

August 2019



U.S. Department of Health
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Centers for Disease
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Monthly Update: WIC Developmental Monitoring Project



You are receiving this monthly newsletter because you are a part of the ASPHN WIC Developmental Monitoring Project. This newsletter will feature updates from states within the project about what they are doing and successes and challenges they have had, information about upcoming trainings, and other news. If you have anything you'd like to contribute, you can reach out to Amber Brown at AmberBrown@asphn.org. Thank you!

Upcoming Events

- **August Online Training - CANCELLED**
- September 16th - Child Development 101 Training
- October 21st - State Updates and Networking

ASPHN and CDC Updates



New Website!!

ASPHN has created a new website for the "WIC Developmental Monitoring Project". It will be housed under the asphn.org website. This website will include all the monthly newsletters, links to the monthly online training

recordings and slides, updates/announcements, etc. The webpage is found here:

<https://asphn.org/learn-the-signs-act-early/>.

Baby Update

Amber Brown had her twin babies in July. Her and the babies are all doing well.

Amber will be less available until mid-September. Janet Farmer has agreed to help states and triage questions while Amber is less available. As much as possible, Amber will continue to check email. She will only respond to time sensitive emails the first few weeks.

Janet Farmers contact information is below:

Janet Farmer

FarmerJE@health.missouri.edu

Phone: 573-424-3494

The following meetings will be cancelled in August:

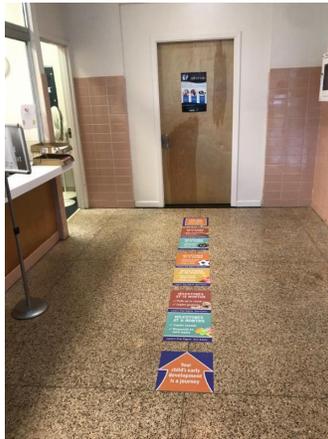
- Monthly Online Training
- Advisory Team Meeting



Arkansas State Updates

Arkansas WIC has trained all of the pilot site staff and began implementation of the program in the pilot sites starting 7/1/19. Checklists are provided at all certification and nutrition education appointments as appropriate for the child's age. We are also giving a short survey to all participants who take the checklist. Floor and wall graphics are being installed in the local health units now that all of the materials have been received. We are currently working on using our SPIRIT system to track the number of checklists issued and number of referrals made for further screening so that staff do not have to keep a separate list. Arkansas LTSAE Team is looking forward to seeing the data from the first month of our pilot implementation.

Below are some pictures of the graphics set up in the Arkansas clinic:



Massachusetts State Update

The WIC Developmental Monitoring Program is well underway in Massachusetts! The state team has been traveling across the Commonwealth to train the pilot local agencies. Five of the trainings will be completed by the end of July, with two more to go in August. We are fortunate that our partner agency, Family TIES, has been able to participate in each of our trainings and offer local program staff additional information about Early Intervention as well as provide a unique perspective as parents of children that have experienced developmental delay.

We are excited that all of our project materials and environmental graphics have been received and are in the process of being shipped to participating clinics. Our second round of updates to our participant data system will be completed by the end

of July to enhance our evaluation process. We anticipate that most of the local programs trained in July will have begun implementing the project in advance of our August team call, allowing us to spend time talking about any initial challenges and successes. Thus far, local program staff have been very receptive to the initiative and anticipate that parents will be excited about this new component of WIC services.

Nevada State Updates

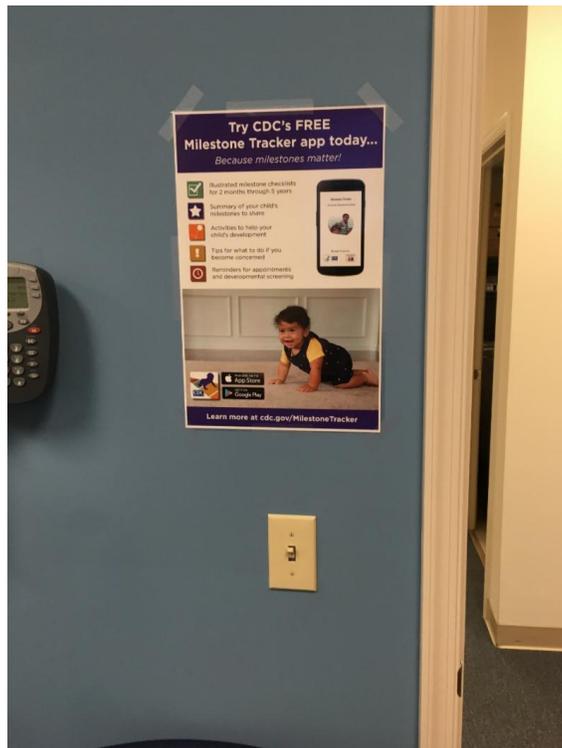
In June, Nevada WIC was able to finalize a pilot implementation plan. We're still working to develop training and training materials. Working with NvLEND and ITCN to possibly adapt their training materials. Have secured the 14th and 15th of August to complete LTSAE training with both our northern and southern pilot clinics. The pilot implementation will begin in mid-August.

Delaware State Updates

The University of Delaware Center for Disabilities Studies has partnered with Delaware's 11 WIC clinics to implement a developmental monitoring and language enrichment program, Act Early, Read Daily. Partnerships with other state organizations, such as 211 and Help Me Grow, have supported the program's development and implementation. To date, WIC staff have distributed over 3,400 Learn the Signs. Act Early. developmental checklists to families of young children across the state. As a result of the checklists' completion, there have been over 630 referrals made by WIC staff to Help Me Grow for children to receive formal developmental screening. Act Early, Read Daily surveys have shown an extremely positive response from WIC staff and supervisors, who also report families' satisfaction with the new program. The Act Early, Read Daily program has promoted partnerships with various state organizations to distribute helpful Parent Kits with material on milestones, as well as early language and literacy. Partners include the Delaware Libraries, Sussex County Health Coalition, and Nemours/A.I. duPont Hospital for Children. With help from partners and the CDC, the program will be providing free, age appropriate books to 10,000 WIC participants this fall.

While the program has grown successfully, recent internal commitments within Delaware WIC have shown to be a barrier. In Delaware, they are now introducing WIC Smart education, as well as disseminating the summer farmer's markets checks. WIC staff have needed to prioritize these two nutrition-specific education topics. The increase in required education and the limited time allotted for visits has slowed the rate of LTSAE developmental checklist dissemination. With the fall quarterly education module shifting focus back to the Act Early, Read Daily program, there is an expectation of checklist list numbers returning to previous volume and a plan to discuss ongoing sustainability.

Below are some pictures from Delaware WIC of how their materials are set up.



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