

January 2024



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

- **January 24th, 11 am ET:** WIC Developmental Monitoring Evaluation Project Webinar: Sharing Key Findings for States
- **February 28th, 11 am ET:** State Update & Networking Call

Register in advance:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUlce6vpjwoG9RyWi9A3BmuVF3FJj5jsvXy>

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

Thanks!

Highlighting a Resource

Now Updated! Introduction to Child Development for WIC Staff Training Module

The "Introduction to Child Development for WIC Staff" Training Module has been updated and is now available in both English and Spanish. The course now includes the new Milestones in Action pictures and videos as well as information on virtual options for promoting developmental monitoring in WIC.

Check out the [English Course here](#) or the [Spanish Course here](#). And, be sure to complete the feedback survey at the end of the course!

[Access the English Course Here](#)

[Access the Spanish Course Here](#)

CDC's *Learn the Signs. Act Early. Milestones in Action* Photo and Video Library is now available in Spanish and English



The long-awaited *Milestones in Action* photo and video library is now available in Spanish and English on the *Learn the Sign. Act Early.* website. *Milestones in Action* provides parents and caregivers with images to help understand the developmental milestones that children should reach from 2 months to 5 years. This is an excellent resource for families to reference as they complete a milestone checklist for their child. For professionals, the free photos and videos can be downloaded for professional development and parent education activities. The Spanish *Milestones in Action* will be added to the CDC *Milestone Tracker* App in the Spring of 2024.

We encourage you to use and share this FREE resource with your networks, partners, and colleagues!

[Milestones in Action webpage \(English\)](#)

[Milestones in Action webpage \(Spanish\)](#)

Sharing Successes

Wisconsin WIC

Wisconsin has taken a unique approach to implementing developmental monitoring into WIC practices. This approach includes working from the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) side and incorporating this work into the Title V developmental screening national performance measure.



Over the last year, a pilot group was formed that included two Wisconsin local public health departments that chose to work on developmental screening as their MCH objective. These agencies built strong relationships with their WIC partners to develop a process for implementing the checklists at WIC visits and then having the health departments provide the developmental screening.

The partnership between local public health departments and WIC teams has been a natural one, as WIC has such strong relationships and access to kids within the community and public health nurses have such a strength in screening practices. These teams found that implementing the checklist and handoff was not an additional process but was one that integrated into their practice with ease. The pilot teams shared that an unexpected benefit of this work was strengthened relationships with early intervention partners since they now include screening results as a part of their referral.

In 2024, Wisconsin has adjusted the developmental screening national performance measure strategies for local and tribal health departments to explicitly include implementing the CDC WIC Developmental Milestones Checklist Program to promote developmental monitoring. Wisconsin will continue to strengthen the partnership between the MCH and WIC teams both at the state and local level to promote developmental milestones and early identification of children with developmental delays. We look forward to seeing how this work grows in 2024!

Requests from CDC

CDC is working to develop videos that show how WIC staff can introduce and use the LTSAE checklists during a WIC visit, both in-person and virtually. To be sure the videos are realistic and helpful, they need your help!

They need video examples of real WIC staff simulating how you use the LTSAE checklist during the WIC visit to complete developmental monitoring with participants (without involving actual participants, i.e. having other WIC staff stand in as participants). If possible, they would love to see how you use the LTSAE checklist in both an in-person and virtual visit. The video can be captured on any smartphone and doesn't have to be perfect—they just need a realistic look at the process (what you say and do when) so that they know what to be sure to incorporate into the final video. If you cannot submit a video, please feel free to send any important notes that might help inform the

production.

If any clinics have the NEW environmental graphics installed they would love to see quality images of the graphics. Please send photos by the end of January! Please do not include humans in the photos.

If you/your staff is willing to help or if you have any images of the new environmental graphics, please contact Molly Dunham-Friel (nod2@cdc.gov).

Did You Miss Our November Online Training? Check Out the Recording Below

Topic: *Motivational Interviewing*

Presenter: *Mary Marden Velasquez, PhD*; Centennial Professor in Leadership for Community, Corporate and Professional Excellence; Director, Health Behavior and Research Training Institute

Description: This one-hour workshop will introduce participants to the theory, principles, and skills of Motivational Interviewing, a state-of-the-art communication method designed to evoke intrinsic motivation for positive health behavior change. Originally developed in the substance use disorder field, motivational interviewing is now being widely applied in a variety of settings, including health care, mental health, public health, and criminal justice.

The objectives for this workshop are for participants to develop:

- Knowledge of the efficacy of brief interventions
- An understanding of the “spirit” and key principles of motivational interviewing
- Basic skills for eliciting client “change talk.”

[Click Here to View the Recording and Slides](#)

Networking Questions!

During the Year 5 Extension, we will be doing more networking calls. Please send me any questions or topics that you are interested in talking with other states about. Please email amberbrown@asphn.org with your suggestions!

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

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