



Montana Milestones Demonstration  
Site – DEAP Improvement Plan  
Progress Report



## Montana Milestones Demonstration Site – Improvement Plan

“Using the best, essential required practices, DEAP will first identify and then implement social-emotional screenings, assessments, and evidence based curricula to promote and improve social-emotional competence for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.”

## **Performance Indicators:**

**Apply adult learning activities to trainings.**

**Timeline June 1, 2016**

- **DEAP's Disabilities Services Program Director and Early Intervention Director have been trained as Master Coaches.**
- **DEAP's Early Intervention Director has been trained by ECTA Center staff to deliver effective training.**
- **Principals of Adult Learning is applied to all Professional Development Trainings**  
**Adult learners learn best when training is:**
  - Active, engaging learners throughout the learning process, with time for reflection and application of their existing foundation of knowledge and experience to new problems**
  - Facilitated in a way that supports diverse learning styles and fosters internal motivation to learn**
  - Relevant and meaningful, with opportunities to apply the knowledge in their real world context**
  - Facilitated in a way that allows adults to share what they know and interact with one another**

**Review and select training materials that have been developed:**

**Social-emotional screeners, assessments and curricula**

- **The Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development Center for Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (CECMHC) site was used to identify Social Emotional Screening Tools that would match with the needs of the Montana Milestones Program.**
- **ASQ-SE-2 Selected**
- **ASQ-SE- 2 purchased by Wendy Studt, Part C Coordinator**
- **Initial Eligibility and Annual Eligibility require a Developmental Assessment be completed. Social Emotional Skills are one of the required skill areas that are annually assessed. Staff are required to be trained in how to conduct developmental assessments prior to be use. i.e. Developmental Assessment of Young Children 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition; Developmental Profile-3; Battelle Developmental Inventory 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition etc.**
- **Children between the ages of 18 and 30 months of age enrolled in the Montana Milestones Program are screened using the Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (MCHAT).**

# **Review and select training materials that have been developed: Social-Emotional Screeners, assessments and Curricula**

## **Timeline by 9/2/16**

- **Ages and Stages Questionnaire Social-Emotional 2 Screener selected and purchased by Montana Milestones.**
- **All Family Support Specialists have been trained on how to administer the ASQ-SE 2 on 6/23/16 from Tabitha Williams, AWARE . THE ASQ-SE-2 provides information and suggestions for activities and referral options for children who are identified as “at risk” by the ASQ-SE-2.**
- **Written procedures have been developed regarding the use of the ASQ-SE-2.**
- **The ASQ-SE-2 has been completed for all children between the ages of birth and 36 months of age entering the Montana Milestones Program since July 1, 2016. (30 individuals)**
- **Staff are using the training they have received from Sheldon and Rush to use the “Practitioner and Parent Responsive Strategy Guides” in conjunction with the Coaching Techniques to promote Responsive Parenting Strategies and Emotional Direction Strategies with families.**
- **DEAP’s Early Intervention Director has reviewed the 4 modules available on the Center on the Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning website.**
- **DEAP is not pursuing a Curricula at this time. Staff are currently receiving extensive training for the Child Outcome Summary process and continue to receive training in regards to Coaching, the RBI process and training for EI Module updates.**

**Develop Process/Protocol for how and when screeners and assessments are completed.**

**Timeline January 1, 2017**

**Ages and Stages – Social Emotional 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Questionnaire Procedures: Summarized**

- **Children entering the Montana Milestones Program will have the Ages and Stages – Social Emotional 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Questionnaire completed prior to the Initial IFSP being completed .**

**If a child scores above the Cutoff :**

- Child does not demonstrate any delay in their Social-Emotional domain, as verified by their annual assessment and no concerns have been identified; they do not need to have another ASQ-SE-2 completed until their Referral to Part B Services is made, at least 120 days prior to their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. The ASQ-SE-2 information should be included in the assessment information given to the school. For children who leave the Montana Milestones Program prior to their third birthday they should have the ASQ-SE-2 completed as part of their Exiting Services paperwork and results reported to the family.
- If a child who initially scored above the Cutoff Score on the ASQ-SE-2 begins at any time to exhibit delays in their Social-Emotional development, as documented by their annual assessment or by any other evaluation, or if the family, caregiver or other professional such as pediatrician, therapist or FSS; raises concerns regarding the child's Social-Emotional development an ASQ-SE-2 should be completed.

## **If a child scores at or below the Cutoff Score:**

- Use the ASQ-ES-2 **Score Interpretation**, section 2 on the Summary Page, for guidance to either “Review behaviors of concern and monitor.” or “Further assessment with professional may be needed.”
- FSS will follow up on any questions that the family marked as a “Concerns-” when completing the questionnaire. FSS will use their knowledge of child development to decide what kind of follow up is needed; providing the family with information regarding child development, consulting with pediatrician or feeding specialist (WIC, OT, Speech Therapist, Pediatrician), providing the family with behaviorally specific information i.e. feeding, establishing a sleep routine, toilet training, information on biting or hitting etc.
- FSS will document any factors that may have affected the score given, such as: medical conditions, developmental delays, cultural considerations etc.
- **Follow-Up Action Section** on the Summary Page. If a child scores in the “Monitor” range on the **Score Interpretation** section the FSS needs to check “Provide activities and rescreen in \_\_ months”. The FSS will provide information and rescreen the child by the next 6 month review of the IFSP. If the child continues to score either in the Monitor or Refer range after the second screening FSS needs to refer for further testing i.e. to the Evaluation and Diagnosis Clinic and if the child is 18 months of age or older an M-CHAT should be completed and followed up if indicated.
- Family Support Specialists are encouraged to consult with DEAP’s Developmental Disabilities Services Director or Early Intervention Director at any time if they have questions or concerns.

## Improvement Strategy Activities:

Time Frame June 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019

Research and evaluate Resources for Social emotional Screener (Completed)

Train staff on Social Emotional screener (Completed)

Evaluate how staff uses screener and how it impacts IFSP goals (Ongoing)

Quarterly progress meetings with State part C Coordinator (Ongoing)



# What else we've been up to at DEAP since July 1, 2016

DEAP's 8 Family Support Specialists have completed 3 of 7 of the required child Outcome Summary trainings. Each training is approximately 2 hours in length. Next COS training will be 1/9/17.

Family Support Specialists have received training and have begun using the Brigance Screen III at annual child find events. 8 of the 17 child find events DEAP participates in each year have been held. The Brigance III was selected due in part to its enhanced Social Emotional section.

DEAP's Montana Milestones Program has partnered with the Healthy Montana Families program, SPROUTS, to offer developmental Screenings to any children under the age of 3 years who reside in a SPROUTS program participant's home. This has resulted in several children being enrolled in the Montana Milestones program.

DEAP continues to provide developmental screenings for children referred by child protective services under the Child Abuse Prevention And Treatment Act. The ASQ-SE-2 is now part of that screening.

DEAP has partnered with the Northern Cheyenne Service Unit in Lame Deer. DEAP staff offer a developmental Screening day at least one time each month at the NCSU clinic. This screening clinic has been very productive and has increased the number of referrals in the Lame Deer area as well as having established a close working relationship between DEAP staff and the NCSU clinic staff.

And of course a look at the reason why  
we do what we do!

