



Early Milestone Monitoring in the State of NH

Learn the Signs. Act Early Toolkit Distribution, Tracking and More!

Emily Reagan, BS, Communication Sciences and Disorders Trainee



Background:

New Hampshire Special Medical Services is the Title V Program for Children with Special Health Care Needs that administers services to children (birth-21) who have been diagnosed with, or are at risk for, a chronic health condition. This project aimed to increase public knowledge of early developmental milestones to improve the developmental screening process and therefore create a more efficient and family-friendly system of care for families and children in the state of NH.



Learn the Signs. Act Early

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has a number of free *Learn the Signs. Act Early* materials available that were gathered and categorized, along with NH Watch Me Grow information and developmental fact sheets to create NH Specific Toolkits to distribute to early childcare professionals, health care providers and family members. By increasing public awareness of early milestones, the ultimate goal is that children with developmental differences or disorders are caught early and begin receiving services early, leading to better outcomes. This project also included the creation of a survey to determine which materials were found to be most helpful and how they are being shared and utilized.

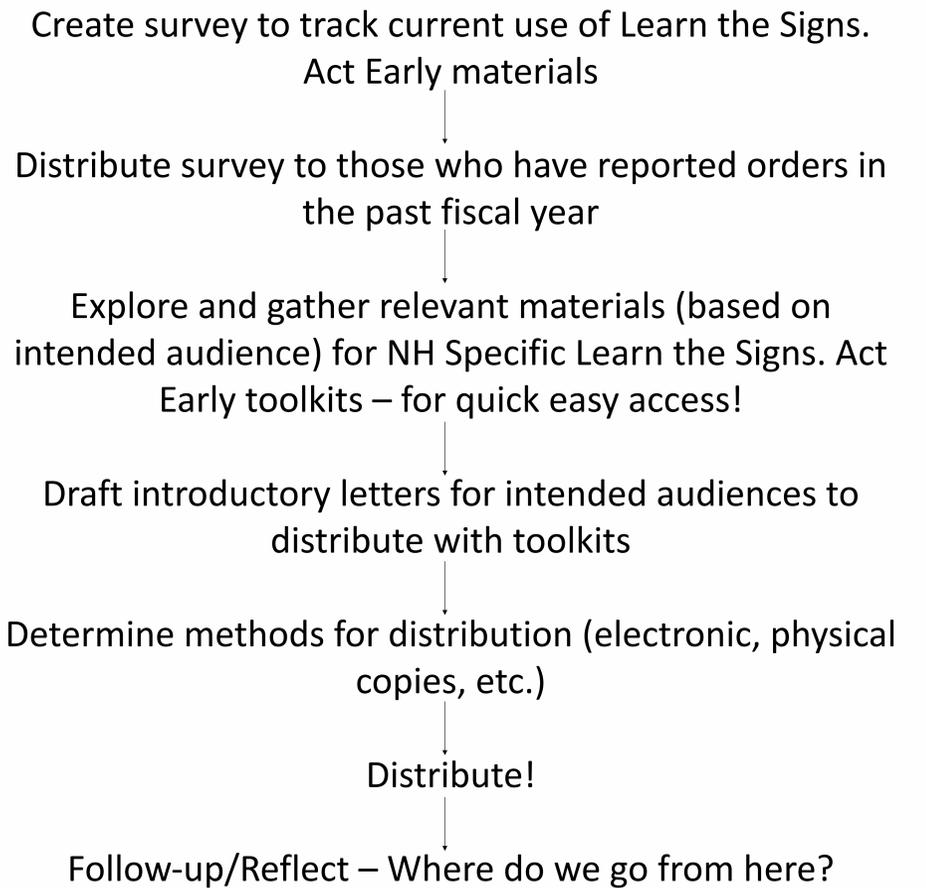
Developmental Screening Who's Involved?

Families: by increasing parent knowledge of early developmental milestones, we create opportunity for them to understand appropriate milestones as well as track and identify red flags earlier, opening the door for dialogue between themselves and pediatric professionals

Healthcare Providers: families rely on pediatricians and other healthcare providers for information and education about their child's development, these materials can assist providers in being the primary point of contact in the developmental screening process

Early Childcare Professionals: families trust and rely on early childcare providers to provide them with information regarding their child's growth and development, these materials can help facilitate these important conversations

Project Timeline:



Next Steps:

1. Analyze survey results to determine which materials have been most helpful for those already using them
2. Foster partnerships between professionals involved in the developmental screening process (family members, healthcare providers, early childcare professionals)