Locating Community-Based Services for Children and Families

Alabama: Assuring Better Child Health and Development

ABCD Project Funded by: The Commonwealth Fund

Administered and Supported by: The National Academy for Health Care Policy

September 26, 2007

Theresa Pinto, TSU Sponsored Programs

Alice Widgeon, ADMH/MR
Objectives

- Provide key community-based stakeholders with information about the ABCD Screening Academy and Alabama’s participation.

- To identify generic and specialized community resources for families and children, birth to five years.

- To identify at least one role for participant involvement in the local ABCD Demonstration Project.
ABCD Screening Academy:

- National consortium
- Supports efforts of 18 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico to implement policy and practice change
- Designed to move standardized developmental screening from best practice to standard of practice as part of well-child care
- 15 month initiative that began in April 2006 (Alabama)
ABCD Initiative Goals

- To strengthen states’ capacity to deliver care that supports young children’s healthy development
- By identifying and implementing policy and systems changes that support the provision of preventive and early intervention care by medical providers
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Dr. Madeleine Blancher, Physician
Cathy Caldwell, DPH, SCHIP
Alice Widgeon, DMH/MR, Early Intervention
Debbie Flournoy, Medicaid
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Teri Pinto, TU, Sponsored Programs
Ava Rozelle, DPH, SCHIP
Dianne Sims, DPH, Children’s Health
The American Academy of Pediatrics  
Policy Statement Recommends that:

- Developmental surveillance be performed at every preventive visit
- A screening tool should be administered at 9-, 18-, and 24 or 30-month visits and for those children whose surveillance yields concerns about delayed or disordered development
- Demonstration Project will also perform an additional screen at 4 years
What is Developmental Screening?

*NASHP* defines developmental screening as the administration of a brief, standardized tool that aids the identification of children at risk of a developmental delay. *Developmental Pediatrics Online* adds that screening refers to the use of measures with proven reliability and validity that are administered in a standardized, i.e., uniform, way. **Further, the purpose extends to marshalling any needed resources and ideally eliminating or ameliorating difficulties.**

http://www.dbpeds.org/articles/detail.cfm?TextID=139
Maternal Depression

Depression in mothers is associated with the occurrence of developmental problems in their young children including:
- impaired cognitive function,
- depression, and
- behavioral problems.

Depression may also affect mothers' confidence and parenting skills.

Addressing maternal depressive symptoms has been shown to improve behavioral outcomes for both mothers and children.

Addressing Maternal Depression: A Screening Project

http://www.commonwealthfund.org/grants/grants_show.htm?doc_id=222702
### Developmental delays/ disabilities are common: affect at least 10% of children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Prevalence</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Early Delays:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Autism</td>
<td>1 in 150 children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Delays</td>
<td>2-3 in 100 children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech &amp; language disorders</td>
<td>5-10 in 100 children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Later Conditions/ disabilities:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intellectual disability (MR)</td>
<td>2-3 in 100 children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning disabilities (LD)</td>
<td>6 in 100 children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder</td>
<td>5-10 in 100 children</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*ABCD Screening Academy Learning Session, July 2007. Sices, Lipkin, and Earls.*
Although such children are twice as likely to seek health care as children without disabilities, only 20% to 30% of these children are detected prior to school entrance.

(http://www.cmwf.org)
A recent national survey found that just over half of parents say their child has ever had a developmental assessment during a pediatric visit.

http://www.cmwf.org
Importance of Early Intervention

- First 3 years of life are critical to brain development*
- Brain is most adaptable in childhood
- Early treatment is most effective for developmental conditions


ABCD Screening Academy
Learning Session, July 2007. Sices, Lipkin, Earls
Model:

EARLY IDENTIFICATION

EARLY ACTION
(assessment and treatment)
(information to parents; educational services; therapies, etc)

IMPROVED OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

- Improved development
- Better behavior
- Improved school readiness
- Increased likelihood of high school graduation

ABCD Screening Academy Learning Session, July 2007. Sices, Lipkin, Earls
The “ABCD” Model

(1) Develop a “best practices” comprehensive community model for replication (two major components):

- Introduction & integration of a standardized, validated screening tool (ASQ) at selected well-child visits, that is practical and that works;

- Collaboration with local and state agency staff and families in developing this system for identifying and serving children.

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Physician Champion

Key Characteristics

- Passionate about the issues
- Practicing vs. academic
- Participates in professional association meetings
- Advocates for children’s issues with Medicaid/Public Health/Mental Health
- Understands the infrastructure

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American Academy of Pediatrics: Developmental and Screening Algorithm
Build on Existing Infrastructure

- Identify systems of care
- “Drive” activity locally vs. from state
- “Test” ideas starting small
- Revise and define “best practices”
- Build relationships with partners who invest in quality improvement

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Evaluate/Report Data

- Define process and outcome measures
- Evaluate performance
- Report performance to funders/partners

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Burt Richardson, Pediatrician, Maine
Linkages: A Closer Look

- Connects child to needed services and supports
- Stays connected to child
- Indicates the act of connecting the child and family to needed developmental services and supports, whether within the practice setting or beyond

A. Fine and R. Mayer, *Beyond Referral Pediatric Care: Linkages to Improve Developmental Health*
Linkages to other public programs for children and families

- Title V MCH primary child health care
- Title V Children with Social Health Care Needs (CSHCN)
- EPSDT (MCOs) Care Coordinators
- Child Welfare, particularly foster care
- IDEA, Part C Early Intervention
- IDEA, Part B Preschool and School-age Special Education
- Early Care and Education/Head Start

Kay Johnson, ABCD Screening Academy, July 2007
A Service Provider Partnership
Strategy: Networking and
Information Sharing

Service Provider Networking and
Information Sharing *sets the stage for*
*collaborative efforts to discover what is*
*available in the community and to*
*uncover and address gaps in services*

*Let’s Begin!*