

Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) - Neuro Developmental Disabilities (NDD) - Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) System of Care

In 2017, MDHHS was allocated funding to focus on children/youth with FASD and their families and to ensure appropriate interventions are available in Community Mental Health Services Programs. In 2019, the name of the initiative was changed to SED-NDD Initiative with a focus on the FASD System of Care.

Recent research indicates that previously accepted prevalence rates are incorrect and that the more accurate rate indicates prevalence at 1/20 children are affected by prenatal alcohol exposure <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2671465> . FASD is twice as prevalent as Autism Spectrum Disorder and Down's Syndrome. Further, alcohol is the most damaging substance of abuse compared with marijuana, methamphetamine, opioids, and heroin.

The SED-NDD Initiative includes:

- Training to improve children's mental health providers understanding of FASD and its impact on a child and their family.
- Training and implementation of a standardized FASD screening and assessment protocol for CMHSP providers within the FASD System of Care.
- Training and implementation of selected evidence-based and evidence-informed programs for clinical staff to intervene with families with children with a probable FASD at different developmental stages (young children, school-aged children, adolescents).

We continue to explore and pilot evidence-based and evidence-informed services for inclusion in the FASD System of Care through review the literature on evidence-based models to be used to benefit the children and families served in the FASD system of care

- Implementation of the FASD System of Care with CMHSP children's services providers across the state.

As of 2021, the FASD System of Care is being implemented in within the community mental health system in five Michigan counties – Genesee, Macomb, Muskegon, Oakland, and Ottawa.

The SED-NDD Initiative also provides training statewide on children/youth with SED-NDD with an emphasis on FASD for parents and community partners such as child welfare staff, substance use providers, Juvenile Justice providers, legal, education and medical staff, and an array of interested others.

The

Further information about upcoming statewide trainings is available at [Serious Emotional Disturbance – Neuro Developmental Disabilities Initiative \(SED-NDD\) – events.mphi.org](https://www.mph.org/events/serious-emotional-disturbance-neuro-developmental-disabilities-initiative-sed-ndd)

The Initiative has developed a brief video overviewing FASD and its impact on children. The video includes current prevalence data on FASD as well as the neurodevelopmental view on working with children and youth with an FASD. Please use the link below to access the five minute video.

<https://youtu.be/659pUb2YpU0>

State of Michigan Resources:

Information about FASD Prevention is available at [MDHHS - Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder \(michigan.gov\)](https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs)

Further information about substance use programs is available at www.michigan.gov/bhrecovery

Additional Resources:

Additional resource for families, individuals, and professionals can be found at:

Michigan Coalition for Fetal Alcohol Resources, Education, and Support (MCFARES) this resource provides information on FASD education and intervention, foster care and adoption of children with FASD, FASD prevention, physical and behavioral health, FASD equal justice - www.mcfares.org

National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome - NOFAS works to prevent prenatal exposure to alcohol, drugs, and other substances known to harm fetal development by raising awareness and supporting women before and during their pregnancy, and supports individuals, families, and communities living with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASDs) and other preventable intellectual/developmental disabilities. <https://nofas.org/>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) - As the nation's health protection agency, CDC saves lives and protects people from health threats. To accomplish this mission, CDC conducts critical science and provides health information that protects our nation against expensive and dangerous health threats and responds when these arise. <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/fasd/index.html>

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) - This guide reviews screening tools for alcohol use and interventions for pregnant women and women of childbearing age to prevent fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD). <https://www.samhsa.gov/resource/ebp/tip-58-addressing-fetal-alcohol-spectrum-disorders-fasd>