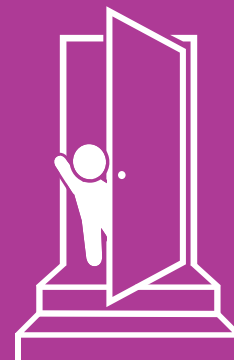
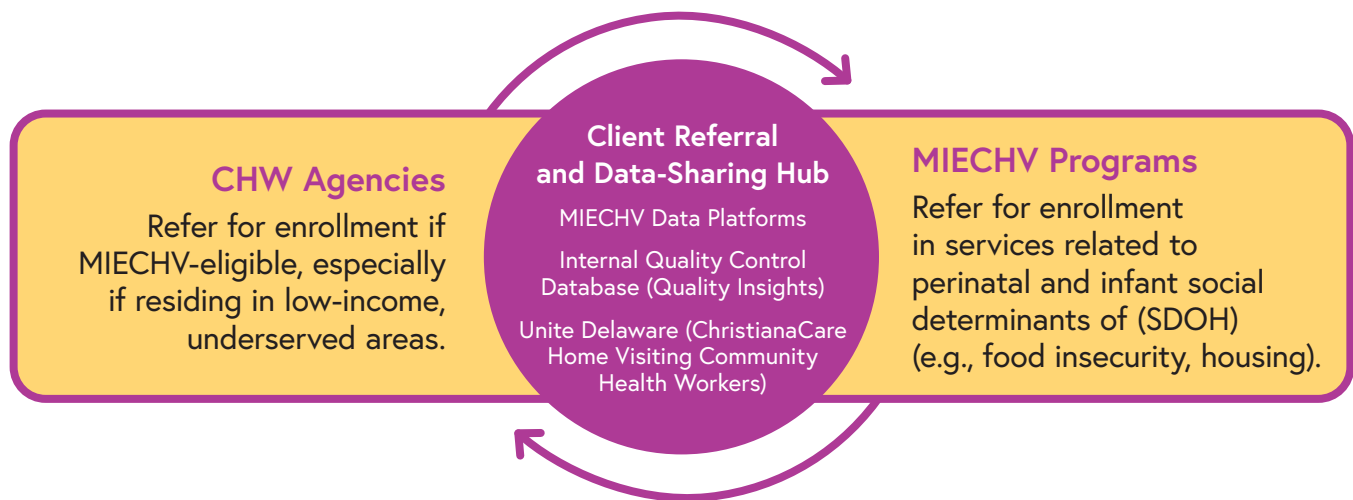


WORKING TOGETHER TO SERVE FAMILIES

A powerful partnership between MIECHV and Community Health Workers.



This partnership strengthens the referral process between federally supported evidence-based home visiting programs such as the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) and Community Health Worker (CHW) agencies.



HOW IT WORKS

Families enrolled in MIECHV programs who face unmet social and structural needs — like food insecurity or inadequate housing — are referred to CHWs, who are equipped to help.

Families already working with CHWs, who are eligible but not yet enrolled in MIECHV — often due to limited awareness of the program — can be referred to home visiting services.

HOW CAN WE BETTER SERVE FAMILIES TOGETHER?

- Share knowledge of programs and services.
- Gather insights directly from the families we serve.
- Build trust with families for smoother referrals.
 - Family Support Specialists (FSSs) can prepare families for what to expect after an SDOH assessment.
 - Make joint home visits for a "warm handoff" experience.
 - Communicate clearly and get parental consent for sharing information.
- Collaborate virtually to stay connected and aligned.

HOW DOES THIS PARTNERSHIP BENEFIT STAFF?

- Revisit the program's model and goals. Then, implement them.
- Optimize how services are delivered.
 - Define clear roles, responsibilities, and resource boundaries.
 - Improve communication and follow-up care continuity.
 - Stretch limited resources further.
 - Share the workload to reduce burnout.
 - Work as a team to improve outcomes.
- Empower families instead of enabling dependency.
- Contribute to better community health, together.



DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
Division of Public Health
Maternal and Child Health Bureau