TARGET AUDIENCE

This program is for families who have children from 0 to 18 years old who are at high risk of out-of-home placement or who have been placed out of the home and need reunification services.

SUMMARY

Homebuilders®, a home- and community-based program, is designed to prevent removal of children from their homes by providing intensive in-home intervention, counseling, and life-skills education for participants.

EVIDENCE

Results from several evaluations indicate that 1 year from the beginning of the program a significantly greater percentage of children who received intervention services remained in their home or had delayed placements compared to children in comparison groups who received traditional child welfare services. In addition, placement costs during follow-up were lower for those children in the treatment group compared to those in the comparison group.

COMPONENTS

Homebuilders, an Intensive Family Preservation Services (IFPS) program, intends to minimize barriers to family support services and teach family members new personal and social skills to enhance family relationships and promote family stability. Trained, master's-level therapists meet with families in their homes or communities to deliver sessions. Key elements of the program include the following:

- Intervene when families are in crisis;
- Treat families in their home or community;
- Provide accessible and responsive services to families;
- Deliver concentrated, time-limited services;
- Utilize research-based interventions, such as motivational interviewing and cognitive behavioral therapy; and
- Offer a wide range of services to families, including social support services (e.g., budgeting, household maintenance, assistance with transportation, home repairs), counseling, modeling of parenting skills, interagency treatment planning, family advocacy, and medication management.

PREVIOUS USE

Homebuilders was first implemented in 1974 and has since been used by 15,000 families and over 200 public and private organizations in 23 states in the United States and in Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom.
# Homebuilders

## TRAINING

Extensive training, including on-site training and phone consultations, is required for those who plan to implement the Homebuilders program. Please visit [www.institutefamily.org/training.asp](http://www.institutefamily.org/training.asp) or email info@institutefamily.org for more information.

## CONSIDERATIONS

Considerations for implementing this program include securing master's-level therapists, ensuring facilitators receive training, acquiring participant buy-in, and finding mutually convenient times for home visits to occur.

The Clearinghouse can help address these considerations. Please call 1-877-382-9185 or email Clearinghouse@psu.edu

## IMPLEMENTATION

If you are interested in implementing Homebuilders, the Clearinghouse is interested in helping you! Please call 1-877-382-9185 or email Clearinghouse@psu.edu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>COST</th>
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<td>Program services are typically provided for 4 to 6 weeks. Therapists are on-call to families 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Two booster sessions are available for 6 months following program completion.</td>
<td>An in-person or telephone site development and implementation readiness consultation is required, and costs vary depending on site needs and developer's travel expenses. Please contact Charlotte Booth using her information in Contact below for details.</td>
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## EVALUATION PLAN

To move Homebuilders to the Effective category on the Clearinghouse Continuum of Evidence at least one evaluation must be conducted that demonstrates sustained, positive effects lasting at least one year from program completion and one external evaluation must be conducted that also demonstrates sustained, positive effects.

The Clearinghouse can help you develop an evaluation plan to ensure the program components are meeting your goals. Please call 1-877-382-9185 or email Clearinghouse@psu.edu

## CONTACT

Contact the Clearinghouse with any questions regarding this program.

Phone: 1-877-382-9185 Email: Clearinghouse@psu.edu

You may also contact Charlotte Booth, Executive Director at the Institute for Family Development, by phone 1-253-927-1550, fax 1-253-838-1670, email cbooth@institutefamily.org, or visit [www.institutefamily.org/programs_IFPS.asp](http://www.institutefamily.org/programs_IFPS.asp)

## SOURCE