Visiting Central Intake Bulletin! As always, thank you for all the work you do to provide high-quality Home Visiting (HV) services to Ohio families.

35 and counting: Family Connects Ohio Visits



Department of
Children & Youth

Help Me Grow

Little boy Ace was born in January at Fisher-Titus Medical Center, one of 10 community partners providing the free universal newborn home visiting program, Family Connects Ohio (FCO).

Aces' mom Madison shared on [Facebook](#) that "...it was so nice to have a nurse come out, get vitals on me and baby...This will be an amazing program for first time moms! The education they provide is fantastic!"



Madison's family is one of 35 that have been served by FCO community partners statewide as of February 27!

Help us spread the word

CIR continues to work with birthing hospitals and health care systems to leverage current collaborations and form new relationships with the goal of developing program enrollment strategies.

Updates and FCO promotional material can be found at helpmegrow.org/FamilyConnects. Select FCO print materials are available for order in English and Spanish through the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY).

[Click here to order FCO materials](#)

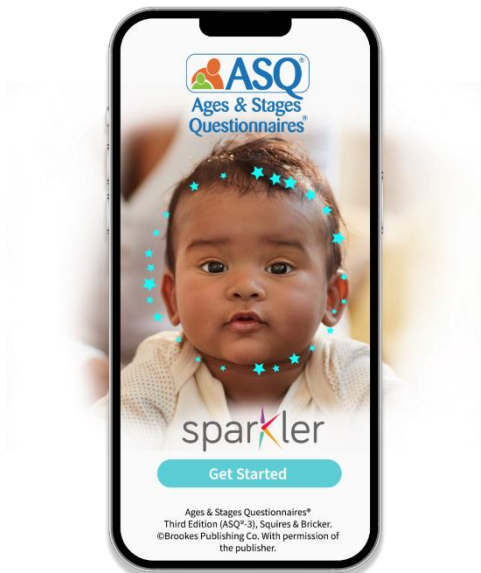
As a reminder, FCO is now an option on the updated web referral form. Referrals can also be made using the HEA8045 form, especially by providers who have families already enrolled in ongoing Home Visiting (with the exception of Nurse Family Partnership) that could benefit from a nurse home visit.

[Refer to FCO today!](#)

CIR recently updated the web referral instruction videos for both families and professionals! You can watch the videos below! Be sure to share them with the families and referral sources you know through social media and your agency's website.



Sparkler continues to soar!



As of February 27, **6,224 children** and **427 program partners** have been enrolled in Sparkler! So far, **3,864 ASQ-3** and **2,449 ASQ: SE-2 screenings** have been completed!

Sparkler, Help Me Grow's new platform for both families and program partners, has a built-in Ages & Stages Questionnaire that allows users to screen a child's developmental milestones quickly and easily. Families get personalized results and supportive services from a developmental screening specialist.

Families can learn more about Sparkler, its benefits, and how to sign up at helpmegrow.org/asq.

Social Media

We continue to partner with social media content creators across Ohio to spread the word about the Sparkler ASQ screening tool. Check out some of the newer posts below!



[Candi](#)
[@candi_girl_mom](#)



[Maria](#)
[@columbus.moms.guide](#)



[Madison](#)
[@mamabirdhendry](#)

How to learn more about Sparkler and the ASQ

[Our ASQ providers webpage](#) has all the information needed to get started with Sparkler! ***Home Visiting providers can become program partners.***

Have questions about Ohio's ASQ Online service and/or the Sparkler dashboard? Click the buttons below to register for a Zoom session or to schedule a 1:1 session based on your availability.

[Register for open office hours](#)

[Schedule a 1:1 session](#)

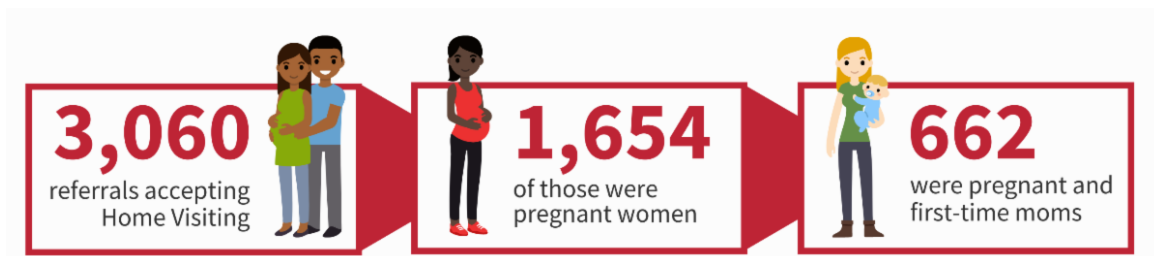
**SFY25 Second Quarter Referral Data
(October-December 2024)**

CIR processed **14,914 system referrals** in the the second quarter of SFY25.

There was a 19.7% increase in system referrals when comparing the second quarters of SFY25 to SFY24!

A referral breakdown is below:

- Caregivers (8%);
- Electronic Pregnancy Risk Assessment Form (e-PRAF) referrals (58%);
- HEA8045 forms (5%) submitted by HV providers, as well as WIC offices, and other community agencies;
- Medical professionals (12%);
- Non-medical community (9%) including WIC, community agencies, and county agencies; and
- Public Children Service Agency (PCSA) 8021 forms (8%) submitted by children's services agencies.



Of 3,060 caregivers who accepted Home Visiting in OCHIDS, 54% were pregnant and 22% were first-time pregnant caregivers. An additional **185** families were connected with home visiting services outside of OCHIDS.

There were also **273** referrals to Pathways HUB sites statewide during the second quarter.

Outreach and Awareness

Outreach staff completed **more than 2,000** activities in the second quarter of SFY25, including almost 500 meetings or presentations to educate professionals on the benefits of Help Me Grow services and how to refer.

In February and March, CIR had 45,000 door hangers distributed in the following MIECHV Counties: Gallia, Guernsey, Jackson, Lawrence, Mahoning, Morgan, Scioto, and Summit.



Have you seen our kiosks or ads? Let us know!



Pictured above: Help Me Grow outreach specialist Deanna Bottar with the newly installed kiosk at the Middlefield branch of Geauga County Public Library with the library's assistant director, Katy Farrell.

CIR has reached its goal of **60** Help Me Grow kiosks deployed statewide! We connected with more libraries, locating kiosks in popular child and family program areas.

The kiosks are bringing Help Me Grow access into the community so families can easily find information. Families can make a referral right at the kiosk!

Other Updates

Watch Me! Celebrating Milestones and Sharing Concerns

CDC's Act Early initiative is offering a free, online training course with tools and best practices for monitoring the development of children in your care and talking about it with their parents. Continuing education (CE) credit is available.

[Access the training](#)

The Great Lakes Breastfeeding webinar "[Skin to Skin is Not Universal: Teaching Equity](#)" invites participants to think critically about different audiences and offers strategies for how early parenting and lactation techniques can be equitably offered.

Continuing education (CE) credit is available until Dec. 24, 2025. Great Lakes Breastfeeding webinars can be viewed on Michigan Breastfeeding Network's learning management system. Visit glbw.thinkific.com and make an account or log in to view new and existing webinars.

Look Up Your County Data

You can find county specific data at data.ohio.gov.

Once on the webpage, use the Filter by Keyword search bar to enter Home Visiting. From there you choose a report, then export a CSV file or filter by county and date ranges to receive map views and charts under the Visualize tab.

[Find your county data](#)



Follow us on Instagram

CIR is sharing the Home Visiting stories on Bright Beginnings social media accounts throughout the remainder of SFY25.

We invite you to follow us at our new Instagram **@brightbeginningshmg** for information about Sparkler, Help Me Grow, early childhood education, Home Visiting, Early intervention, and more!

Do you have any questions regarding anything in this email?

Contact us at **communications@helpmegrow.org**.

Past editions of this eNewsletter can be found at **helpmegrow.org/providers**.