

July 2020



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. Thank you!

Upcoming Events

- **July 20th @ Noon EST: State Updates and Networking Call; Statewide Implementation Updates**
- **August 20th @ Noon EST: Help Me Grow's Collaboration with Missouri WIC**

ASPHN and CDC Updates



Milestone Module Development Task Force

We are looking for people willing to be volunteer to be a part of a milestone module development task force. The "WIC Developmental Monitoring Project" will be developing online education modules about developmental milestones for WIC participants. These modules will be housed on an online WIC education platform for participants to take as part of their online nutrition education contact and can also be utilized during clinic closures from the pandemic.

The role of the task for will be to provide guidance on the development of WIC developmental milestone modules and the online education platforms. The work will take place from now until fall 2020 and will consist of about 3-4 total meetings and reviewing materials. If interested in joining this please contact Amber Brown

National WIC Association Presentation

Thank you to Hannah Nolan (Arkansas), Charles Lorinser (Iowa), and Lara Evans (Nevada) for presenting with Amber Brown (ASPHN) about the WIC Developmental Monitoring Project at the virtual National WIC Association meeting in June. It went very well and we had some good questions after the presentation. If you registered for the NWA meeting, but have not been able to view it yet the recording should be available until the end of July 2020.

Refresher Course

ASPHN has developed a short Power Point presentation that can be used as a refresher course for your staff. Many of our states had already trained their staff before the COVID-19 delays and this will be a good way to remind and refresh staff of the WIC Developmental Monitoring Program before you implement. This will best be used in conjunction with CDC's Training and Recruitment Videos. This course has been emailed to all state point of contacts in the project and can also be found on the LTSAE [website](#).

Funding Opportunity

AUCD-CDC Subaward Opportunity Forecast

A nationwide Act Early State and Territorial Team response to COVID-19

RFA Release Date: July 7, 2020

Informational Call: July 14, 2020 at 4:30pm ET

Number of Awards: up to 56

Award Floor: a minimum of \$75,000 per team

In Brief:

- A nationwide Act Early State and Territorial Team initiative focused on building resilience among families with young children served by early childhood state systems is under development
- Funding and technical assistance for new State and Territorial Teams across the country focused on supporting early identification of developmental concerns and building resilience among families connected to early childhood state systems will be made available
- Act Early Ambassadors will be expected to lead or co-lead along with closely related public health partners these State and Territorial Teams
- A complementary competitive Act Early Ambassador RFA to achieve representation in all eligible States and Territories will be made available at the time of this funding opportunity
- Teams must include representation from specific programs/systems who will need to be engaged prior to proposal, each providing a brief statement of intended commitment to the team as part of the application
- More information will be made available on the AUCD website by the close of business on July 7
- An informational call on the opportunity will take place on July 14 at 4:30pmET. No pre-registration is necessary. The link to join this informational session is:
 - <https://zoom.us/meeting/92360179823>
 - Questions? Contact Danielle Webber at dwebber@aucd.org

ASPHN's Library of Reliable COVID-19 Information

ASPHN has created a library of COVID-19 reliable information related to public health nutrition.

ASPHN has [created this landing page with categorized links](#) to help you quickly find relevant resources to support your initiatives during crisis. Categories include:

- General Information (CDC),
- Federal Public Health Nutrition Funders,
- Food Security,
- Breastfeeding & Infant Nutrition,
- K-12 & ECEs,
- Food Safety,
- Vendors & Food Service, and
- Farmer's Markets & School Gardens.

As the COVID-19 crisis continues to unfold, it is the nation's public health nutritionists who are on the front lines of this public health emergency, ensuring that our most vulnerable receive vital nutritional assistance. We hope you will bookmark this page and use it often during the coming months.

<https://asphn.org/covid-19-resources/>

[COVID 19 Links Related to Food Systems, Public Health Nutrition and General Information](#)

State Updates:

Arkansas

Not much has changed in Arkansas other than the creation of the Developmental Milestones module. I sent it to WIC Smart so hopefully they will add that sometime soon. Staff should be getting back into clinic in the next few weeks but we don't have any word how long it will be until participants start coming into the clinic for nutrition educations and certifications.

Nevada

Nevada WIC is putting in for another extension for remote services (clinics working via phone). If approved this would end July 31st. That 'may' mean that all our clinics will be back open to the public August 3rd, but if COVID numbers start rebounding with businesses opening back up (which they are already)... another extension may be requested. Some clinics are partially opened.

Massachusetts

Massachusetts WIC is providing clinic services remotely using telehealth during COVID-19. During these challenging times, we are pleased to report that our 7 pilot programs are continuing to support the project primarily through referrals to the Milestones Matters app and confirming that families are receiving appropriate referrals and services.

Our state has been able to install a link to Milestones Matter on our WICShopper platform which has made the referral process much easier for staff and families. In addition, our social media campaign has included strategic messages about the Learn the Signs. Act Early. programming and Milestones Matter app.

To assist nutrition staff in learning more about autism and implications for nutrition, an on-line continuing education program has been created utilizing the following tools from Autism Speaks: *Exploring Feeding Behavior in Autism: A Parent's Guide*, *Guide for Managing Constipation in Children: A Toolkit for Parents*, and *Strategies to Improve Sleep in Children with Autism*

Spectrum Disorders: A Parent's Guide. This is noteworthy because Massachusetts has not scheduled our state rollout for this project. This training will help to ensure that nutrition staff have a basic knowledge of some of the challenges that families with an autistic child may experience, and provide them with practical tools to help these families.

The 2019 project "Replication of the Learn the Signs. Act Early. WIC Model" is made possible by Cooperative Agreement Number NU38OT000279 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The contents of this document are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of CDC. This project is 100% supported with Federal money and the total award is \$250,000.
