Agenda

National Conversation on Developmental Screening and Referral
“Promising Practices for Coordination of Services”

Recorded Presentation on June 21, 2007

- **Welcome and Check In:** National Medical Home Autism Initiative, Christine Breunig, MS
  
  While we will highlight the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Developmental Surveillance and Screening Recommendations, this conversation will be framed by the priorities and practices of several community programs with responsibilities for early identification of children with developmental concerns.

- **Overview of Developmental Screening Recommendations:** AAP, John Duby, MD
  
  This presentation will provide listeners with an update on the AAP recommendations on developmental surveillance and screening. It will also discuss the importance of early identification of children with developmental delays and the importance of working with other systems involved in the care of children through the medical home.

- **Example System that Works for Spreading Screening Statewide:** ICAAP, Mark Rosenberg, MD
  
  The Illinois Chapter of the AAP will discuss the Enhancing Developmentally Oriented Primary Care program and their method for reaching out to pediatricians in Illinois with recommendations for developmental surveillance and screening. The presentation will also discuss how pediatricians are working with other systems in the State and how pediatricians are responding to the Illinois Chapter initiative.

- **Developmental Screening Initiatives Across Systems:** Linda Tuchman Ginsberg, PhD, NMHAI
  
  The increased attention to the importance of developmental screening and to promote a child's optimal development allows us more options for building partnerships between professional providers and parents, identification of developmental concerns at an early age, and provision of referrals for appropriate services and resources.

- **Overview of Referral and Early Intervention Services:** NECTAC, Evelyn Shaw, MED, Technical Assistance Specialist
  
  This presentation will provide listeners with an understanding of the provisions of IDEA 2004 related to child find, screening, and early identification. It will also discuss the importance of early identification for accountability purposes and improving outcomes for children with or at risk for developmental delay. The presentation will underscore the importance of working with primary referral sources involved in the identification of young children with developmental concerns.

- **Example System That Works To Promote Identification And Referral To Intervention Services:** Nancy Wiseman, Founder and President of First Signs, Inc., University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing – Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities Research Epidemiology (CADDRE).
  
  This presentation will provide listeners with an example of a system that works well with primary referral sources involved in the identification and timely referral of children to local Early Intervention programs through the First Signs program. First Signs is a national non-profit organization dedicated to educating professionals and parents about the importance of early detection and intervention of autism and other developmental disorders through public awareness and training. The First Signs program uses an integrated mix of direct mail, press activities, public speaking, public service announcements, training, outreach, and a website to disseminate key information about early warning signs, the need for routine developmental screening, and the options available to parents of children diagnosed with these disorders. As part of the First Signs program, Ms. Wiseman and researchers at the University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing - Center for Autism & Developmental Disabilities Research Epidemiology (CADDRE) examined different model programs for provider outreach and training. Primary care providers, educators, social workers, psychologists and others involved in child care were trained regarding early identification and screening of the children with developmental delays. Pre and post test results amongst providers demonstrated a significant increase in awareness and knowledge about current screening tools, Early Intervention programs, as well as early signs and features of developmental delays and disorders. Currently, CADDRE researchers are conducting a survey as a long-term follow-up to investigate the effects of the trainings on referral rates in Pennsylvania.

- **Promising Practices for Coordination of Services:** Linda Tuchman Ginsberg, PhD, NMHAI
  
  This conversation has highlighted the priorities and practices of several community programs with responsibilities for early identification of children with developmental concerns. It is time now to expand our horizons and work in coordinated efforts with pediatric health providers, early intervention, public schools, Head Start, home visiting programs and early care and education providers.