

2025 – 2026 Innovation Investment Expansion Funding Opportunity Questions & Answers

Training of practitioners. This looks like a train the trainer model. Is there a cost for someone to be trained. Is the training able to be delivered remotely or does the practitioner have to be present for large group trainings. Can one practitioner train a second at a site? Are practitioner trainings approved by SC Endeavor?

- We are planning for in house trainings for ED's (strongly encouraged) and supervisors (mandatory). These will occur over 4 visits here at the state office.
- HIPPY supervisors will be well versed in the model and will train their home visitors weekly.

Curriculum. Is there a Cost for practitioner and parent curriculum? Can they be locally reproduced? Are there electronic versions that can be shared

- There is a cost for curriculum (see attached). S&S Worldwide is the only provider, and the curriculum packets have a copyright.
- Sample
- Year 1 – 3 year old curriculum costs per child

9 Books	30 Role Play Packets	20 Packets of Shapes
\$70.62/child	\$73.50/child	\$70.95 = \$3.55/child

- Total - \$1512.15 for 10 children
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- Year 2 – 4 year old curriculum costs per child

9 Books	30 Role Play Packets	20 Packets of Shapes
\$45.73/child	\$73.50/child	\$70.95 = \$3.55/child

- Total - \$1263.25 for 10 children

Group meetings. What are the requirements for group meetings (e.g., if a center has 3 families participating is that a group or do they merge with other families? Can group meetings occur in larger public spaces (e.g., can a group meeting occur at the children's museum where parents arrive with families, train and then enjoy the museum)

- HIPPY requires 6 group meetings which can include an educational outing with travel.
- We begin the year with a topic of interest survey so that the parents are able to have a say in the type of group meetings offered
- If only 2-3 families attend, it is considered a group meeting ensuring there is an announcement, proof of planning, a sign in form and an exit survey is given (all of which we provide electronically). Since you are running in multiple counties, they can work together to plan and offer group meetings or trips.

Home. Where is the child during the visit? Can visits happen at school in afternoon?

- Children do not have to be present during the visit, home visitors are role playing with parents.

- We want to lead with in-home visits as the first option.
- In-person visits can happen at the school or childcare due to a variety of circumstances. If so desired and all parties are in agreement, especially the school principal or child care director, this type of role play visit is acceptable.
- Finally virtual visits can be offered during extenuating circumstances such as family or HV illness, sudden change of schedules, etc. with full understanding that in-person visits resume as soon as possible.

Cost per client. Is the \$2500 per family estimated cost a hard number? We cannot figure out how to do a multi county model as a startup for that much because we expect a number of families will start and back out, requiring practitioners to restart services multiple times.

- The cost/child has increased to the loss of AmeriCorps as a workforce. With a multi-county implementation, you will need multiple supervisors (possibly regionally) for no more than 6 home visitors in the region. Having a waiting list supports replacements of families. We can help with strategic recruitment tactics that have been successful in rural areas.
- The sample budget provides updated information on cost to operate the HIPPY program.

If we launch this program in Sept, it seems like we will have a number of families who have not received 26 visits by June. Are we noncompliant? Or can families receive visits over 2 fiscal years and still meet SCFS compliance?

- Our plan is to start home visits in October and end the season in August giving ample time to make 26+ visits. Factoring in holidays, home visitors have enough time to make 3 to 4 visits per month. For families that chronically miss visits, HIPPY US does allow doubling visits. We also recommend making up weeks through a virtual visit.

Contracts and incentives. We are looking at a Countdown type model where practitioners are paid for completed visits. Is that ok? Can those practitioners get bonuses for completing say 20 visits? Can parents receive gift cards for participation? Can centers receive financial incentives for participating?

- Present the budget how you intend to provide payment for services. If there doesn't need to be a budget for all collaborating local partnerships, clearly identify why.
- Gift cards can not be included in the innovation grant due to state and federal funding, however if you are partnered with organizations (such as Pizza Hut, Walmart, Rotary Club, etc. that donate gift cards) distributing to families is plausible.

If we apply and utilize HIPPY would our county serve and additional 50 children or is that totaled for participating affiliates?

- The total is 50 additional children/parents/families served amongst collaborating local partnerships. Additional refers to 50 beyond the current Projected to Serve if you applying to expand a program currently implemented by any collaborating partnership.

Is the budget completed per county or one total budget?

- This depends on how application for funding is written.
 1. **Identify one local partnership to serve as the lead applicant:** Each participating partnership that is not the lead applicant must provide a proposed budget if receiving funding.
 2. **Each local partnership submits its own application:** Each local partnership will submit a budget request as part of their grant application.

Can a Parent Educator work part-time in HIPPY if they already work in another evidence-based program?

- Yes, however there needs to be distinct record keeping for each role and it must be described clearly in the funding application.

What are the HIPPY parent educator qualifications?

- High school diploma or GED required; some college coursework in early childhood, education, or social services preferred.
- Experience working with children or families in community settings is strongly desired.
- Ability to work independently, manage a flexible schedule, and communicate effectively with diverse populations.
- Reliable transportation, valid driver's license, and auto insurance required.
- Must complete HIPPY training and commit to implementing the curriculum with fidelity.
- Reside in or have strong ties to the community being served is a plus.

What is the maximum number of families per full-time and part-time parent educators?

- Full-time: 15-18 families
- Part-time: 8-12 families

Is there Executive Director compensation or stipend? Should it be included in the budget proposal?

- There would need to be a substantial increase in funds and justified scope of work to be considered. Any changes to the Executive Director compensation must go through the process identified in the Local Partnership (LP) Fiscal and Operations Manual.

How does this grant impact our administrative cost percentage?

- Grant funding will need to be budgeted within the program(s) for which funding is requested. Grant funding may be used for a reasonable and allocable portion of shared costs such as rent, utilities, etc. thereby potentially reducing the portion of shared costs currently charged to Admin.