

Issue

In March 2013, the United States Department of Health and Human Services presented data that the 2011-2012 prevalence of diagnosed autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in children aged 6-17 was 2.0%, or 1 in 50 children. Understanding that children with ASD and their families need access to quality services and support, the State Public Health Autism Resource Center (SPHARC) in partnership with the Interdisciplinary Technical Assistance Center on Autism and Developmental Disabilities (ITAC), developed a multi-day workshop to encourage MCHB-funded grantees to develop and strengthen existing partnerships and to share resources and information that would ultimately lead to more effective systems of care.

SPHARC/ITAC Interdisciplinary Peer-to-Peer Exchange

Since 2008, AMCHP's SPHARC has organized the Peer-to-Peer Exchange Programs as a mechanism for states to learn from one other about building systems of care for children and youth with autism, share lessons learned and best practices, and develop plans of action for moving ahead. In 2013, for the first time, the SPHARC Peer-to-Peer Exchange was organized in partnership with AUCD's ITAC to encourage the two networks to share data collection strategies, combine efforts to evaluate their impact on children and families with ASD and build upon existing partnerships. ASD/DD and LEND grantees from nine states (CO, CT, GA, ME, MD, OH, TN, UT, VT) participated in the exchange, which was co-hosted by Connecticut and Maine.

Objectives:

- Identify effective methods of collecting useful data for evaluation of CAAI supported activities within states;
- Share strategies for successful use of data to build and evaluate systems and to drive policy development for children and youth with ASD/DD;
- Promote strategic partnerships and collaboration around CAAI evaluation; and
- Assist in the development of an action plan for exchange state teams around data collection and evaluation

Data Collection Strategies

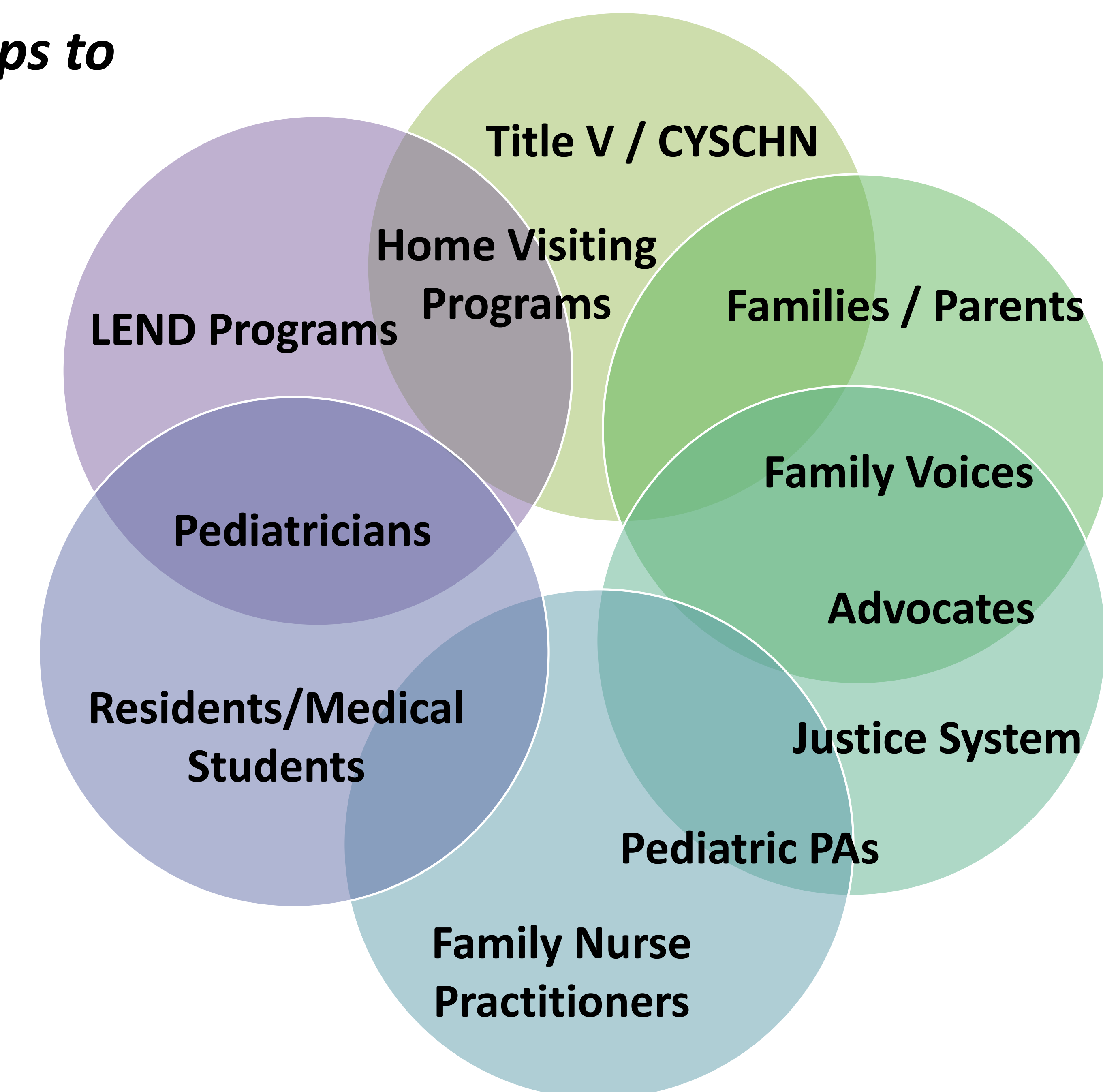
Peer-to-Peer participants shared several data collection strategies, including:

- Work with family support and state agencies on coding of data
- Collaborate to provide standardized training
- Form Interagency workgroups
- Build cross system measures
- Develop family and provider surveys
- Explore availability of Medicaid data
- Expand ASD registries
- Consider developmental screening repositories

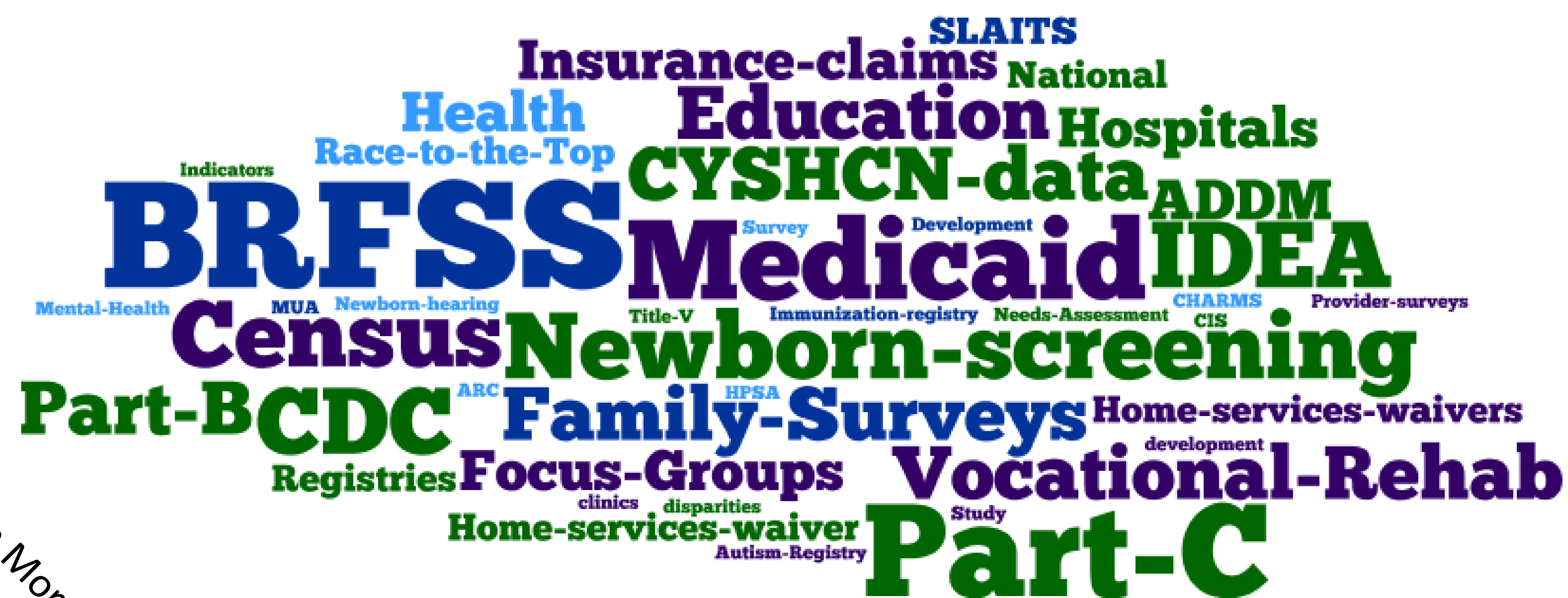
Strategic & Innovative Partnerships

How do we build partnerships to further these efforts?

- Community Conversations
- Training Networks
- Learning Collaboratives
- Autism Team Networks
- Parent Partners
- Creative Messaging
- Conferences / Grand Rounds



Common Data Sources



"We need to find a way to translate data in a way that will allow families to understand the importance of sharing information. We need to look at the benefits to all our customers."



Access resources from the Peer-to-Peer Exchange at:
www.amchp.org/SPHARC
>>Peer-to-Peer
>>Connecticut-Maine D.A.T.A 2013