

Grantee:	Fairbanks Native Association
Program Title:	<i>Fairbanks Native Association Tribal Home Visiting Project</i>
Model Selected:	<i>Parents as Teachers (PAT)</i>
Program Period:	<i>Cohort 1 (September 30, 2011 to September 29, 2016)</i>

Key Program Staff:

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Program Goals

The goal of the Fairbanks Native Association (FNA) Tribal Home Visiting Project is to support the development of healthy, happy, successful American Indian and Alaska Native children and families through a coordinated, high-quality, evidence-based home visiting program.

Community Context

State	Alaska
Rural or Urban Reservation or Non-Reservation	Urban and Rural Non-Reservation
Description of Service Area	The Fairbanks Native Association Tribal Home Visiting Project serves eligible families in the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB). The total area of the FNSB is 7,361 square miles, which is approximately the size of New Jersey.
Births Per Year	Information not available
Children ages Birth to Five in Target Community	According to the 2010 United States Census Bureau, children ages birth to 5 make up 8 percent (7,806) of the target population.
Unique Characteristics of Target Community	The FNSB is the second-largest population center in the state and is located in Interior Alaska. Alaska Native population growth concentrated in urban areas in the 1990s, due in part to migration from rural Alaska. By 2000, more than 4 in 10 Alaska Natives lived in the state's urban areas. This region experiences extreme seasonal temperatures ranging from -66 to 50 °F in January to 30 to 90 °F in July. During the summer solstice, the Fairbanks Native Association has more than 22 hours of daylight.
Key Community Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alaska Center for Children and Adults • Resource Center for Parents and Children

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alaska Center for Resource Families • Fairbanks Counseling and Adoption • Interior Alaska Center for Non Violent Living • OPTIONS Teen Parenting • Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of Alaska Office of Children’s Services • State of Alaska Department of Public Health • Tanana Chiefs Conference • University of Alaska Fairbanks Early Childhood Education
Primary Risk Factors in Target Community	Risk factors include prenatal substance use, infant mortality, child abuse and neglect, sexual assault, high rates of domestic violence, and a high prevalence of alcohol dependence and abuse.	

Program Delivery Context

Implementing Agency	Fairbanks Native Association
Organization Type	Fairbanks Native Association is an urban Indian organization.
Target Population	The Fairbanks Native Association Tribal Home Visiting Project focuses on providing services to mothers and children ages birth to 5.
Target and Actual Numbers Served	Fairbanks Native Association estimates serving 36 families each year, including all children ages birth to 5 in each family. Since 2011, the project has served approximately 140 families.

Home Visiting Model Selected

The Fairbanks Native Association (FNA) Tribal Home Visiting Project selected the Parents as Teachers (PAT) model for its home visiting program.

Key Model Adaptations or Enhancements

Aside from enhancing the cultural relevance of the curriculum by incorporating songs, dance, stories, and activities, FNA will not make major adaptations to PAT. Planned enhancements include involving elders during group meetings and home visits, and training staff in cultural competence to ensure that Parent Educators use strategies and activities consistent with the cultural values of the family. PAT model staff will assist FNA in developing and implementing the program, and to evaluate and monitor PAT model fidelity.

Description of Early Childhood System

The MIECHV Tribal Home Visiting Project will be part of FNA’s agency-wide continuum of care. Several FNA programs provide maternal health, child health, and early childhood development services, including Early Head Start, Head Start, Tribal Home Visiting, and the Women and Children’s Center for Inner Healing. FNA provides a range of behavioral health programs that serve adolescents and adults. Some of these programs include mental health components. FNA also works with the Fairbanks Community Behavioral Health Center and the Tanana Chiefs Conference Behavioral Health Department, both of which provide mental health services to the community.



Evaluation Approach

Evaluation Question

Do mothers participating in the culturally enhanced PAT program show increased attendance, retention, and engagement in the home visiting program compared to mothers who previously participated in the non-culturally enhanced PAT program?

Evaluation Design

FNA plans to use a comparison group study design for the evaluation. This process will compare historical data from a prior PAT home visiting program that did not use a culturally enhanced curriculum with the current group of families receiving a culturally enhanced PAT curriculum. Characteristics of both groups are very similar: age, gender, number of children in the home, will include both single and two parent families, and ethnicity. All participants will be Alaska Native/American Indian. Efforts will be made to assess how involved each of the families are with their cultural traditions and every effort will be made to match these levels in both groups.

Evaluating a Culturally Enhanced Engagement Strategy (Historical Comparison Group design)

PAT + Cultural Enhancement Group

Parents who are currently participating
In the enhanced PAT program

X O O O O

Historical Group

Parents who participated
In the PAT program prior to
Cultural Enhancements

Year 1 Year 2
O O O O O O O O

Key Federal and Technical Assistance (TA) Staff

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