Center of Excellence for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation

Sample Needs Assessment

Contents

Sample Needs Assessment

States, Tribal Nations, and communities can use the template below to develop a needs assessment to gather information that will help drive development or strengthening of your IECMHC model. You may not have access to all the information below, but use this as a starting point to help gather information. The information you gather from a needs assessment will inform and drive future decisions and ensure that any actions you eventually take or join in are in line with needs that are expressed by the community.

The needs assessment should be done collaboratively, ensuring that the partners you want are included in this step. It may take several meetings to work through each section of the needs assessment.

Scope of Need: The Infant and Early Childhood Landscape

This section will help you gather information on your potential population for IECMHC services. The table below will help you gather data on the number of children by age range across state, regional, tribal, or community programs.

Population	Number of children served (infant/toddler)	Number of children served (preschool)	Number of children served (K–3)	Are representatives from this early childhood organization/group active partners?
Licensed Child Care				
Kith and Kin Care				
Public Preschool Programs				
Primary Care				

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Population	Number of children served (infant/toddler)	Number of children served (preschool)	Number of children served (K–3)	Are representatives from this early childhood organization/group active partners?
Home Visiting				
Part B and C[1]				
Women and Infant Care				
EPSDT Program[2]				
Foster Care				
Head Start/Early Head Start				
Family Child Care				

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[1] http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/partb/

[2] http://mchb.hrsa.gov/epsdt/epsdtbackground.pdf

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Population	Number of children served (infant/toddler)	Number of children served (preschool)	Number of children served (K–3)	Are representatives from this early childhood organization/group active partners?
Other:				

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Mental Health Needs of the Children Served

This section will help you gather information on services currently provided to children and families.

Services Provided	Children birth to 3 years	Children 3 to 5 years	Children 5 to 8 years
Percentage of children receiving services for social and emotional problems through EPSDT screens or well child visits			
Percentage of children expelled from childcare or schools due to behavioral problems			
Percentage of children receiving Medicaid-reimbursed mental health services			
Percentage of children in foster care			
Average rates of domestic violence in the targeted population			

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The Scope of Need: Early Childhood Workforce

This section will help you gather information on the current workforce and their capacity to support social and emotional health needs of young children and families as well as gaps in workforce development.

Population	Receives training on social and emotional development of: infants and toddlers? preschoolers– school age (K–3)?	Periodicity (how often)	Required to meet infant mental health or social and emotional health competencies as part of their job requirements?	Receives regular reflective supervision?	Retention rates of staff	Retention rates of families	Identified gaps within Early Childhood Workforce	Identified strengths within Early Childhood Workforce
Licensed Child Care								
Preschool Programs								
Primary Care								
Home Visiting								
Part B and C								

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Population	Receives training on social and emotional development of: infants and toddlers? preschoolers–school age (K–3)?	Periodicity (how often)	Required to meet infant mental health or social and emotional health competencies as part of their job requirements?	Receives regular reflective supervision?	Retention rates of staff	Retention rates of families	Identified gaps within Early Childhood Workforce	Identified strengths within Early Childhood Workforce
Women and Infant Care								
EPSDT Program								
Social Service Providers								
Other:								
Other:								
Other:								

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The Scope of Need: Mental Health Consultant Workforce

By answering the questions below you will gather information on strengths and gaps in the specialized workforce that might be tapped to provide IECMHC.

1. Is there a cadre of master's-prepared mental health professionals within the targeted region to meet the service needs?
2. Do mental health professionals have access to professionals within their organizations or privately that can provide clinical and reflective supervision?
3. Is there an endorsement process that mental health professionals can go through to attain and maintain a level of competence in infant, early childhood, and family mental health?
4. Are there regular opportunities for mental health professionals to receive training and shadowing in infant and early childhood mental health and consultation?
5. Identified needs and gaps within the workforce:
6. Identified strengths within the workforce:

Scope of Need: Social and Emotional/Mental Health Screening

This section will help you gather information on gaps and strengths for child and family screening efforts. Add additional partners as appropriate.

Population	Policy in place for social and emotional screening?	Percentage of children receiving regular social and emotional/behavioral screens	Screening for family substance abuse?	Screening for domestic violence?	Screening for maternal depression completed?	Identified gaps	Identified strengths
Licensed Child Care							
Preschool Programs							

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Population	Policy in place for social and emotional screening?	Percentage of children receiving regular social and emotional/behavioral screens	Screening for family substance abuse?	Screening for domestic violence?	Screening for maternal depression completed?	Identified gaps	Identified strengths
Primary Care							
Home Visiting							
Part B and C							
Women and Infant Care							
EPSDT Program							
Social Service Providers							
Other:							
Other:							
Other:							

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Scope of Need: Availability of Services and Supports

This section will help you gather information on current service capacity to support social and emotional health needs of young children and families.

Services and Supports	What settings are served (e.g., home visiting, primary care, pre-school)?	Do services cover your target population?	Services offered	Eligibility requirements	Ages served (e.g., infants and toddlers, preschoolers)	Funding source and timeframe of funding (e.g., five-year grant)	Provided by qualified provider?	Service uses evidence-based practices?	Service is culturally sensitive and equitable for all children?	Identified gaps	Identified strengths
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Social and Emotional Training/ Coaching for Staff											
Social and Emotional Training/ Coaching for Families											

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Services and Supports	What settings are served (e.g., home visiting, primary care, pre-school)?	Do services cover your target population?	Services offered	Eligibility requirements	Ages served (e.g., infants and toddlers, preschoolers)	Funding source and timeframe of funding (e.g., five-year grant)	Provided by qualified provider?	Service uses evidence-based practices?	Service is culturally sensitive and equitable for all children?	Identified gaps	Identified strengths
Therapeutic Services for Children and Families											
Reflective Supervision for Staff											
Support Groups for Families											
Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment for Families											

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Services and Supports	What settings are served (e.g., home visiting, primary care, pre-school)?	Do services cover your target population?	Services offered	Eligibility requirements	Ages served (e.g., infants and toddlers, preschoolers)	Funding source and timeframe of funding (e.g., five-year grant)	Provided by qualified provider?	Service uses evidence-based practices?	Service is culturally sensitive and equitable for all children?	Identified gaps	Identified strengths
Other:											

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