Benchmarks Data

Great job in Year 3! MIECHV data shows that Missouri improved on 23 of the 36 constructs and successfully maintained 2 of the 36 constructs from year two to year three. That equates to 69% of the constructs being improved or maintained. WAY TO GO MIECHV TEAM!!!!

Even with all of our success, we did see challenges in Benchmark 3. The three constructs listed below will be a focus for improvement during Year 4.

**Benchmark 3: Improvements in School Readiness and Achievement**

- **Construct 16: Parent support for children’s learning and development**
  - *Decrease: Year 2—100%, Year 3—33.33%*

- **Construct 17: Parent knowledge of child development and of their child’s developmental progress**
  - *Decrease: Year 2—75%, Year 3—28%*

- **Construct 18: Parenting behaviors and parent-child relationship**
  - *Decrease: Year 2—50%, Year 3—26.09%*

Data reported for Benchmark 3, Constructs 16-18 is a derivative of information entered from the Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment-Infant Toddler Inventory (H.O.M.E. Inventory), the Early Childhood H.O.M.E. Inventory or the Life Skills Progression (LSP) Outcome and Intervention Planning Instrument. The purpose of these screenings is to assess the family’s home environment regarding parent knowledge and support for learning and development, and the parent/child relationship. This information can then be utilized by the home visitor to assist and educate the family as indicated, thus supporting the physical and social-emotional development of the child/children and family.

As a result of the H.O.M.E. and LSP screenings, parenting education is tailored to strengthen parents’ and other caregivers’ knowledge about how their actions affect child development, and to foster the skills that enable them to ensure their child’s healthy development and school readiness. Early childhood comprehensive systems, including the home visiting program, promote comprehensive parenting education programs that are accessible and culturally appropriate and address the needs of all parents in communities.

The MIECHV Program has requested technical assistance from the MIECHV Technical Assistance Coordinating Center (TACC) on this topic which will assist in guiding strategies for improvement in these constructs.

**Action Alert:** Review the H.O.M.E. Inventory or LSP screening tool. Discuss how each home visitor is completing the tool, making sure all home visitors are completing the tool consistent with training received. Also, discuss parenting education and possible local resources that would support improvements in parenting knowledge/understanding and ability to support their child’s physical and social-emotional development, as well as supporting healthy parent/child relationships.

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**“The moment where you doubt whether you can fly, you cease forever to be able to do it.”** —Peter Pan
1. In September 2014, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) released a toolkit for family service providers entitled "Depression in Mothers: More Than the Blues." According to SAMHSA, the toolkit "equips providers with information and strategies for use in working with mothers who may be depressed. It includes facts about depression; screening tools for more serious depression; and referrals, resources, and handouts for mothers who are depressed."

2. The article “Enhancing Child Safety and Well-Being Through Pediatric Group Well-Child Care and Home Visitation: The Well Baby Plus Program” recently received from the MIECHV TACC Sustainability Cohort, highlights an innovative strength-based child protection effort initiated in Beaufort, South Carolina, that involved working with local systems and structures. Specifically, the program was a school-health partnership that sought to modify services provided to low-resource families to improve child outcomes. The primary components of the prevention program were home visiting and group well visits. See Attachment 1.

3. The Missouri Mental Health Foundation’s 2015 YouTube Video Contest—TAKE ACTION! Make a video that shows why your mental health matters. Help us build an understanding and acceptance of mental health so we can all get rid of the stigma. What makes you happy and healthy? How can we prevent mental health issues in young people like stress, depression, eating disorders, and bullying? YOU TELL US! For full details go to www.missourimhf.org/ and look for “2015 YouTube Video Contest” under the Nominations & Event Registration section.

4. 2014 Kids Count Data Book—State Trends in Child Well Being —The KIDS COUNT Data Book is an annual publication that assesses child well-being nationally, as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Using an index of 16 indicators, the 2014 report ranks states on overall child well-being and in four domains: (1) economic well-being, (2) education, (3) health, and (4) family and community. Missouri is ranked 29th overall.

5. Early childhood is a critical period of brain development that provides the foundation for future mental health and wellness. The Missouri Department of Mental Health (DMH) wants to ensure that Missouri’s children grow up healthy and happy—both mentally and physically. Through collaborative efforts with state agencies, providers and communities, DMH is working to ensure that families and other caregivers have the knowledge, access, tools, resources, and skills available to help children grow into mentally healthy individuals. Visit www.stopandplay.org to find parent activities and developmental resources. Providers can access screening tools, diagnostic instruments and early childhood fact sheets.

6. In September 2011, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) issued a President’s Challenge: the Healthy Babies Initiative. The goal of the challenge is to improve birth outcomes by reducing infant mortality and prematurity in the United States. Preconception, prenatal, birth to 28 days, and the first year resource materials are available at www.astho.org/healthybabies/.

April is Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Month

GO BLUE DAY IS
APRIL 11, 2015

Wear Blue to support Missouri’s kids & the importance of prevention!
April is...  
**Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month**
April is Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month. Saturday, April 11 is Go Blue Day and the Children’s Trust Fund, Missouri Kids First and many prevention organizations across the state, encourage you to wear something blue on this day to show your support for Missouri’s kids and share with others the importance of prevention and keeping children safe. For additional information go to [http://missourikidsfirst.org](http://missourikidsfirst.org) or [www.ctf4kids.org](http://www.ctf4kids.org).

**Sexual Assault Awareness Month**
The 2015 Sexual Assault Awareness Month campaign focuses on preventing sexual assault on college campuses. For more information, please visit the National Sexual Violence Research Center at [www.nsvrc.org](http://www.nsvrc.org)/saam/resources.

**Crime Victims’ Rights Week, April 19-25**
In 2015, the National Crime Victims’ Rights Week (NCVRW) will be observed April 19-25. This year’s theme—*Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.*—emphasizes the role of the entire community, individually and collectively, as we support victims of crime and empower them to direct their own recovery. For more information, please visit [ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw/](http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw/).

**National Infant Immunization Week, April 18-25**
National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) is an annual observance to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and celebrate the achievements of immunization programs and their partners in promoting healthy communities. Talk to your clients/families about the importance of keeping their child(ren) immunized with materials found at the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, [Vaccines for Children Program](http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw/) or the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niww/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niww/index.html).

May is...  
**Children’s Mental Health Week, May 3-9**
For Children's Mental Health Awareness Week 2015, the National Federation will focus on the importance of including mental health in all public health conversations. Thursday, May 7, 2015 marks the 10th anniversary of Awareness Day. For more information, visit [www.ffcmh.org/awarenessweek](http://www.ffcmh.org/awarenessweek) or [www.samhsa.gov/children](http://www.samhsa.gov/children).

**National Women’s Health Week, May 10-16**
The health of all women (including Home Visitors) should be a priority every day. Take time this week to do something to improve your health and well-being. For resources or information on women’s health, visit the Office of Women’s Health (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services) at [www.womenshealth.gov/nwhw/](http://www.womenshealth.gov/nwhw/).

**Better Hearing and Speech Month**
The first two years of a child’s life are the most critical for learning speech and language. Infants who do not pass the newborn hearing screening should undergo audiologic evaluation before three months of age. When hearing loss is detected late, language development is already delayed. Ask your clients if their infant passed the newborn hearing screening. Parents may contact their child’s birth hospital or pediatrician for screening results and to learn where the baby can be rescreened or evaluated by an audiologist. You can assist the parent in finding a nearby audiologist by consulting the Audiological Service for Missouri Newborns guide at this address: [http://health.mo.gov/living/families/genetics/newbornhearing/pdf/ResourceGuideWhole.pdf](http://health.mo.gov/living/families/genetics/newbornhearing/pdf/ResourceGuideWhole.pdf). Contact Catherine Harbison at 573-751-6266 with questions or comments.

June is...  
**National Men’s Health Week, June 15-21**
During this week, think of ways to focus on the health of the dad/male caregiver in the family. For ideas and men’s health resources, please visit the Men’s Health Network at [www.menshealthnetwork.org](http://www.menshealthnetwork.org/).

**National Safety Month**
Showing a slight increase in Benchmark 2, Constructs 10 (mothers’ visits to the ER for all causes) and 12 (child injuries requiring medical treatment) National Safety Month would be a great time to share injury prevention information with families. Injuries are a leading cause of disability for people of all ages – and they are the leading cause of death for Americans ages 1 to 44. Many injuries can be prevented when people practice safe behaviors. Help Save Lives and Prevent Injuries! Visit [www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org) for more information.
Success Stories...Reasons to Celebrate!

- A family moved from their small apartment after buying their first home. Their daughter was born premature at 30 5/7 weeks. She is now 18 months and doing well, still small, but weighing a little over 18 pounds. She continues going to physical therapy and does some pool therapy. Mom is also checking into speech therapy because she still doesn't talk very much.

- A family received financing for their first home and were able to move out of housing. They love their new home!

- A client started Cosmetology School - loves it and is doing well!

- A client diagnosed with having only half a uterus thought she would be unable to reach 30 weeks gestation. A healthy baby girl was delivered at 36 weeks gestation!

- A client took her entrance test for LPN school and passed! There are interviews still to come, but she hopes to go to LPN school if all goes well.

- A client recently passed her written and drivers exam and has her drivers license. She began working part-time and was able to purchase a car with her income tax refund!

REMEMBER to change your REDCap password!

Change your REDCap password at:
https://webapps.missouri.edu/revamp/wizards/passwordManager/passwordManager.jsp

For Technical Assistance with password reset, please call the University of Missouri hospital help desk at 573-884-4357.

For other, non-password related concerns, please contact Technical Assistance via one or both of the following contacts:
Email: muredcap@health.missouri.edu
Phone: 855-733-7921

Final Notes and Reminders

For Level One Teams, remember to submit your detailed activity log and meeting minutes to Barb Gleason at bgleason@sehealth.org and Holly Otto at Holly.Otto@health.mo.gov by April 29, 2015.

For the Level Two Team, please submit your detailed activity log and meeting minutes to Holly Otto at Holly.Otto@health.mo.gov by May 22, 2015.

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