Importance of Social Emotional Screening for Utah’s Children

Early Identification and Referral to Behavioral Health Services
ITTY-BITTY-KIDDY-POTTY

A Metaphor for Redesigning Children’s Behavioral Health Services
If we simply use modified adult behavioral health services to meet the needs of children...

- Children don’t make it in time.
- Services don’t fit the need.
- We have a lot of messy outcomes.
- Important things fall through the cracks.
- We flush limited resources down the toilet.
Priority Partners

Families
Primary Care Physicians
Public Health: Children’s Special Health Clinics
Early Intervention and/or Head Start
Public Education
- Preschools
- Kindergartens
Barriers to Partnership

- Confusion / Conflict Regarding Service Mandates
- Different models, language and acronyms
- Cost Sharing
- Different timelines
- Differing emphasis on early intervention
Rural & Frontier Challenges

- Geographic Distance (many rural counties)
- Transportation / Travel
- Providing Specialized Services using General Practitioners
- Stigma regarding behavioral health services
- Cultural reluctance to get outside help
Goals of Improving Services

- To identify children (0-5) with social-emotional delays.
- To intervene as early as possible with developmental delays or parenting training.
- To improve participating families’ ability to meet the needs of their children.
- To assess, identify and transition children with social-emotional delays and their families into CMHC clinic services.
- The provide effective, onsite services that are seamless, jointly-staffed and funded.
- To improve each partner’s ability to meet service mandates.
- To improve clinical continuity across agencies.
Service Offered Through Partnership

Level 1: (On-site)
- Social-emotional developmental screening/scoring,
- Clinical observation with release and notification of caregiver
- Joint staffing (which includes caregivers),
- Behavioral health assessment
- Parent/professional consultation / collaboration to identify children who need level 2 and 3 behavioral health services.
Service Offered Through Partnership

Level 2: (On-site) Developmental Therapy and Parenting Groups

- Developmental Therapy-Developmental Teaching (Woods) as a backdrop to all interventions
- PALS Group: Second Step Curriculum
- Parenting Group: Love, Limits and Latitude (Wells)
Service Offered Through Partnership

Level 3: (CMHC Clinics)
- Access to the full array of Southwest Center’s behavioral health services for families who need more intensive treatment.
Early Identification and Referral

The remainder of this presentation is focused upon the use of screening instruments to identify children and families who need early intervention and support.
Level One: Social-Emotional Screening

- Ages and Stages Questionnaire
- Ages and Stages Questionnaire: Social / Emotional Functioning
The ASQ and ASQ:SE are parent completed screening instruments for developmental and social-emotional functioning of infants & young children.
The Ages and Stages Questionnaires: Social Emotional (ASQ:SE) were developed as a companion tool to the widely used Ages and Stages Questionnaires (ASQ), a well researched system that uses parent report to screen the development of infants and young children.
Ages and Stages Questionnaires: Social Emotional (ASQ:SE)

The ASQ: SE were developed and continue to be studied in an effort to address the need for age-appropriate tools to monitor very young children’s behavior and address parental concerns. In addition, the ASQ: SE provide an inexpensive, culturally versatile tool for states to participate in child-find activities for children at-risk for social-emotional and behavioral delays.
The original ASQ system consists of a series of 19 parent completed questionnaires that screen a child from 3 months to 5 years of age and cover 5 domains of development: communication, fine motor, gross motor, problem solving and personal social.
The Ages & Stages Questionnaires-Social Emotional (ASQ: SE) were developed to monitor a child’s development in the behavioral areas of self-regulation, compliance, communication, adaptive, autonomy, affect and interaction with people. ASQ: SE questionnaire intervals correspond with the ASQ system, screening children from 3 months to 5 and 1/2 years of age. Questionnaire intervals are as follows: 6, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 48 and 60 months.
Ages and Stages Questionnaires: Social Emotional (ASQ:SE)

Sample 6 month Questionnaire

Questions use both male and female children as examples. Answer all questions whether your child is a boy or a girl.

1. When upset, can your baby calm down within one half-hour?
2. Does your baby smile at you and other family members?
3. Does your baby like to be picked up and held?
4. Does your baby stiffen and arch her back when picked up?
5. When talking to your baby, does he look at you and seem to be listening?
6. Does your baby let you know when she is hungry or sick?
7. When awake, does your baby seem to enjoy watching or listening to people?
8. Does your baby have a way to calm himself down? (For example, by sucking on his hand or a pacifier.)
9. Does your baby cry for a long periods of time?
10. Is your baby's body relaxed?
11. Does your baby have trouble sucking from a bottle or breast?
12. Does it take longer than 30 minutes to feed your baby?
Ages and Stages Questionnaires: Social Emotional (ASQ:SE)

Age range covered: 6–60 months

Areas screened: Social–emotional (self-regulation, compliance, communication, adaptive functioning, autonomy, affect, and interaction with people)

Components: 8 color-coded questionnaires for use at 6, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 48, and 60 months, 8 corresponding scoring sheets, User's Guide
Ages and Stages Questionnaires: Social Emotional (ASQ:SE)

Who completes it:
Parents/caregivers complete questionnaires; professionals score them

Approximate time:
Each questionnaire takes 10–15 minutes to complete and just 1–3 minutes to score

Validity and reliability:
Normed on more than 3,000 children across the age intervals and their families. Reliability and validity both very good. Details in the technical report.
Ages and Stages Questionnaires: Social Emotional (ASQ:SE)

User's Guide includes:
Instructions on implementing ASQ:SE, validity data, tips on cultural sensitivity, case studies, and activities

Languages:
Questionnaires in English and Spanish