



## Parents as Teachers

January 10, 2012

Administration for Children and Families  
Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation  
370 L'Enfant Promenade SW  
Washington, DC 20447  
Attn: OPRE Reports Clearance Officer

To Whom It May Concern:

Parents as Teachers (PAT) greatly appreciates the opportunity to provide comments in response to the Request for Public Comment on the Mother and Infant Home Visiting Program Evaluation (MIHOPE) of Home Visiting Program Models for Pregnant Women, Expectant Fathers, and Caregivers of Children Birth through Kindergarten Entry, published in the Federal Register on December 22, 2011 (Vol. 76, N.246). We would also like to commend the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) for their dedication to the implementation of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting. We are extremely pleased with the enactment of the provisions in the Affordable Care Act which, for the first time will provide mandated federal funding for home visiting services.

The MIHOPE provides the national evidence-based, early childhood home visiting community with an unprecedented opportunity to highlight the effectiveness of this funding opportunity while helping states to develop future strategies towards continued quality improvement and sustainable development of their state's home visiting networks. It is our understanding that the MIHOPE study team has carefully reviewed updated State plans and will be following up with States in early 2012 to gather additional information needed for MIHOPE study site selection. Careful attention to site selection will help ensure that study findings will inform the federal government about the effectiveness of the newly established MIECHV program and will ultimately help states develop and strengthen home visiting programs in the future.

Regarding the request for comments in the Federal Register Vol. 76, No. 246, we believe that the proposed collection of information from state representatives and local program directors is indeed necessary for appropriate site selection for the MIHOPE study. We also believe that the estimate of burden of the proposed collection of information appears reasonable, that the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected is adequate, and we support the use of web-based surveys and/or use of other forms of technology which could minimize the burden on respondents. Again, we appreciate the opportunity to provide you with these comments. We look forward to the continued progress of the Maternal,

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## Parents as Teachers

Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program and MIHOPE. I would be happy to discuss any questions that you may have about the comments provided. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Scott Hippert  
President and CEO

Cc: Audrey Yowell, PhD, MSSS, Division of Child, Adolescent, and Family Health  
Moushimi Beltangady, MSW, MPP, Special Assistant to Deputy Assistant Secretary and  
Inter-Departmental Liaison for Early Childhood  
David Heppel, M.D., Director, Division of Child, Adolescent, and Family Health  
Linda Smith, Deputy Assistant Secretary and Inter-Departmental Liaison for Early  
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