

helping children soar



**PROJECT
LAUNCH**

Project LAUNCH

Newsletter

June 2014



Ohio
Department of Health

Integrating Professionals for Appalachian Children (IPAC) Receives \$900,000 Grant



Integrating Professionals for Appalachian Children (IPAC) has been awarded a federal grant of nearly \$1 million to help connect southeast Ohio families with primary care providers and to strengthen and expand IPAC programs that improve access to essential health care services for children.

Since 2002, the nonprofit group has helped coordinate health and wellness programs involving several community agencies in the region as well as Ohio University's Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, College of Health Sciences and Professions, Scripps College of Communication, and the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs.

"IPAC is a rural health network, with the vision of ensuring healthy development for all kids, achieved by integrating and leveraging the resources of our participating community agencies and university colleges," said Jane Hamel-Lambert, Ph.D., M.B.A., principal investigator on the grant. Dr. Hamel-Lambert, an associate professor in the Department of Family Medicine at the Heritage College, has provided leadership for IPAC since its inception. "With these funds, we hope to provide future sustainability for IPAC, enabling us to continue strengthening the system of care in our community to address the social, emotional and health needs of southeast Ohio."

The Rural Health Network Development Program, which is administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), will provide \$300,000 a year for the next three years to IPAC. In addition to supporting organizational development for the network, the HRSA grant will establish interprofessional care teams to work with families and those providing foster care to address the developmental, behavioral and health concerns of children who have experienced trauma. IPAC will also use this opportunity to inform and educate the community and our regional health systems about situations and events that may lead to emotional and developmental trauma.

Additionally, the funds will promote the healthy development of infants by supporting increased access to lactation services and tobacco cessation intervention for pregnant women. For families who frequently use the local emergency department because they don't have a regular doctor, efforts will be made to connect families with primary care providers.

"Optimal care can only be provided by a primary care physician who manages the child's health, not just his or her illness," said Sue Meeks, R.N.-BC, manager of the Family Navigator Program and member of IPAC's Board of Directors. Meeks has long recognized the need to educate families about the differences in the health delivery system. *(Continued on page 2)*

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Measles? Mumps? Aren't they a thing of the past? You may be aware that there have been outbreaks of both measles and mumps here in the state of Ohio recently. It is always important to wash your hands, cover your cough and stay home when you are sick—this prevents the spread of many illnesses. When it comes to measles and mumps, the best way to avoid illness is to be properly vaccinated.

While children must be vaccinated to enter school, some children are behind on the recommended schedule of vaccines, which puts them at risk for illness in an outbreak. Immunization requirements for school may be found on the Ohio Department of Health website at <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/~media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/dis/immunizations/summary-childcareschool14.ashx> If you or your child are behind on immunizations, the “catch up” schedule may be found on the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/child-adolescent.html>

Full immunization of children and adults protects not only them, but also those too young to be vaccinated or those with illnesses that prevent them from being vaccinated. Don't forget to be vaccinated against flu in the fall!

For more information contact:
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Integrating Professionals for Appalachian Children receives \$900,000 grant

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Since its inception, IPAC (www.ipacohio.org) has received more than \$5 million in federal funding and has developed six clinical initiatives that range from providing education and advocacy for families to addressing the behavioral and emotional health needs of children. A recipient of the Distinguished Rural Health Program Award from the Ohio Department of Health, the IPAC network consists of multiple agencies in southeast Ohio, including several Ohio University departments and clinics. Ohio University is the founding member of the network.

The Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine is a leader in training dedicated primary care physicians who are prepared to address the most pervasive medical needs in the state and the nation. Approximately 50 percent of Heritage College alumni practice in primary care and nearly 60 percent practice in Ohio.

The HRSA grant will build and support continuation of selected Project LAUNCH early childhood development initiatives.

For more information about the grant, contact Jane Hamel-Lambert, PhD, MBA at hamel-lj@ohio.edu



Integration

On March 5, 2014, Sherry Shamblin, Ph.D., PCC-S, the Chief of Behavioral Health Operations at Hopewell Health Centers, Inc. and Dawn Graham, Ph.D. Young Child Wellness Council Coordinator and Assistant Professor of Family Medicine at the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, presented a workshop titled, " Behavioral Health-Primary Care Integration to Improve Child Wellness: A Clinical and Business Perspective" at the Children's Mental Health Research and Policy Conference in Tampa, FL. Participants included early childhood mental health professionals, teachers, policy makers, and researchers from around the world showcasing the latest trends and practices in child health and wellness. Drs. Shamblin and Graham and Samantha Shafer, LISW-S, MSW were asked to teach an intensive workshop at the upcoming Georgetown Training Institute on the same topic to educators and researchers across the nation in July of 2014.

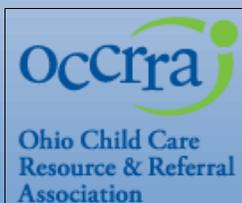


Workforce Development

Funding from the Race to the Top, Early Learning Challenge Grant has allowed The Ohio Child Care Resource & Referral Association (OCCRRA) to develop trainings that will be offered face-to-face as well as online. The online courses will allow professionals to take the content online at their own pace for a specific period of time followed by a webinar where they will discuss and collaborate with peers on how to put the information into practice in their classrooms. These trainings are English Language Learners, Technology in the Classroom, and Screening and Assessment. The content in the English Language Learners modules takes a look at various languages spoken in early childhood classrooms throughout Ohio, how to differentiate your instruction for ELL students, how to encourage family engagement in the learning process and also suggestions for how to implement various best practices in the classroom. The content in the Technology in the Classroom modules will focus on how to integrate technology into the early childhood classroom as well as providing examples of how teachers are already using technology and how they can enhance those activities that they already use. The content in the Screening and Assessment modules will help teachers and administrators understand the screening and assessment process as well as help them identify an appropriate tool for their center.

For more information, contact

Jenifer Garey or e-mail jgarey@ocrra.org



Title V Maternal and Child Health Five-Year Needs Assessment

The Division of Family and Community Health Services kicked off its Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Needs Assessment (NA) process with a stakeholder survey which many of you completed. The purpose of the survey was to identify emerging health related trends and needs not being met across the state. The survey results have been compiled and a summary fact sheet and full report are available at: http://www.odh.ohio.gov/landing/phs_access/MCH%20Block%20Grant.aspx.

Results of the consumer and family survey will be released on June 30, 2014. Information from both surveys will be used in a prioritization process to help determine the top unmet health-related MCH needs across the state.

The next step in the NA process is to conduct **10 Regional Community Based Forums** around the state. An invitation with more information about each regional forum is located at http://www.odh.ohio.gov/en/landing/phs_access/MCH%20Block%20Grant. Registration for a community forum is available by clicking here <https://odhmchcommunityforums.eventbrite.com>.

The information and perspectives provided at the forums will guide the Ohio Department of Health in identifying the most critical MCH priorities and aligning MCH funding with those priorities for the five years beginning in October, 2015.

For questions, or more information on the needs assessment process, contact theresa.seagraves@odh.ohio.gov



Congratulations to Drs. Dawn Graham and Jane Hamel-Lambert on the publication of their article "*Examining Antecedents of Caregivers' Access to Early Childhood Developmental Screening: Implications for Campaigns Promoting Use of Services in Appalachian Ohio*" in **Health Promotion Practice**, May 2014 Volume 15 Issue 3, 413-421.

Wednesday, July 2
1:00—4:00 pm

IPAC / Local Council Meeting
541 State Route 664, Suite C
Logan, OH 343138

Wednesday, August 6
1:00—4:00 pm

IPAC / Local Council Meeting
Herbert Westcoat Memorial Library
120 North Market Street
McArthur, OH 45651

Wednesday, September 3
1:00—4:00 pm

IPAC / Local Council Meeting
Meigs County District Public Library
216 West Main Street
Pomeroy, OH 45769