

Coos Coalition for Young Children and Families

Indicators for healthy social and emotional development of the child:

1. % of children 0-5 receiving ASQ and ASQ-SE screening at least once a year
2. % of children referred for further assessment and treatment if indicated

Why is developmental screening for children birth-5 important for supporting healthy social and emotional outcomes for children in Coos County ?

- Between 10 and 14 percent of children from birth to five years old experience social-emotional problems that negatively impact their functioning, development and school-readiness.ⁱ Because behavioral problems among young children are often predictive of later conduct problems, antisocial behaviors, delinquency and serious mental health problems,ⁱⁱ early identification of social and emotional problems is critical.
- According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 17 percent of children have a developmental or behavioral disability such as autism, intellectual disability (also known as mental retardation), or Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and many more have language or other delays; yet less than half of these children are identified before starting school, by which time significant delays already might have occurred and opportunities for treatment might have been missed.ⁱⁱⁱ
- Research indicates that with the use of developmentally appropriate screening and assessment of very young children there are significant increases in the number of young children identified and appropriately served.^{iv}
- Children identified through screening may be connected with early intervention programs which often provide evaluation services and developmental therapies, service coordination, social work services, assistance with transportation and related costs, family training, counseling, and home visits.^v

What is happening now in Coos on developmental screening-(organizations involved, strategies/activities currently in place)?

- The Family Resource Center, Northern Human Services and Coos Family Healthy Services have adopted the Ages and Stages Screening Questionnaire (ASQ-3) and Ages and Stages Social Emotional (ASQ-SE) as part of the statewide initiative called Watch Me Grow. Approximately 150 children are screened each year (out of 1448 child 0-6 in Coos County)
- There are protocols and systemic training available in the use of the ASQ and ASQ-SE to preschool providers, mental health workers and family support home visitors throughout Coos County in order to make consistent, research based developmental screening available and accessible to organizations and parents across the county
- 8 child care centers screened 48 children in Healthy Child Development Week Nov. 2012

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How will the Coos Coalition strategic plan have an impact on developmental screening and early identification of social and emotional challenges for children birth-5

- **Expand use of ASQ and ASQ-SE to other health centers and screen at more ages**
- **Expand use of ASQ in Child Care centers**
- **Expand use of ASQ at kindergarten registration throughout Coos County**
- **Increase screening from 10% to 50% of all Coos children birth-5**
- **Increase percentage of children in need of follow up who are referred for assessment and follow up services**
- **Increase community awareness of the importance of early developmental screening-healthy social and emotional development is important for all children as they enter school**
- **Coordinate Coos efforts with Statewide Watch Me Grow initiative**