

January 2021



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

- *January 22nd, 1 pm ET: Additional Training: CDC Resources Available for WIC; Tiffany Williams, CDC; Katie Green, MPH, CHES, CDC; Amber Brown, RDN; ASPHN*
- *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.

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### ASPHN and CDC Updates



Wishing all of you a Happy New Year! Hoping it's a year full of happiness! Thank you for all the wonderful work you do!



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## Additional Training - January 22nd

Based on feedback from the Virtual Kick-Off meeting in November 2020, we realized that we have a couple of different levels of states in the project now. We have some states who are very experienced in the WIC model and some states who are brand new and are just starting to learn about LTSAE in WIC. It's great that we have both levels and states will be able to learn from each other.

We will be holding an extra online training that will go over the basics of LTSAE in WIC and CDC's Resources for WIC. This will be aimed more towards newer states, but anyone is welcome to join. Please share the details of this training with anyone you think may be interested.

**Date: January 22nd @ 1 pm ET**

**Topic: CDC's LTSAE Resources Available for WIC**

**Login Info:**

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

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/677169213>

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## 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. We will be reaching out to each of the TA states with more details about each of these options and asking for help testing and providing feedback on some of these options. Below are some details about what virtual options we are working on along with dates of when we will begin testing each of them.

- Online Education Modules for WIC Participants
  - WIC-ed.com (*March Launch*)
  - WICSmart (*February Launch*)
  - WIChealth.org (*Launch TBA*)
- Online Checklist
  - More details to come
- Promoting the Milestone Tracker App Virtually (*Jan-Jul 2021*)
  - WIC staff to promote the Tracker App during appointments
  - WIC clinic to set up an email account where WIC participants can email the results of the checklist from the Milestone Tracker App to the WIC clinic.
  - State WIC office will contact local hospitals to inquire about adding an informational flyer about CDC's Milestone Tracker App to the informational packet that goes home with new moms.
- Partnering with the WICShopper App (JPMA) to promote LTSAE (*Testing: March- July 2021*)
  - ASPHN will work with JPMA to develop push notifications, banners, buttons, life hacks, etc. to promote developmental monitoring within the WICShopper app.
- Social Media Outreach (*Jan-July 2021*)
  - ASPHN will provide 2-3 social media posts per month that promote developmental monitoring and the app. TA states will share these posts on their social media platforms
- Virtual Child Development 101 Training Course for WIC Staff

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## **Child Development 101 Course for WIC Staff**

We are in the process of creating a child development 101 training course for WIC staff. This training course will go over some of the basics of child development so that WIC staff feel more confident in providing the checklist information to WIC participants. The goal of this training is not for WIC staff to become child development specialists. It will be used to give WIC staff a basic knowledge of what child development is, why monitoring is important and what milestones may look like. A survey was sent to WIC staff to get feedback on what type of information might be of most value to them. The results of the survey are below:

- 152 respondents
- Do you feel confident providing WIC participants with information related to their child's development?
  - Yes: 47%; Somewhat: 47%; No: 6%
- Do you feel confident providing referrals for children at risk of a developmental delay?
  - Yes: 53%; Somewhat: 32%; No: 14%
- What type of information about child development would help you feel more confident?
  - 44% Additional training on child development resources available to WIC staff and/or parents
  - 33% Additional training on child development
  - 16% More information on the importance of developmental monitoring
  - 7% Other: Most comments mentioned all of the above
- ASPHN/CDC will be developing a Child Development 101 course for WIC staff. What information would be of most value to you?
  - 80% (121) How to talk to a parent when there may be a developmental concern
  - 63% (95) Examples of milestones based on age and domain
  - 49% (75) Learning about developmental milestones
  - 34% (52) What happens after a referral is made
  - 34% (52) Understanding why developmental milestones are important
  - 31% (47) How to make a referral
  - 4% (6) Other
- What questions do you have about child development, developmental monitoring, and/or developmental milestones, or what questions would you like to be prepared to answer for families?
  - Main points included:
    - More information on the benefits of early intervention
    - How to talk to a parent
    - What to do if the doctor brushes the concern off
    - Examples of milestones
    - Websites to share with parents
    - What if they have a known delay like autism
    - How to make checklists more culturally sensitive

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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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