

# ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Dear Tribal MIECHV Grantees,

Please see the below guidance related to virtual home visiting and remote work in the Tribal MIECHV program. Please contact your Federal Project Officer with any questions.

Best,

Moushumi M. Beltangady -S  
Moushumi Beltangady  
Program Manager  
Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program

Digitally signed by Moushumi M. Beltangady -S  
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Date: 2020.03.19 13:08:15 -0400

## Tribal Home Visiting Emergency Response to COVID-19 Virtual Home Visiting and Remote Work

<b>Question</b>	Some models are promoting 'telehealth' type or virtual home visits; will ACF support this format on a temporary basis? Additionally, can home visiting teams work from their homes?
<b>Response</b>	<p>ACF is aware of the impact the COVID-19 public health emergency has had, and will continue to have, on service delivery to families. We understand that some Tribes, Urban Indian Organizations, Tribal Consortiums, states and counties have suspended face-to-face home visits to protect the health and safety of families and they are now recommending the use of telephone and/or video communication in lieu of face-to-face home visits.</p> <p>ACF supports tribal entities who choose to instruct their home visiting teams to work from home. A number of home visiting service delivery models have disseminated guidance related to precautions and safeguards recommended during a public health emergency. Model developer guidance may allow the use of telephone and/or video technology to maintain contact with families during an emergency.</p> <p>During the COVID-19 public health emergency, ACF encourages awardees to follow CDC, tribal, state and local health department, and model developer guidance. ACF supports appropriate use of alternate methods to conduct home visits in alignment with model fidelity standards.</p>

	<p>Please alert your Project Officer if the tribe or organization suspends home visits and/or temporarily changes their service delivery strategy. Follow model developer guidelines about virtual home visiting and definitions of completed home visits for the purposes of performance reporting if service delivery adaptations are being instituted. ACF recognizes that all participating families may not have the technology required for virtual face-to-face options. In these cases, using a telephone call, rather than a video connection, is allowable for Tribal MIECHV performance reporting.</p>
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