

SSIP Workgroup

March 22, 2023 Meeting Notes

Workgroup Participants: Jaylene Trueblood, Naomi Grinney, Sarah Moore, Anne Brager, Lisa Terry, Deana Buck, Lorelei Pisha, Jackie Robinson Brock

Absent: Emily Amerson, Dawn Lero, Jessica Monaco, Kathryn Marchese, Kelly Hill, Elizabeth Lyon, Tracy Walters, Brandie Kendrick

**Objectives to Consider and Current Status:**

Broad Improvement Strategy 1: Identify and implement initial and ongoing eligibility determination and assessment for service planning practices related to social-emotional development that effectively inform eligibility decisions, the child outcome summary process, IFSP development and service delivery

1. Establish recommended and/or required practices for use of a social-emotional screening tool(s) as part of eligibility determination and for ongoing developmental monitoring

* Survey of Current Practices sent to all local system managers.

1. Establish recommended and/or required practices for use of a social-emotional assessment tool(s) as part of initial and ongoing child assessment and additional questions on the family assessment tool

* Survey of Current Practices sent to all local system managers.

1. Develop recommended practices around including eligibility and/or assessment team members with Infant Mental Health or related expertise
2. Examine inequities/bias in eligibility determination and assessment practices/tools

* Being addressed as part of tool review

1. Explore screening or assessing for other factors that impact infants’ and toddlers’ social-emotional development, such as parental depression, anxiety, trauma, parent-child interaction, and temperament

* Establish a committee

Link to Assessment Toolkit Developed from Previous SSIP: https://static1.squarespace.com/static/59a023cfbe42d6bbb81d66a5/t/6170721bc7954478de6b55ae/1634759195468/Assessment+Protocol+Toolkit.pdf

Broad Improvement Strategy 2: Identify and implement evidence-based service delivery practices to promote positive social-emotional development for all eligible infants and toddlers and provide effective intervention to address delays and concerns

a. Explore available evidence-based practices to support positive social-emotional development and social relationships (e.g., Pyramid Model, PIWI, FAN, DEC Recommended Practices) in order to identify a core practice that will be implemented statewide

1. Survey of Current Practices sent to all local system managers including a question about the pyramid model.
2. Understand from various communities, including those who are here as refugees and immigrants, what the concept of “social-emotional skills” means to them and what is important in their culture related to infants’ and toddlers’ skills in this area of development
3. Establish a committee

**Action Items and Discussion:**

* 1. Lorelei Pisha provided an overview of the Devereux Infant & Toddler Social and Emotional Assessment (DECA) - 2007
* 4 weeks to 36 months
* There are two tools – one for infant and one for toddler.
* Seems expensive but similar to ITSEA.
* Has CD to help score and can purchase separate assessment sheets.
* Assessment tool leads into program planning and progress monitoring and tracking.
* Has an electronic/web-based format.
* Focuses on protective factors – how well are they doing what we want them to do and how can we build on that (strengths-based approach).
* Can be completed by parent or caregiver or home visitor.
* Prompt question is “during the past four weeks how often ….”
* 5-point scale.
* Infant version has age ranges, but toddler version does not give age ranges.
* Infant version does not correct for prematurity.
* Infant version has 33 questions and takes 8-15 minutes to complete. Calculates 2 sub areas and a total protective factor scale.
* Toddler version calculates 3 sub areas and a total protective factor scale. It has 36 questions and takes 8-15 minutes to complete.
* Generates a percentile score and tells you if it is a strength or area of need.
* Designed to assess and monitor progress and can be used as often as liked.
* Can track a child across time and look at the impact of intervention at the individual, local and state level.
* Available in English and Spanish. There is also a Chinese version.
* Website shows how it aligns with ASQ-SE and you can submit request for them to align it with other tools.
* No licensure or certification required to administer and score.
* Easy to score and can be done with the family.
* Assesses across all areas of social emotional development for this age range.
* Gives specific information about what scores designate at risk and how to convert to percentages for use in eligibility determination.
* Sensitivity is lower as the creators favored specificity over sensitivity.
* Questions at 6th grade reading level.
* Tied to curriculum to support development.
* More expensive than ASQ-SE and available in limited languages.
* Resiliency and protective factors already built into EIPD social emotional learning path.
* Can be used as a screening tool.
* SEAM visually breaks down the different categories, harder to see the breakdown of categories on the DECA. DECA may be good to use when the relationship is new with the family as it is strengths based.
* Strength of tool is ability to track progress.
  1. Deana Buck reviewed the ITSEA.
* Infant & Toddler Social and Emotional Assessment (ITSEA)
* There are two versions, one for parents to complete and one for caregivers to complete.
* For children 12 – 35 months
* Options are not true/rarely; somewhat true/sometimes; very true/often.
* Is standardized and norm referenced.
* Assesses social emotional problems and competency.
* Can be administered as a structured interview.
* Takes 25 minutes to administer if completed by parent/caregiver.
* Items do not give age ranges.
* Unclear the training required to administer or who can administer. Need to do more research into this.
* Easy to understand.
* Tied to things infants and toddlers do.
* Infant and Toddler Specialist network uses this tool.
* Lisa Terry posted an article about using the ITSEA in early intervention on the padlet.
* Often used by pediatricians.

3. Factors to consider in thinking about screening and assessment for social emotional development.

* ECTA briefing had four recommended tools (DECA, ITSEA, SEAM included) <https://ectacenter.org/topics/iecmh/iecmh-partc.asp#evaluationandassessment>
* Many of the assessment tools we currently use do not have strong sections for social emotional. We discussed using more specialized tools to gather additional information. We will need to think about which tools are best for screening and which are best for assessment.
* Training is an essential piece of any screening/assessment tool we decide to use in EI.
* SEAM uses language incorporated in the pyramid model.
  1. Introduced chart summarizing screening and assessment tools reviewed. Chart can be developed comparing tools side-by-side with the full assessment sheets included. Columns could be tools, age ranges, content, length (minutes), qualifications to administer, cost and type of tool (screening/assessment/supplemental). The tools could also be hyperlinked to the table. A separate chart could be made with tools, pros, and cons.

**Next Steps:**

1. Liz Lyons will present on the MEISR in April.

2. Anne Brager will present on the Greenspan Growth Chart in April.

2. Review screening/assessment tool chart based upon feedback from workgroup.

3. Reach a decision on requiring or recommending use of screening or assessment tools.

4. Choose which screening/assessment tools to require or recommend.

5. Coordinate with facilitators for the workgroup on assessment tools for mitigating factors to develop a draft toolkit with screening/assessment tools from both workgroups.

6. Develop an introduction on the importance of assessing social-emotional development for an assessment/screening toolkit. Lisa Terry recommended reviewing existing descriptions.

7. Develop recommended practices around including eligibility and/or assessment team members with Infant Mental Health or related expertise.

[**https://www.iecmhc.org/tutorials/consultative-stance/mod2-1/#:~:text=Key%20Elements%20of%20the%20Consultative%20Stance%201%**](https://www.iecmhc.org/tutorials/consultative-stance/mod2-1/#:~:text=Key%20Elements%20of%20the%20Consultative%20Stance%201%)

**20The,Wondering%20instead%20of%20knowing%20Patience%20Holding%20hope%20**

**Next Meeting:**

1. Liz Lyons will present on the MEISR in April.

2. Anne Brager will present on the Greenspan Growth Chart in April.

3. Review screening/assessment tool chart.

**Next Meeting Date: April 26th at 12:00. Zoom link:** [**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87579226557**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87579226557)