

November 2019



U.S. Department of Health  
and Human Services  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention



## 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](mailto:AmberBrown@asphn.org). Thank you!

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### Upcoming Events

- November 18th @ Noon EST - Continuation of State Networking Call
- December 16th @ Noon EST - Effective Communication with Low-Income Populations; *Tawara Goode, Assistant Professor, Georgetown University Medical Center*

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### ASPHN and CDC Updates



#### State Networking Call Continued:

Our state networking call in October went so well that we have decided to continue this call for our November Online Training. States will give a brief update of evaluation results thus far and then we will leave the remaining time for discussion between the states.

Online Training - WIC Developmental Monitoring Project  
Mon, Nov 18, 2019 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM EST

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/644539269>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(646\) 749-3112](tel:+16467493112)  
Access Code:644-539-269

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:  
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/644539269>

## Training and Recruitment Videos:

Exciting news from CDC! The training video and the recruitment video are both available for your use.

You can find both the Recruitment and the Training Videos here:  
Recruitment: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=leVS67a\\_8j0](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 now live for your use. You can find it at:

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

The easier-to-remember shortcut to this site, [www.cdc.gov/WICGuide](http://www.cdc.gov/WICGuide), should be live in a few days.

Remember, this is intended to be an ONLINE guide, however, you will find a printable PDF of the full guidance downloadable from the site.

**Please, please, please let me know if you see any errors or have suggestions for improvement. We appreciate your feedback. Hoping to begin promoting it among partners nationwide late next week.**

We will be sharing some promotional tools (newsletter blurbs, images and sample social media) folks may want to use to help promote it, so stay tuned for those...

Many thanks for your patience--- we sincerely help you find it all helpful!

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## State Updates:

### Highlighting Our Technical Assistance States:

I am so excited to share some updates from our Technical Assistance States and want to highlight the amazing work they each have been doing. We hear a lot from our funded states, but want our Technical Assistance states to get some recognition as well. It is very impressive what they have been doing with LTSAE and doing all of this without any funding

### Delaware Update: Act Early, Read Daily Program:

The Delaware WIC Program launched the Act Early, Read Daily program in February 2019. The goals of the program include integration of LTSAE materials for developmental monitoring and to support the education of parents around

developmental milestones and early language acquisition. In February through April 2019, all 11 WIC clinics in Delaware began integrating LTSAE developmental checklists into WIC visits with a model closely aligned with that of Missouri WIC. In May, internal commitments of DE WIC took priority and the implementation of the checklist program declined. In an effort to accommodate increased workload of WIC staff and plan for a sustainable model of developmental monitoring within WIC, the developmental checklist program has been revised. Revisions include shifting responsibilities to nutritionists and reducing developmental checklist and milestone education dissemination to one time per year per child. These revisions will be evaluated for staff satisfaction, leadership buy-in, and family impact. In addition, the educational focus of WIC for the September through November quarter is early literacy and language acquisition. Families coming to WIC are receiving educational materials on language development, language acquisition activities, free library cards, and free LTSAE books.

## Iowa:

Iowa has started a pilot at three of its WIC clinics as of October 1st. We have held individual 1:1 calls with each coordinator and shared the ASPHN webinars and educational video's with the coordinators to help them gain a better understanding of the program and help educate local staff that will be implementing the program. We have established a partnership with Iowa's CDC's Act Early Ambassador to Iowa who is assisting with the pilot program and has already provided education to all of our 20 WIC coordinators in Iowa. Iowa is also looking at a partnering with Early Childhood Iowa a state organization that's mission is to positively affect the lives of all children in Iowa from ages 0-5. Three project calls have been scheduled between all three pilot sites, Iowa's CDC's Act Early Ambassador, and the majority of Iowa's State Nutrition Consultants who assist with the WIC grant management to discuss the pilot at the beginning, mid and end points of our scheduled 6 month pilot to assess if it is feasible to roll out state wide sometime in 2020.

## Maine:

All 60 WIC locations in Maine is using the developmental monitoring check during the appointments. We had a statewide training May 31 and the forms went statewide June 1, 2019. Thanks.

## New Hampshire:

We have 4 local agencies in NH:

- Goodwin Community Health (GCHC)\*,
- Community Action Program Belknap & Merrimack Counties
- Southern NH Services (SNHS)\*
- Southwestern Community Action

*\* selected/volunteered pilot agencies—GCHC main pilot site, to be followed by SNHS.*

On August 29<sup>th</sup> we had a WIC statewide training and Jen Doris, the LTSAE Ambassador presented a session to ~65 attendees on LTSAE. She provided an overview on developmental screening vs monitoring, summarized how developmental monitoring and WIC blend, outlined the WIC LTSAE project, and introduced the Milestone Moments checklists and other materials to support families. We were hopefully that GCHC ( who received funding from their United Way chapter for the milestone checklist and environmental signage) would have been ready to implement starting this October however, the Director and champion, is due out on maternity leave shortly and they have had other staff vacancies for the last few months ( thankfully that are now filled). We have postponed for GCHC the immediate future and are determining if the person who will be covering for the Director will be able to

manage the piloting stage until her return. GCHC has the environmental signage and milestone checklists and are otherwise ready to go. The State and Jen Doris will be providing additional training prior to their launch.

SNHS our other pilot agency is ready to go. We anticipate technical assistance training by the state and Jen Doris before launching with them in December/January. We could not start with SNHS earlier due to another project launch of on-line education that is starting October.

Jen Doris—has been able to secure funding for of the milestone checklists, implementation guides, toolboxes and the environmental signage(ES) (however this is on hold—ES due to some state budget constraints at the end of the fiscal year—we are hopeful that this will move forward).

## **New Jersey:**

Unfortunately, we have not progressed as far as we had planned. We have had some setbacks due to staffing shortages on both a State Agency and Local Agency level. We had one meeting to discuss plans for piloting LTSAE, specifically the collaboration of WIC and Early Intervention.

We discussed the screening and referral process in the clinic and documentation of referrals and follow-up that can be maintained in our current computer system. WIC, Early intervention and SPAN are in contact with plans to pilot by the end of the year.

## **US Virgin Islands:**

We have not been able to do anything yet, but plan to start giving out materials that Karen Brown dropped off for us.

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## **Arkansas State Updates**

Arkansas WIC is in the process of gathering final feedback received from our participant surveys. Staff surveys were sent out on October 9<sup>th</sup> to all of the pilot sites via survey monkey. We are awaiting all responses to be submitted to assess feedback. The Arkansas LTSAE Team has spoken at all 3 pilot site staff meetings as well as spent time observing implementation of LTSAE in certification appointments. Materials are being ordered for our statewide Train the Trainer session for LTSAE in November. Times are being scheduled for early 2020 to have these trainings in all of the clinics throughout Arkansas

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## **Massachusetts State Update**

All 7 of Massachusetts' WIC Developmental Monitoring Project pilot programs are working hard to implement the developmental checklists with families. Based on data collected through the month of September, 426 children and their families have completed checklists at certification and mid-certification appointments. We are excited as we look at the data each month to see the increasing impact of this important initiative!

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## **Nevada State Updates**

Feedback has been positive from all four pilot clinics. Most have adopted the WIC Milestone program easily and have worked it into their daily clinic flow. Nevada

recorded one if it's initial pilot trainings and is currently working on the editing and hope to have that completed by the first part of November. We plan to take the recording and use clips of it within a larger online training that we'll provide for statewide roll out in 2020.

Data collection is going well both in our WIC MIS (called WISH) as well as our checklist and referral tracking form in Survey Monkey. Result are as follows.

**CHECKLIST DATA:**

Possible Checklist Contacts: 97.95% agreed to fill out

Results of Checklist that were filled out:

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Did NOT generate need for referral	87.84%	1,055
▼ Did show a need for a referral and the referral was ACCEPTED.	7.33%	88
▼ Did show a need for a referral and the referral was REJECTED due the child already receiving services.	3.08%	37
▼ Did show a need for a referral and the referral was REJECTED.	1.75%	21
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,201</b>

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