BIG STRIDES IN PUBLIC HEALTH AND EARLY LEARNING FOR DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING

2012 promises to be a significant year for bringing visibility to the need for developmental screening, and moving the system building efforts forward.

- The Early Learning Partnership has selected Universal Developmental Screening as a 2012 priority strategy! The Department of Early Learning is working with the Department of Health and the Developmental Screening Partnership to explore creating a system, including enhancing family and community understanding of optimal child development and screening.
- Local public health jurisdictions across the state will have an opportunity to select developmental screening as a focus area through funding from the Maternal Child Health Block grant funds received from the Department of Health. These new activities will begin January 2013.

YAKIMA PILOTS DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING ON-LINE

The Yakima Developmental Screening workgroup, led by Children’s Village developmental pediatrician, Dr. Diane Liebe, continues to move forward in improving access to developmental screening. A few months ago, Children’s Village began using the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) Enterprise system which enables access to on-line screening. Paper versions can also be printed. The system uses the ASQ – 3 and the ASQ-Social Emotional, in English and Spanish. Through collaboration between Project LAUNCH and Children’s Village, a coordinator was hired this month to get the system up and running for medical and early learning providers, as well as individual families. The coordinator will be connecting with community providers as well as linking to the state-wide call center at WithinReach to build a base of resources for families and providers.

Great MINDS GRANT UPDATE

The Great MINDS grant project is based on the belief that all children in Washington State should have access to high-quality, comprehensive, family-centered medical homes that include regular developmental screenings. The main goals of the project are to increase training to parents and providers on medical homes and developmental screenings, improve and increase the number of medical homes in Washington State, and to promote policies that support medical homes and developmental screenings. Our main activities are parent leadership development, continuing education module trainings and policy promotion. We are continuing to move forward in our efforts and have begun to tackle many parts of the project. We have solidified an important new partnership with the Washington Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and now have a contract in place. We have begun work on the design of the continuing education training module and located training sites across the state. We have started our efforts toward recruiting and training parent leaders. Additionally, Great MINDS is on the ground floor of the planning for Department of Health’s newest medical home promotion collaborative to ensure the integration of pediatric practices. As we continue to make progress on this project with the dedication of our staff and our contract partners, we anticipate making a significant improvement in the number of children in Washington State with a medical home.

For more information, please contact Leigh Cullen at 360-236-3552 or on email at leigh.cullen@doh.wa.gov
OREGON RECEIVES AWARD FOR ABCD III
The Oregon ABCD III core team recently received the Administrator’s Excellence Award from the state Medicaid Director for their cross-agency efforts to improve systems of care and access to quality care for vulnerable children. Team members represent Medicaid, public health, education, addictions and mental health, and the Oregon Pediatric Improvement Partnership at Oregon Health Sciences University, and have worked together to:
Advising key groups working to transform health care and early learning systems in Oregon on measures and best practices to improve care coordination for children younger than three at risk for developmental delays; promote the coverage of comprehensive pediatric preventive care without forcing low-income parents to share costs for that care; conduct extensive outreach to identify community needs; guide eight managed care plans through the first steps of their role helping the state deliver more coordinated care to children younger than three at risk for developmental delays; improve data systems and processes within Medicaid and the Department of Education to make it easier to identify children within both systems who need cross-system care; and make the form that PCPs and others use to refer young children to early intervention (EI) both easier for parents and health care workers to understand and complete and more useful for EI. The team is an exemplary model of cross-sector collaboration to better the lives of children—they remain committed to (and are succeeding in) incorporating lessons from ABCD III into statewide initiatives such as implementation of medical homes, care coordination organizations, and alignment of early child education with health and community services.

FLORIDA DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING SYSTEM
The Florida Office of Early Learning has purchased ASQ and ASQ-SE for use across all Early Learning coalitions. Additionally, they are creating best practices standards for delivery of the screening. Florida has 31 coalitions and they have a policy in place under the School Readiness Program which requires screening at entrance and exit. ASQ was the tool selected by coalitions due to its existing widespread use. Coalition staff members have been trained in administering both tools. In addition, there has been statewide adoption of the ASQ Online/Enterprise, which is a web-based data management system that scores the screenings, provides a historical record of children’s development, and assists with local management of the screening process. Screenings are conducted by child care staff, parents, or in-house through the local coalitions. They have screened a significant number of young children. A data systems workgroup started meeting in December, 2011 with a focus on existing or developing technology systems that can assist in child screenings, and sharing of communication among interested parties, including parents, pediatricians, and other groups. A representative from Florida is presenting at the June 6 Partnership meeting on both the Early Learning Coalitions work and work by the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council on the Child Developmental Screening Initiative. The initiative brings together many state agencies and public/private partners to create a comprehensive statewide system of developmental screening for children birth to five.

COLLECTIVE IMPACT
At our November partnership meeting, we spent time discussing the Collective Impact article from the Stanford Social Innovation Review. A subsequent article, Channeling Change- Making Collective Impact Work, has been published and describes the three conditions that must be in place before launching a collective impact initiative: an influential champion, adequate financial resources, and a sense of urgency for change. Read the full article here- http://www.ssireview.org/blog/entry/channeling_change_making_collective_impact_work.

Contact information: Washington State Department of Health: Project LAUNCH Rebecca Timmen at Rebecca.Timmen@doh.wa.gov, or Carol Miller, Systems of Care/Learn The Signs Project at Carol.Miller@doh.wa.gov

For people with disabilities, this document is available on request in other formats. To submit a request, please call 1-800-525-0127 (TDD/TTY call 711).
New look, same vision:
Welcome to the new look of the e-update. We’ve changed our e-update to reflect Department of Health standards while still providing current information on the exciting work of the partners involved in making the vision a Washington reality.

Developmental Screening & Local Health Jurisdictions
Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant funding helps improve maternal and child health outcomes in states and communities. This funding must target pregnant women and infants, children and youth 1-22 years of age and children with special health care needs.

The Washington State Department of Health administers these funds and contracts with Local Health Jurisdictions in all 39 counties for work with the maternal child health population. In 2013, Local Health Jurisdictions will have the opportunity to use some of this funding to focus on developmental screening in their communities.

This focus will also align their work more closely to national and state performance measures. The developmental screening work in local health jurisdictions may include increasing awareness, planning, piloting, and advancing work that is in process, and other related activities. Department of Health will provide training in the fall and will provide technical assistance as needed.

Statewide Help Me Grow Pilot Project
WithinReach launched a statewide Help Me Grow pilot project last month. The pilot, a collaborative effort between WithinReach and the department, will utilize the Help Me Grow model to promote access to early, regular, and comprehensive developmental screening for infants, toddlers, and young children.

WithinReach is the Washington Affiliate for the national Help Me Grow.

WithinReach will utilize its existing phone and online resources (the Family Health Hotline, ParentHelp123.org and WashingTeenHelp.org) to promote developmental screening with a valid tool, such as the Ages and Stages Questionnaire. It is one of the fundamental components of the Help Me Grow model.

WithinReach will also assist families in finding additional child development support services within their communities and connect them with food and health benefit programs such as Women, Infants and Children, Basic Food/SNAP, and Apple Health for Kids (Medicaid).

Stephanie Orrico was hired July 2012 as the Help Me Grow Coordinator. She brings experience with the Universal Developmental Screening Partnership and her recent work with the Yakima community. She has a Masters of Public Health from the University of Washington as well as experience in early education.
Based upon parental report, results from the 2007 National Survey of Children’s Health indicate the rate of developmental screening in primary health care settings nationally ranges from 10.7 percent to 47 percent (mean 19.5 percent), with Washington State at 25.6 percent.

The Washington Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics is partnering with the department to provide training for pediatricians and family physicians on developmental screening. A goal in this project is to promote provider knowledge and practice improvements in the following areas:

- Medical/health homes
- Family-centered care
- Cultural competency
- Developmental screening
- Community-based resources
- Early intervention systems

We are excited to share that the first two pilot trainings occurred in Vancouver and Bellingham in June and July. Co-trainers include a pediatrician and family advisor, who is a parent with local expertise. More trainings are coming in the next two years of the grant.

Washington Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics is also pleased to collaborate with University of Washington’s Medical Home Leadership Network to better connect providers with local information on referrals and community resources—a critical piece to help ensure children with special needs get early intervention and ongoing support. The training module is based on successful models used nationally and on significant input from diverse Washington stakeholders. Our fiscal sponsor is the Community Pediatric Foundation of Washington, and we are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with such committed members of the community.

For more information, contact Toni Nunes at tnunes@wcaap.org

The keynote speaker for the June Developmental Screening Partnership Meeting was Michelle Craig, PhD, from Florida’s State Office of Early Learning. Dr. Craig shared information concerning Florida’s screening efforts for children in subsidized childcare. Florida has a state statutory requirement to screen for school readiness.

They coordinate with 31 state early learning coalitions and contract with Brookes Publishing for the Ages and Stages Questionnaire-Emotional Social screeners. This enterprise system at each of the 31 sites also rolls the data into a hub at the State Office of Early Learning where information can be collected and analyzed.

Additionally, Dr. Craig shared state and local policies created, the system of training set up for providers, the challenges of working with the enterprise system from Brookes, the blended funding streams used to create and maintain the statewide system, and referral practices between providers and medical providers.

Florida also has a Child Developmental Screening Initiative through the State Developmental Disability Council. This three year plan convenes stakeholders and is working to develop a comprehensive statewide system of developmental screenings for children ages birth to five.


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