

**May 22, 2020**

**Yale University's *Minding the Baby*® National Office and Yale New Haven Hospital partner to expand home visiting services for local families**

New Haven, Conn. – In partnership with two local Federally Qualified Health Centers, Yale New Haven Hospital (YNHH) was awarded an 18-month grant from the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood in 2019 to expand services for area families through the Family Home Visiting Partnership of New Haven (FHVP-NH), formerly known as Nurturing Families. FHVP-NH services now include *Minding the Baby*® Home Visiting (MTB-HV) in addition to previously offered services such as Parents as Teachers (PAT) Home Visiting, parenting groups, and phone support.

MTB-HV is a federally recognized, evidence-based, intensive preventive home visiting model developed for first-time families, often including teen parents. Developed in 2002 by faculty members at the Yale Child Study Center (CSC) and Yale School of Nursing (YSN) in collaboration with Fair Haven Community Health Care in New Haven, the model reflects a rich collaboration among perspectives in prenatal care, parenting, maternal health, infant mental health, and pediatric health.

The MTB National Service Office at Yale is providing training, consultation, and technical service to YNHH in order to expand local home visiting services and offer MTB-HV services to young families in the area beginning this spring. The addition of MTB-HV to YNHH parenting programs will help to broaden the continuum of home visiting services available in New Haven, as MTB-HV clinicians work collaboratively with PAT and other FHVP-NH program staff to strengthen families and promote healthy development in young children.

“We are delighted to be working with YNHH and to be part of this new partnership. We have developed a very solid evidence base for *Minding the Baby*® and this allows us to reach more local families in need.” says YSN Professor and MTB-HV Co-Founder Lois Sadler, PhD, RN, FAAN. CSC Professor of Clinical Psychology and MTB-HV Co-Founder Arietta Slade, PhD adds, “The needs in many Connecticut communities are great, and we are thankful to the CT Office of Early Childhood for funding this opportunity to reach more families and provide intensive, interdisciplinary parenting support for new mothers, fathers, and their infants.”

MTB-HV is a preventive intervention that aims to improve health and development outcomes in young, vulnerable families during the transition to parenthood. Additionally, the initiative focuses on helping parents understand and manage their own stress and mental health needs, while also learning to interpret and understand their baby. This parental competence leads to healthier families across a number of physical and mental health outcomes.

FHVP-NH Program Manager Onya Harris, LCSW shares, “Parenting is exciting but can also be stressful. Our programs offer parent education, referrals to community resources, and phone support to provide guidance and support to new moms and dads, and other caregivers. All of our services are voluntary and free of charge.”

For more information or to make a referral to FHVP-NH, please contact Christopher Prokop, LCSW Clinical Supervisor at 203-688-8164.

*Minding the Baby® Home Visiting (MTB-HV) was developed at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut in 2002. The interdisciplinary, preventive intervention brings together a home visiting team including a registered nurse and a licensed clinical social worker to promote positive health, mental health, life course, and attachment outcomes in babies, mothers, and their families. The MTB National Service Office is led by faculty and staff at the Yale Child Study Center and Yale School of Nursing, with a mission to support reflective parenting, secure attachment, health, mental health, and maternal self-efficacy in young, vulnerable families using a relationship-based, interdisciplinary approach. MTB-HV model developers Lois Sadler, PhD, RN, FAAN and Arietta Slade, PhD are eager for the model to have a wider impact in Connecticut and beyond, providing lasting benefits to multiple generations of families. For more information, please visit [www.mtb.yale.edu](http://www.mtb.yale.edu).*

*The Family Home Visiting Partnership of New Haven (FHVP-NH), formerly Nurturing Families, is a collective partnership of Yale New Haven Hospital (YNHH), Fair Haven Community Health Care (FHCHC), and the Cornell Scott Hill Health Center (CSHHC). YNHH is owned and operated by the Yale New Haven Health system. YNHH includes Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale New Haven, Yale New Haven Children's Hospital, and Yale New Haven Psychiatric Hospital, making it one of the largest hospitals in the world and the largest in Connecticut. It is the primary teaching hospital for Yale School of Medicine and Yale School of Nursing. FHCHC and CSHHC are community-based federally qualified health centers located in inner city New Haven. FHCHC's mission is to improve the health and social well-being of communities served through equitable, high quality, patient-centered care that is culturally responsive. CSHHC's mission is to measurably improve the health and well-being of communities served by providing excellent and compassionate care, accessible to all.*

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