OEC Sparkler Initiative

A pilot with Early Care and other providers to help improve child developmental screening, communication, and promotion with families through interactive app-based technology
Sparkler Initiative Goals:
- Reducing barriers to developmental screening
- Building family engagement in early screening, observation, and promotion activities
- Strengthening referral and linkage, including connection and communication between agencies (i.e. sharing reports with early care centers)

Pilot and PDG Expansion
- Existing pilot working in Hartford and Bridgeport to serve up to 2000 Children
- Recently awarded Pre-School Development Grant (PDG) allows expansion to 3-4 additional communities

Current Pilot Partners:
Sparkler will help providers partner with parents to get young children ready for learning and life by addressing 3 questions:

1. How is this child doing?
2. What can I do to help this child thrive?
3. Who else can help?
How is this child doing?

1. Measurement
   • Mobile ASQ-3 and ASQ:SE
   • Play observations
   • ASQ follow-up reports for parents and for early learning providers
What can I (as a parent or provider) do to help this child thrive?

2. Content delivery

- Library of research-informed, off-screen experiences
- Positive parenting content
- Personalized playbook based on child’s progress and passions, available to providers and parents
Who else can help?

3. Connection

• Chat-based coaching, including for families taking the ASQ and flagged for monitoring
• Child-centered messaging tools for the overall initiative, for early care providers, and for families
In partnership with CDI, Sparkler supports multi-tiered supports, so that all families get support with the individual development of their child.

1. Introduction and encouragement of families (postcards, email/text links)

2. Parent Registration and ASQ completion (including privacy disclosure)

3. Follow-up for families with parent concerns

Ongoing for families:
- Play activities
- Messaging (Sparkler, community, & program)
- Coaching to families in monitor

Local Community Providers
To build an inter-connected system of support, Sparkler supports communication and data-sharing between organizations.

Local Community Providers

- Initial privacy disclosures include local providers as Sparkler “Sponsoring Partners”
- Providers can access Sparkler dashboards, with ASQ and play reporting (see appendix)
- Parent friendly ASQ reports for all parents provided to providers for distribution to and/or conferencing with parents (see appendix)

• Provider recorded as a caregiver for 211 referral, so notified of follow up from CDI for families with concerns

Sparkler ASQ data entered directly in 211 CDI’s ASQ data system
Opportunity for local communities providers...

- Easy access to screening for parents and providers
- Closing the loop: dashboard reporting of ASQ results, linkage to support through 211 Child Development Infoline, and parent ASQ reports delivered to provider
- Parent activity, education, and communication tools
- Participation incentives (TBD)

Ask of providers...

- Encourage family participation in screening, both initially and in follow up
- Experiment with use of Sparkler as tool for developmental screening and promotion

Search “Play Sparkler” and use code 1 - 2 - 0 -3