



HEALTHY FAMILIES NEW YORK HOME VISITING COUNCIL: DEFINITION

- The Council's purpose is to support and advance the Healthy Families New York Home Visiting (HFNY) Program and its statewide system. The Council exists in accordance with Healthy Families America credentialing standards.
- Council Members are persons from the public and private sectors who support the goals and purpose of the HFNY Program, including parents served by the program, state and federal agencies serving children, the governor's office, children's advocacy groups, legislators' offices, HFNY program sites, other early childhood service providers, health and family service professional associations, the business community, and other supporters. Members also include HFNY Central Administration, staff from NYS Office of Children and Family Services' HFNY administration, Prevent Child Abuse New York's HFNY training & staff development, and SUNY Center for Human Services Research HFNY data collection & evaluation.

- **The HFNY HV Council has three primary roles: 1. Advisory, 2. Advocacy, 3. Advancement.**

1. Advisory

The Council advises the planning and coordination of the HFNY statewide program.

The Central Administration Team provides progress reports, evaluation results, and other relevant information to the Council at its meetings and by electronic communications, for Council members' input.

2. Advocacy

The Council advocates for HFNY and educates the public, in order to promote stable and adequate funding and community support for Healthy Families New York home visiting services expansion throughout New York State.

3. Advancement

The Council advances the goals of HFNY through informational updates on public policy issues, funding, HFNY program operations and accomplishments, and new and on-going collaborations. In addition, the Council supports other initiatives to advance the broader field of prenatal and early childhood services.

- **The HFNY Home Visiting Council is co-chaired by Prevent Child Abuse New York and NYS Office of Children & Family Services**

The co-chairs represents the public-private partnership that established and continues to support and promote the statewide program, one bearing primary responsibility for administration, management, and quality of HFNY Home Visiting, the other providing leadership in advocacy and education on behalf of the program.

- **The HFNY Home Visiting Council is responsible for developing and implementing a strategic plan.**