



*Newsletter*



DECEMBER  
2023



SEASONS  
GREETINGS

[www.hippyus.org](http://www.hippyus.org)



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**MERRY & BRIGHT**

# HIPPY INTERNATIONAL

## International Gathering in Chile

After a 4 year wait, HIPPY Directors from around the world were finally able to gather together in-person, this time in Chile. This included directors from Argentina, Austria, Canada, New Zealand, and Paraguay. The week together included academic presentations, site visits to the programs and communities they serve and, of course, some fun time together. Each country shared its progress and challenges and, as always, some common themes emerged which become the focus of our work together going forward. This year the themes were better understanding hybrid approaches to home visiting (virtual and in-person) and developing an international research plan. Both of these topics will serve HIPPY US well and you will be hearing more about these in the coming months.

See below for a short video to give you a little flavor of the week.



## NIKKI'S CORNER

Greetings HIPPY Family,

As we bid farewell to 2023, I find myself pausing to reflect on my journey with HIPPY. Fifteen years ago, as the National HIPPY Corp Director at HIPPY USA, I could have never envisioned returning as the National Program Director. Yet, what I have come to realize about HIPPY is that its greatest asset lies in the undeniable spirit—the HIPPY heart.

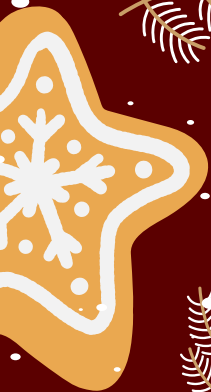
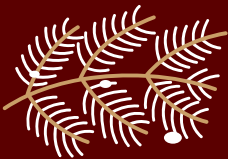
That indescribable feeling experienced during home visits, the collective wisdom that emerges in group meetings, and the relentless pursuit of excellence expressed by coordinators, supervisors and home visitors—this is the essence of the HIPPY heart. If you've witnessed the magic of a caregiver's self determination growing in front of your eyes, you know exactly what I mean.

Assuming this role with HIPPY US has not been without its challenges, but it is the HIPPY heart that keeps me returning—not just with a willingness to grow, but with an unyielding desire to evolve while staying rooted in our strengths. While much of my time is spent connecting with HIPPY International and the State Leaders, I yearn for more moments to engage directly with you, witnessing the impactful work you do day by day.

As I step into the new year, my intention is to forge more direct connections with you. So, as I travel across the country, don't be surprised if I pop up (okay, okay, I promise, I'll schedule first) at one of your sites just to say hello and express my sincere gratitude. Until then, feel free to drop me a line below Share what's working well, highlight areas for improvement, or simply schedule a virtual lunch break—I'm open to it all.

On behalf of the HIPPY US Team (Carla, Shaqula, Terri & I) we wish you a season filled with rest, ease, and joy. We eagerly anticipate walking this program into its best year yet alongside you.

In Service,  
Nikki Martin-Bynum  
National Program Director



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## **Supervisor Online Preservice Module**

- January 3 -31

## **Coordinator In-Person Pre-Service**

- Feb 21-23, 2024

## **Unlock Your Professional Learning Path in Home Visiting: Rapid Response Edition, Wednesday, December 13th, 2- 3:00pm (CST)**

- Are you a front-line home visitor or supervisor seeking to enhance your skills and stay ahead in the ever-evolving field of family support? Join Rapid Response and NICHQ for an immersive webinar experience that unveils groundbreaking learning paths designed for self-directed learning through a selection of Rapid Response-Home Visiting Modules and Webinars. This webinar is your passport to professional excellence, offering a unique opportunity to choose your own path toward growth. Whether you're a seasoned home visitor or a supervisor looking to upskill, this is your chance to amplify your impact. See below to register!

**\*\*STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS\*\***

# VROOM


Some of you have received the HIPPY curriculum with the Vroom QR Codes embedded and we would love to know how it's going. Please take 5 minutes and complete the quick survey below as it will help inform the next stage of this effort.



# MGRA INSPIRED

- **Home Visits Standards 1 and 2: (1) Home visitors meet with parents in their homes at least 75% of the time. (2) Home visits last approximately one hour and include Rapport, Review, Role play, Referrals, and Reminders (5R format).**

## TIPS:

- Add to your agenda a discussion of appropriate reasons for home visitors to meet with parents outside of the home and how to properly document it on family files and on your data platform.
  - Ask home visitors to reflect and share examples of issues that cause home visits to last significantly less or more than the expected one hour. Discuss issues and problem solve together. Give each other supportive feedback.
  - Discuss building rapport with families, using the following questions to generate a conversation: How can we help all families feel valued in our program? What approaches can we use to connect with families? How can we communicate with families about their children's individual development, including strengths, and progress?
  - Present information on the pull page requirements (each week a page of completed curriculum is filed in the family file at the office. It's recommended to take the suggested pull pages, but alternates can be selected). Spend extra time one week practicing the "review" process. Have each home visitor demonstrate how they go about reviewing the past week of activities with parents, or even better, ask them to video record themselves reviewing with one parent and then share their video with the group.
  - Develop, present, or discuss your internal process for handling referrals for families. You can utilize additional resources linked below, such as the webinar recording, or Radio HIPPI episode.
  - Pick a month for pairing home visitors and asking them to join one of their peers on a home visit. Give them reflection questions to consider and ask them to share their observations at the next team meeting. Reflection questions can include: What technique or strategy did you see that was new to you or surprised you? What did you learn from observing another person's home visit? How will you apply what you've learned?
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# SPECIAL INITIATIVES

## CURRICULUM REFRESH

In case you haven't heard, the curriculum is getting a refresh! By now most, if not all, of you have received correspondence about the call for HIPPY US curriculum refresh advisory committee members! If you have any questions please email [support@hippyus.org](mailto:support@hippyus.org)



## HIPPY'S NATIONAL HOME VISITING SUMMIT PARTICIPANTS

As we prepare for the National Home Visiting Summit scheduled from January 31 to February 2, 2024, in Washington, D.C., we kindly request your assistance in gathering attendee information. If you are attending the summit, please take a brief moment to fill out the survey below regarding your representation from your site at the event. Your responses will help us ascertain the number of attendees and facilitate better coordination for our collective participation. Thank you in advance for your help and participation!

## STAY CONNECTED

### HIPPY WEBSITE AND LIBRARY

We're excited to announce a new initiative aimed at enhancing your experience with our website's library of resources and our curriculum. Your valuable input helps us refine our content, and we're thrilled to introduce a feedback form dedicated to gathering your insights. This form is designed for you to share feedback on not only the library's documents and resources but for our curriculum packets as well. Whether you've discovered errors, encountered challenges with the website, or have suggestions for improvements, this platform is your avenue to contribute. Your feedback is instrumental in ensuring that our resources continue to meet the diverse needs of HIPPY programs nationwide. To access the form please utilize the link: [below](#) or scan the QR code below. We deeply appreciate your collaboration in our ongoing efforts to elevate the HIPPY program's quality and accessibility.

**Library Password: Destination**



Happy  
holidays

From HIPPY US to  
HIPPY Around the  
World