

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

Partnership Meeting Highlights

Re-Visioning was the theme of the June 12 Universal Developmental Screening (UDS) Partnership meeting. State and community partners from across Washington attended to help re-structure the UDS effort. This new efficient project plan and support system is designed to achieve greater impact. Partners' input on priorities led to development of Action Teams. To deepen connections between initiatives, partners shared about UDS work in physician training, early learning coalitions, Early Achievers, Help Me Grow and the new mobile technology of Baby Steps. Partners also explored potential shared measures. Department of Health staff is working with Dovetailing Consulting to move UDS forward. For more information: Rebecca.Timmen@doh.wa.gov

Next UDS Partnership Meeting:

December 10, 9:00AM - 3:30PM
Renton, WA- Black River
Conference Center

More information to come!

Professor Works to Mentor Health Professionals

Western Washington University communication disorders professor, Eva Baharav, is spreading UDS system information to future health professionals while teaching students developmental screening standards and protocols. Students participate in a service-learning project with Whatcom County Child Care Centers by administering a developmental screening tool, the ASQ-3, to parents of children ages 0-3 years.



The WWU curriculum includes developmental milestones, screening tools, IDEA part C, Washington's Administrative Code relating to the early intervention system Early Supports for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT), and how ESIT works in Whatcom County. Students also learn about the recommended activities for children suggested by ASQ-3 and develop skills to be sensitive communicators with parents.

Webinar: Universal Developmental Screening in Primary Care Orientation for Healthcare Providers

When: October 2, 2014

Time: 7:30—8:30 am

Contact Samantha Wolfe for

registration questions:

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Snohomish County Community Asset Mapping

One of the ways that cities or counties can work together with local partners is through the process of Community Asset Mapping (CAM). In June, Mary Cline-Stively and Terry Clark from ChildStrive hosted the Snohomish County CAM Kick-Off Event in Everett. The goal of the CAM process is to optimize child developmental outcomes. CAM works by:

- Developing or enhancing existing community coalitions of families and professionals to improve awareness of child developmental milestones.
- Coordinate work on UDS for all children.
- Improve timely referrals to appropriate early intervention resources and services.

Participants together catalogued the assets currently in Snohomish County and identified the following three priorities around developmental screening. Train primary care providers how to conduct a standardized screening tool for talking to parents about screening results. Enhance connections with families and providers. Improve underserved children's access to services.

How Are We Doing?

At the June UDS Partnership meeting, we gathered feedback from attendees about the Partnership. Participants ranged from long-time to new supporters. When asked about the Partnership, participants rated our implementation of the five components of Collective Impact as *moderate*; the *common agenda* rated highest; and *shared measurement* rated lowest. They also rated the Partnership as strongly supporting a culture of learning, openness, transparency and inclusion. Participants included several positive comments about the proposed Collective Impact structure. They indicated that local, state and federal awareness and focus on UDS help our effort. They see lack of funding and resources, slow pace of change, and competing priorities as the biggest challenges. Happily, participants reported that in all areas, the partnership is *stronger* than last year and they have had fewer obstacles in their UDS work this year. For more information: Rebecca.Timmen@doh.wa.gov



Benton Franklin Raises Awareness

Benton-Franklin health district recently surveyed primary care and childcare providers to determine their current use of, and need for further training, of developmental screening tools.

Childcare Provider Trainings: With the help of partners from the Benton Franklin Early Learning Alliance, trainings for childcare providers are nearing completion.

Physician trainings: In May, outreach efforts were conducted by the Washington Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Department of Health's Great MINDS (Medical Homes Include Developmental Screening). Clinics received information about the following:

- Referral processes.
- Timelines for early intervention evaluations after screening, and early intervention activities that can start while parents wait for a formal diagnosis.

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Visit our webpage:
www.doh.wa.gov/developmentalscreening

- Distributing [CDC 'Learn the Signs Act Early' materials](#).
- Ways to promote the use of an activities sheet with the ASQ as a teachable moment for typical child development.

See the spring 2014 [Child Health Note](#) for featured information about developmental screening.

Medicaid Now Covers Screening

Effective August 1, Medicaid will cover one developmental screen for *all children*, 9 to 30 months of age. According to the Health Care Authority, as a part of routine well child exams for all children, 9 to 30 months of age, Medicaid pays for **one developmental screening** for primary care providers when performed by a physician, ARNP, or PA.

To support timely access to a formal diagnostic evaluation and referral for applied behavioral analysis (ABA) treatment, the agency covers developmental screening, including autism screening, for primary care providers when performed by a physician, ARNP, or PA **only when a client, 36 months of age and younger, is suspected of having autism.**

Providers must use a validated screening and testing tool when billing.

Visit the [Health Care Authority](#) for more information.



Standard of Care

The Washington Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (WCAAP) supports the nationally recognized [Bright Futures](#) standard of preventive care. *Bright Futures* recommends standardized developmental screening as part of well child visits at 9, 18 & 24-30 months and autism screens at 18 & 24 months. It also recommends that pediatric care providers look for developmental issues at every visit with families and if either the provider or a parent raises a concern, the provider should conduct a standardized screen. Currently, private insurers reimburse pediatric providers for the Bright Futures recommended screenings. Until recently, Washington State Medicaid did not reimburse for these screenings. In 2014, Washington State Medicaid began reimbursing providers for *one* screen per child during 9-30 months of age. This is a welcomed step forward and the WCAAP continues to work towards achieving the full schedule of quality of care for all children.

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