

Universal Developmental Screening Partnership E-Update

Vision: Universal developmental screening and linkages to appropriate services will be available for all young children in Washington State

Statewide Help Me Grow Pilot Project Presents on Early Lessons Learned

News Clip:

A January 19, 2013 Sunday Seattle Times article described the work of Julie Kientz, UW Assistant Professor, Human Centered Design and Engineering. The article addresses developmental screening:

<http://blogs.seattletimes.com/monica-guzman/2013/01/19/new-tech-tools-aim-to-bring-health-care-home/>

Help Me Grow Washington Provides:

- Free developmental screening using the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (**ASQ**)
- Age-specific activities
- Connections to community resources and state benefit programs
- Verified referrals into the early intervention system

In August 2012, WithinReach launched the Help Me Grow Washington (HMG-WA) pilot. The goal is to increase rates of developmental screening and access to early intervention services. Sharon Beaudoin, WithinReach Outreach Director of Programs, presented on the **pilot's progress and lessons learned** at the December Universal Developmental Screening Partnership meeting.

As of January 31, 2013, the Hotline offered the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) to 869 WithinReach Family Health Hotline callers; 78 percent chose to participate. The ASQ return rate is comparable to similar programs (13 percent), and resulted in 107 returned questionnaires. An unexpectedly high number

(36 percent) scored in the *'monitor'* or *'refer'* zones. HMG-WA had anticipated that this number would be fewer than 20 percent. This would reflect national averages. One possible explanation is that because the ASQ is easy to self-score, if a child is developing *on track*, it is likely that some parents filled out the ASQ, **but haven't returned it.**

The HMG-WA program coordinator provides verified referrals for early intervention. They help families successfully connect with support services. We were surprised to find that the program coordinator needs to provide families greater support than anticipated. This can include multiple follow-up calls to help families understand their rights, language

services, and what to expect during the referral process.

The next steps for HMG-WA include a March launch of services in Spanish, continuing outreach, and exploring ways to better connect with health care providers.

For more information, contact Stephanie Orrico at WithinReach.

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**Coming June 27th - next UDS Partnership meeting
Watch for details soon, and mark your calendar!**

Yakima Developmental Screening Spreads

There is a recent report out from the Washington State Institute for Public Policy, as directed by the 2012 Legislature. The institute addressed the costs and benefits of implementing the American Academy of Pediatrics' **Bright Futures** Guidelines regarding the well-child visit schedule and universal screening for autism and development. Access the report at:

<http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/pub.asp?docid=13-01-3401r>



Dr. Diane Liebe provided an **update on Yakima's work**. Central Washington keeps progressing to universal developmental screening (UDS) in both the medical home and childcare sectors. Our champion, Family Medicine Group, is at approximately 50 percent of their goal of developmental screening with a total of 147 screens in 9 months. Their referral rate remained constant at five percent.

UDS is continuing to develop through the lower Yakima valley. A network of community health centers decided to use an electronic medical record reporting tool that includes UDS called '**Developmental Delay**'. This is particularly exciting because it is a large chain of community clinics, which includes both pediatric and family practices.

Implementation will eventually extend to practices in both Washington and Oregon. We continue to meet with other practices, with the hope of extending UDS. Emily McPhee has been available to train office staff on implementation and scoring of ASQs.

There are several take-home messages from our work with medical providers. We consistently hear that having UDS allows more effective time management during well child checks. For example, one medical provider reports he typically spends three minutes on developmental surveillance during Well Child Checks. By using a developmental screen, he can focus on the areas of concern more effectively in that time.

Also, families are not having

difficulty completing the ASQs. This is even true in practices that are largely families on Medicaid and/or Spanish speaking. Providers already doing UDS are very persuasive in promoting it among other medical providers.

Finally, we are tracking trends in referrals to Early Intervention (EI) services. Referrals may actually be down, due to more effective developmental screening at the practice level. (A case in point on efficacy: I just saw a 2 year old for a new diagnosis of autism, who had an ASQ at 24 months at their **medical provider's office**, and was able to access EI shortly after the 2-year screen was completed.)

Contact Emily McPhee at **Children's Village** for more information:

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News from you

As local health jurisdictions begin implementing UDS work in communities, we want to highlight and share great ideas, connections, lessons learned, and resources. Let us know!

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Links and Resources you can use...

- **A new Department of Health website set up to help local health jurisdictions have quick access to UDS resources and tools:**
<http://www.doh.wa.gov/PublicHealthandHealthcareProviders/PublicHealthSystemResourcesandServices/LocalHealthResourcesandTools/MaternalChildHealthLearningNetwork/UniversalDevelopmentalScreening.aspx>
- **The Washington Help Me Grow parent perspective video is now on the national HMG site:**
<http://helpmegrownational.org/pages/videos.php>
- **Help Me Grow Washington webpages on WithinReach / Parent Help 123 have been redesigned:**
<http://www.parenthelp123.org/child-development/help-me-grow-washington>
- **Now in Spanish**
<http://parenthelp123.org/es/child-development/help-me-grow-washington>