



~Why is Developmental Screening Important?~

- Nationally, 13% of children have a developmental or behavioral disability like autism, intellectual disabilities, or ADHD
- 28% of Maine children in 2013 with disabilities were not identified before entering school
- Current research indicates that 1 out of 68 children have an autism spectrum disorder
- Surveillance, like *Bright Futures*, detects less than 30% of children with developmental disabilities
- Screening tools completed by families (like ASQ-3) proven to have a 97% accuracy rate indicating that parents really do know best
- Screening is becoming more important to those working with young children and their families; in 2011, based on MaineCare claims only 1-3% of children ages birth to three were developmentally screened and most recent data (FY 2014) shows an increase in developmental screening with 18-26% of children ages birth to three being screened
- For those involved in the Health Home initiative, developmental screening is a metric being tracked on utilization reports
- Screening is conducted across community-based programs; Maine Families, Public Health Nursing and Head Start all conducted developmental screenings
- Early identification means better outcomes for children in educational and social settings