

QUOTE

"What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal."

— Albert Pike



GROWING TOGETHER

As a HIPPY home visitor, you bring more than skills and training to your work—you bring lived experience, cultural knowledge, and a deep understanding of your community. Professional growth doesn't mean stepping away from who you are; it means building on your strengths, learning new strategies, and reflecting on your practice so you can make an even greater impact. By investing in your own growth, you strengthen your ability to support families in ways that are meaningful, practical, and culturally relevant.

As a HIPPY home visitor, every home visit is an opportunity to learn—not just about families and children, but also about yourself as a professional. Growth happens when we step outside of our comfort zones, try new strategies, and pay attention to what works and what doesn't. By prioritizing professional growth, you not only enhance your own skills, but you also strengthen your impact on the families you serve.

Your personal and professional growth will continue to build your confidence and skills. These in turn will strengthen your ability to connect with and support families. Remember, your connection to the community is one of your greatest assets in helping children and families thrive.

REFLECTION

1. What is one skill you've improved in the past month?
2. What's one area you'd like to grow in the next month?
3. How do you seek out learning opportunities in your work?

TIPS

Ten strategies to help you identify and pursue your personal and professional growth:

1. **Set a learning goal:** Identify one specific skill or topic to focus on for the next month.
2. **Use video reflections:** Make a recording of a home visit (with parent permission), and view it to notice strengths and areas for improvement.
3. **Peer observations:** Partner with another home visitor to observe and learn from each other's techniques, and styles.
4. **Read or listen:** Find articles, podcasts, or books about early childhood development, family engagement, or a topic you choose.
5. **Try something new:** Experiment with a new activity, approach, or teaching strategy in your next visit.
6. **Journal your growth:** Reflect briefly after each visit on what you learned and what you'd like to try differently next time.
7. **Celebrate progress:** Acknowledge small successes and skills you've improved—growth is often gradual and incremental.
8. **Ask for feedback:** identify an area of growth and ask others for feedback (coordinator, peers, parents).
9. **Be open to constructive criticism:** remain calm, listen actively, and try not taking it personally. Ask clarifying questions and thank the person for investing their time and energy to help you.
10. **Practice giving feedback:** Share specific observations using a supportive tone, offer actionable suggestions, and keep the conversation private and timely. Practicing feedback builds self-awareness, fosters a growth mindset, and promotes a positive culture—both within your team and with the parents you serve.