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U.S. Department of Health
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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

- **January 27th @ Noon EST - *How to Connect with Partners Doing Similar Work; Act Early Ambassadors***
- **February 10th @ Noon EST - *Topic TBA; Training provided by The Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP)***

****Note: January & February Training: Rescheduled due to Martin Luther King Day and Presidents Day***

ASPHN and CDC Updates



Statewide Implementation Plans

Statewide Implementation Plans for the funded states will be due Friday, February 14th, 2020. If any Technical Assistance States have plans they would like to submit we will happily review those as well.

Progress Reports Due

Progress Reports for the funded state are due January 31, 2020. A link to fill these out will be sent to those states soon.

Extended Project End Date

The "WIC Developmental Monitoring Project" has been extended! The end date for the project will be pushed out a few months. Instead of the original end date of July 2020 it will be sometime in the fall of 2020. This means that each of you will continue to receive technical assistance for longer than originally anticipated. We will share the exact end date once we have a little more information in spring 2020.

Training and Recruitment Videos:

Both the Recruitment and the Training Videos are available here:

Recruitment: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=leVS67a_8j0

Training: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIkZZa3E6aw>

Implementation Manual Online:

The Implementation Site from CDC is live for your use at the following links

<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/wicguide/index.html>

www.cdc.gov/WICGuide

State Updates:

Arkansas State Updates

Arkansas WIC is continuing to train staff across the state at our WIC clinics to implement LTSAE. File folders and checklists are being ordered and distributed across the state. Wall and floor graphics are being installed in the WIC clinics as well. Pilot sites are continuing to implement LTSAE in their clinics. Family and Consumer Science Specialists will be trained in LTSAE at the annual state meeting in January 2020. Statewide Implementation Plan is in the process being developed based off of results from surveys and other feedback from the pilot sites. An addition to our SPIRIT MIS system was made to track follow ups on participants referred for further screening through our LTSAE program.

Massachusetts State Update

Massachusetts WIC is proud to share that our pilot programs have completed over 4,000 milestone checklists through November. 578 participants have been referred to Early Intervention services and 21 participants to Special Education services at the public schools. This represents 14% of screened children.

Each month we are seeing an increase in our documentation. Not only are staff developing systems to streamline the offering of the checklist, but they are remembering to complete the documentation process as well. This is no small feat as clinics are often overburdened.

All pilot programs show an increase in their monitoring. One program has a rate of

96% screening - meaning that almost all of the eligible infants and children who came in that program (with multiple sites) in November - had a checklist completed. Wow!

We hosted a meeting at the beginning of December for all of our pilot programs. Two of our MA WIC Act Early Pilot partners reinforced this important work. Kate Barlow, OT, OTD, the Massachusetts Act Early Ambassador, highlighted the various activities of the MA Act Early chapter and reviewed available resources. Family TIES provided a comprehensive discussion on the transition process for children from Early Intervention to Special Education. Staff learned about additional resources available to families, including trained volunteers. We received feedback on our training curriculum and developed plans for our statewide rollout. We agreed that there is a need for a referral tool to help the referring agency understand that WIC has completed developmental monitoring on the child and that the family needs further screening. Ideally, the local WIC program will receive confirmation from the referral agency once the child has been evaluated.

Nevada

The integration of the WIC Developmental Milestones Checklist Program (DMCP) in Nevada is going well. Clinics have integrated into their clinic flow and participants have been very receptive. We're starting to see people coming back in after referrals, but so far, very few survey's have been filled out. We will retrain as needed to make sure these do not get forgotten.

A lot of work has gone into building an online training for the Statewide roll-out. It's an amalgam of the original pilot training and added information and video's that were not available at time of pilot. The training is in the review process now so that it can be finalized. The online survey's have also been getting built in readiness for the statewide rollout.

The game plan for statewide roll-out has changed since the pilot was pushed out. We'll be introducing the DMCP to all our agencies in our Statewide In-Service in January. The online Training will hopefully go up by mid-January. The live webinars will happen in February to make sure everyone is good and ready to launch in March. Official March date not set yet; pending training and readiness but 'hope' to launch March 2nd.

Results so far are 98% of those offered fill out the Checklists. Of those, filled out, we have the following breakout.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Did NOT generate need for referral	87.50%	1,757
▼ Did show a need for a referral and the referral was ACCEPTED.	7.12%	143
▼ Did show a need for a referral and the referral was REJECTED - already receiving services.	3.49%	70
▼ Did show a need for a referral and the referral was REJECTED.	1.89%	38
TOTAL		2,008

Iowa

Iowa is into its third month of its pilot. While the state dropped down to two pilot sites after starting in October we have added two more sites in the month of December. So far our two sites within the first two months have completed 920 checklist which resulted in 87 reported referrals made for further screening, local resources or providers. This amounts to almost 10% of all checklist completed resulting in referrals which shows the importance of the program and the need for it within the WIC clinics.

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