http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/health/mch/EarlyChildhoodSystems/index.htm

A Systems Approach to Developmental Screening in Communities

December 6, 2011
Maternal and Child Health Early Childhood Systems Initiative

EXTENSION
Cooperative Extension

WI Department of Health Services

Presenters

- **Pence Revington**, University of WI Cooperative Extension Family Living Programs
- **Jennie Mauer**, Project LAUNCH, Wisconsin Department of Health Services and Department of Children and Families
- **Arianna Keil**, Wisconsin Statewide Medical Home Initiative

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Related MCH Competencies

- Demonstrate the use of a *systems approach* to explain the interactions among individuals, groups, organizations and communities.
- *Articulate a shared vision* for improved health status of MCH populations.
- Employ strategies to assure *culturally-sensitive public health* and health service delivery systems.
- Ensure that *family perspectives* play a pivotal role in MCH programs and policy.
- Participate in basic *strategic planning processes* such as developing a mission, vision, strategic goals, and activities.

Learning Objectives

- To explore the phases of a system for developmental screening
- Gain an awareness of possible outcomes and challenges "from the field"
- Learn about state-wide resources
- Learn the characteristics of an effective early childhood invention referral system

A system, not a heap

Emerging possibilities, suggested approaches and resources

Four Phases

- Planning for Universal Screening
- Management Operations
- Administration of Screening
- Evaluation of the Screening System

Phase 1: Planning

"The health of a community is measured by the health of its children."

- Shared mission and logic model
- Target population
- Community inclusion
- Framing the message
- A home for the data
- Be SMART

Phase 2: Management

"Bring wisdom, wealth and work to the table."

- Get the word out – market this as a community driven priority with universal public value
- Determine roles that are the "best fit" for each partner agency
- $$ (for marketing, for the screening tool, for people, for training, for data collection)

Phase 3: Administration

"Its all about relationships…"

- Implement best practice standards
- Deliver, score, interpret and share results with families
- Partner next steps
- Make formal referrals where indicated
- Follow up with families, partners to be sure next steps were implemented
- Enter the data

Phase 4: Evaluation *Can your community tell the story…*

- X number of children received developmental screening
- Of that number, X% were identified for further assessment
- Of that number X% received early intervention services
- Parents and agency partners report ways that they support children's optimal develop

Moving Forward…

A heap   **A system**

"From the Field": Project LAUNCH

- 5 year federally funded grant focused on the health and wellness of children ages 0-8
- Strategies focus on expanding services in five areas:
  - Developmental screening using the ASQ
  - Mental health consultation
  - Evidence based home visiting
  - Family support programs
  - Integrating behavioral health into primary care

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Project LAUNCH Implementation

Local Activities: building a screening system in 12 high need zip codes in the city of Milwaukee
- Home visitors
- Medical clinics
- Childcare providers
- Family support programs

State Activities
- Collaborating with state programs and organizations to find cross program initiatives
- Developing a toolkit to support developmental screening systems

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Where we Started

- Focused on deliverables—what did we promise to do in our grant proposal?
  - Commitment to training providers in various sectors
  - Provided training to home visitors, childcare providers and medical clinics
  - Consistent message across training for different providers
- High quality training offered on a first come-first serve basis to a diverse group with varied capacity to implement screening

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Beyond Deliverables

- How can you balance the need to train with the desire to build a strong foundation for a system?
- What questions do you need to answer before you start?
- What if you can't find the answers to you questions? Do you start implementing?
- What happens after the training?
- How do providers get materials?
- Is technical assistance and additional training available?
- How are providers that are screening children connected to other systems?

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Learning from our Experiences and Next Steps

- Provide technical assistance and support to providers that were trained
- Build connections between different sectors
- Develop a toolkit for communities to use when embarking on a similar process

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Working across sectors:
Why is this important?

- Increases the likelihood that children with delays will be identified as early as possible
- Promotes timely access to appropriate supports and services for children with delays
- Streamlines the process for families
- Promotes sustainability through shared responsibility

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Working across sectors:
Which professionals?

- Primary care clinicians
- Early childhood caregivers and educators
- Home visitors
- Early interventionists, early childhood special educators
- Others serving young children and their families
  - WIC professionals
  - Public Health professionals
  - Many others!

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Working across sectors:
What promotes shared work?

- Shared understanding
- Shared goals
- Shared language
- Shared tools
- Shared responsibility

Working across sectors:
Shared understanding, shared goals

- Use of validated screening tools refines risk of delay over surveillance alone
  - *Lee, Pediatrics, 2010*

- Early identification and timely referral to appropriate supports and services promotes each child reaching his or her fullest developmental potential

Working across sectors:
Shared language, shared tools

Tools
- *Ages and Stages-3 Questionnaire*
  http://www.brookespublishing.com/store/books/squires-asq/index.htm

- Joint Release of Information form
  - Both HIPPA and FERPA compliant
  - Allows for two-way exchange of information

Working across sectors:
Shared responsibility

- **Office systems approach** to screening most successful at helping to implement and sustain screening in well child care

- **Community systems approach** to screening most successful at ensuring all children are screened and supported as needed

Resources for implementation

- **AAP policy statement**
http://www.aap.org/healthtopics/early.cfm

- **Screening and Early Identification website**, Wisconsin Early Childhood Collaborating Partners
http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/

- **WI Act Early Website**
http://www.actearly.wisc.edu/

- **Wisconsin Medical Home webcast series**
http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/connections/webcast.php#screening
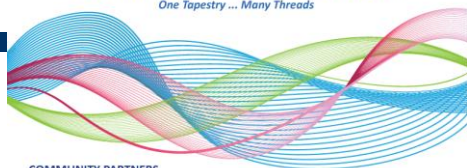
Characteristics of an Effective System for Early Childhood Intervention Referrals

- Follows IDEA guidelines
- Dependent upon trusting alliances among people
- Supported by objective documentation including the use of valid and reliable screening and assessment tools
- Culturally competent and timely

    – ***Samuel J. Meisels and Emily Fenichel, Zero to Three Press**

INFORMED REFERRAL NETWORK

One Tapestry ... Many Threads

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Advocates	Head Start	Preschool Providers
Bilingual Services	Health Care Providers	Private and Home Schools
Child Care Providers	Homeless Liaisons	Public Libraries
County Birth to 3	Home Visiting Programs	Recreation Service Providers
County Agencies	Local School Districts	State Agencies
Families	Migrant Services	Tribal Head Start
Guardians	Parents	Tribal Service Providers

The "Fit"
WI Healthiest Families Initiative

Reporting Steps

- Assessment
- Planning
- Implementation
- Sustainability

Screening Systems 4 Phases

- Planning
- Management
- Implementation and Administration
- Evaluation and modifications lead to sustainability

Please fill out an evaluation at

www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/health/mch/earlychildhoodsystems/events

Thank you for participating!

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