

Changing
THE WAY WE
care

**Toolkit for
Disability
Inclusion in
Care Reform**

**INTRODUCTION TO
IDENTIFICATION OF
DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY AND
DISABILITY**



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



MacArthur
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By the end of this workshop you will understand...



...why early identification and early intervention can help give a child the opportunity to maximise their developmental potential and quality of life

...the purpose of the International Classification of Functioning, and the UNICEF/Washington Group Child Functioning Module

...methods for identifying children with developmental delay and disability in your community

...methods to minimise the impact of developmental delay and disability on children

Defining disability



- Impairment – a problem in body function or structure,
- An activity limitation – a difficulty encountered by an individual in executing a task or action, and
- Participation restriction – a problem experienced by an individual in involvement in life situations.
- A child may experience one or any combination of these three designations and that these may change throughout the life-course;
- People can be born with a disability, or they can acquire it

What do we mean by *early identification* and *early intervention*?

Identify any delays in meeting **developmental milestones**

- These are the things that most children can do by a certain age, like sitting, crawling, walking, smiling, waving, talking

Get children the help they need **early**

- Milestones can help to identify a child who needs an assessment to find out what help they need
- Early intervention services: speech therapy, physical therapy and preschool or early childhood program
- There are also activities/stimulation that caregivers can do at home



Why are early identification and intervention important?

UNCRC the right to life, survival and development

UNCRPD Article 25 (b) Provide...early intervention and identification...and services designed to minimize and prevent further disability...

UNCRPD Article 26 Comprehensive habilitation and rehabilitation services (a) Begin at the earliest possible stage; and (b) Support participation and inclusion...

Evidence consistently demonstrates that children identified with a developmental delay or disability at an early age have improved long-term outcomes, across both functioning and life satisfaction



Assessment, screening & diagnosis

EARLY ASSESSMENT– the systematic monitoring of children’s early growth and development to identify any developmental delay; it will increase the chances for early intervention and minimise the effect of any delay

NEWBORN SCREENING– the testing of every newborn child to detect potential disease or specific condition indicators; benefits should justify the costs because a large number of infants will be screened to identify a few potential cases

DIAGNOSIS - the process of establishing the presence or absence of a specific disease or condition and subsequent treatment interventions; attributing specific diagnosis in the case of disability may be difficult, especially where intellectual impairment may be present



The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health

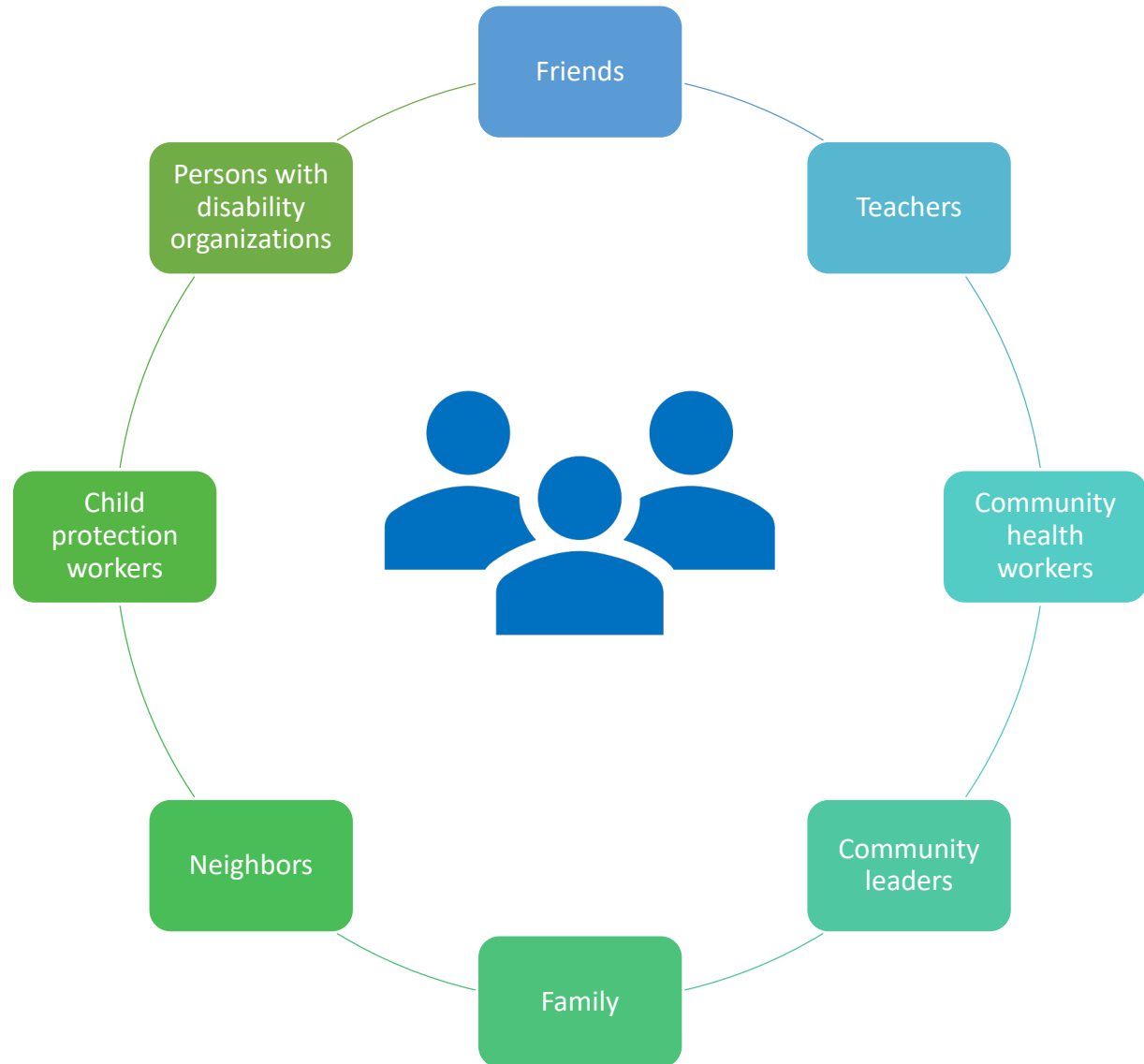
*“Information about **functioning and disability** is essential for statistical use, health and social policy, advocacy and clinical use...However, **good statistics depend on standards**, and in today’s interlinking information systems, there is a clear need for data harmonization for comparability and ease of access. The ICF is the internationally agreed standard.”* The World Health Organization

“The Washington Group/UNICEF Module on Child Functioning, finalized in 2016, covers children between 2 and 17 years of age and assesses functional difficulties in different domains...The set of questions is intended for use in national household surveys and censuses.” UNICEF

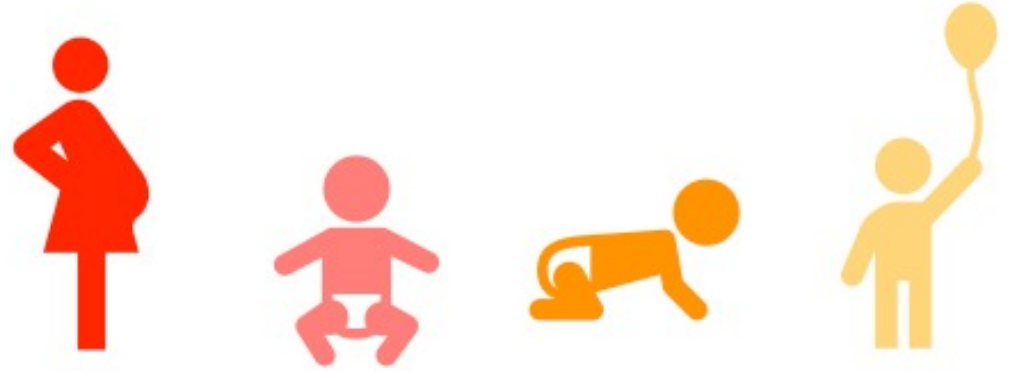


Talking to people in your community

- Positive and inclusive language
- Strengths based
- Identify allies



Assessment



- Standard assessment tools for children and families which are part of your current case management system. This will include the assessment of the families living conditions and child-family relationships
- Checklists specifically developed to quickly assess developmental delay in children
- Assessment tools which can be used by more experienced practitioners
- Assessment is usually undertaken by a team of specialists
- Some tools are meant to be used by caregivers themselves

Early intervention services



- Training for medical staff in general disability issues
- Immediate referral to habilitation & rehabilitation services
 - Physiotherapy
 - Occupational therapy
 - Speech therapy
- Information and support for families
- Advice on nutrition and feeding
- Referral to family support groups
- Specialist home-visiting services for children with disabilities
- Referral for medical treatment
- Learning through play

Towards community-based inclusive development



Community-Based Rehabilitation
CBR Guidelines



Not designed exclusively for children, however they...

- Provide guidance on how to develop and strengthen CBR programmes
- Promote CBR as a strategy for community-based development involving people with disabilities
- Support stakeholders to meet the basic needs and enhance the quality of life of people with disabilities and their families
- Encourage the empowerment of people with disabilities and their families

Development through Play



Link provided in notes

What did you learn?



- Why early identification and early intervention can help give a child the opportunity to maximise their developmental potential and quality of life
- The methods for identifying children with developmental delay and disability in your community
- The importance of teams in early identification and early intervention
- The methods to minimise the impact of developmental delay and disability on children

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Need to know more?

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