

Supporting Healthy Start Performance Project NEWSLETTER



Strengthening Healthy Start to support family health and well-being

SHSPP News & Updates

Healthy Start TA Launch Webinar

Please join the Healthy Start TA Center on **January 28 from 2-3:30 p.m. EST** for a webinar to mark the official launch of our technical assistance (TA) programming.

We truly appreciate the time you took to complete the Healthy Start Project Director survey and participate in our focus groups at the National Healthy Start Association conference. Thanks to your efforts, the TA Center has identified several areas of

need among Healthy Start grantees. During this webinar, we will discuss the survey and focus group findings, review the process for requesting TA, and introduce you to some of your TA providers.

Please register for the webinar at the link below. Once you do so, you will receive instructions for joining the meeting via Zoom. Please email healthystart@nichq.org with any questions.

Conversations with the Division Webinar

Thank you to all who attended and to those who sent in questions during the *Conversations with the Division* webinar on October 16, 2019. The Q&A document from that webinar are now posted on the EPIC Center [website](#), along with the webinar slides and recording. The Division had aimed to distribute this Q&A document to grantees by January 1st, 2020, hoping to have had more completed answers for you before doing so. At this point, the Division would like to honor their commitment to get something to you, but are still working on obtaining more comprehensive answers to your questions. The Division expects to share that information with you at the next *Conversations with the Division* webinar in February. Please stay tuned for the date and time of that webinar. The Division appreciates your patience and apologizes for the delay in distributing this document.

Save the date!

[The Interagency Coordinating Committee on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders](#) (ICCFASD) Annual Public Meeting will be held on March 9, 2020 at the National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Conference Center, 6700B Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892. No registration is required to attend this public meeting of federal agencies. The meeting will be webcasted live and archived at <https://videocast.nih.gov>. Email Tatiana.Balachova@nih.gov with any questions.

New Funding to Reduce Opioid Misuse Among Expectant Mothers and Improve Care for Children Impacted by the Opioid Crisis

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) employs a multi-pronged strategy to combat the opioid crisis and address fragmentation in the care of pregnant and postpartum Medicaid beneficiaries with opioid use disorder (OUD). As part of this strategy, CMS announced 10 states selected to receive funding under the Maternal Opioid Misuse (MOM) Model. The MOM Model aims to improve the quality of care and reduce expenditures for pregnant and postpartum women with

OID and their infants, increase access to treatment, and create sustainable coverage and payment strategies that support ongoing coordination and integration of care. For more information, visit, <https://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/maternal-opioid-misuse-model/>.

CMS also issued eight cooperative agreements for the Integrated Care for Kids (InCK) Model, which will begin in early 2020 in seven states. The 7-year model aims to address the opioid crisis' impact on Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)-covered children and their caregivers. The InCK Model aims to improve child health, reduce avoidable inpatient stays and out-of-home placement, and create sustainable payment models to coordinate physical and behavioral health care with services to address health-related needs. For more information, visit <https://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/integrated-care-for-kids-model/>.

For more information about how InCK and the MOM Model compare, please visit: www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/comparing-inck-mom-models

NICHQ Webinar: *From Awareness to Action: Strategies for Combating Racism in Health Systems* **Feb. 13, 2020, 3-4 p.m. ET**

Racism continues to adversely affect the health of families across the country, illustrating that there is an urgent need for change. In response, the National Institute for Children's Health Quality (NICHQ) is hosting a webinar focused on helping individuals address racism in public health and health care programs. Attendees will learn about the different levels of racism, how to apply a racial equity lens to improvement initiatives, and the key steps for promoting equity-focused organizational culture change. If you're looking for strategies to combat the racism affecting our health systems, this webinar will get you started.

Register here: <https://www.nichq.org/registration-page-awareness-action-strategies-combating-racism-health-systems>

Resources

National Birth Defects Prevention Month

January is [National Birth Defects Prevention Month](#). According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), [one in every 33 babies](#) born in the United States each year – almost 120,000 babies – will have a birth defect. The cause of most birth defects is unknown and not all can be prevented. However, women can take preventive steps to lower their risk of giving birth to a baby with birth defects. See below for prevention resources to share with your Healthy Start clients.



Prevent to Protect

The National Birth Defects Prevention Network's (NBDPN) "Prevent to Protect" packet outlines important information about preventing infections during pregnancy that can result in birth defects. For a shorter resource to share with clients, the CDC has a helpful [list of 5 tips](#) for preventing birth defects.



Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASDs) are a group of conditions that result from prenatal exposure to alcohol. Click [here](#) to learn about the types of conditions that fall under FASD and the available treatments for babies born with FASDs. The CDC also offers a wealth of resources and trainings for professionals and the public.



Smoking & Pregnancy

Smoking during pregnancy increases the risk of birth defects and is known to damage babies' hearts, lungs and brains. It is also tied closely to preterm



Alcohol & Substance-Exposed Pregnancy Prevention

The Healthy Start Technical Assistance Center designed [AStEPP materials](#) to help community health

birth and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). [NICHQ's Insight into smoking and pregnancy](#) describes the obstacles to smoking cessation among women in marginalized communities and highlights methods currently being tested to help women in this process.

Hosting or attending an exciting event or webinar?

We will use the EPIC Center [Training Calendar](#) to share information about events specifically planned for Healthy Start projects, as well as other relevant webinars, trainings, and other events that are open to the public. If you know of events or trainings that you think other Healthy Start projects should be aware of, please feel free to send information to healthystart@nichq.org.

workers in Healthy Start and home visitors learn more about prevention and early identification of fetal exposure to alcohol or other drugs. Materials include:

- [Self-Study resources](#), including an e-learning course on [Alcohol and Substance-Exposed Pregnancies](#); [Self-study Guide on State Legislation on Substance Use During Pregnancy](#);
- Staff development resources for groups, including six [Staff Meeting Training Packages](#); and
- Resources on [Substance Use During Pregnancy in Tribal Communities](#)

Have questions? Either respond to this email or contact the sender on healthystart@nichq.org

National Institute for Children's Health Quality (NICHQ), 308 Congress Street, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02210, United States, 617-391-2700

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