



Loudoun County, March 2010

INMED's MotherNet/Healthy Families Loudoun Program Advisory Board Members

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Giving At-Risk Children a Healthy Start in Life

A program that works: independent evaluation proves MotherNet/Healthy Families Loudoun's success

Across Loudoun County, hundreds of children in disadvantaged families can count on a brighter future thanks to their parents' involvement in INMED's MotherNet/Healthy Families Loudoun program. For the 11th consecutive year, an independent evaluation and statewide comparison among similar programs shows that MotherNet/Healthy Families Loudoun is among the best at what it does: ensuring that families are stable and that parents are equipped with the knowledge, skills and confidence to give their children the healthiest possible start in life and to provide a safe, nurturing environment for their children's optimal development.

MotherNet/Healthy Families Loudoun, an intensive, long-term perinatal home visiting and case management program for families who face a range of challenges that put their children at high risk for poor outcomes, recently received its annual independent **evaluation report** conducted by Lee Huntington with Huntington and Associates and Joe Galano with the Applied Social Psychology Research Institute at the College of William and Mary. This year's evaluation is in "report card" format, but in alternating years, the program receives a detailed narrative report (see **FY 2008 evaluation report**).

Among the highlights of the most recent five-year cumulative evaluation:

- 94% of pregnant women and teens received adequate prenatal care.
- 96% of babies were born at healthy weights.
- 100% of children were connected to a medical home.
- 100% of children remained up-to-date on their immunizations.
- 100% of parents provided home environments that promote optimal child development.
- No teen mothers had rapid repeat births (within 24 months of the first birth).
- No families had founded cases of abuse or neglect.



With the support of our local partners, INMED's Loudoun County programs are working to improve the health, lives and opportunities of children across the county.

As a program accredited by **Healthy Families America** and as a member of **Healthy Families Virginia**, the MotherNet/Healthy Families Loudoun program is required to take part in an annual independent evaluation, the results of which demonstrate the level of attainment of its overall goals and objectives. In Virginia, all Healthy Families programs' annual evaluations are aggregated into a statewide evaluation report and presented to the General Assembly.

The MotherNet/Healthy Families Loudoun program's annual outcomes are evaluated by comparing them with the 14 benchmarks selected by the evaluators and the Healthy Families Virginia Directors Network. These benchmarks are associated with the five most important objectives established by the network:



The MotherNet/Healthy Families Loudoun program provides parents the education and support they need to give their children the healthiest possible start in life.

"We are proud to say that our evaluation reports show that the outcomes of MotherNet/Healthy Families Loudoun's work are strong and undeniable," says Director María Elena Vásquez-Alvarez. "Together with our partners, we are helping families build a foundation for success, become more self-sufficient, and prepare their children to enter school healthy, happy and ready to learn and succeed."

Volunteer Opportunities with INMED Partnerships for Children Loudoun Programs

INMED has several local volunteer opportunities available:

- **Parent Education/Support Group Volunteers (Spanish-speaking):** Assist with childcare activities during our weekly Spanish-language parenting groups (attending to and playing games with young children, leading arts and crafts activities, etc.).
- **Parent Education/Support Group Volunteers (Spanish-speaking):** We invite Spanish speakers who have expertise in any of a variety of parenting or life skills-related topics to come to our groups and share your knowledge and expertise. Groups are generally conducted on Tuesdays from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Douglass Community Center in Leesburg.
- **Parent Education/Support Group Volunteers (English-speaking):** We invite English speakers who have expertise in any of a variety of parenting or life skills-related topics to share their knowledge at our weekly Spanish-language parenting groups. Translation will be provided. Tuesdays from 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. at the Douglas Community Center in Leesburg.
- **Homeless Intervention Program:** Assist with childcare activities (attending to and playing games with young children, leading arts and crafts activities, etc.) while single homeless mothers attend job interviews, job training or school classes.
- **Administrative Volunteers:** We welcome volunteers to assist with office-based administrative tasks such data entry, organization of curricula, photocopying, filing, organization of donated goods, etc.
- **Donations:** We welcome donations of new or gently used maternity and infant clothing, unused personal care items; toys and books. We also welcome new household items to use for raffles at parent education groups. Gift certificates to local grocery or discount stores are also appreciated.
- **Advisory Board Member:** INMED's MotherNet/Healthy Families Loudoun program is seeking new members for its local Advisory Board, to help guide program development and strategic planning, assist in networking and resource development, and advise senior program staff in the development of long-term plans for sustainability. Please contact us

- Encouraging positive health behaviors during pregnancy
- Promoting infant and child health
- Increasing parental knowledge of child development and promoting positive parent-child interactions
- Supporting child development and school readiness
- Developing the ability to access and utilize community resources.

INMED – Loudoun County Programs Job Postings

Housing Case Manager: FT – 40-hour flexible weekly schedule

The Housing Case Manager is responsible for the case management of families at risk of becoming homeless. **Qualifications:** Bachelor's degree in a human services field required. Experience working with at-risk families and individuals needed. Good writing and organizational skills. Able to lift up to 50 pounds. Loudoun County working experience preferable.

Child Care Aide: Hourly

The Child Care Aide is responsible for the care of the children of parents who attend educational groups, once a week on Tuesdays, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm, at the Douglass Community Center in Leesburg. The Child Care Aide is the primary caregiver of children in the group and is responsible for their needs that may include feeding, discipline, educational/recreational activities and appropriate supervision.

Qualifications: High school diploma or GED, one year of volunteer or paid experience in child care, bilingual (English and Spanish), able to lift up to 50 pounds.

For both positions, salary and benefits to be discussed during interviews. No phone calls, please. Fax or e-mail resume to 703-858-7253 or mvasquez@inmed.org.

for specific information on eligibility, responsibilities and expectations.

- **Advisory Board Minutes Taker:** The INMED-MotherNet/Healthy Families Loudoun program is seeking a volunteer Minutes Taker who would help the program director with the quarterly meeting agenda and minutes.

For more information on these volunteer opportunities, please contact María Elena Vásquez-Alvarez, program director, at 703-729-4951, ext 218 or email her at mvasquez@inmed.org.



About INMED Partnerships for Children

INMED Partnerships for Children is an international humanitarian development organization. Since 1986, INMED has built alliances with public- and private-sector partners in more than 100 countries to rescue children from the immediate and irreversible harm of disease, hunger, abuse, neglect or violence, and to prepare them to shape a brighter future for themselves and the next generation.

Together with our partners, INMED is transforming the future for hundreds of thousands of children and their family and community members in the U.S., Latin America and the Caribbean, and southern Africa by:

- Securing children's health, development and safety
- Developing skills, knowledge and opportunities for children and youth
- Building family and community capacity to support and sustain positive change

For more information or to submit questions and comments, please contact Maria Vásquez-Alvarez, Director MotherNet Loudoun at MVasquez@inmed.org.

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