



# HIPPY US MARCH



## CONNECTING HEARTS, IGNITING MINDS

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### NIKKI'S CORNER

As we approach National Home Visiting Week, the spotlight naturally (and rightfully) shines on home visitors. We see their dedication, their miles driven, and the profound emotional labor they invest in every family they serve. AND in many instances transformative home visits are built on a foundation built by someone equally vital: the Coordinator.

Let's pull back the curtain and celebrate the leaders who also make this work possible. Strong Coordinators are mentors, strategists, and the emotional anchors of programs. A strong Coordinator's work encompasses:

- **Ongoing Support:** Being the "calm in the storm" when a home visitor encounters a crisis or a complex family dynamic.
- **Targeted Training:** Identifying growth areas and providing the tools necessary for the team to evolve as professionals.
- **Relentless Motivation:** Keeping morale high in a field where burnout is a constant shadow, ensuring that the "why" of our mission never gets lost in the "how."

To the Home Visitors and Coordinators: We See You AND Celebrate You! If you want to share how you'll be celebrating National Home Visiting Week, you can send me a note [here](#).

In Community,  
Nikki Martin-Bynum, National Program Director



# HIPPY US JOINS PARENTS AS TEACHERS

## WE'RE GOING TO PORTLAND, OREGON

We're excited to share that HIPPY will be partnering with Parents as Teachers (PAT) for the 2026 - 2027 Conference!



NOT ONLY WILL YOU HAVE ACCESS TO ALL SESSIONS OFFERED BY PAT, THE CONFERENCE WILL ALSO INCLUDE:

1. HIPPY-only sessions for Home Visitors & Coordinators
2. HIPPY team member(s) will be featured in a keynote.
3. Award ceremony for HIPPY Homevisitor, Coordinator and Partner of the year will occur with no cost to HIPPY attendees.



### TO HELP MAINTAIN A STRONG HIPPY PRESENCE AND COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE, PLANNED IDENTITY-SERVING STRATEGIES INCLUDE A:

- HIPPY-preferred hotel
- HIPPY Huddle
  - (meet-up at the hotel to network and connect with HIPPY International, HIPPY US and all HIPPY attendees).
- HIPPY Swag Day

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR OFFICIAL DETAILS FROM HIPPY US AS REGISTRATION OPENS APRIL 1, 2026

[WWW.PARENTSASTEACHERSCONFERENCE.ORG](http://WWW.PARENTSASTEACHERSCONFERENCE.ORG)





## Now Hiring: HIPPY US Model Fidelity Specialists

HIPPY US is looking for experienced HIPPY professionals to join our team as Model Fidelity Specialists for the 2026-2027 program year.

Model Fidelity Specialists conduct two-day on-site visits to assess program quality and support sites in strengthening their implementation of the HIPPY model. This is a meaningful opportunity to contribute to the quality and success of HIPPY programs across the country.

### To be considered, applicants must:

- Be a current HIPPY coordinator with at least 6 years of HIPPY experience
- Currently run an endorsed (accredited) HIPPY program
- Be available for an initial training via Zoom in September and up to five virtual meetings throughout the program year

**The application deadline is April 30, 2026.**

**Read** the full position description for qualifications, requirements, and application instructions.

## Program Year 25-26 End of Year (EOY) Survey



As we wrap up another successful school year, HIPPY US wants to hear from you! Your thoughts and opinions about the 2025-2026 program year are invaluable and will help us make improvements for the 2026-2027 program year.

Please take a few moments to complete the **2025-2026 Program Year: End of Year Survey** by May 31, 2026. Your feedback makes a difference!



## Announcing National Home Visitor Appreciation Week, April 20-24, 2026

Let's shower our home visitors with appreciation this April! HIPPY is excited to partner with the Institute for the Advancement of Family Support Professionals, the National Home Visiting Coalition, the National Alliance of Home Visiting Models, and LIAs and states across the country to recognize National Home Visitor Appreciation Week, April 20-24.

HIPPY looks forward to celebrating the contributions of home visitors on our social media, but we can't do it without your help! If you have photos or stories showcasing the impact of home visitors in your community, we'd love to feature them this April (and hope you will too!). Please submit them through our **photo submission portal** to share your inspiring moments with us.

**Download our social media toolkit with this link.** Be sure to share about the event on social media and tag us in your posts with @HIPPY on **LinkedIn** and @HIPYPYnetwork, on **X** using the hashtags #HIPPYHeartsHomeVisitors | #ThankAHomeVisitor | #HomeVisitorAppreciation these images: **Thank a Home Visitor, HIPPY Hearts Home Visitors.**

Let's get ready to celebrate!



## Home Visiting Workforce Data Collection

### Key Highlights:

- You're invited to participate in a voluntary data collection of home visiting workforce data from the 2024-25 program year.
- Workforce data collection will be required for all HIPPY sites starting with the 2025-26 program year — this is your chance to get a head start

### Action Steps:

- Gather the following data
  - Site name and zip code accepted
  - Number of vacant home visitor positions at the end of program year 2024-25 (roughly June 30, 2025 for most sites)
  - Number of home visitors who left their position during the year
  - Minimum starting pay (single dollar figure — hourly or annual — not a range)
- Complete the voluntary data form for the 2024-25 program year:  
<https://forms.monday.com/forms/3ac7e0070a8c89e4304cda1ecc9e4a5d?r=use1>
- Submit by April 10 to be entered in the drawing for PAT National Conference funds
- Reach out with questions — [data@hippyus.org](mailto:data@hippyus.org)

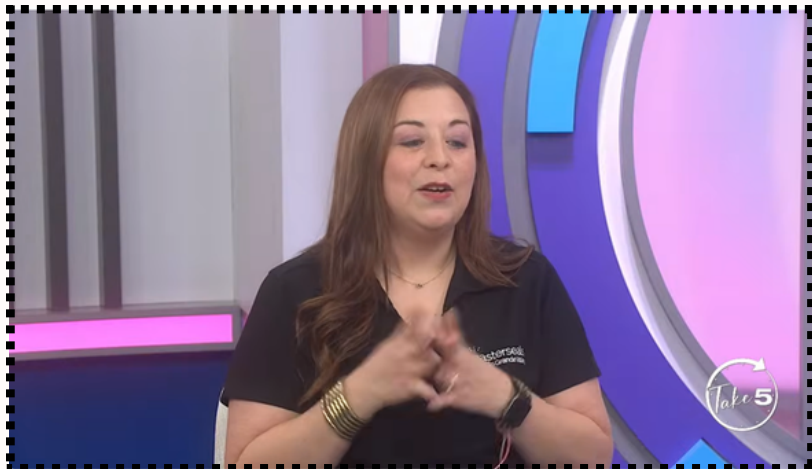
Privacy reminder: No individual home visitor salaries will be identifiable. All data is reported in aggregate.

Full details can be found [here](#).

# HIPPY SHINES BRIGHT!

Issue 4 March 2026

## Easterseals Rio Grand Valley, TX - Celebrating a National Spotlight for HIPPY Literacy!



We are thrilled to congratulate HIPPY Coordinator Clarissa O'Brien of Easterseals Rio Grande Valley, TX, and her dedicated team for leading the charge behind the HIPPY Family Literacy Project, a creative initiative that is bringing families together through the joy of reading—and has now reached local television! This inspiring effort was recently featured nationally and can be viewed using [this](#) link beginning at 24 minutes and 6 seconds of the video.

Inspired by the beloved children's book *Corduroy* by Don Freeman, this nationwide literacy adventure invites HIPPY families to read the story together, create their own traveling paper *Corduroy*, and exchange him with another HIPPY site across the country. As *Corduroy* travels from community to community, he collects photos, stories, and memories in a shared travel journal, creating a meaningful record of literacy, connection, and learning among HIPPY families nationwide.

Thanks to the leadership of Clarissa O'Brien and the team at Easterseals Rio Grande Valley, this project is showcasing the power of family literacy and the impact of HIPPY programs across the country. We celebrate their innovation, dedication, and the local recognition this project has brought to the HIPPY network.



## HIPPY Represented at National HRSA Roundtable

HIPPY US was recently represented at a HRSA roundtable in Washington, D.C., highlighting the impact of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program. Families, home visitors, and leaders from across the country gathered to share how home visiting strengthens parent-child relationships, supports early learning, and builds stronger foundations for the future.

A special shoutout to Delainia Ross of Texas A&M University and Lena Brown of Sunrise Children's Foundation (in NV) for representing the HIPPY community and bringing the voices of families and home visitors into this important national conversation. Thank you both for the work you do every day and for helping elevate early childhood and home visiting on a national stage.



**HIPPY**  
**HEART** PAGE 05

## HIPPY's Professional Development

As you know HIPPY US is transitioning all professional development modules to a new Learning Management System (LMS) making **all online modules temporarily inaccessible**. Access to the modules is expected to resume sometime in April.

In the meantime, we are still accepting interest for all professional development registrations and encourage anyone who needs to sign up to do so. We will notify the field as soon as module access becomes available.

## 2025-26 Webinar Series

Thank you for participating in the **2025-26 HIPPY US webinars**.

Previous webinar resources can be found in [the HIPPY library](#) on the Professional Development and Webinar Archive page.

## HIPPY 3.0

**Looking for something to do this summer—or all year long? HIPPY 3.0 is the tool for you!**

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](#).

## 24 - 25 Annual Report: Reach Report

**Turn Your Data Into Action: Unlock Insights to Strengthen and Advocate for Your Program!**

Coordinators can use 2024 -2025 [The Reach Report](#) to

- Quickly track key data
- Identify trends, and
- Make informed decisions

The dashboard provides real-time, easy-to-understand insights that support program improvement and more effective planning.

## Support Request Reminder

To help HIPPY US continue providing timely support, we kindly ask that all requests be submitted through the Request for Support Board.

We have recently seen an increase in requests submitted across multiple platforms and duplicate submissions for the same issue. Submitting one request per issue through the [Request for Support Board](#) helps us track and respond to requests more efficiently. Also, we ask that you enter specific details when describing your request.

Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us streamline the support process.



**HIPPY**  
UNITED STATES

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LIMITED TIME ONLY

**10% SAVINGS**

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*SPECIAL PRICING FROM MARCH 8, 2026-MAY 31, 2026 ONLY  
DISCOUNT APPLIES TO BRIDGE CURRICULUM ORDERS OF  
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[\*CLICK HERE TO START SAVING TODAY!\*](#)



## Story Collection

With spring officially underway and the end of the program year in sight, a reminder that now is a great time to collect stories highlighting the impact of your work. Not only is story collection a helpful way for you to reflect on the work you have done this last year, but the power of these stories when spreading the word about HIPPY is invaluable. Here are a few tips:

- Encourage people to speak/write in their own words.
- Often folks are overly modest when speaking about their accomplishments. If you know of something you think they should share in their story, ask them directly about it.
- A story doesn't need to be long or overly detailed to be powerful. Short stories can often have a big impact.
- Be creative! Written stories always work well but don't shy away from video recordings or other options.

We hope as you collect stories for this program year you share them with us as well! (**HIPPY US Photo Submission Form**)

## 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.





## Navigating Change with Families

Carla Mowell, National Training Director

Whether it's a move, new baby, job loss, or a shift in parenting dynamics, families often experience major life changes. Home visitors can serve as steady, compassionate partners through these transitions. An effective approach is to offer strategies for supporting families without trying to "fix" things. **Research shows** that home visitors help families navigate changes, and without support, families navigating changes are more likely to drop out of HIPPy. **Successful support hinges on the quality of the home visitor-family relationship.** The coordinator's role is to support and train home visitors to build trust with families, and use communication tools tailored to a family's unique needs, so they can support parents' skills.

## LET'S TALK:

- What are some changes going on in the lives of the parents you serve?
- How do you help parents navigate change without taking it on as your own responsibility?
- How do you manage your own emotions and reactions when parents confide in you about the difficult situations they are facing?

- Give each home visitor a copy of **One 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 10-15 minutes you can use one or two of the **LET'S TALK** questions on the right, which would give your team an opportunity to connect. For a deeper dive into the topic, open with a question, add one or two of the **THREE MORE IDEAS**, and the **TRY THIS** activity below. Any materials needed for the **TRY THIS** activity are underlined.

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

- **Yes, AND** Team Brainstorm - Choose one TIP from the article and go around adding "Yes, and..." ideas to expand how it could be applied.
- **Challenge of the week:** Consider REFLECTION question 3 - over the course of the next week, keep an eye out for an example of someone who handled change well. Come ready to share an example next week.
- **Share coping skills:** On chart paper brainstorm a list of coping strategies for navigating stress and change. Once you've completed the list, give each home visitor 3 different colored highlighters (ex. Yellow, Orange, Green). Have them highlight one strategy they already use (yellow), one they want to try (orange) and one they have questions about (green). Discuss the highlighted items.

## TRY THIS: Connecting Strategies to Situations

Let's look at the TIPS and how they can apply to real situations you've encountered. Think of a family you serve who is facing a challenging situation. Write down two things: 1) the challenge they are facing, and 2) what support or information you've provided them (5 mins). Now look at the tips on your handout. Which of these tips can you use to support the family further? How will you apply it? (10 mins).

# Don't Forget

RESOURCES AND MORE AVAILABLE FOR YOU

- **Connect** with Nikki, if you have suggestions
- Complete the 25-26 Program Year: **End of Year Survey** beginning April 2nd.
- **Apply** for the Model Fidelity Specialist Open Position
- **Submit your photos** to help celebrate Home Visitor Appreciation Week
- **See how** Coduroy's Cross County Adventure is making local headlines
- Review the Home Visitor of the Year **Toolkit**
- **Reach out** to S&S to be apart of your event
- **Download** the "Coordinator Guide" insert and share it with Home Visitors.

- Voluntarily **Complete** the Home Visiting **Workforce Data Collection Survey**
- **Review** the 2024 - 2025 Reach Report
- **Order** the **Bridge Curriculum** with a **10% discount** 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.
- **Connect** with Suzi for advocacy information.
- **Review** the **Advocacy Toolkit**
- **Tell us your thoughts**, ask questions, request support, or tell us Why do you HIPPY?!

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 question go [here](#) to connect with a HIPPY US team member today!