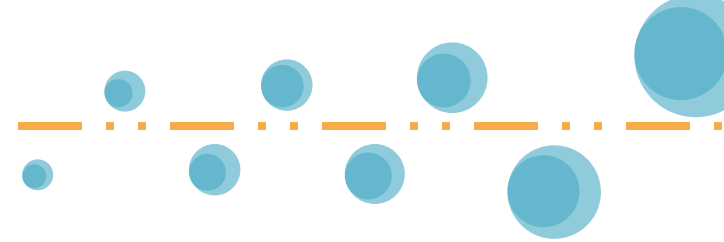
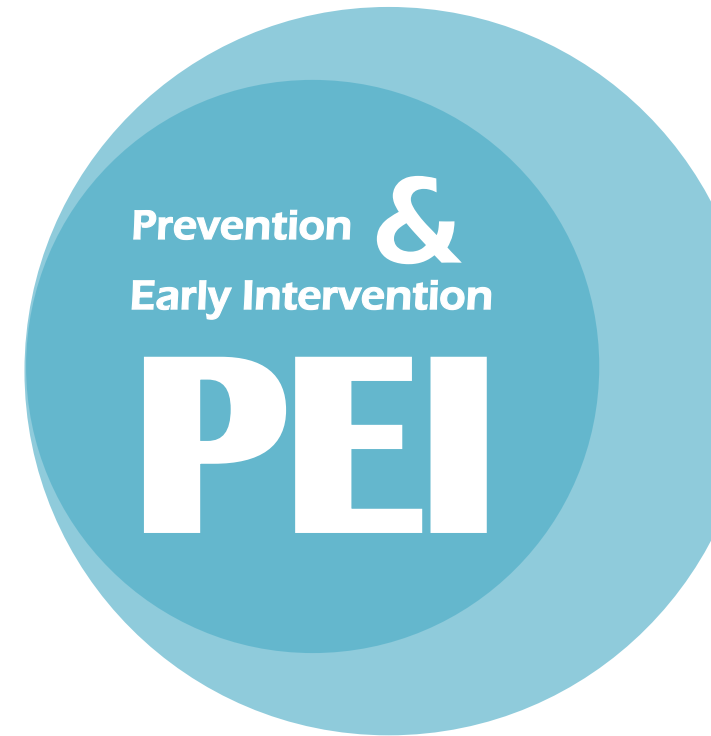


If you are a CPS caseworker and would like more information or want to refer families/foster youth to the HIP Program, please contact:

Email: HIP@dfps.state.tx.us



Helping through Intervention &
Prevention



www.helpandhope.org

What is the HIP Program?

Helping through Intervention and Prevention (HIP) Program is an initiative that began in 2014 as a part of the State of Texas Prevention and Early Intervention Division (PEI). It is designed to provide support services to high risk families with newborns.

HIP services include parent education through home visiting and also provide some basic items that may be needed for the baby such as diapers, wipes, formula, a Pack-n-Play or other items. HIP Services are offered by local community service program providers that contract with PEI.

Who is eligible for the HIP Program?

Foster youth (current and former) who are pregnant, who have recently given birth and are parenting a child up to two (2) years old. This includes single teen fathers who are foster youth (current and former). This also includes youth who have aged out of care completely, those who are receiving PAL services and those who are a part of the Extended Care program.

Families who have a newborn child, birth to two (2) years of age, who previously had their parental rights terminated in the two years preceding the birth month of the newborn child, due to child abuse or neglect; and

Families who have a newborn child, birth to two (2) years of age, who previously had a child die in the two years preceding the birth month of the newborn child, with the cause identified as child abuse or neglect.

What is the goal of the HIP Program?

The goal of the HIP program is to help families ensure the safety and well-being of their child and prevent child abuse and neglect by providing in-home education and support services through providers within their community.

What services are provided through the HIP Program?

A Home Based Assessment

A home based assessment of the family will be conducted to determine:

- The overall family functioning;
- Parental and family resilience;
- Knowledge of parenting and child development;
- Social supports;
- The home environment; and
- The overall well-being and safety of the child.

A Home Visiting Program

The home visiting program will provide:

- Parent education; and
- Basic needs support up to \$200.00.
 - Approved basic needs support can consist of:
 - Diapers,
 - Formula,
 - Clothing,
 - Crib,
 - Pack-n-play,
 - Bassinets,
 - Toiletries and/or
 - Any items that will be used for the baby.

Basic Needs Support can be used to assist with rent or utilities on a case by case basis.



Questions about the HIP program

Q. What is the cost for HIP services?

A. HIP services are strictly voluntary and free of charge to the family.

Q. What are the benefits of HIP services?

HIP services help parents with:

- Bonding and attachment with their baby;
- Understanding the ages and stages of child development;
- Creating a safe environment for their baby;
- Strengthening family support systems;
- Managing stress;
- Increasing protective factors; and
- Reducing the risk of child abuse.

Q. How often and how long are home visits?

A. Visits are usually once a week for 1 to 1.5 hours, but are generally based on the identified needs of the family.

Q. Who provides the home visiting services?

A. Contracted service providers within the local community provide HIP services.

Q. How long can a family receive services?

A. Roughly between three to four and a half months, depending on how frequently the provider visits the home. HIP services may be provided for up to twelve (12) subsequent home visit sessions, not to exceed a maximum of eighteen (18) subsequent home visits.

Q. What if the contractor has concerns with the home/family?

A. If serious concerns arise about the safety or well-being of the newborn or any other child residing in the home, the case will be referred to CPS.