

### THE GOODWILL NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

**Program Type:** Working with first-time mothers to increase their self-sufficiency and improve the health of their families through enhanced family healthcare, education and employment.

**Agency and Location:** Goodwill NFP (Goodwill of Central and Southern Indiana and the Nurse-Family Partnership) current serves 30 Indiana counties.

**Population Served:** Expectant first-time mothers, 28 weeks or less in their pregnancy and who are eligible for Medicaid.

**Program Description:** The evidence-based Goodwill NFP program pairs low-income, first-time mothers with a registered nurse for free, ongoing home visits through the child's second birthday, which aims to improve birth outcomes and child health and development, and helps the mother define her goals for her future. Goodwill NFP provides education and employment support to help the families work toward becoming financially secure and self-sufficient. Goodwill established The Excel Center, a free high school for adults to help them earn diplomas and industry certifications.

**Results:** Last year, according to program data, 1,028 women were served and 294 babies born, and 89.5 percent of the babies were born at a healthy weight of at least 5.5 pounds. Nearly 70 percent of the women who were smoking quit and 30 percent had reduced their tobacco use before their child's birth. Of the women without a high school diploma at the start of the program, 43 percent earned one while in Goodwill NFP and 21 percent of those women also obtained post-secondary education or certification. Within one year of enrollment, 66 percent of the households reported an increase in income and benefits.

**Program Perspective:** Dianna Tolentino, whose husband got educational support from The Excel Center, said of the Goodwill NFP program: "There was not much wiggle room in our lives. I look back and can't imagine how different our lives would have been without NFP and Goodwill. It's moved us from barely scraping by to becoming a thriving family." Betsy Delgado, a Goodwill executive, said: "Education is one of the biggest social determinants of stability and good health. We know children will do better if they are children of solid families."

**Federal Funding Stream Used:** Goodwill NFP is funded through the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Visiting Program (MIECHV) and the Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant Program, both funding streams come from the state, which receives the funds from the Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS. It also receives state funding and support from health, community and private foundations.

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