

# HIPPY US NOVEMBER



## CONNECTING HEARTS, IGNITING MINDS

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### NIKKI'S CORNER

On November 3–4, 2025, State Leaders in HIPPY gathered in Little Rock, Arkansas, to celebrate what we've achieved together and to chart the path ahead for our mighty program. We continue to live out the belief that we are stronger together—and while collaboration isn't always easy, it's always worth it.

Every major program decision is made in partnership. From the multi-year MGRA changes to our annual field surveys, your input shapes HIPPY's direction in meaningful ways.

As we move forward, we invite everyone in the HIPPY family to explore new ways to collaborate—with one another, across programs, and within your own communities. Together, we make HIPPY stronger. You can always reach out to me [here](#).

In Community,  
Nikki Martin-Bynum, National Program Director



**Pictured Left to Right: Tracy Payne (FL), Jackie Cordova (CO), Adriana Trevino (TX), Jani Johnson (AL), Terri Meehan (HUS), Nikki Martin-Bynum (HUS) and Simone Diggins (AR)**



## The National Alliance of Home Visiting Models (Model Alliance)

The National Alliance of Home Visiting Models is a collaboration of ten national early childhood home visiting program models. The Alliance is motivated by a shared commitment to promoting effective use of home visiting as a mechanism to enhance the health and well-being of families, parents and children. The Alliance seeks to provide prenatal and early childhood intervention through evidence-based home visiting on a national scale and to make early home visiting an integral service focused on promoting positive outcomes for all children.

### **Our activities include:**

- Identifying cross-model issues that affect outcomes of interest for each model
- Collaboration on research
- Innovations to improve service
- Legislative and local advocacy

While each home visiting model is unique in intervention goals and outcomes, aspects of federal, state and local mechanisms of home visiting implementation pertain to all. HIPPY US is proud member of the Alliance.

To learn what's new and stay up to date on Model Alliance follow them on their new [LinkedIn](#) page.

## Photo Requests

### Share Your Beginning of the Year Moments!

It's never too early to start capturing those special moments! We're looking for photos from the beginning of the year, especially of families and children working on packets 1 through 10, parent orientation events, and recruiting activities, to feature in next year's Kick-Off Slide Show and on HIPPY US social media. Share the energy, excitement, and connections that make your program shine! Photos can be [submitted easily using this link](#).

## Institute for the Advancement of Family Support Professionals Presents:

### National Home Visiting Week 2026 - April 20-24, 2026

Celebrate the incredible work, the dedication, impact, and excellence of home visitors nationwide! Mark your calendars for this national celebration of those who make a difference in the lives of families every day. This will be a week filled with inspiration, learning, and recognition of the professionals who strengthen families every day. Check out the [toolkit](#) to determine how your site will participate.

### A message from Institute for the Advancement of Family Support Professionals:

During National Home Visiting Week, we celebrate five deserving professionals selected from nominations submitted by peers across the country! For 2026, we are accepting nominations from **November 5, 2025 to January 9, 2026**. Five home visitors will be selected based on their dedication to the families they serve and for setting an example for family support professionals everywhere. They will receive recognition during NHVW, a prize package graciously supported by our sponsors and accolades from across the country. Nominations are now being accepted! Nomination form will close on 1/9/2026, 11:59pm CST. No exceptions will be made. Submit your nominations [here](#)

**Come on HIPPY, nominate a home visitor today!!!**



# HIPPY SHINES BRIGHT!

Issue 2 November 2025

## Program Award

HOME INSTRUCTION FOR PARENTS OF PRESCHOOL YOUNGSTERS (HIPPO PROGRAM)

ESPARTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



## California's Esparto Program

**Shout Out to Joy McAllister and the Esparto HIPPY Team!**



Congratulations to Joy McAllister and her team for leading the HIPPY program in Esparto, California, to be recognized as Program of the Year by their school district! This recognition reflects the program's impact on families and children, supporting early learning and helping parents prepare their children for success in school and beyond. Well done, Joy and team!

## Highlighting Recognized Sites

Endorsement is a rigorous process designed to ensure alignment with national quality standards. To achieve endorsement sites must demonstrate they meet the national standards for quality (MGRA). In 24-25 in addition to updating the MGRA, we launched a scoring rubric to help sites and Model Fidelity Specialists identify and document excellence above and beyond the minimum standards. We also initiated **endorsement recognitions** for all sites who are endorsed (met all the standards), recognized (met all the standards and received extra points in at least one standard), and stellar (scored in the top 10% in the endorsement cohort that program year).

In 2024-25, three sites are recognized:

- Amarillo Coalition of Health Services, Amarillo TX,
- Focus Points, Denver CO
- Richardson ISD, Richardson TX

## THE HIPPO HEART

### S&S World Wide Attends Alabama's Conference

We're excited to share that S&S' Key Accounts Manager, Mabel Ramirez, recently joined over 4,000 Early Learning Professionals at the 2025 Alabama Early Childhood Conference in Birmingham!

If you'd like to welcome S&S to your own state or regional conference, simply email

[hippy@ssww.com](mailto:hippy@ssww.com)—they'd love to be part of your event!



**Pictured left to right: Adrienne Jackson (Alabama PAT State Lead), Mabel Ramirez (S&S Key Accounts Manager), and Jani Johnson (Alabama HIPPY State Lead).**

## NASD-CORP Fall Cohort Progress

Participation in the Fall Cohort remains strong overall. Asynchronous module engagement included **38 participants in Week 7** and **34 in Week 8**, while **25 individuals attended the second live Teams session. Community of Research and Practice (CORP) participation** was lower, with **19 participants** in Week 1 session.

Engagement with the self-paced modules continues to be positive, averaging **4 out of 5**, and discussion activity remains robust. **Collaborative Discussion 7 received 103 responses, and Discussion 8 received 88 responses.**

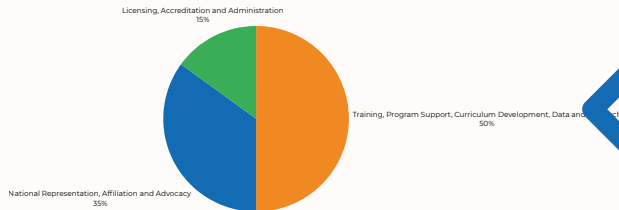
Several students stand out for consistently submitting thoughtful, timely responses and offering meaningful support to peers.

If you are interested in participating in the next cohort, please **reach out to your State Leader to be added to the waitlist.**



## Licensure Fee Distribution

Following an examination of the 23-24 End of Year Survey, HIPPY International highlighted the role of license fees in supporting HIPPY US operations.



Click on the image to the left to view the PowerPoint presentation

## Bridge Curriculum

The Bridge Curriculum was created to help families stay engaged during transition periods between curriculum age groups. Whether a child has completed one level and is waiting to begin the next, or a family joins the program before the new year starts, the Bridge Curriculum keeps learning going strong. Its lessons provide meaningful, hands-on activities that support continued growth and connection. Helpful materials, including the [Resource Guide](#), are available in the [HIPPY Library](#). To place an order, [download the order form here](#).

## HIPPY 3.0

HIPPY 3.0 was designed to enhance the way programs access, manage, and deliver the curriculum to families. Available in English and Spanish for Little Learners, Year 1, and Year 2, HIPPY 3.0 gives families digital access to engaging activities, songs, and resources while simplifying logistics for sites. Families can easily log in from a phone or other device, and programs benefit from built-in reporting tools and multilingual features.

To get started, programs can [email an order form](#) to [Hippy@ssww.com](mailto:Hippy@ssww.com). Training videos for coordinators, home visitors, and families are available in [the HIPPY Library](#) under the Curriculum page. For questions or to request more information, please complete our [Request for Support and Feedback form](#).



## Caring for Yourself: Avoiding Home Visitor Burnout

Carla Mowell, National Training Director

Managing your team includes managing their energy. **According to research**, home visitor stress can reduce their engagement with families and as a result the families they serve are more likely to drop out of the program. This same research identified common reasons home visitors give for leaving their position. Two reasons are relevant to this issue of One Visit at a Time: burnout and insufficient support from their supervisor. As their supervisor, your challenge is to be on the lookout for signs of stress, to address stressors both individually and as a team, and to provide home visitors with meaningful support. This issue of One Home Visit at a Time can help start a conversation in your team about stress, burnout and how we can support each other in this work.

### LET'S TALK:

- How do you practice self-care?
- How do you set healthy boundaries to protect your mental health and prevent burnout?
- Who do you connect with to share your feelings and not feel alone?
- How do you know it's time to pay attention to your stress level?

Give each home visitor a copy of **One Home Visit at a Time** (digital or hard copy). Depending on how much time you want to spend on this topic you can keep it as simple as giving them the insert to read and asking them how they would like to apply the **Reflection Questions** (on the handout) this week. If you have a little more time, you can use one or two of the **LET'S TALK** discussion on the right, which would add 10-15 minutes of connecting to your meeting. Or you can open with a question, add one or two of the **THREE MORE IDEAS**, and the **TRY THIS** activity for a 30-45 minute training on the topic. Any materials needed for the TRY THIS activity are underlined.

### THREE MORE IDEAS of how to use today's insert with your team:

- **Silent read and highlight** - give everyone a copy (print or digital), have them highlight one sentence in the article that resonates and one they have questions about. Share in pairs or in the whole group.
- **Peer Mentor Moment** - pair newer home visitors with experienced ones to discuss how they might each use the article's ideas in practice.
- **Take Home Conversation** - encourage home visitors to share the article/handout with a friend or family member and talk about how it relates to parenting and supporting a child's learning. Ask them to be ready to share their discussion next week.

### TRY THIS: Compliment Chain

Compliments can be a powerful tool to build confidence. Specific, strength-based compliments are effective because they recognize a person's unique positive traits, and acknowledge their real efforts. Let's compare a generic compliment such as "good job" with a specific, strengths-based compliment such as "Your determination to see this through, even when it got difficult, is so inspiring." What are your thoughts? (allow time for discussion) Now let's apply this. Take 5 minutes and write out a specific, strengths-based compliment to the person on your right. (Allow time for people to write out their compliments.) Let's take a moment to share our compliments. Who wants to start? (Start with a volunteer then follow the chain of compliments around the room.)

If you're looking to increase your skills and knowledge, professional development opportunities are a great way to grow and stay current in your field.



## Congratulations, Little Rock Coordinator Preservice Class of 2025!



14 HIPPY coordinators and supervisors from across the country gathered in Little Rock from October 27-30 for this year's fall preservice training, where they spent four days connecting, learning, and practicing the core elements of the HIPPY model. The sessions focused on model fidelity, role play, and strategies for supporting home visitors, all designed to prepare coordinators for a successful program year. Congratulations to all attendees. We look forward to hearing all about your great achievements as you help parents prepare their children for success in school and beyond.

**Note:** Preservice is currently in the process of reimagining, which will affect when the next in-person session will take place. The date and location will be shared with the field as soon as it is available.

## Refilling the Cup: Mindfulness for Those Who Care for Others

Whether you're supporting families directly or holding up those who do, this session on December 10, 2025 at 3 PM EST, featuring Shayla Collins, is designed to help you refill your cup- so you can continue your work with clarity, steadiness, and compassion. Save your spot and [register](#) now.

## 25-26 HUS Webinars

HIPPY US is hosting free webinars in the 2025-26 program year for all staff, focusing on practical support and shared learning. Upcoming sessions include:

- **January 21, 2026:** Group Meetings
- **March 18, 2026:** Home Visits.

All webinars will take place at Noon PT | 1 PM MT | 2 PM CT | 3 PM ET.

**Previous webinar** resources, including the recording and the post-webinar resource guides, can be found in [the HIPPY library](#) on the professional development and webinar archive page

[Register here for automated webinar reminders](#) of future webinars.

## Home Visitor Self-Paced Learning

Home Visitor Modules are available online year-round and can be completed at your own pace. These courses cover key topics including the HIPPY model, curriculum, recruiting, and group meetings, and are designed to fit the schedules of busy home visitors. Modules are available individually for \$35 each or as a bundle of four for \$120 per participant. [Registration](#) is open at any time.

## Supervisor Preservice

Supervisor Preservice is offered year-round as a fully online, self-paced training designed specifically for supervisors of coordinators. This program equips supervisors with strategies and guidance to effectively support coordinators in their roles. Participants can [view a course overview with this link](#). The fee is \$275 per participant, and [registration](#) is open at any time.



## After the Shutdown

After 43 days, the government reopened on November 13, ending the longest shutdown in US history. The Continuing Resolution (CR) includes an extension of the continuing resolution at last year's funding levels through January 30; full-year FY 2026 funding for the Agriculture (including SNAP), Military Construction/Veterans Affairs, and Legislative Branch bills; a reversal of last month's reduction-in-force (RIF) notices, and the promise of a Senate vote in December on whether to extend Affordable Care Act subsidies. Now the race is on for Congress to continue negotiations on outstanding FY 2026 policy disagreements and come to an agreement before the new deadline at the end of January.

In the first full week of the government being reopened, the Administration announced that the Department of Education will begin the process of transferring certain offices to other agencies. These transfers include moving the office that oversees Title I funding to the Department of Labor. This move has long been expected in Washington and aligns with the Administration's stated priority of dismantling the Department of Education. The details of this plan are still emerging and we will provide updates as we are able.

## Learning How to Advocate for HIPPY

If you're interested in advocating for your community, city, or state, be sure to explore the [HIPPY US Advocacy Toolkit](#) for additional insights and information.



## Quick Tip 2:

**Everyone** has the right to advocate—not just for themselves, but also for their communities, programs, and the causes they believe in. Speaking up respectfully about your needs, concerns, or ideas helps ensure your voice is heard and can create meaningful change. Advocacy empowers you to influence decisions, support others, and make a difference in the systems and programs that affect your life and the lives of those around you. Remember, standing up for what matters is both a right and a responsibility.

# Don't Forget

RESOURCES AND MORE AVAILABLE FOR YOU

- **Connect** with Nikki, if you'd like to connect
- Follow Model Alliance on their new **LinkedIn** page
- **Share** your beginning of the year moments
- **Tell us your thoughts**, ask questions, request support, or tell us Why do you HIPPY?!
- **Submit** your Home Visitor of the Year Nominees
- Review the Home Visitor of the Year **Toolkit**
- Learn more about **Endorsement Recognition**
- **Reach out** to S&S to be apart of your event
- **Download** the "One Visit at a Time" insert and share it with Home Visitors.

- **Watch** the **Licensure Fee Distribution** presentation: Understand your fees.
- **Order** the **Bridge Curriculum** to help support families during curriculum age group gaps.
- **Order** **HIPPY 3.0** and make curriculum more accessible, manageable, and family friendly.
- **Learn more** about how to participate in HIPPY's **Professional Development** courses.
- **Register** to attend **Refilling the Cup: Mindfulness for Those Who Care for Others**
- **Connect** with Suzi for advocacy information.
- **Reach out** to your **State Lead** to be added to the **NASD-CORP** waitlist.
- **Review** the **Advocacy Toolkit**

Let's continue to  
**Connect and Ignite**  
the **Hearts and Minds**  
of the families we  
serve!

## Paying by Check

If you would like to pay by check for **HIPPY US** related products and services, remit checks to:

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



# CONNECT



## 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**. Reach out to your **State Leader** for the password

## 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!