

### ***HEALTHY BEGINNINGS: THE ILLINOIS ABCD II INITIATIVE***

#### **Core Elements of the Primary Care Social Emotional Pilot**

The efforts of the Illinois ABCD Initiative will include a social emotional pilot project to test the integration of a social emotional component/protocol into three primary health care sites: a large pediatric practice, a Federally-Qualified Health Center, and the Chicago Department of Public Health's Lead Program. The integration of the social emotional component will increase the primary health care providers' ability to help families facilitate the social emotional development of their young children, and to identify and respond to social emotional and maternal depression concerns.

There are core elements of the social emotional component/model that all three pilot sites will implement; the evaluation process will include identifying how these elements are implemented differently based on the characteristics of each site. The core elements include:

**(1) Social Emotional Training**

- Survey what the primary care providers already know and need to know
- Identify who needs to be trained: everyone in the office or center?
- Develop curriculum re:
  - How to change their interactions with parents and children and respond to social emotional concerns and offer parent support
  - How to conduct social emotional/maternal depression screenings
  - How/where to refer when red flags are raised
  - How to use a mental health consultant
  - How to bill for services and document practices

**(2) Information to and Communication with Parents**

- What information should be shared with parents about social emotional and maternal depression before, during and after well-child visits?

**(3) Periodic Social Emotional Specific Screening for Young Children**

- Frequency/during which child visits
- Tools
- Who performs the screening
- Referral, documentation and follow-up
- How to provide screening information to providers, in addition to training and notices

**(4) Maternal Depression Screening**

- Frequency/during which child visits
- Tools
- Who performs the screening
- Referral, documentation and follow-up

**(5) Further Assessment/Referral Practices**

- Capacity of location to do further assessments and implement referral protocol

- Referral practices to
  - CFCs for 0-3 (identify the role of the EI Social Emotional Specialists)
  - 3-5 (defer conversation until research is completed)
  - Programs that address maternal depression
  - Family support/child development programs

**(6) Access to a Mental Health Consultant for Primary Care Staff**

**(7) Reflective Consultation for Staff or Joint Meetings/Learning Collaboratives for Staff at Pilot Sites**

**(8) Evaluation/Measuring Change**

- Completion of instruments at practice level to measure pilots’ implementation of the social emotional component, and changes in providers’ service delivery/practice:
  - Define what it means to assess social emotional development comprehensively
  - Identify baseline data to be collected
  - Identify the numbers of children served; how they were served and the impact of the services
  - Determine the practitioners being targeted and what they are doing now
  - Measure pre/post knowledge and skill level of providers: How primary practitioners assess and address mental health risks of perinatal and young children
  - Measure pre/post nature of family experiences
  - Measure referral practices
  - Changes and use of forms

**(9) Policy, Funding and Other Barriers**

- Identify policy, funding and other barriers to implementation to share with other committees

**Other Decisions About the Pilots**

- Payment/Incentives for the Pilots to Participate
- Criteria for Choosing the Pilot Sites
  - Geographic diversity
  - Large Medicaid population served
  - In the area of one of the EI CFC areas that has integrated the social emotional component
  - Number/quality of referrals in the area
  - Currently conducting general developmental screening

**Potential Pilot Sites:**

**Chicago**  
CDPH

**Macon County**  
CHIC FQHC or  
Pediatric Practice  
CFC  
Local Health Dept.  
AOK Network

**Kane County**  
FQHC or  
Pediatric Practice  
CFC  
Local Health Dept.  
AOK Network

**Cook County**  
Erie FQHC or  
Pediatric Practice  
CFC  
Local Health Dept.