



**Mission:** Healthy Family Initiatives (HFI) leads communities in developing solutions to eradicate child abuse and neglect.

**Purpose/Vision:** To create, promote and sustain the earliest application of appropriate, proven resources for the well-being of children and families. HFI envisions communities that embrace prevention and foster healthy families.

#### **HFI's CORE VALUES**

- ◆ We believe in a healthy family.
- ◆ We believe all children and families should have the opportunity to achieve personal fulfillment and potential.
- ◆ We believe in the enduring value of prevention as a means for reducing child abuse and neglect and empowering families.
- ◆ We believe the family is the preeminent forum for health, safety and wellness.
- ◆ We believe a healthy family is the foundation of a healthy community.

**Brief History: Healthy Family Initiatives**, chartered in 1982, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect by strengthening the foundation of a child's life – the family. Through our innovative programs, we help build strong and resilient families who know best parenting practices, are able to set and achieve long-term family goals, are economically stable, are involved in their child's education, and are productive members of society. As a leader in prevention, our practices and programs focus on:

- Serving as a "living laboratory" for innovative, long-term, intensive, home-based programs,
- Gaining and disseminating knowledge from pilot-program prevention models, which can shape best-practices,
- Identifying and introducing effective prevention programs which can be tailored to local needs, and
- Advocating for public-policy development that promotes bringing resources to the earliest possible time in children's lives, and the prevention of abuse and neglect.

**Texas Communities Served:** Greater Houston

**Key Accomplishments:** HFI is proud of our history of collaboratively seeking and introducing to Houston various family strengthening and home visitation models. These include being one of the first 14 sites in the country to implement a Healthy Families program, HFI's leadership in the development of fathering programs, our participation as one of seven federal demonstration sites in the country to pilot the Building Strong Families program as part of the United States' Congressional Healthy Marriage initiative, and in facilitating a collaboration that introduced the Nurse Family Partnership to Houston. As well, HFI was recently one of only two urban sites in the nation to receive a three year grant to develop community based Doula services. It is our hope that not only have our efforts and work improved the lives of many families and their children in our community, but that our work has significantly contributed to the knowledge that supports best practices in evidence- based applications in home visitation.

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TECEC is proud to promote the work of the Texas Home Visitation Coalition. For more information, please contact Kara Johnson, President and CEO of the Texas Early Childhood Education Coalition, at 512.476.7939 or [kjohnson@tecec.org](mailto:kjohnson@tecec.org).