

December 2020



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

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### Upcoming Events

- *December 16th, 11 am ET: How to Talk to a Parent When There May be a Developmental Concern and Next Steps; Michele Rogers PhD, Early Learning Institute, CA Act Early Ambassador*
- *January 27th, 11 am ET: Early Intervention Services in the Time of COVID-19; Abigael Massey, Developmental Specialist*
- *February 24th, 11 am ET: State Updates & Networking Call*

\*Mark your calendars for our monthly training on the 4th Wednesday at 11 am ET.

\*Please note the December Training will take place on the 3rd Wednesday at 11 am ET due to the Christmas holiday.

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## ASPHN and CDC Updates



Year 3 Project Update



The Virtual Kick-Off meeting for Year 3 of the WIC Developmental Monitoring Project took place on November 18th where details for year 3 were shared with the states and each of the states in the project introduced themselves and shared why they are interested in "Learn the Signs. Act Early." in their WIC programs. If you were unable to participate in this you can watch the recording [here](#).

Due to complications from COVID-19 ASPHN has had to rework the work plan for year 3. During year 3, ASPHN will be creating a virtual options plan for the checklist program. We will then request testing and feedback from the TA states on the different options. States can participate at whatever level they are able to. Testing and feedback should begin sometime after the new year.

Check out the [WIC Developmental Monitoring Project webpage](#) to learn more about the project. You can watch recordings of previous trainings that may be of interest to you or look at previous months newsletters.

## Virtual Options Plan Update

ASPHN is working with the Advisory Team to develop a Virtual Options Plan along with a plan for evaluating the different options. The virtual options that we are currently working on include:

1. Online Education Modules for WIC Participants (WIChealth.org, WIC-ed.com, WICSmart)
2. Online Checklist
3. Promoting the Milestone Tracker App Virtually
4. Partnering with the WICShopper App to promote LTSAE
5. Social Media Outreach
6. Virtual Child Development 101 Training Course for WIC Staff

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## State Updates:

### South Carolina

The South Carolina WIC Program met with their Act Early ambassador, Lorraine Cragan-Sullivan, December 1st to see how CDC's "Learn the Signs. Act Early." materials can be implemented within WIC Clinics. She also gave an overview of the materials and past efforts.

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### Massachusetts

Massachusetts is planning to present LTSAE at their next Business Meeting (12/11). These meetings comprise of state staff, WIC local program directors and senior nutritionists. They are looking to start training staff on LTSAE starting the end of January. They are working with their Act Early Ambassador, Kate Barlow. She is putting together webinars which they hope to use to educate WIC staff on LTSAE.

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### New Hampshire

New Hampshire's initial pilot agency is still referring participants to the Milestone Tracker App and documenting when and if services are in place.

They have the Milestone Tracker App button on their WIC Shopper App; it continues to be utilized for October 1067 users opened it and Nov 990 did!

They are thinking of ways to continue the project virtually.

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## **ASPHN's Library of Reliable COVID-19 Information**

ASPHN has created a library of COVID-19 reliable information related to public health nutrition. Check it out here:

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

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