

30 January 2025 | HIPPY US | [Request for Support](#)

Nikki's Corner

It's now 2025, and all I can say is WOW. I hope you welcomed the New Year with restful moments, delicious food, and cherished time with friends and family. Each New Year brings so much potential, and it seems we will need every bit of that goodwill to carry us through the end of the HIPPY year. As I reflect on the happenings within our network, it is a mix of emotions. The exciting news is that the wisdom and innovation of the HIPPY program will be highlighted at the National Home Visit Summit in Washington, DC, this February 2025. Representing us will be the Catholic Charities Diocese of Baton Rouge and the UMBC HIPPY Program, Cherry Hill. We're so grateful for their representation and know you'll do an amazing job! I'll be there in person to cheer you on! Additionally, the 2025 Conference Committee is designing some amazing moments for the Connecting Hearts, Igniting Minds Conference in Baltimore, Maryland, in April 2025—make sure you don't miss out and register now, and get your hats and fascinators ready!

As I take in everything happening in our network, my thoughts are with those affected by the wildfires in California. This is a natural disaster of immense scale, and some members of the HIPPY family are enduring significant losses. We are actively seeking ways to support those who have lost their homes, and once we understand how they would like assistance, we will keep everyone informed.

What I truly love about this network is that we show up, not just on good days but also during the toughest times—we support families and each other. In light of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, it's a fitting moment to ask, "What are you doing for others?"—as some among us need that collective support right now.

Until we speak again, may you take the time to do something that serves your highest good and always reach out [here](#) if you would like to connect.

Nikki Martin-Bynum,
National Program Director

Arkansas HIPPY Recruitment Video

Still recruiting families?
Recruitment is everyone's job,
and recruitment is year round!
This adorable [recruitment
video](#) was sent to us by
Arkansas HIPPY Coordinator
Shaun Kirby. Thank you Shaun!

2025 National Home Visiting Summit

The 3 plenary sessions at the 2025 #HVSummit will be streamed live on Feb. 13 & 14. [Register](#) for the livestream to hear from leading voices in the #homevisiting field. Tune in live or watch on demand for 5-months post-event. [Learn more & register.](#)





HIPPY US National Conference
Baltimore, Maryland



Until the 2025 HIPPY US National Conference

Conference Committees

Each committee is working diligently to keep you informed and updated on all things related to the 2025 HIPPY US National Conference. If you have any questions, we'll do our best to provide accurate answers as quickly as possible. In the meantime, stay tuned to our bi-monthly newsletters and special editions for the latest updates on all conference-related activities!

Don't forget to [reserve](#) your room today as rooms are limited!

Conference Registration

As we prepare for the 2025 HIPPY US National Conference and evaluate every detail, we recognize that some attendees have encountered challenges with registration. To address this, Capstone Event Solutions has created the '[How to Register for the 2025 HIPPY US National Conference](#)' instructional guide. We truly appreciate your patience and understanding as we work hard to plan an incredible and memorable conference experience. If you haven't already, [register](#) now at the regular rate of **\$499**. **Reminder:** Coordinators are free!

Conference Payments

Pay Online Now: Use a credit card for a quick and secure checkout.

Pay Later: Choose a check or purchase order if that's your preference. Remit checks to:

HIPPY US
2727 Palisade Ave, Suite 6J
Bronx, NY 10463

If you have any questions or run into issues, reach out to us through the [Request for Support](#) board for personalized assistance.

*****Tickets are selling out! Make sure you [register](#) today!*****

Fun Night Out & Hill Day

We are excited to announce:
There are less than 10 tickets left for each event.

Get your tickets today while supplies last! [Register](#) now!

Dr. Avima D. Lombard Awards Gala HIPPY's Triple Crown...Bet on Success

Free for conference attendees! Get ready for the premier event of the 2025 HIPPY US National Conference! This is an event you won't want to miss! With a Baltimore, MD inspired theme it's sure to be a memorable evening. Check out these videos to learn more about the [Gala's theme](#) and get inspired for the [themed dress code](#) (not enforced)!

Remember, **tickets are limited**—[register](#) today!

You Are Cordially Invited

Dr. Avima D. Lombard

Awards Gala

“HIPPY’s Triple Crown...Betting on Success”

We look forward to your presence as we honor exceptional achievements and share in an unforgettable celebration.

Attire: Preakness Inspired

Embrace the spirit of the races with stylish, race-day fashion—think fascinators, derby hats, and elegant attire that evokes the excitement of this iconic tradition!

Sunday, the Sixth of April
Two Thousand Twenty-Five

Reception Begins at 6:00 pm
Dinner & Presentation Begins at 6:30 pm

Click [here](#) for additional information or support



DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS EXTENDED!

We are excited to announce that nominations are now open for the Avima Lombard Award 2024–2025! The Dr. Avima D. Lombard Award will honor a Community Agency, Administrator/Coordinator, and a Home Visitor in the United States whose professional services have made a significant contribution to HIPPY and to improving the lives of young children and their families.

How to Nominate:

1. **Click [here](#) to open the nomination form**
2. **Complete the nomination form with the nominee's details and achievements.**
3. **SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION BY JANUARY 31ST**

We can't wait to celebrate the inspiring individuals and organizations that make a difference in HIPPY. Let's come together to honor excellence!

For more information, please visit
hippyus.org/conference

DON'T MISS OUT—NOMINATE TODAY!



IF YOU HAVE ANY CHALLENGES
SUBMITTING YOUR NOMINATIONS
PLEASE EMAIL INFO@HIPPYUS.ORG.

Spanish Translations

Several key documents are now available in Spanish for your use. As part of the MGRA update, we translated several parent-facing documents. Since then, we have received a site translation of HIPPY's [3C's](#) and [5R's](#) - thank you North Range Behavioral Health HIPPY Program! If your program has translated any materials please send them our way for review! You can [upload them to this link](#). We're always looking to share resources between sites!

NASD-CORP Project

USF is actively working on updating the course. Here's what to expect:

- The first two modules are under review.
- Upon approval of revisions to the first two modules, the same revisions will be applied to the remainder of the modules.
- A registration and start date for the next course will be set upon completion of all approved revisions.

The HIPPY Swag Store

It's time to update your HIPPY Swag! Check out our new designs and items in the [HIPPY Store](#) on our website. Order while supplies last!



orders are based on availability

Program Highlight: HIPPY in Texas



Rose Gonzalez during her acceptance speech.

During the month of November, the Health and Human Service Commission (HHSC) held the Partners in Prevention Conference in Denton, TX. During the conference Rose Gonzalez was presented with the Outstanding Parent/Caregiver Award. This award was given to her for her efforts to help prepare her children (grandchildren) for education and help other parents do the same.

We are so proud of Rose and all that she has done for her family, for the HIPPY Program, and for her community. This award is a well-deserved honor. She was a home visitor for 10 years starting in Dallas, TX and then moved to Corpus Christi, TX. Although retired, she still recruits for the program and is part of the Corpus Christi HIPPY Parent Advisory Committee. She loves and believes in the program so much that she currently does HIPPY with her grandson. Rose is a true community partner and is always ready to help in any way that she can. She has had some tough obstacles with her health, but she never let that stop her from doing what she loves....helping her family and her community.



Special Announcements

Updates to Our Weekly Activity Packets:

We're thrilled to share some exciting changes to the "Activity Packets" for the 30 week curricula. In 2025, we'll begin transitioning to an updated format designed with both sustainability and functionality in mind. During this transition year, sites will receive a combination of the older packets and the newly designed ones as we phase out the previous versions.

It's important to note that while both versions will be in circulation during this period, every effort will be made to ensure each specific order is filled without mixed versions for a given week. However, an order may receive older versions on some weeks and newer versions on other weeks.

The new packets have been thoughtfully reimagined to reduce paper waste while maintaining the engaging content families love. Additionally, Weeks 1–15 of the next program cycle will include a protective cover, ensuring the materials remain intact during shipment, distribution, and storage. Weeks 16-30 are slated to receive this same enhancement for 2026.

We appreciate your patience and feedback as we make this transition. These updates reflect our commitment to providing high-quality resources while being mindful of environmental impact. Stay tuned for more updates as we roll out these exciting changes!

Payment Options with S&S Worldwide:

We're always working to make your experience seamless and convenient. Here's a quick overview of a variety of payment options to support your program. For pre-payment, you can choose ACH (preferred for being fast, secure, and fee-free), credit card (no fees when paid at the time of order), or check (mailed to us). For accounts with payment by terms, ACH remains the best option, with checks also accepted. Starting in late 2025, we are investigating the option to pay by credit card through an online link (though a 3.5% processing fee will apply for orders paid by credit card that were granted Extended Payment Terms). For check payments, please use our updated 2025 remit-to address: S&S Worldwide, PO Box 821389, Philadelphia, PA 19182-1389. For ACH payments please contact us at HIPPY@SSWW.com for full details.

USF researchers address literacy needs in Liberia

Ruby Joseph, MPA, an associate in research in the Department of Child and Family Studies, and her team recently published the results of their work in Liberia titled "[Addressing Unmet Family Literacy Needs in Monrovia, Liberia](#)" in the Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE) Journal. www.usf.edu

Bridge Curriculum

Consider Adding the Bridge Curriculum to Your Summer Programming Plans!

As you begin planning for summer programs, take advantage of purchasing the Bridge Curriculum now to ensure your sites fulfill their summer needs.

You may be wondering what parents and caregivers who have already tried out the new Bridge Curriculum think about it. Here is what one parent from Texas had to say. "The packets are family-related. We were able to include our older brother (6 years old) in some hands-on activities, and he will read the books and help his sister as well, the fact that he would ask to be part of the activities and learn from it!! We enjoyed as a family working in some activities or even getting out of our comfort zone, with more outside activities."

If you would like to learn more about the Bridge Curriculum or place an order for the coming spring or summer, explore our library. In the library you can find the S&S order form and recorded training sessions, designed to answer frequently asked questions and walk you through everything the new curriculum has to offer. This can be found in [the HIPPY library](#) on the curriculum page. Plus, don't miss our upcoming informational webinar on February 12 at 12 PM PST (1 PM MST, 2 PM CST, 3 PM EST). This is a great opportunity to ask questions and learn more about the Bridge curriculum. [Join us via Zoom](#), and submit questions in advance through our [request for support form](#).

Advocacy and HIPPY

Washington Update: Since Inauguration Day, President Trump signed a record-breaking number of Executive Orders and administrative directives. This includes Monday's surprise announcement - since stayed by a federal judge and then withdrawn by the administration - freezing federal grants.

Some executive orders such as canceling automatic citizenship for people born in the United States, are not within the President's power and cannot be implemented (legal scholars largely concur elimination of birthright citizenship would require a Constitutional amendment). Others, such as sending troops to the southern border and stepping up deportation of undocumented immigrants, fall within the President's purview and are already being acted upon. Others fall into a gray area, where even the legal staff in federal departments and agencies are working through the content of the orders, the legislative or regulatory changes they may require, and the instructions that will need to be issued for implementation. At all levels of the bureaucracy, there are more questions than answers, and answering those questions may take weeks or months. For the Department of Health and Human Services, which oversees MIECHV, decision making and guidance will be further delayed by the fact that the confirmation hearing for HHS Secretary nominee Robert Kennedy is moving more slowly than some other Cabinet officials.

HIPPY will share additional information as it becomes publicly available. In the meantime, we offer the reminder that previously disseminated policies and guidelines related to grant funding remain in effect until an update is issued by the federal agency responsible for the funds.

Outlook for AmeriCorps

In December, Linchpin Strategies provided [this memo](#) summarizing the importance of the House committee's recent oversight hearing on AmeriCorps. The memo also outlines steps that HIPPY programs that rely on AmeriCorps funding should start taking now to prepare to educate their Congressional delegations about the impact of AmeriCorps funding in their communities. Linchpin is available to provide assistance to prepare and convey that information to Members of Congress.

Excelling with MGRA

Endorsement Cycle

What if I don't know when I come up for endorsement? We are working towards engaging all sites in the endorsement process within the next 5 years. Regardless of whether you are going through endorsement this year, you are still within the endorsement cycle. The time between site visits has been lengthened to 5 years and with this lengthened cycle you have the opportunity to fully engage in a self-assessment and Continuous Quality Improvement [\(CQI\) processes](#). If you don't recognize where you are in the endorsement cycle, follow steps starting at #1 below. You can always reach out to HIPPY US or your state office (if applicable) if you have questions.

Consider the following suggestion for making the most of the years between site visits:

- 1. Identify strengths and areas of improvement** needed. Using communication and marketing strategies, share strengths. Using program management and evaluation tools, plan improvements based on areas in need of quality improvement.
- 2. Establish a self assessment team** and review all documentation detailed in the MGRA. As a team, identify strengths and areas of improvement, and develop a plan to highlight strengths and increase the quality of implementation.
- 3. Endorsement Site Visit year** - update self assessment document, detailing quality implementation in each of the program standards. NOTE: Both the self-assessment team AND the Model Fidelity Specialist must describe and justify additional points assigned in any standard.
- 4. Post program endorsement** - if endorsed, share and highlight your accomplishments. Each endorsed and stellar site will be provided with materials and guidance on making the most of their endorsement accomplishments.
- 5. Cycle back to preparing for the next year's site visit** by establishing a self assessment team.

Remember, your HIPPY US and State Office teams are here to help answer any questions you have. We are also collecting questions and concerns [via this form](#). Please reach out!

Endorsement Cycle

Each block below represents a site's status for one program year.

New Site	start up support	ongoing support and informal self assessment	endorsement site visit					
Existing Site		ongoing support and informal self assessment	endorsement visit <small>(not endorsed sites finish the year as "program in development", see below)</small>	Y1 endorsed <small>(if not endorsed, then program improvement plan begins)</small>	Y2 endorsed	Y3 endorsed	Y4 endorsed & self assess to prep for next year	Y5 endorsed & renewal endorsement visit
Program in Development	program improvement plan	ongoing support and informal self assessment	endorsement visit					



Coordinator Preservice

January Preservice

It's a wrap! Sixteen participants completed the 2024 winter HIPPY Coordinator Preservice, held at the Lord Baltimore Hotel in Baltimore, MD. When we say winter, we mean polar vortex and the coldest temperatures on record! But you know that, because the whole Gulf Coast got record setting low temperatures and SNOW! Over the course of 3 days participants engaged in sessions on each aspect of the HIPPY model. Ideas were exchanged, role play practiced, and friendships were made!

These participants ranked their overall preservice experience at an average rating of 4.9 out of 5 (with 10 participants responding).



*****HIPPY US deeply appreciates the time, energy, and effort you dedicate to your communities. Your hard work makes a lasting impact! Please continue to reach out and let us know how we can better support you.*****

Stay Connected

Newsletter Request

If you or someone you know would like to be added to the list of newsletter recipients click [this](#) link to complete a request.

Library

For additional resources, visit the [HIPPY library](#).
Library Password:
Connecting

Request for Support

If you would like support, have feedback or want to ask a questions go [here](#) to connect with a HIPPY US team member today!

**DON'T!
FORGET!**

- Check out the [Arkansas recruitment video](#)
- [Register](#) to attend the NHV Summit virtually
- [Register](#) for conference, Fun Night Out and the Avima Gala
- [Reserve](#) your room for conference
- Check out the [Conference Registration Guide](#)
- Learn more about this year's [Gala theme](#) and [Gala look](#)
- [Submit](#) your nominations for the Dr. Avima D. Lombard Award
- Check out a site's Spanish translations of the [3C's](#) and [5R's](#) and upload your translated material [here](#).
- [Visit the HIPPY Store](#) for your exclusive swag
- [Revisit](#) Texas Program Highlight
- See how [USF connects HIPPY to helping children in Liberia](#).
- [Review](#) the Outlook on AmeriCorps memo
- [Visit the HIPPY Library](#) for additional resources including the Bridge Curriculum Order form
- [Subscribe/Unsubscribe](#) to the Bi-monthly Newsletter
- [Submit your request for support](#) for individualize help from a HIPPY US Team Member
- Check out the [MGRA On-Demand Webinar](#) learn more about endorsement.



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Baltimore, Maryland**

HIPPY
UNITED STATES

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