

Children 0 – 6

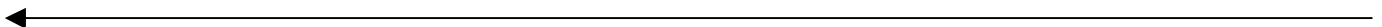
ON THE ROAD WITH THE SEA TO SKY



EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT (ECD) SCREENING OUTREACH TEAM

“System Of Supports” (SOS)

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BRINGING SERVICES AND SUPPORTS CLOSER TO HOME

The Sea To Sky Early Child Development (ECD) Screening Outreach Team

SYSTEM OF SUPPORTS (SOS)

Local Support Services in the Sea To Sky Corridor are working together to provide early child development screening to young children in Sea To Sky communities.

Families are able to access supports in their communities by dropping by and getting information, talking to service providers, participating in developmental screenings, and gaining a better understanding of their child's development, what services are available and how those services support families.

Vision: Our aim is to provide accessible screening opportunities and supports to children 0 - 6 and families to improve children's healthy outcomes before they enter school.

The Main Objectives:

1) TO PROVIDE AN OUTREACH DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING CLINIC TO REMOTE COMMUNITIES

- to support comprehensive monitoring of healthy child development and early risk identification during the time between pregnancy and school entry;
- to increase awareness of the value of healthy child development and the range of child and family support services that support family well-being;
- to provide alternate access to local support services, and to support children potentially at risk, with referrals to the appropriate early intervention services in a timely and effective manner.

The Strategies

A comprehensive system of universal screening and assessment for healthy child development, prenatal to school age, will require the ongoing support and involvement of primary health care providers, educators, social service providers and of parents during the early years. To identify children who are at risk prenatally and to identify those who are not identified in the postnatal period or whose situation changes after that early screen.

A) The team of primary Service Providers

The first strategy aims to increase the involvement of service providers and others in local planning and monitoring of ongoing healthy child development, including professional assessment and screening. This strategy will also maximize interdisciplinary collaboration among health and social service providers, and encourage effective referrals and/or supports for children on waitlists.

B) Parent Screening/Monitoring of Healthy Child Development

Parents are valuable partners in the screening process and will be able to conduct ongoing observations of their children. According to the research, parents' participation in monitoring their children's development through screening tools/parent questionnaires strengthens families' sense of responsibility and empowerment, and promotes primary prevention. Service providers can use parental screening tools such as the Nipissing** Developmental Screen or the Ages and Stages Questionnaires (ASQ). Parents who have questions after completing the screen are advised to talk to their local Public Health Unit, Community Health Nurse, or speak to their health practitioner.

2) PROVIDING RESOURCES AND SERVICES FROM PRENATAL TO SCHOOL-AGE WITHIN COMMUNITIES IDENTIFIED AS HAVING HIGH AREAS OF VULNERABILITY BASED ON RELEVANT DATA SUCH AS THE EDI RESULTS IN 2000 AND 2004

- to support comprehensive monitoring of healthy child development and early risk identification during the time between pregnancy and school entry;
- to increase awareness of the value of healthy child development and the range of child and family support services that support family well-being;
- to provide local support services and resources that support children potentially at risk in identified areas.

The Strategies

A comprehensive system of universal screening and assessment for healthy child development, prenatal to school age, will require the ongoing support and involvement of primary health care providers, educators, and of parents during the early years. To identify children who are at risk prenatally and to identify those who are not identified in the postnatal period or whose situation changes after that early screen.

A) The team of primary Service Providers

The first strategy aims to increase the involvement of service providers and others in local planning and monitoring of ongoing healthy child development, including professional assessment and screening. Service providers will be familiar with the EDI measures and results within the Sea To Sky Corridor communities and work together to maximize the opportunities for effective changes in the early years, prior to kindergarten.

B) Parent Screening/Monitoring of Healthy Child Development

Service providers can use parental screening tools such as the Nipissing** Developmental Screen or the Ages and Stages Questionnaires (ASQ). Parents who have questions after completing the screen are advised to talk to their local Public Health Unit, Community Health Nurse, or speak to their health practitioner.

ECD Developmental Screening Outreach Clinics Calendar for May and June 2005

Location:	Screening opportunities will be available at the Health Fairs in May and June. Call Jane Ballance at 604-815-9115 or email: Janebd@telus.net for more information.
Population Served:	Children 0 - 6 and families
Referral Procedure:	No referral or appointment required. If they choose, families can access some screening opportunities at the Health Fairs. The Nipissing Screen will be available through IDP, Supported Child Care and other early childhood service providers. Screening opportunities allow parents to ask questions about their child's development; social, emotional, physical, language and learning, behavioral, nutrition, dental health, and find out about the services and supports in their community. If for example a parent has concerns about their child's speech, a speech-language pathologist can talk to families and would be able to check their child for signs of a speech or language delay. We also try and provide a good selection of translated materials.
Funding Source:	Success By Six funding, MCFD funding

Health Fairs

PEMBERTON AND AREA

Tuesday, May 17th, 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Signal Hill Elementary School
Pemberton, BC

WHISTLER AND AREA

Wednesday, May 18th, 4:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Myrtle Philips Elementary School
Whistler, BC

SQUAMISH AND AREA

Saturday, June 11th, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Brennan Park Recreation Centre
1004 Centennial Way
Squamish, BC

The ECD Developmental Screening Outreach Clinics are coordinated by The Putting Children First ECD Initiative Planning Team and funded by The Ministry of Children and Family Development.