

helping children soar



PROJECT  
LAUNCH

# Project LAUNCH

## Newsletter

December 16, 2013



**Ohio**  
Department of Health

## Project LAUNCH Looking *Forward* to Year Five

Project LAUNCH is in its fifth and final year of the SAMHSA grant. In Year Five, the State Council will be focusing on implementing the Sustainability Plan created with the Local Council focusing on the issues and initiatives identified as the highest priority.

There have been significant accomplishments regarding promotion of health for young children within the four county LAUNCH region in Appalachian Ohio. Over **496 individual trainings** have been conducted for healthcare professionals across the region. These trainings include evidence based training programs such as Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Parents As Teachers, Motivational Interviewing, and Parent Child Interaction Therapy. Partnerships with large research facilities across the nation have been able to facilitate quality based training around the region. These partnerships include; Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Duke University, The University of Chicago, The University of Washington and Georgetown University.

Developmental Screenings and Assessment efforts continue to expand reach within the four county LAUNCH region. Since the inception of LAUNCH, it is estimated that approximately **11,429 children** have been screened for developmental delays. Ongoing professional trainings include both new and refresher trainings for participating physician offices, health departments, WIC clinics, mental health agencies, and schools systems. Training for physicians and other healthcare professionals include the importance of screening, screening reimbursement strategies, and improvement of workflow within each practice. Screenings include:



ASQ, ASQ:SE, MCHATS, and Edinburgh Depression Screenings. Care coordination and referrals within and across agencies in the region are estimated at over **1,200** since the inception of LAUNCH.

Through IPAC and Project LAUNCH, over **90 agencies** have been involved in strategies promoting early childhood health across the region over the past four years. In an isolated, rural area, the human capital and coordination of efforts to break down healthcare silos has been substantial. But significant progress has been made.

Our December 2nd State Council meeting focused on Year Five priority initiatives as well as specific outcomes over the past four years upon which we can build.

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# IPAC Child Health Conference

October 16, 2013



Over fifty professionals attended a Child Health Conference on October 16, 2013 in the Baker Center ballroom on the Ohio University campus in Athens, Ohio. The conference was hosted by the Appalachian Rural Health Institute (ARHI) and Integrating Professionals for Appalachian Children (IPAC). Geared toward professionals who work with Appalachian children, continuing education credits were given in the fields of Nursing, Psychology, Social Work, and Counseling. The event featured a keynote speaker and two breakout sessions in the afternoon.

Judy Cameron, Ph.D., Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh presented the keynote address, "The Effect of Toxic Stress on Children's Brain and Behavior". Dr. Cameron is well known in the field of brain research, and regularly lectures around the world. Dr. Cameron explained in detail what happens to the body when children experience stress, both acute and prolonged, during development and what that means for those children in adulthood. In the second half of her presentation Dr. Cameron had participants "build" a brain given materials she provided. The structure of the "brains" was determined by materials available for use given different child experience scenarios the builders were provided during the activity.

In the afternoon, presentations were given by local professionals to smaller groups. These presentations were: "Medical/Legal Partnership: Connection to Health," presented by Stephanie W. Harris, Director of Development at Ohio State Legal Services; "Uncovering Culturally Competent Approaches for Reaching Appalachian Women about Health Issues," presented by Holly Raffle, Ph.D., educational research and evaluation methodologist at the Ohio University Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, and Alison Murphy, R.D., L.D., clinical and

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lenges in Young Children," presented by Julie Sarno Owens, Ph.D., Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology and Co-Director of the Center for Intervention Research in Schools at Ohio University, and Nina Andrews, M.S. Attendees to the conference came from multiple counties, including: Athens, Meigs, Hocking, Fairfield, Franklin, Guernsey, and Scioto. IPAC and ARHI are pleased with the outcome and are ready to start preparing for next year's conference. Copies of the presentations can be obtained by contacting Jordon Giuliani at [giulianj@ohio.edu](mailto:giulianj@ohio.edu)

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# Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Grant



## ODH Update:

ODH's role in RttT is to provide Health Promotion Consultants (HPCs) who will be responsible for serving as content experts in the development of health-related Professional Development (PD); using evidence-based tools and standardized PD materials to address health needs of young children; and for delivering professional development on the Early Learning and Development Child Standards modules of Physical Well-being and Motor Development. The HPCs will become part of a multi-disciplinary team of trainers available to the Early Childhood workforce. The Ohio Child Care Resource & Referral Agency (OCCRRA) is overseeing the recruiting, hiring and management of the ODH's 12 regional Health Promotion Consultants.

As of November 15th, nine of the 12 health promotion consultants have been hired. OCCRRA is actively seeking candidates in Regions 1, 2 & 10 and has interviews scheduled; Region 10 includes Athens and Hocking Counties. Four Comprehensive Professional Development System (CPDS) Coordinator openings are also still posted in Regions 3, 7, 9, 12; LAUNCH area positions have been filled.

We need local LAUNCH leaders and organizations to get the word out to area professionals regarding the need for an HPC for the region that includes Athens and Hocking Counties. Please refer your colleagues who may be interested and qualified for the HPCs position in Region 10 to <http://occrra.org/employment2.php>.

Early Learning and Development Child Standards training state wide will begin in January, 2012; further information on this training will be provided when available.

For more information contact [Melissa.courts@odh.ohio.gov](mailto:Melissa.courts@odh.ohio.gov)

## Care Coordination



### Human Trafficking and Ohio School Nurses

The incidence of human trafficking is on the rise in Ohio, including the recruitment and use of children of all ages from Appalachian counties in Ohio. Governor John Kasich created a task force to address this issue. Because many trafficked children attend school every day, the task force identified school nurses as key figures in the prevention, identification and intervention in human trafficking among school children. As directed by the Governor's task force, the Ohio Department of Health School Nursing and Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Prevention programs recently collaborated to provide a one day training to school nurses about this topic. In preparation for the training, the programs convened a group of experts and developed the Ohio School Nurse Human Trafficking Protocol—the first of its kind in the nation. The protocol, with information about how to use it, was introduced at the June training. For our Regional School Nurse conferences, three school nurses from Athens County and one from Vinton County attended, and one nurse from Vinton County attended the June Human Trafficking conference. The online independent study training for nurses working in schools will be available at the end of the year, so additional nurses in the Project LAUNCH counties can take the course through Ohio TRAIN.

[http://www.healthyohioprogram.org/en/sadv/School\\_Nurses\\_Human\\_Trafficking\\_Protocol.aspx](http://www.healthyohioprogram.org/en/sadv/School_Nurses_Human_Trafficking_Protocol.aspx)

**National Human Trafficking Resource Center**

**Email: [NHTRC@PolarisProject.org](mailto:NHTRC@PolarisProject.org)**

**TOLL FREE 24 Hours/Day/7 Days/ Week**

**Confidential Interpreters available**

**1-888-3737-888**

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# Workforce Development

## AMCHP Partnering with University of North Carolina on New MCH Workforce Development Center



The Human Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau,

Division of Workforce Development awarded the University of North Carolina (UNC) Gillings School of Public Health \$5.5 million to start a national MCH Workforce Development Center. The UNC MCH Workforce Center will serve as a consolidated national hub for the program, engaging with key academic, policy and public health practice partners and providing workforce development to state Title V agencies in four core Affordable Care Act (ACA) areas related to health reform: access to care, quality improvement, systems integration and population health management. AMCHP will play a critical role in coordinating and disseminating training and technical assistance offered by the "cores" with state-level Title V staff and also housing virtual training and technical assistance opportunities on the AMCHP website via a new "MCH Transformation Station" portal. Additionally, AMCHP is the lead organization on the 'access to care' core. In addition to AMCHP, the UNC MCH Workforce Center will be working in collaboration with the Center for Public Health Quality, Boston University's Catalyst Center, the College of Public Health at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, the School of Public Health at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Howard University, the National Academy of State Health Policy, and The Catalyst Center. The MCH Workforce Development Center will help prepare future maternal and child health workers with skills and knowledge to succeed in the public health system under the ACA. The Center's research and technical assistance resources will be available

to Ohio's Project LAUNCH to especially support workforce development and systems integration.

Alice Wertheimer has been named the Program Coordinator for this Center. Please save the date for the UNC MCH Workforce Development Center launching at the AMCHP 2014 Annual Conference on Wednesday, January 29, 2014. Details coming soon!

