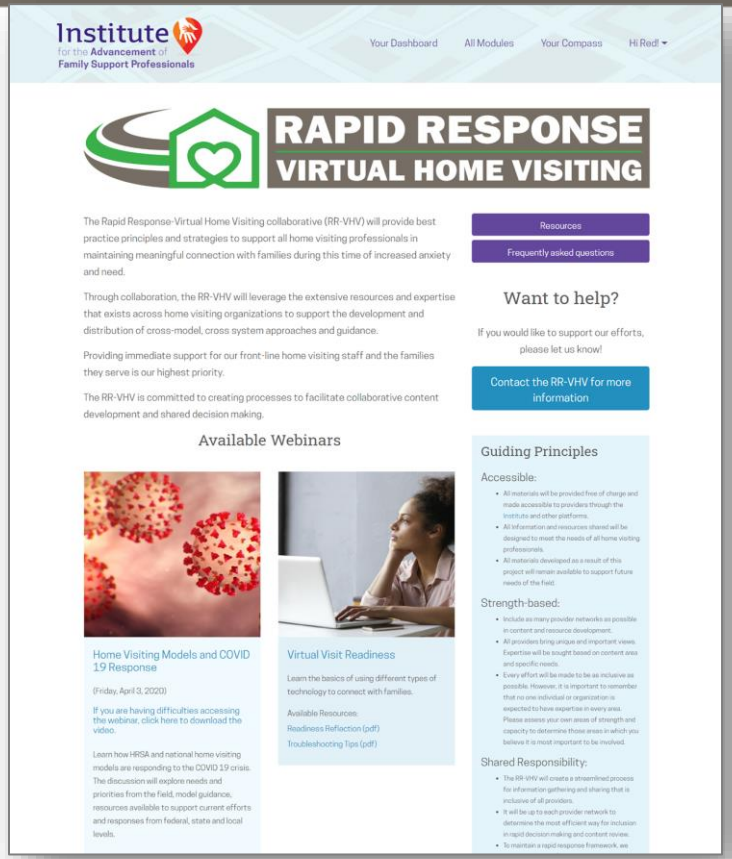
RAPID RESPONSE
VIRTUAL HOME VISITING

Supporting Home Visitors in a Post-Pandemic World: Insights and Best Practices

April 26, 2023

RR-VHV Resources



Webinar recordings, slide decks, and supporting documents are available at:

https://institutefsp.org/covid-19-rapid-response

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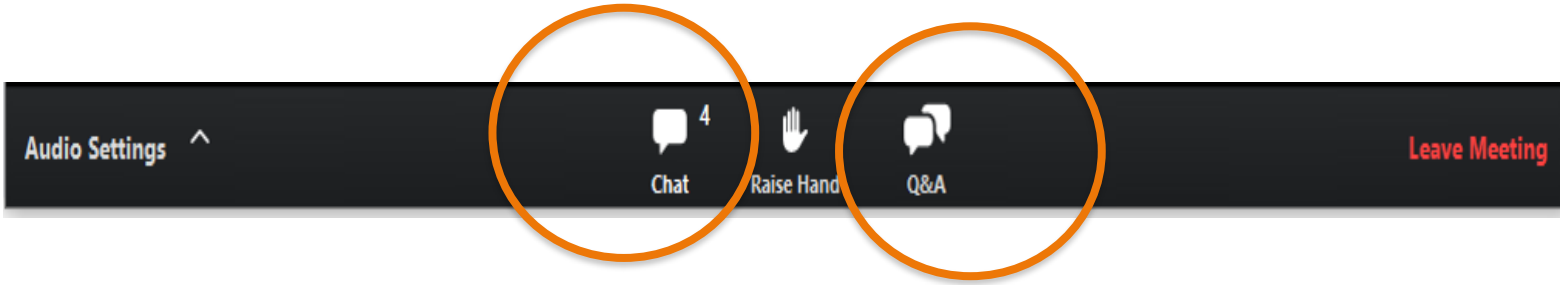
Chat Feature

Please use the chat box to respond to questions that we ask you!

Q&A Feature

Please use the Q&A box to submit your questions.

Thank you!



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Objectives

- Reflect on home visiting challenges in the ‘post pandemic’ era
- Explore a ParentChild+ Home Visiting Study
- Learn strategies for supporting home visitors in hybrid and in-person visits

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National FSP Competencies

- Domain 1: Infant and Early Childhood Development
  - Dimension 1 Typical and atypical development
  - Dimension 5 Early learning
- Domain 3: Parent-Child Interactions
  - Dimension 11: Influences on parenting
  - Dimension 12: Parent-child relationships
- Domain 4: Dynamics of Family Relationships
  - Dimension 15 Influences on family well-being
- Domain 7: Relationship-Based Family Partnerships
  - Dimension 25 Respect and responsiveness
  - Dimension 26 Positive communication
  - Dimension 27 Collaboration
- Domain 8: Cultural and Linguistic Responsiveness
  - Dimension 28 Cultural competency
- Domain 10: Professional Practice
  - Dimension 36 Professional development
  - Dimension 38 Quality improvement

Institute for the Advancement of Family Support Professionals

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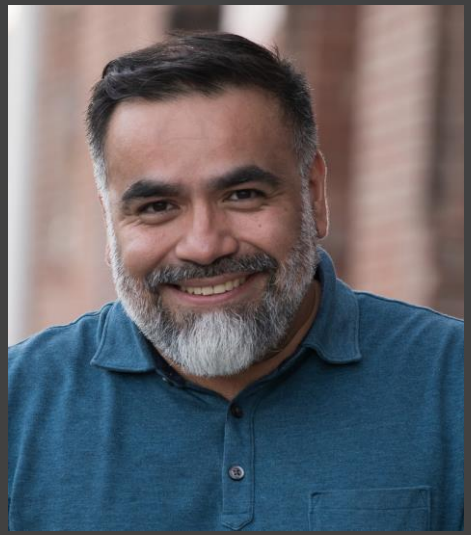
Today's Panelists

Jessica Faith,
Associate Director, Learning & Fidelity
ParentChild+



Cesar Zuniga,
Director of Research & Evaluation
ParentChild+

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Who is ParentChild+?

- Early Learning Specialists (home visitors) typically share a community, linguistic, or cultural context with the families
- School readiness and parent support program
- One-on-One and HBCC models
- Children 16-48 months
- Families receive 92 visits

ParentChild+
Equal Possibilities From The Start

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Poll: Sample Rapid Cycle Survey Questions

In what modality are you conducting home visiting?

What is the most challenging aspect of virtual home visiting?

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Introduction: Covid Context

- Social distancing, social isolation
- Basic needs
- Underserved communities (ex: tech divide)
- Social unrest, BLM
- Lack of evidence to support the change in the field to virtual or hybrid visiting

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Rapid Cycle Overview

Child Trends project overview (2021-22)

Goal:

To understand the changes to delivery of virtual home visits in a more systematic and scientific way

Long-term goal:

Development of a hybrid home visiting model

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Research Questions

- What changes were adopted for virtual home visiting compared to the in-person model?
- How are staff and families experiencing virtual visits?
- What are barriers and advantages to virtual visits?
- What are the resources and supports needed for virtual visits?

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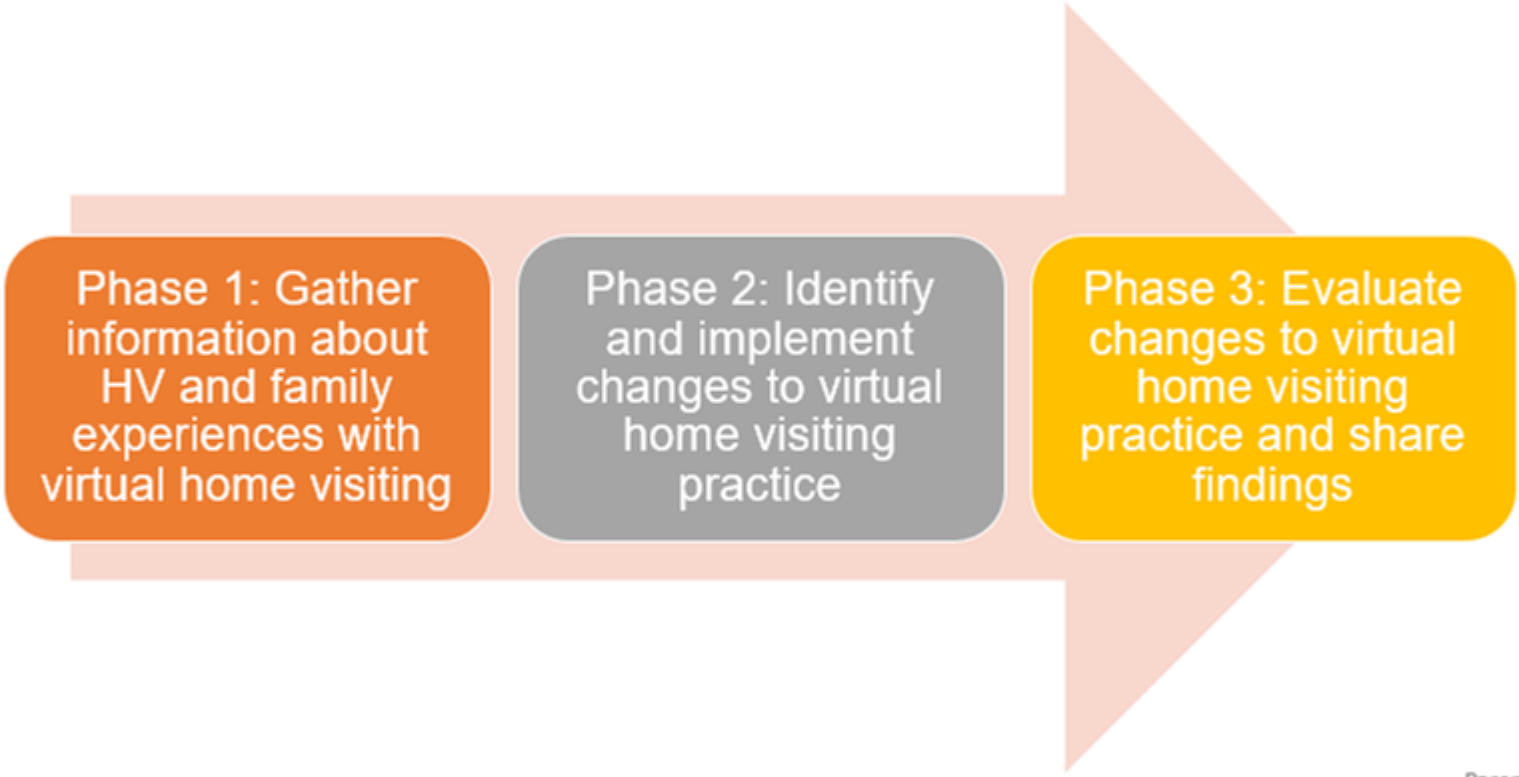
Virtual Home Visits (HV): Research Process



Race Equity Framing of Research Methods

ParentChild+ Context	Data Collection	Data Analysis & Dissemination
• 70% immigrant families • >90% BIPOC families	• Collecting data in English & Spanish • Compensating ELSs & families • Remaining mindful of participant burden (rapid cycle format)	• Soliciting HV feedback on interpretation of findings • Holding meetings for ELSs to share findings and preview final report

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Phase 1: Feedback of Virtual Visiting

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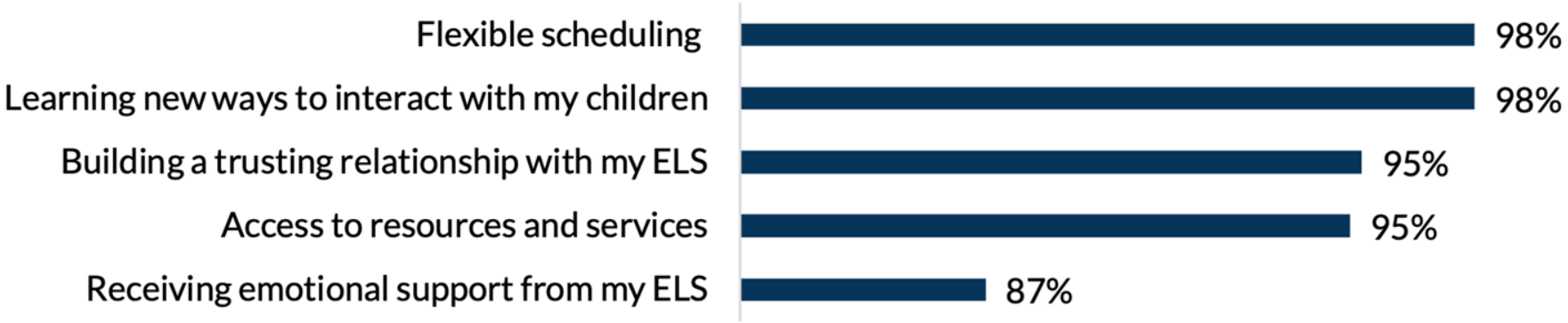
Survey Results: Successes of Home Visiting

Figure 2. Families' reported successes of virtual visits (n = 41)



Source: ParentChild+ Baseline Survey, 2021, Child Trends

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Family challenges to virtual home visiting

Table 4. Challenges of virtual visits for families

	Families (n = 41) (%)
Interruptions from other family members or children	33%
Access to technology such as tablets and computers	33%
Access to reliable internet	26%
Keeping my child engaged during visits	22%
Unfamiliarity with technology	18%
Receiving emotional support from my ELS	15%

Source: ParentChild+ Baseline Survey, 2021, Child Trends

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Home Visitor Challenges to Virtual Visiting

Table 5. Challenges of virtual visits for Early Learning Specialists (n = 14)

	ELS (%)
Maintaining parent and child engagement during visits (e.g., keeping them in view during visits)	57%
Repeated visit cancellations	57%
Finding a quiet space for you to work (at home or in the office)	57%
Technology or internet access	29%

Source: ParentChild+ Baseline Survey, 2021, Child Trends

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Phase 2: Training + Next Steps

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Moving Towards Phase 2: Solutions

Phase 1 Challenges	Phase 2 Solutions Proposed
Family: Engagement during visit (ex: disruptions from others)	Training and guidance on practices for involving other children in visits
Family: Need for emotional support from home visitor	Reflection activity with families
ELS: Scheduling issues, cancellations or rescheduling	Motivational text/strength-based feedback

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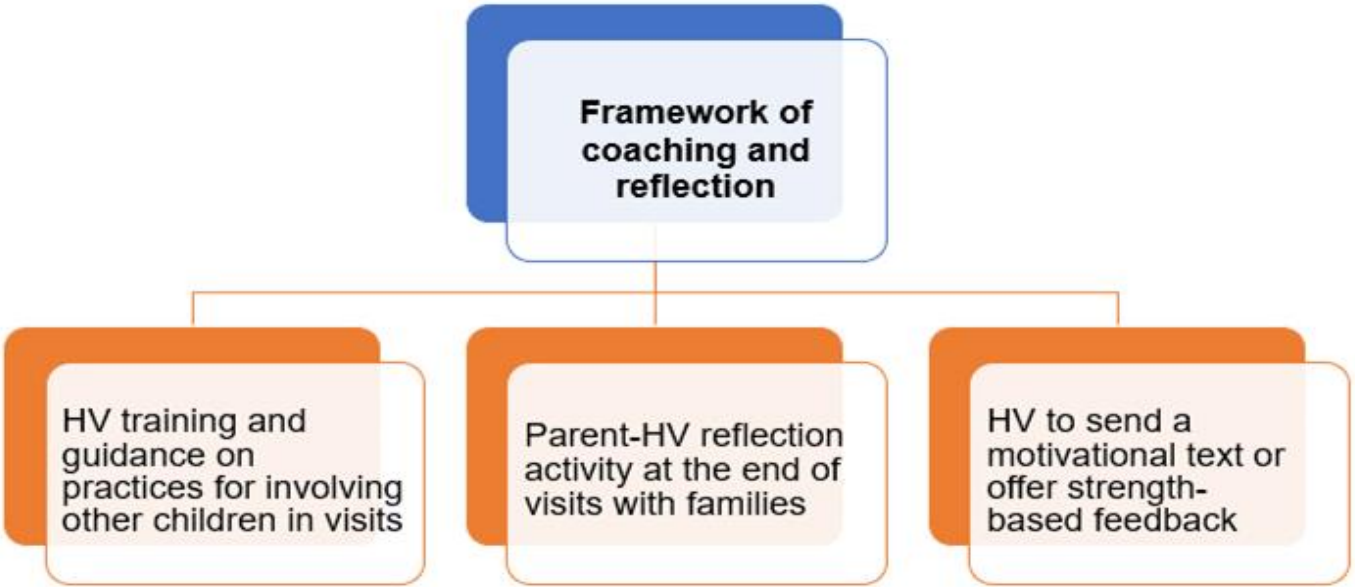
Moving Towards Phase 2: Training



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ParentChil

In the Chat….

From this video, drop a sample strength-based text that you might send to this Mom:

- What was parenting strengths did Mom exhibit?
- How did Mom support her children's development?

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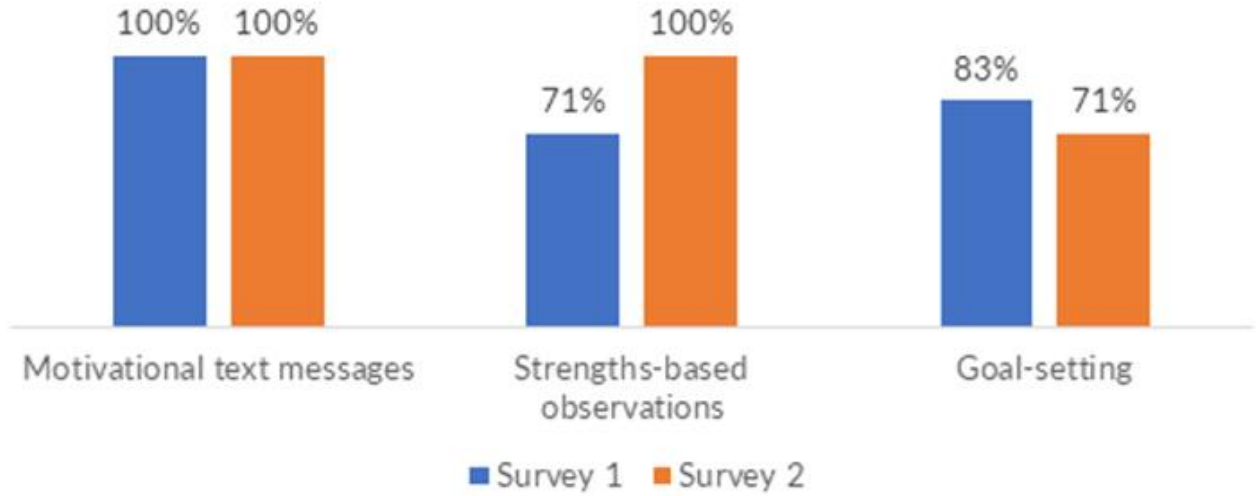
Home Visitor Perceptions of Change

Figure 4. Early Learning Specialists' perceptions of how positively families responded to changes



Source: ParentChild+ Rapid Surveys, 2022, Child Trends

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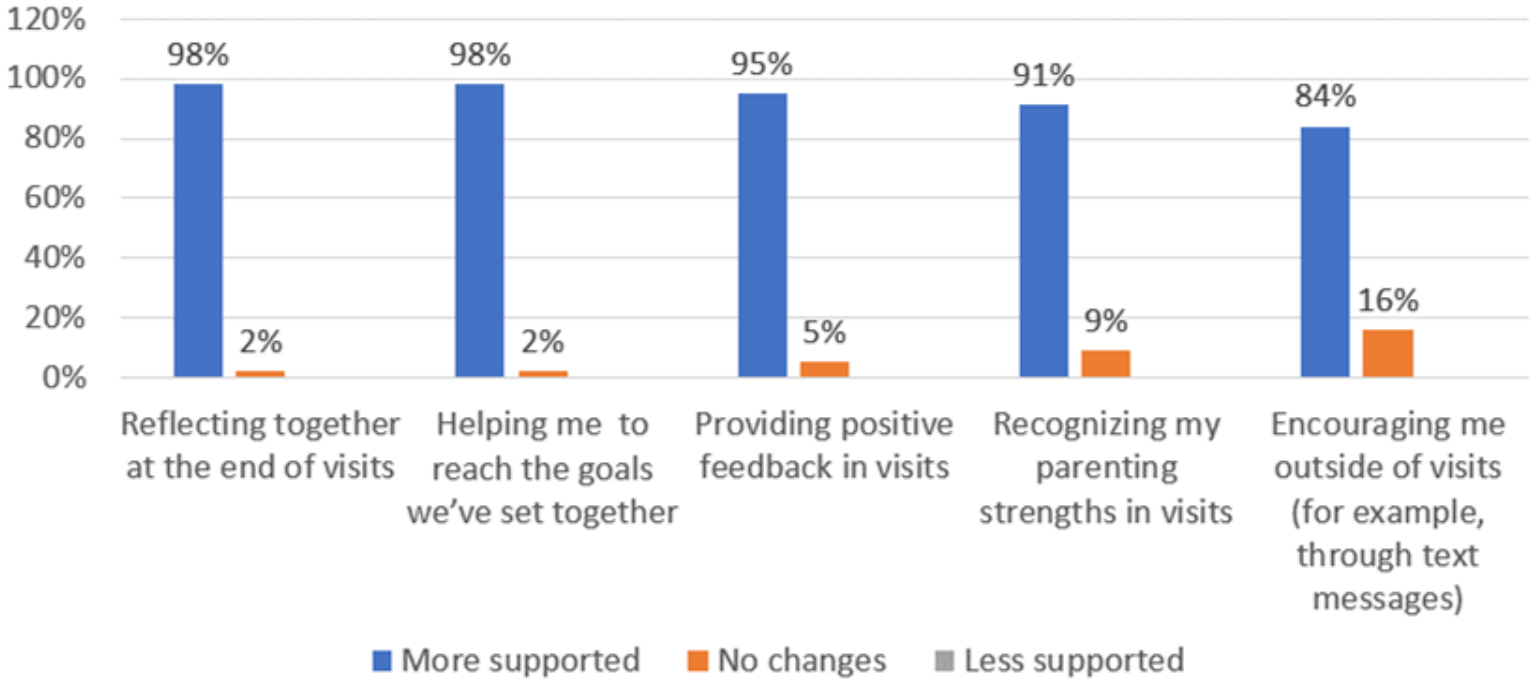
Family Perception of Changes



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“My HV often sends reminders and feedback after our visits acknowledging what I did during the visit. It feels good to see that other people recognize the effort you are making when you are doubting yourself.”

- Parent receiving virtual visits only, post survey

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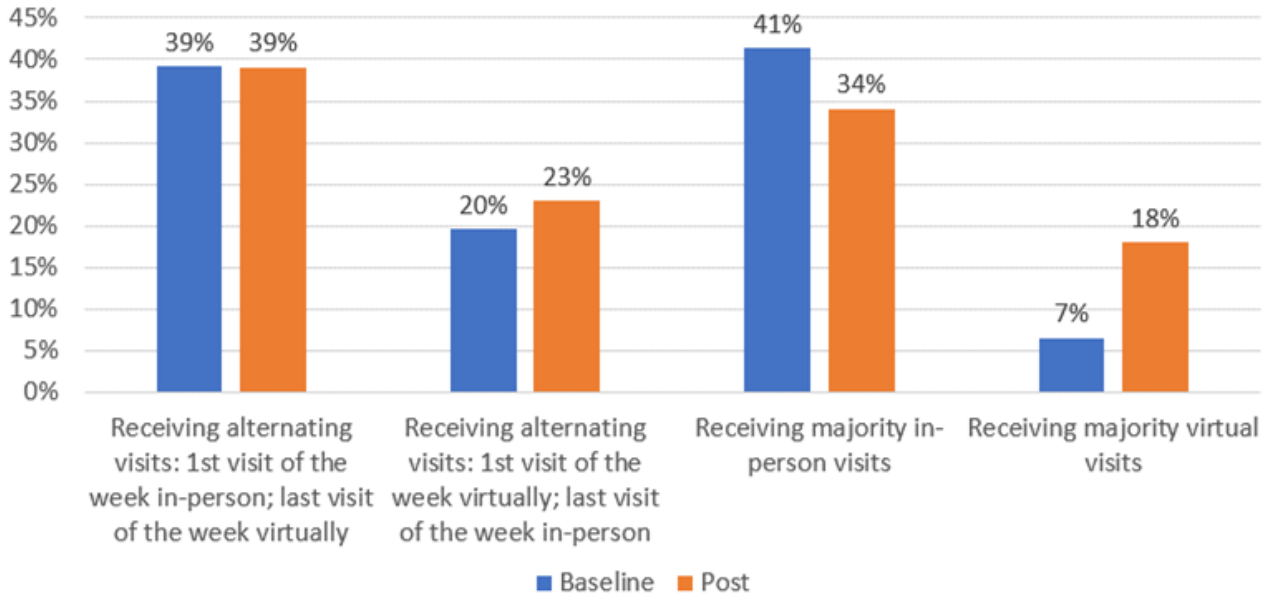
Family Interest in Hybrid Home Visiting



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What Are Sample Reflection Questions?

With Family (End of Visit):

- Goals
- Reflection of visit
- Observations - child development, learning, strengths
- Co-planning

Home Visitor Self-Reflection (After Visit):

- HV practice
- Professional development and core competencies
- Supervision

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Activities Suited for Virtual Visiting

	ELS			Families		
	In-Person	Either	Virtual	In-Person	Either	Virtual
Reading books/storytelling	8%	**92%**	**0**	**44%**	**44%**	**12%**
Music and movement	17%	**67%**	17%	**49%**	**47%**	5%
Arts and crafts	17%	**83%**	**0**	**58%**	40%	2%
Hands-on (games, puppets, play-dough, etc.)	18%	**73%**	9%	**66%**	33%	7%

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Takeaways

- Away from “prescriptions;” centering family voice and collaboration
- Towards sustainable coaching and goal setting approaches
- Chances for reflection built into visits (end or beginning of visit)
- Weigh benefits of virtual visits with family preference + need
- Research and HV practice to inform each other

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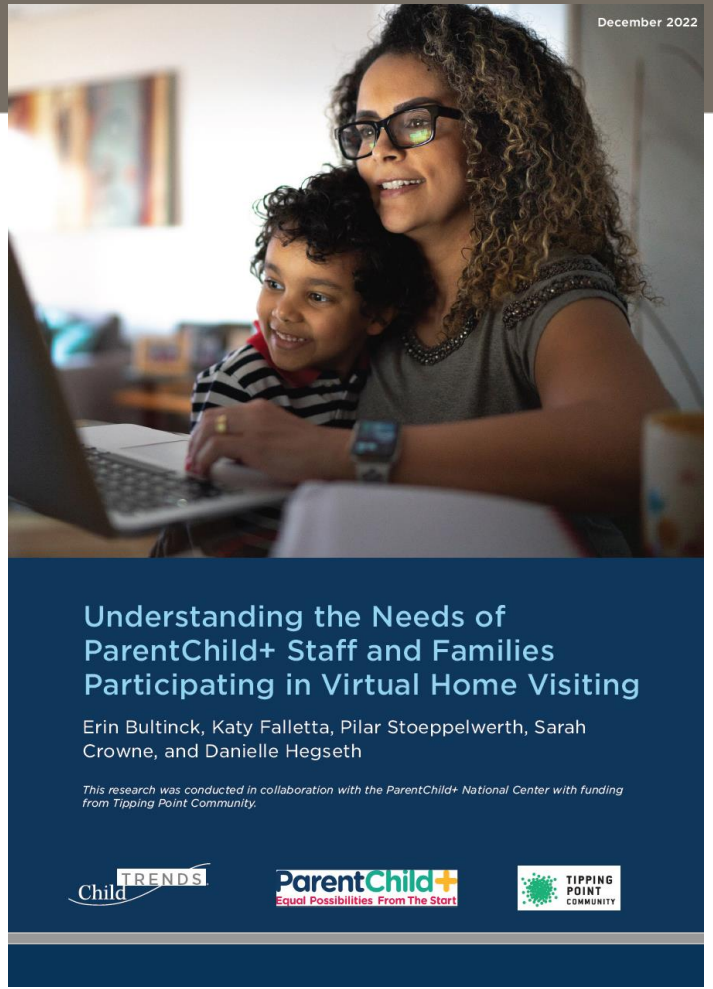
Child Trends Brief



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Questions

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THANK
YOU

Credits

We extend a special thank you to the team that created this webinar:

- Casey Amayun, Rapid Response Virtual Home Visiting
- Nelson Artavia, Brazelton Touchpoints Center
- Jessica Faith, ParentChild+
- Joelfre Grant, Brazelton Touchpoints Center
- Cesar Zuniga, ParentChild+

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