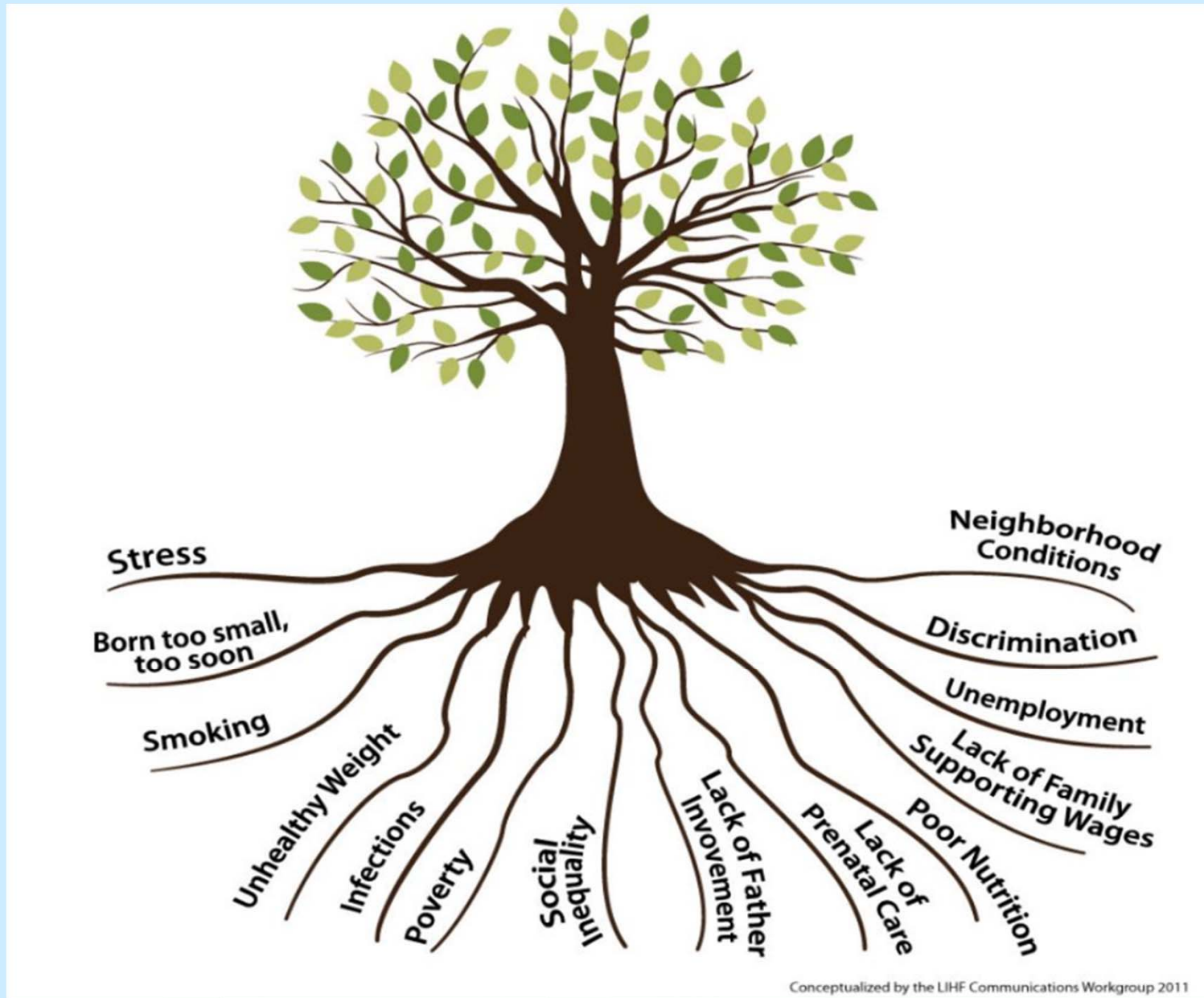


First Teacher: Alabama's Evidence-Based Home Visiting System

**A strategy to reduce infant mortality
and improve child and family outcomes**



The Root Causes of Infant Mortality





Research
suggests

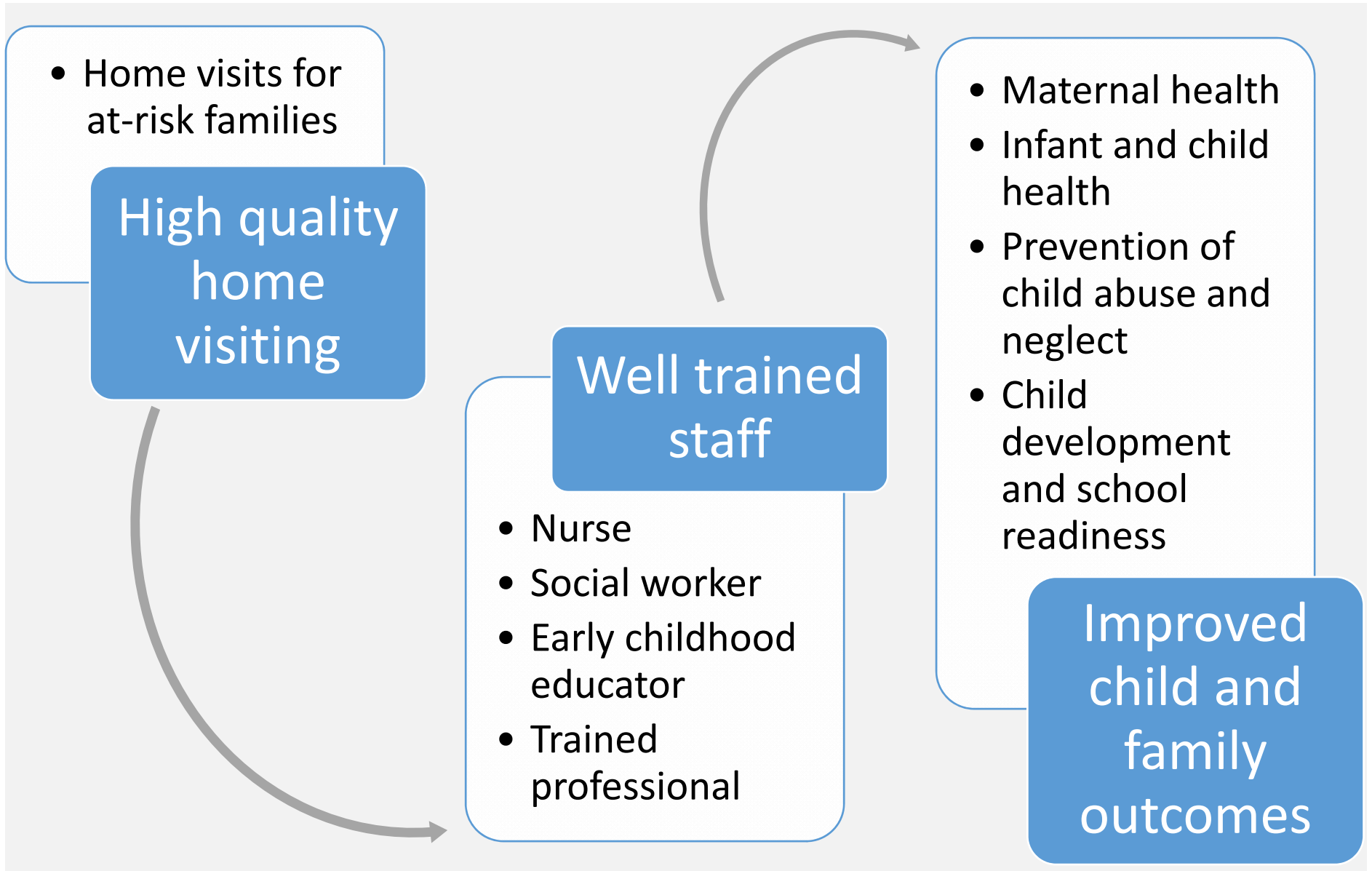
- Infant mortality is higher for some families:
- Low income
- Teens
- Unmarried
- Black or Hispanic



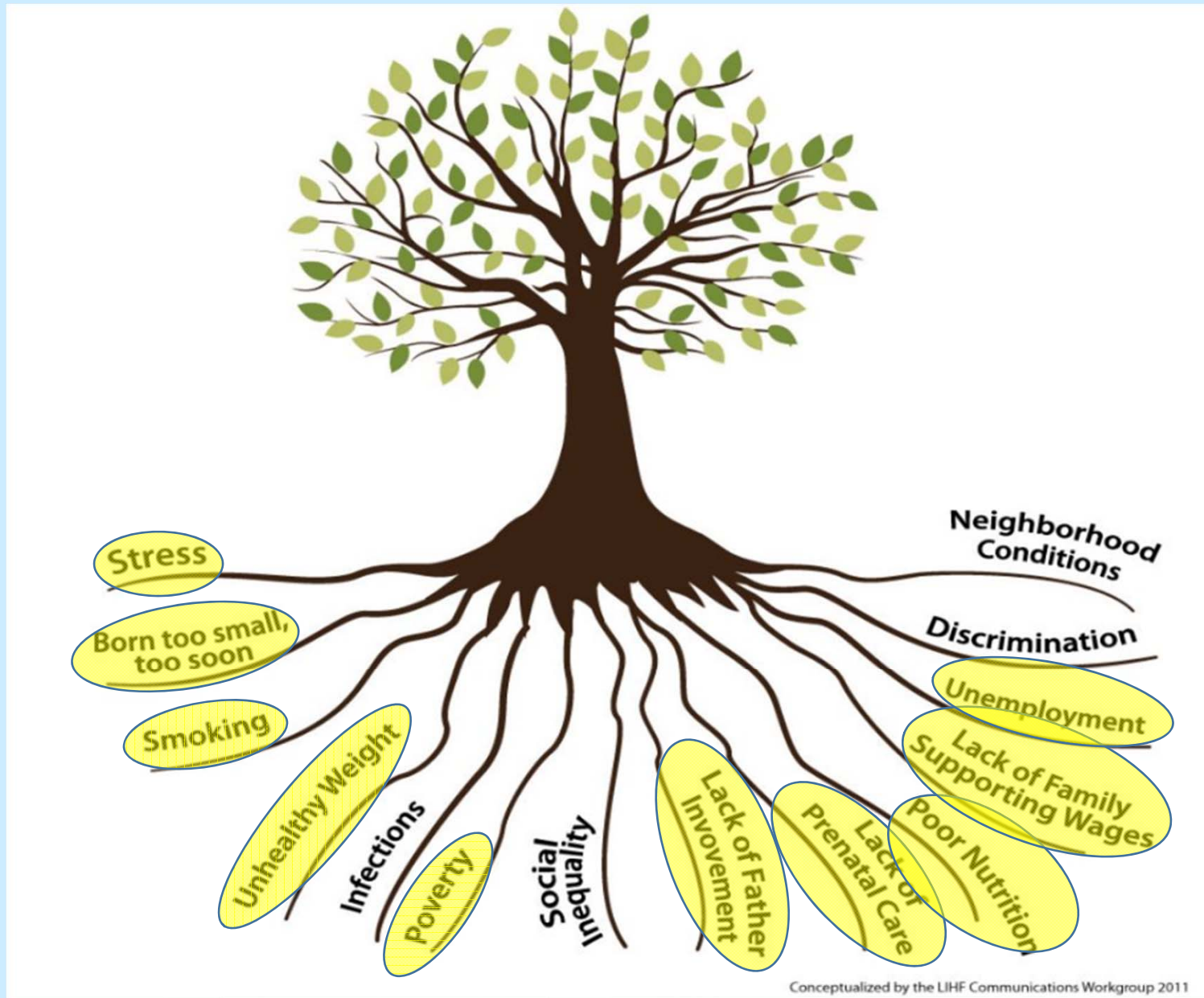
Studies
show

- Some strategies are key approaches to reduce infant mortality:
- Improving prenatal care
- Reducing maternal smoking and infant smoke exposure,
- Breastfeeding
- Safe sleep practices
- Regular well child visits and developmental screening
- Injury prevention

Home visiting as a strategy to address infant mortality



Home Visiting Addresses Root Causes of Infant Mortality



Alabama First Teacher

- **Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education is the designated lead agency for home visitation in the state.**

- First Teacher uses state and federal funds (Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting, MIECHV) to provide home visiting to Alabama's most vulnerable families.
- First Teacher services are:
 - Voluntary
 - Delivered through local community organizations
 - Provided in the home by a nurse, social worker, or educator
 - Include parent education, referral for support services, and screenings for child development, caregiver depression, and domestic violence
- DECE partners with the UAB School of Public Health for data support and research evaluation to understand outcomes for the program.

Models in Alabama



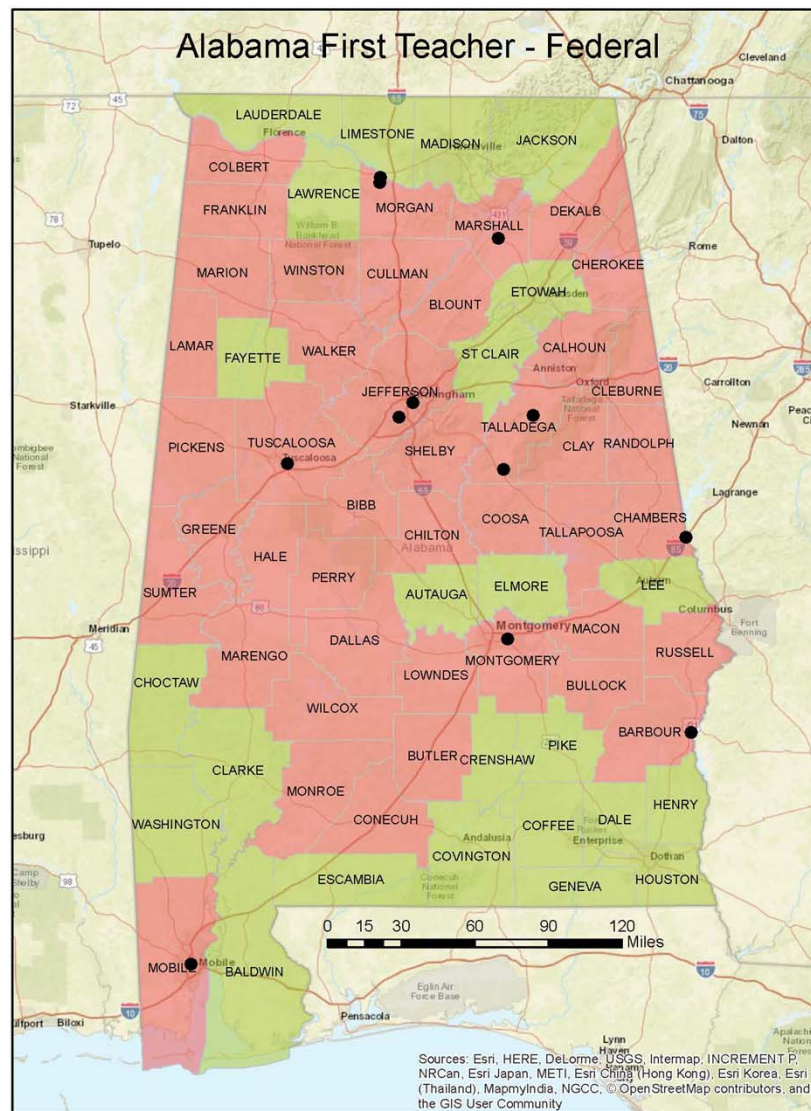
- Parents as Teachers (PAT),
- Nurse-Family Partnership,
- HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters)

Each program adheres to the requirements of its national model and collects federally-mandated benchmark data

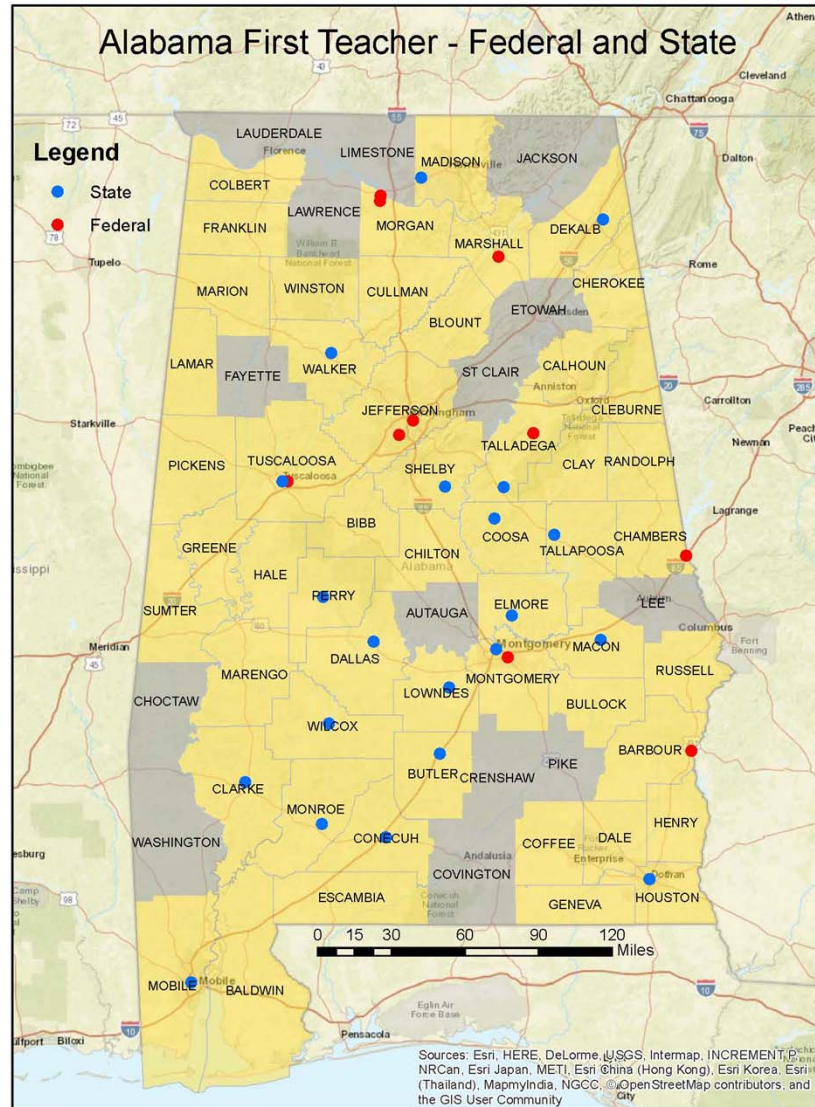
Evidence- Based Home Visiting Service Delivery Models

- NFP
 - Nurse visiting for first-time, low income parents
 - Must enroll by 28 weeks of pregnancy
 - Can serve through child's age 2 years
- PAT
 - Parent educators support and engage at-risk families
 - Can serve prenatally through Kindergarten
- HIPPY
 - Peer parent educators provide support to at-risk families
 - Focuses on families with children ages 3-5 years

Alabama's First Teacher Federally- Funded Counties



Alabama's First Teacher State and Federally- Funded Counties

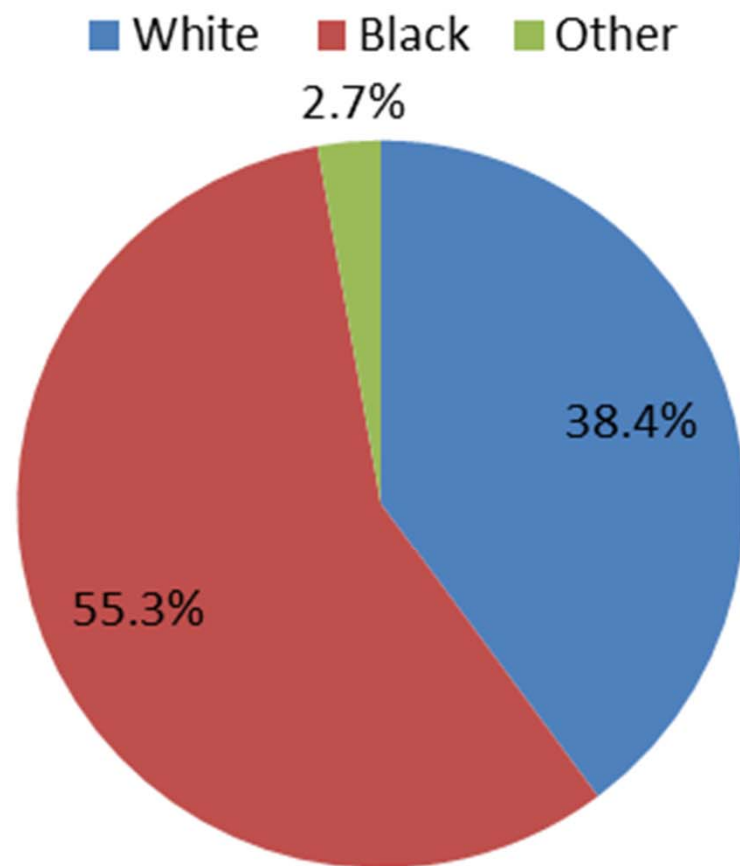


Who We Served: Statewide in 2016-2017



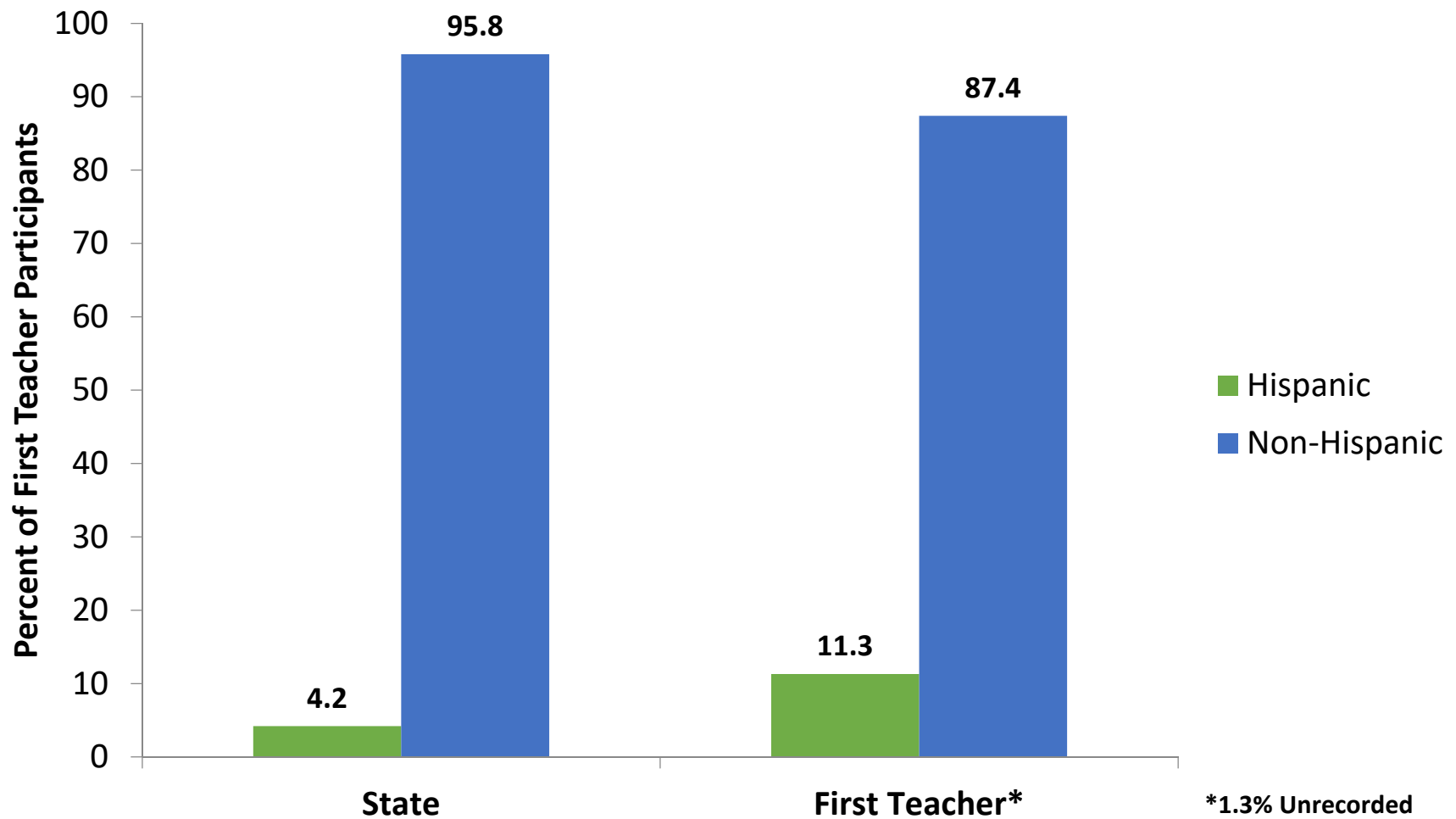
- Federally-Funded Sites
 - ✓ 1,967 Families
 - ✓ 2,477 Children
 - ✓ 20,341 Home Visits Provided

Race of Primary Caregiver*



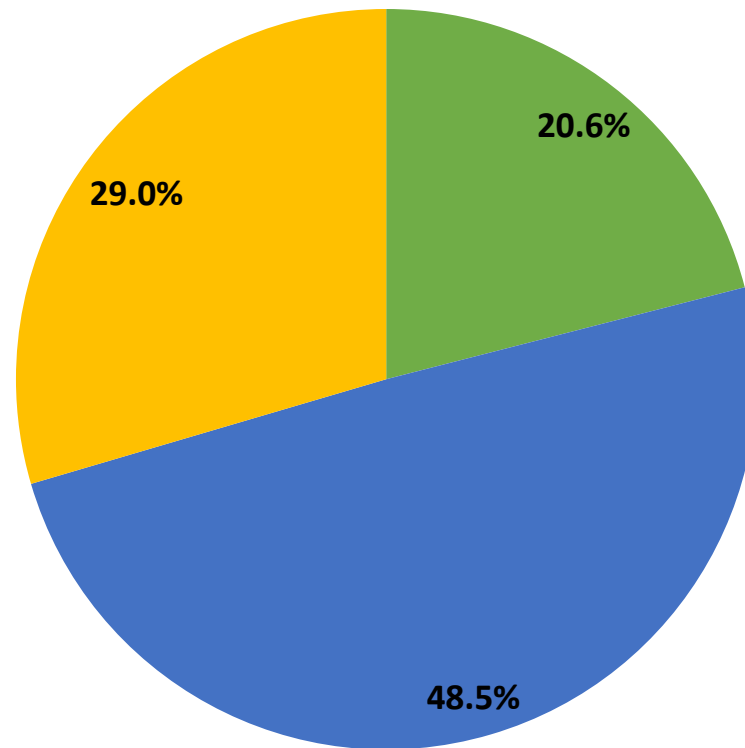
*3.6% Not Reported

Ethnicity of Primary Caregiver



Insurance Status of Primary Caregiver*

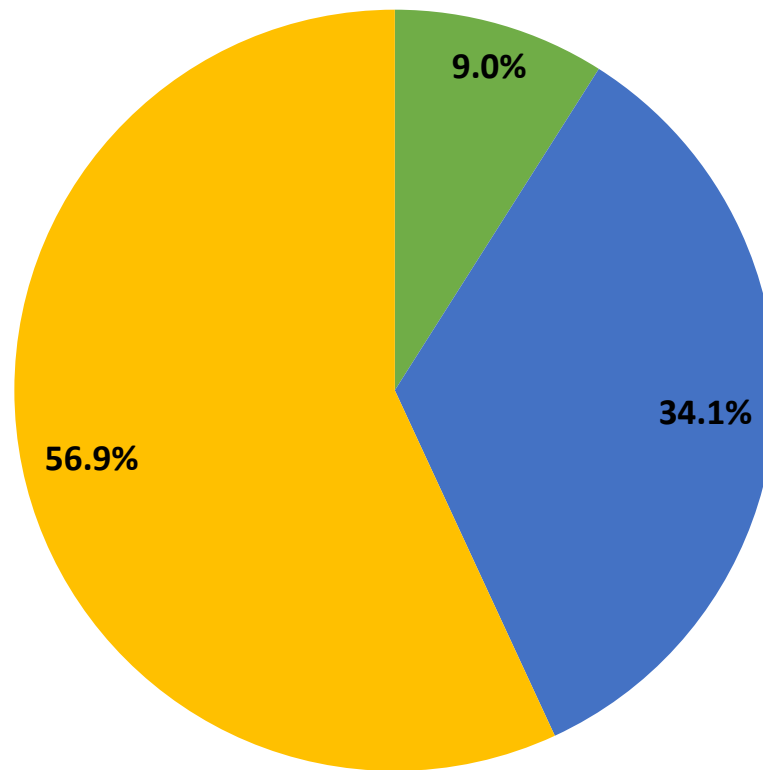
■ No Insurance ■ Public Insurance ■ Private Insurance



*1.9% Not reported

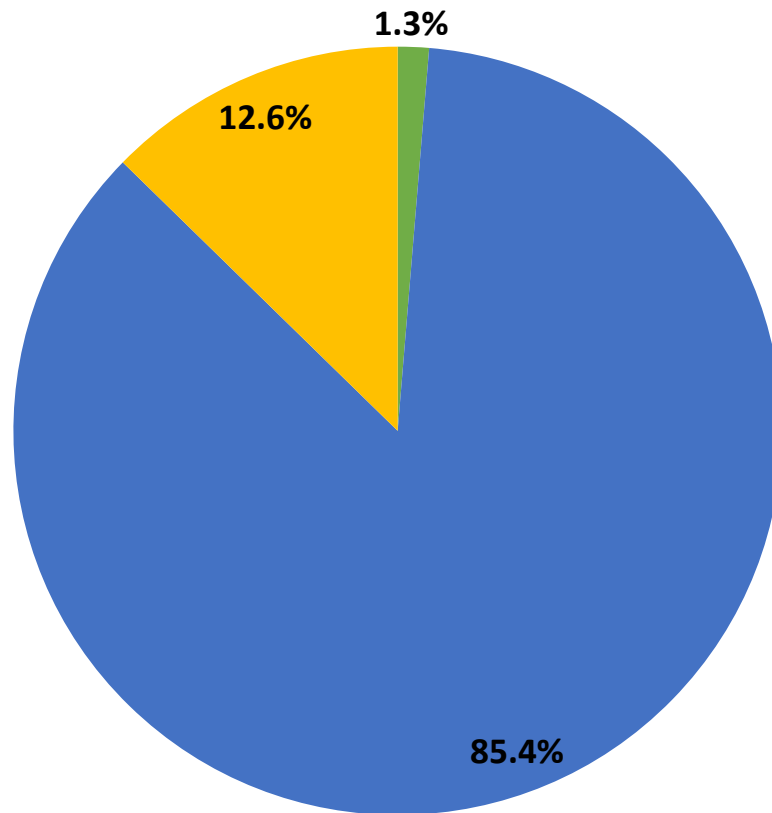
Age of Children (Years)

■ Under 1 year of age ■ 1-2 ■ 3-6



Insurance Status of Children*

■ No Insurance ■ Public Insurance ■ Private Insurance



*0.7% Not Reported

MIECHV Benchmarks = Program Goals

6 Main Program Goals

1. Improve maternal and newborn health
2. Reduce child injuries, child abuse,
3. neglect, or maltreatment and reduction
4. of emergency department visits
5. Improve school readiness and achievement
6. Reduce domestic violence
7. Improve family economic self-sufficiency
8. Improve coordination and referrals for other community resources and supports



MIECHV requires data collection and measurement for 19 constructs under these benchmarks.

Alabama's First Teacher Home Addresses Infant Mortality

Key Strategies

Promote health for women before, after and in between pregnancies

Provide screening and referral for maternal depression and domestic violence

Reduce smoking before, during and/or after pregnancy

Increase the number of infants who are breastfed

Improve safe sleep practices

Provide developmental screenings and referrals

Promote well-child doctor visits

Link families to education, job opportunities, and social services

Making a Difference for Children and Families

Indicator	Activity	2016-2017	Notes/Comparisons
Tobacco Cessation	Percent of caregivers who use tobacco <u>referred to tobacco cessation services</u>	90.2%	Smokers who live in rural areas are less likely to have access to programs that help them quit smoking.
Depression Screening	Percent of caregivers <u>screened for depression</u> within 8 weeks	81.4%	44% OB/GYN and 8% of Pediatricians reported usually or always screening.
Screening and Referral for Domestic Violence	Percent of caregivers <u>screened for domestic violence</u> within 4 months of enrollment and <u>referred</u>	97.2% 100%	The Family Violence Prevention Fund recommends goal of 70% compliance.
Parent-Child Interaction	Percent of primary caregivers enrolled in home visiting who receive an <u>observation of caregiver-child interaction by the home visitor using a validated tool</u>	93.3%	Parent-Child Interaction is the basis from which children are able to explore and experience the world. Parent-Child Interaction is the most important factor in child behavior and development.
Safe Sleep	Percent of infants enrolled in home visiting that are <u>always placed to sleep on their backs, without bed-sharing or soft bedding.</u>	56.7%	Nationally, 78.4% infants placed on back to sleep, 61.4% bed-share, and 38.5% have soft bedding.
Screening and Referral for Developmental Delay	Percent of children <u>screened for developmental delays according to American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines</u> and <u>referred</u>	81.0% 100%	Only 30.4% of parents nationally and 21.2% of Alabama parents report completing standardized developmental screening tool.

Impact of the Program to Improve Birth Outcomes: Selected Measures

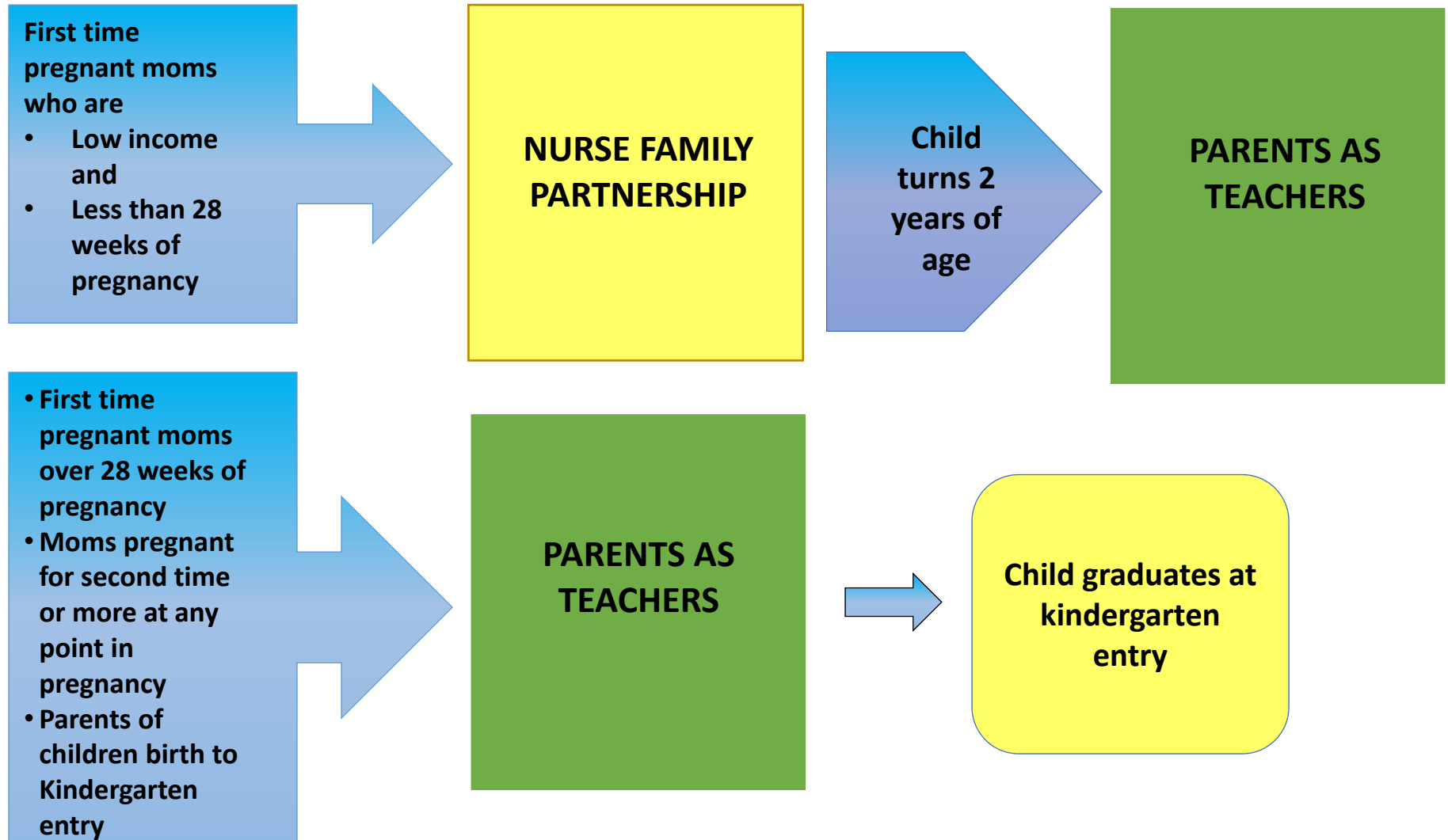
Benchmark 1: Improved maternal and newborn health

Construct	Indicator	First Teacher Statewide Percentage	First Teacher Statewide Percentage
		FY2017	FY2018 mid-year
1.1 Preterm birth	Percent of infants (among who enrolled in home visiting prenatally before 37 weeks) who were born preterm following program enrollment	15.9	8.3
1.3 Depression Screening	Percent of primary caregivers enrolled in home visiting who are screened for depression using a validated tool within 3 months of enrollment (for those not enrolled prenatally) or within 3 months of delivery (for those enrolled prenatally)	81.4	91.3

Benchmark 2: Child Injuries, Abuse, Neglect, and Maltreatment and Emergency Department Visits

Construct	Indicator	First Teacher Statewide Percentage	First Teacher Statewide Percentage
		FY2017	FY2018 mid-year
2.1 Safe Sleep	Percent of infants enrolled in home visiting that are always placed to sleep on their backs, without bed-sharing or soft bedding	56.7	63.8

Proposed Home Visiting Continuum





“We had a child with challenging behaviors in a new classroom in a poor rural area. Upon conferencing with the Mother we found out she is a single mother with this child and a baby and she is struggling in her role as a parent. We were able to connect her with the Home Visitation program provided by [First Teacher] and she is now actively involved with a group of parents facing similar challenges and she is receiving help and support as she is learning good parenting skills.”

-First Class Pre-K Regional Director