Systems Coordination for the Early Identification of Autism Spectrum Disorder and other Developmental Disabilities: Seven Years of Lessons Learned
Presenters

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Who is in the Room?
In which type of following organization do you primarily work?

- State Health Department
- Local Health Department
- Tribal Agency
- Federal Agency (CDC, HRSA, IHS, etc.)
- Non-Governmental Organization
- Non-Profit Organization
- Community-Based Organization
- University/College
- Clinical- University-based/Non-University based
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th align="left">What is your familiarity with the Association of Maternal &amp; Child Health Programs (AMCHP)?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td align="left">Never heard of it</td>
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<tr>
<td align="left">Heard of it, but not sure of what it does</td>
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<tr>
<td align="left">Familiar</td>
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<tr>
<td align="left">Proficient aka AMCHP All-Star</td>
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Over the next 20... 

- Learn the Signs. Act Early.
- Accomplishments
- Applications
- Challenges & Barriers
- Lessons Learned
- Q & A
- Session evaluations
Introduction

• Developmental Disabilities (DD)
  – Group of conditions
    • Impairment in physical, learning, language, or behavior
    • Conditions begin during developmental period and usually last through the lifetime

• Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
  – Developmental disability (DD)
  – Diagnostic criteria: deficits in social communication & social interaction persisting through life
Prevalence

Every 2 years, the CDC’s Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDN) Network produces estimates of prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

The overall 2014 prevalence of ASD among children 8 years old is approximately 1 in 59 (increased from 1 in 68 in 2012).
Importance of early screening and identification

• Why?
  – Critical period
  – Early identification is important so children and families can get the services and support they need as early as possible
Ensuring Early Identification

Developmental Surveillance/Monitoring

• Process of recognizing children who may be at risk for developmental delays
• Ongoing process
• Involved process for caregivers, healthcare providers, and early childhood educators

Developmental Screening

• Short test using a validated screening tool
• Helps identify if further evaluation is needed
• Conducted by healthcare providers, teachers, or others with specialized training
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC’s) “Learn the Signs. Act Early.” program aims to improve early identification of children with ASD/DD so children and families can get the services and support they need as early as possible.

Health Education Campaign.

Act Early Initiative.

Research & evaluation.
So, who are the LTSAE grantees?
LTSAE Grantee Spotlights

Launch

2011

Midpoint

2013

Current

2018-19
Massachusetts 2011

- Cultural competency clinician tip guide
- Referral resource listing
- M-CHAT-R/F autism screening tool
- Vietnamese, Haitian-Creole, Chinese, and Spanish translations
New Jersey 2013

- Parent Educators trained 15 FQHCs
- Early Screening and validated tool usage
- Shared experiences:
  - Developmental screenings
  - Referrals
  - Diagnoses
  - Helpful services and support
- LTSAE materials, community-specific resource binder
• Early care and education system collaboration
• Integration of “Watch Me!” training modules into professional development for child care professionals
• Extra credit coursework for higher education
Engaged Caregivers and Providers

Knowledge, Awareness, Expertise

Parent engagement and Regular screenings

Multi-sector connectedness
Sustainability

Partnerships

Workforce Capacity
Resources Funding
Lessons Learned

**Strengthen existing partnerships and establish new connections**

**Strategies can achieve short and long-term goals**
What questions, insights, or comments do you have?
Thank you!

*Please take a moment to fill out the session evaluation. We greatly value your input!*

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