

September 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

- September 16th - Child Development 101 Training
- October 21st - State Updates and Networking

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### ASPHN and CDC Updates



#### WIC Recruitment Video Available from CDC

The WIC Recruitment Video is available for use at the following link:

[WIC Retention Video](#)

It will be available on the CDC WIC website by mid Sept.

#### Maternity Leave Update

Amber Brown is slowly making her return back from maternity leave and will be back

completely by mid-September. Please continue contacting Janet Farmer until mid-September.

Janet Farmers contact information is below:

Janet Farmer  
[FarmerJE@health.missouri.edu](mailto:FarmerJE@health.missouri.edu)  
Phone: 573-424-3494

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## State Updates

### Arkansas State Updates

Arkansas WIC has implemented LTSAE in the three pilot sites for one full month now. Things have gone fairly smoothly with pilot roll out. Clinics have displayed their floor and wall graphics. We are currently gathering the feedback we've received from our participant surveys . We are also analyzing the data collected from our MIS system on the number of checklists given and referrals made. Our numbers have been showing about 10% of the participants who complete the checklists are being referred. We did realize a need to add a button in the MIS system for those participants already receiving therapy to be sure we were capturing these participants in our numbers since we are not completing a checklist with them. Our team is currently working on outreach to the PCPs in Arkansas through various conferences and summits in an effort to increase understanding of our program across the state.

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### Massachusetts State Update

The Massachusetts WIC Program is very excited to be working with ASPHN and CDC to implement developmental monitoring in our WIC clinics. Seven local WIC agencies across the Commonwealth, representing more than 25% of our statewide caseload, eagerly volunteered to participate in our pilot project. We have a diverse, experienced group of staff from the Department of Public Health acting in an advisory capacity and we are working closely with our MA Act Early Ambassador as we design, launch, and evaluate the project. Preparations for pilot implementation are underway and the state team has trained all staff at each of the participating local agencies; all programs will have launched LTSAE by mid-September.

During our trainings, staff have shared some of their personal experiences that illustrate the importance of this work. Below is one of their heartfelt stories:

*At my son's two-year physical, I told his pediatrician, "I think something is wrong with Jonathan. He doesn't seem quite right. He can spend hours staring at his fingers or spinning around." My doctor told me, "What do you expect! He is a boy."*

*I finally went to a developmental clinic and had him tested. I was told that he had Autism Spectrum Disorder. I finally felt validated! Someone finally acknowledged my struggles. I had to quit my job to make sure Jonathan received the services he needed.*

*Jonathan received Early Intervention services for less than one year - speech therapy and ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis). During preschool, my son continued to receive services. However, when he entered kindergarten, all services halted; the school told me he was not eligible. I wish I had known about the Family TIES Parent-to-Parent Coordinator then. I sure could have used help!*

*Jonathan is now 21 years old. He has completed coursework at the local community college and has started attending a state college for engineering. I am so proud of him. He is just wired differently.*

*Raising Jonathan has been a very isolating experience. I am very happy to see that Massachusetts WIC is providing families with tools to monitor their children's development and to initiate a very important conversation when needed.*

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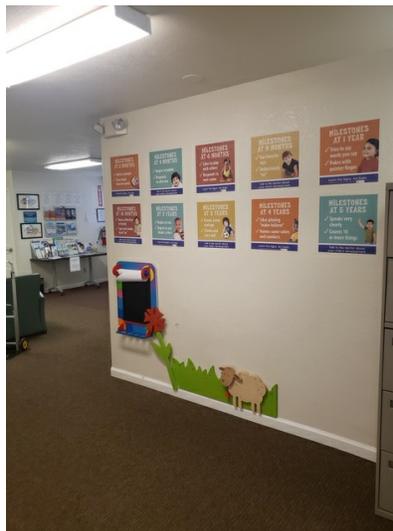
## Nevada State Updates

August has been busy for Nevada WIC. On the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, we conducted our pilot trainings. These were divided between the North and South. Two agencies were present for the Northern training which was professionally recorded. The recorded training will later be used as an online training when we roll out statewide in 2020. The online training will be followed by a live Q&A webinar to address any questions or concerns before implementation.

The Nevada pilot started officially on August 19, 2019. Pictures of clinic graphics are included for all three agencies. All agencies have received their initial shipment of pilot materials and additional ones are being ordered in preparation for statewide roll out.

Nevada WIC will use Survey Monkey to administer our post participant and staff surveys. Nevada will distribute the survey to pilot and future LTSAE participants via One-Call-Now which is our newly implemented text service. Dr. Rock at the University of Nevada - Reno will be helping us process the data collected from our paper surveys that are done during pilot. We're hoping to come up with a way to collect the data electronically for statewide implementation.

Below are pictures of the graphics in some of the Nevada clinics:





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## Iowa State Updates

Iowa is planning to do a pilot program for the LTSAE program from September 2019 to February 2020 with 3 of our local agencies. We have partnered with the CDC's Act Early Ambassador to Iowa who will be providing education over the program to all our site coordinators across the state this month as part of the pilot project.

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