

Promoting the Practices of Developmental Monitoring and Screening amongst Delawarean Parents of 0–5-year-olds

Andrea Kulish, Ph.D.¹, Sarah Mallory, Ph.D.², Jamie Walko, M.Ed.³, Colleen Sherman, Ph.D.¹

Nemours/A.I. duPont Hospital for Children¹, University of Delaware², Delaware Office of Early Learning³



Introduction	Methods (con't)	Results and Next Steps (con't)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Throughout the first years of life, infants and toddlers experience growth and development across many domains including cognitive/thinking skills, motor skills, communication skills, adaptive skills, and social-emotional skills (Gleason et al., 2010). ◆ While most children make good developmental progress across these domains, there is a subset of the population who are delayed in meeting developmental milestones (Rydz et al., 2005). ◆ We know that identifying these infants and toddlers who demonstrate a delay in meeting developmental milestones and providing them with early intervention services serves to promote their development and their later transition into the school system (Bailey et al., 2005; Hebbeler et al., 2007). ◆ An imperative component to both the identification and subsequent provision of early intervention services to these infants and toddlers is the involvement of parents in monitoring and screening their child's development. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Familiarized myself with the Act Early grant work plan and needs assessment and conducted a literature review about topics relevant to the grant's goals to determine an appropriate contribution to the grant as my leadership project. 4. Created a PowerPoint training for parents of infants and toddlers aimed at promoting parents' engagement in developmental monitoring and screening of their children. 5. Gathered feedback from Act Early Team leads and other sources, including DE's Department of Education, to modify and finalize the training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Final product was an interactive PowerPoint training containing important information for parents about developmental monitoring/screening including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Domains of infant and toddler development - Importance of developmental monitoring/screening - How parents can engage in developmental monitoring/screening - The ASQ screening tool and how to complete it - Available early intervention services in DE and their systems - Resources ◆ The training will be additionally reviewed by a small group of parents who will provide further feedback to improve the training; it will also be presented at in-person events and train-the-trainer events by Act Early Team leaders. ◆ A final PowerPoint training will be videorecorded and subsequently translated into Spanish and Haitian Creole for ongoing distribution to the parent community of Delaware.
Objective		
<p>Collaborate with relevant stakeholders to develop supports for parents of young children (birth to age 5) to encourage the practices of developmental monitoring and screening, ultimately aimed at promoting infant and toddler growth and development.</p>		
Methods		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joined with the Delaware Act Early State System Grant team by attending Act Early State Team meetings each month to learn from stakeholders in the state of Delaware and to monitor the progress of the larger goals of the Act Early grant. 		<p style="text-align: center;">Results and Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ This project connects to interdisciplinary practice and community engagement through its focus on involving community stakeholders in the identification of needs within the early childhood population in the state of Delaware and in determining next steps. ◆ Translations of the training into two other languages common to the state of Delaware will allow for increased access of the information for families. ◆ This project reflects on family-centered care by highlighting the imperative role of parents in supporting their child's growth and development, recognizing them as experts, and providing them with necessary information and tools.
Discussion and Reflection		