

July 2022



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



## Monthly Update: WIC Developmental Monitoring Project



<https://asphn.org/learn-the-signs-act-early/>

### Upcoming Events

- **July 27th, 11 am ET:** Referrals to Early Intervention Programs; Healthy Ties and Help Me Grow Programs

Register in advance:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUIce6vpjwoG9RyWi9A3BmuVF3FJj5jsvXy>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

*\*Monthly trainings take place on the 4th Wednesday at 11 am ET.*

### Sharing Updates/Resources

Would your state like to be featured in an upcoming newsletter? Please send an update on what your state is working on regarding developmental monitoring by the 20th of the month to be featured in the following month's newsletter.

Send to [amberbrown@asphn.org](mailto:amberbrown@asphn.org)  
Thanks!

## ASPHN and CDC Updates



## Welcome Molly!

We are so excited to share that CDC's "*Learn the Signs. Act Early.*" (LTSAE) program has recently hired a new Health Communications Specialist. Please welcome **Molly Dunham-Friel, MPH!**



Prior to joining LTSAE Molly was a Health Communications Specialist for CDC's Division of Viral Hepatitis, where she served as the social media and health observances lead, in addition to being a project officer to four Cooperative Agreement awardees funded to enhance National Viral Hepatitis Education, Awareness, and Capability Building for Communities and Providers. Before joining CDC Molly spent 7 years working at Emory University's School of Medicine where she gained healthcare, research, and community-based experience. Molly received her Master of Public Health from Georgia State University in 2016 with a concentration in Healthcare Management & Policy. Molly has many public health interests including but not limited to health equity, health education/training, and improving health outcomes in communities experiencing poverty.

Outside of CDC, Molly is a passionate Patient Advocate. She founded Better Bellies by Molly, LLC to empower, support, and educate inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) patients. Molly also advises companies creating products, technology, or services for patients living with IBD.

When Molly isn't working, she enjoys group fitness classes, walking, or biking the Atlanta Beltline, farmers markets, a variety of music, patio gardening, reading, and quality time with her family and friends. Molly lives in Atlanta with her husband De, and cats Nugget and Lola.

---

## Year 5 Funding!

The WIC Developmental Monitoring Project is part of a 5 year funding stream and we will be finishing up year 4 this month. We are very happy to announce that we have received our notice of award and that we will continue to receive funding in year 5. We are very excited to continue this important work with WIC!

During Year 5, we will continue to provide support to our Technical Assistance states as well as look for states interested in receiving funding and more individualized TA to implement LTSAE in their WIC clinics. We hope that all of our TA states will continue being a part of this project in Year 5. If you are not interested in continuing in year 5, please email [AmberBrown@asphn.org](mailto:AmberBrown@asphn.org).

## End of Year 4 Survey!

To wrap things up for Year 4, ASPHN will be sending an end-of-year survey

to each of the TA states in mid-July. This will help us to gather data on our work during year 4 as well as find out what would be most helpful to our states in year 5. Please watch your email for that survey and we would appreciate you taking just a few minutes to fill it out.

---

## New Resource Available!

Brazelton Touchpoints Center has created a roadmap for talking with families about their child's development. They originally created this for healthcare providers, home visitors, ECE providers, etc who offer developmental screening. By request, they now have one that is specific to staff who utilize Developmental Monitoring checklists. The resource is available on the [Brazelton Touchpoints Center Website](#) as well as below. This could be a great tool for WIC staff to utilize.

### Development is a Journey Conversation Roadmap

*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!*

<https://asphn.org/learn-the-signs-act-early/>

*This product is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of financial assistance award totaling \$110,000 with 100 percent funded by the Division of Human Development and Disability, National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities/CDC/HHS. The contents of this announcement are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by CDC/HHS or the U.S. Government.*

---