

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

Dr. Dworkin's Reframing The Mental Health Issue

Help Me Grow's National Center founder Dr. Paul Dworkin, recently wrote a blog called, "Reframing the Mental Health Issue." He believes that children's mental health is a systematically neglected issue in our country and that Help Me Grow offers states a non-partisan way to reframe and address the issue.

Dr. Dworkin writes about the need for, "reframing the discussion beyond the essential need for proper treatment." He explains that early detection of young children with behavioral concerns can better prepare parents and providers for a mental health diagnosis later on. As part of the effort to develop a statewide system, the UDS Partnership, brought [Help Me Grow Washington](#) to our state. To read the entire article, visit [Help Me Grow](#) national.

Next UDS Partnership Meeting:

June 12, 2014 from 9:00am until 3:30pm.

The meeting will take place at the DOH facility in Kent, WA, Room 309
Watch for Invitation Coming Soon

The Gift of Childhood

As part of Spokane Regional Health District's work on Universal Developmental Screening (UDS), the Infant Toddler Network participated in the early childhood conference, *The Gift of Childhood*, on February 22nd at Spokane Community College. Colleen O'Brien, Program Manager of the Infant Toddler Network, presented a workshop, "Universal Developmental Screening – What's the Buzz". The workshop informed the early childhood community about the efforts and needs of UDS, how to refer to early intervention, and available services.



Over 350 registered early childhood professionals attended the conference. They received materials from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, local referral information for the Early Support for Infants and Toddlers program, growth and development charts, and sample *Ages and Stages* screening materials. The conference also shared information about community partners like Northwest Autism Center, local Early Childhood Education and Assistance Programs, Head Start and Early Head Start programs, Parent to Parent and the ARC of Spokane. For more information contact Colleen O'Brien at cbobrien@srhd.org

Birth to 5: Watch Me Thrive!

Launch of the federal multi-agency initiative, Birth to 5: Watch Me Thrive! brings attention and resources to early detection of children at risk for adverse developmental and behavioral outcomes.

Visit [Watch Me Thrive](#) for more information.

ASQ Training

Parent Trust for Washington Children offers training for the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3 and ASQ-SE) developmental screening tool. Any professional working with children from 1 month to 5 years can attend. The hands-on training provides the basics needed to incorporate the ASQ system into your early childhood program and confidently use the screening tools. The topics include scoring, referrals, and sensitively communicating results to families.

The training is at-cost and serves early intervention programs, child development specialists, family support workers, home visitors, public health professionals, and childcare staff. For more information, contact Marni Port at Parent Trust mport@parenttrust.org or 206.233.0156 ext. 225 or visit www.parenttrust.org/asqtraining



Thrive by Five Developmental Screening Survey

University of Washington graduate student Katie McCabe recently surveyed representatives of Thrive by Five's Early Learning Regional Coalitions regarding their coalitions' developmental screening work. The coalitions play an important role in coordinating and connecting early learning resources and programs in their communities.

The survey found that many of the coalitions are currently engaged in child development work, but have not focused specifically on developmental screening due to funding limitations and competing priorities. More opportunities to coordinate further regional developmental screening efforts are in progress.

For more information or a copy of the report, contact kmmccabe@u.washington.edu

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Visit our new webpage:

www.doh.wa.gov/developmentalscreening

Public Health-Seattle King County (PHSKC) Child Care Health Program facilitates screening in preschool



For the 2013-14 school year, the Child Care Health program at PHSKC received funding to support the physical and social-emotional health of children in the Seattle Step Ahead preschool program. Step Ahead serves income qualified families with free half day or subsidized full day programs for 3 and 4 year olds. This year, the team of nurses, mental health specialists, and nutrition specialists initiated UDS in more than 50 Step Ahead preschool classrooms in the city of Seattle. In the fall, the Public Health team trained teachers and site directors on the administration of the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) and the

Ages and Stages Questionnaire-Social Emotional (ASQ-SE), and screened all students within the first three months of school. The Public Health team works directly with teachers and families to understand screening results, identify children with concerns, educate about child development, and suggest specific strategies for individuals or classrooms to improve developmental progress throughout the year. In the spring, the team rescreened children that had scores outside of the typical range to assess progress. The public health team also facilitates appropriate referrals to community resources and family support throughout the school year. ASQ Screenings, paired with other physical health screens such as hearing,

vision, and growth, help preschool teachers get a clear look at each child's development and promotes early identification of specific concerns that may hinder learning or developmental progress.

Plans are underway to enhance the program for the following school year. Teachers have requested additional training and support for administering the screening and talking with parents about the results.

Contact Sarah Rigel

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Great MINDS Training Overview

The Washington Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (WCAAP) and the Washington State Department of Health are offering training on integrating developmental screening into medical practice. Great Medical Homes Include Developmental Screening (Great MINDS) aligns with the belief that all children in Washington should have access to high quality, comprehensive, family-centered medical homes that include regular developmental screenings.

Great MINDS teams up a trained Family Advisor with a WCAAP Pediatrician to give pediatric and family practices a free training on providing regular developmental screenings; improving family-centered care; and referring families to community resources. For more information contact Samantha Wolfe swolfe@wcaap.org

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).