

SSIP Assessment/Screening Workgroup  
March 1, 2023

Workgroup Participants: Lisa Terry, Telisha Woodfin, Crishonna Greene, Christine Inscoe, Naomi Grinney, Kathy Pierson, Kimberly Sprangel, Megen Stewart, Melissa Peacey, Robin Church, Christina Harrison, Kristin Yates

Absent: Lynne Wolfe, Kylie Zoller, Marti Clark

**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

- **TASK 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, attachment and temperament.
- **TASK 2:** Once screening and assessment practices and tools are identified, develop an implementation plan including professional development activities and resources needed to support implementation
- **TASK 3:** Develop/adapt/adopt and implement a fidelity measure and process for expected screening, eligibility and assessment practices
- **TASK 4:** Identify and implement additional professional development and/or other supports needed to sustain the use of expected screening, eligibility and assessment practices with fidelity

Agenda

- **TASK 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, attachment and temperament.
  1. Review the list of assessment screenings/tools.

**Action Items and Discussion:**

1. Introductions of members.
2. Provide overview of task objectives
  - Four other work groups are running at the same time.
    - SSIP Leadership work group
    - SSIP Work Group

- This work group is reviewing assessment tools for initial screening/assessment.
          - SSIP Reflective Supervision
          - SSIM Pyramid Model
  - Reviewed the four tasks for our work group (See tasks 1-4 above).
  - Not specifically focusing on social emotional tool but looking at other factors that impact social emotional development (ex. Trauma, temperament, attachment, etc)
  - Thank you to the work group members for submitting screenings/tools ahead of time. Lisa separated them into categories and researched additional potential tools to add. Each tool is added in the chart document.
3. Review the list of assessment screenings/tools.
- Questions to consider:
    - Should we be paying attention to these other factors?
    - Parents are lonely and feel isolated and wonder if any tools capture this
    - When speaking to families recently, there are many different areas that families are going through. For example, one parent stated she is burnt out because another child in the home was transitioning to Part B and the mother was not sure what to do with the baby. The baby does receive EI services so this is example where the broad spectrum of parental depression is cloudy. In addition, learning of diagnosis for a child and the parent may mourn that process and sometimes turn to substance abuse to cope.
      - Grief and trauma can be lumped together – grief about loss. Most parents don't expect their child will have a disability. It can look like noncompliance or detachment and can be that grief or burnout.
        - Is anyone familiar with any grief tools?
          1. Even acknowledging that it's common for parents to grieve with parents is important and you can see the relief that they are not alone in their feelings on their faces.
          2. Nobody knows of any known tools. Lisa will look into it.
        - **TASK:** Expand "Trauma" to include "Grief"
        - **TASK:** Look for screening tools for grief
  - Biases
    - Wonder if there are any bias tools for parenting practices for practitioners to reflect on own self-awareness
      - Identify racial equity tools and how it can impact parent beliefs and development. Chrishonna has been looking for a tool for it, but has not found anything. We don't ask about race and culture when we talk to families and it's

important to know. Chrishonna has been using adult tools in terms of racial equity and will share.

1. **TASK:** Chrishonna will share the racial equity tools used for adults and maybe we can adapt for families. This is something she has been considering.

- When looking at tools, we may want to consider prematurity – Do they age adjust?
- Wonder about parent report and the accuracy of parents being open and honest with some questions
  - Wonder if the parent’s perception is part of it that we are interpreting
- Parent report – We can look at the research on parent report
  - **TASK:** Lisa find articles and include to send out to the group.
- If we are considering picking some tools as a group, we do have to consider the person administering it and that we have qualified staff for that tool. Do you need to also consider cost?
  - Once we review the tools and determine if we want to keep each one or add any additional tools, we will gather more in-depth information.
  - **Future Considerations:** Price and who can administer
- The chart will be general since each locality is so different in terms of disciplines available in their areas.
  - **Future Considerations:** It may be beneficial to keep a list of practitioners who are qualified to use those tools so that it may be a resource for other systems.
- Is there something that measures attention – typical 12 month old vs 18 month old
  - This may be helpful for parents to know
  - Sensory Profile is used by OTs for some kids showing sensory concerns, but are we using it with other kids that could benefit that may not fall into that category
    - Sometimes, a tool has ability to identify other things
  - Mona Delahooke has done a lot of work on this and will look and see if there are any checklists
    - **TASK:** Lisa look to see if Mona offers checklists
- Would we want to get permission to use any of these tools?
  - If so, how should we go about that?
  - **FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS:** Check with state office on permission requirements
- Changes on the Chart



**Tasks:**

**EVERYONE:** Everyone look at each tool and determine if we want to keep or if we need to add another tool

**CHRISHONNA**

- Share the racial equity tools used for adults and maybe we can adapt for families. This is something she has been considering.

**LISA:**

- Expand “Trauma” to include “Grief”
- Look for screening tools for grief
- Find articles and include to send out to the group.
- Look to see if Mona offers checklists
  - [Worksheets](#)
- Change “Parental Depression” to “Parental Mental Health”
- Change to “Environmental Safety/Stability”

**Future Considerations:**

- Price and who can administer
- It may be beneficial to keep a list of practitioners who are qualified to use those tools so that it may be a resource for other systems.
- Check with state office on permission requirements

**Next Meeting:**

*Lisa will send out Doodle Poll for next month*