

**MA Act Early State Team Spring
Conference and Summit**

**Improving the Early Identification and
Intervention of Neurodevelopmental
Disorders and Autism in Underserved
and Culturally Diverse Children**

**Friday April 21, 2017
UMass Medical School
Worcester, MA
Faculty Conference Room**



Sponsored by:

**MA Act Early; CDC Act Early campaign; UMass Memorial
Children Medical Center (CMC) and Division of
Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics at the CMC**

DESCRIPTION:

This is a one-day conference and summit of the MA Act Early State Team for early childhood providers, advocates and healthcare providers. The conference will share important information about the CDC Act Early campaign and Learn the Signs Act Early materials (LTSAE), resources and important information about screening and monitoring of developmental milestones and early identification and treatment in young children from underserved communities. The conference will include keynote presentations by experts in autism screening and autism screening in minorities, as well as a language access attorney. MA, RI and NJ CDC Act Early Ambassadors will share their programs and updates and a panel including early childhood providers from Early Intervention, Women Infants and Children, Early Education and Care, and Head Start will highlight difficulties and strategies developed to reach underserved children.

TARGET AUDIENCE:

This conference is designed for and will benefit early childhood educators, early childhood providers, health care providers and allied health care professionals working with young children.

REGISTRATION FEE.....\$25

Registration fee includes: admission to the day long symposium and activities, a light breakfast, lunch, morning and afternoon snacks; a parking voucher is also included. A certificate of attendance will be provided.

Registration deadline: Wednesday April 10, 2017

Space is limited. Please complete the registration form and mail it back with a check payable to: University of Massachusetts Medical School.

Mailing address:

UMass Memorial Children's Medical Center
C/o Andrea Pastick
Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics
55 Lake Avenue North, Suite S4-301
Worcester, MA 01655

QUESTIONS: Please email Andrea Pastick Andrea.Pastick@umassmemorial.org or call 774-442-3028 #3

AGENDA

- 8:00 am Registration**
- 8:30 am Welcome and Announcements**
Roula Choueiri, MD; CDC Act Early Ambassador to MA; MA Act Early State Team Interim Leader; Division Chief, Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics
- 8:45 am Keynote Speaker: Deborah Fein, PhD**
Disparities in Screening for Autism in Toddlers
- 9:45 am CDC Act Early and Teams updates**
9:45 MA: Roula Choueiri, MD
10:10 RI: Stacey Aguiar, MPH, CHES
10:35 NJ: Deepa Srinivasavaradan
- 11:00 am Break**
- 11:15 am Keynote Speaker: Thyde Dumont-Mathieu, MD, MPH**
Bridging the Gap: Early Identification and Early Intervention for Underserved Children within the Medical Home
- 12:15 pm Lunch**
- 1:15 pm Keynote Speaker: Tere Ramos-Dunne, Esq.**
Bridges, not Walls: Creating Access for Immigrant Families to Ensure Best Outcomes
- 2:15 pm MA Healthy People 2020: Autism Road map report : Elaine Gabovitch, DPH, Division Director Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs**
- 2:45pm: Break**
- 3:00 pm MA Early Childhood Providers Panel: “Reaching and providing developmental monitoring and surveillance in the underserved: Challenges and strategies”. Moderator: Joan Rafferty, OTRL.**
Panel will include representatives from Early Intervention, WIC, Head Start, CFCE-Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Program.
- 4:15 pm Wrap up and putting it all together:**
Group discussion: lessons learned, where do we go from here? Evaluations

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Deborah Fein, PhD is a neuropsychologist and Professor of Psychology and Pediatrics at UConn and has published more than 150 articles and chapters on autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Her major contributions span a number of areas, including characterizing children who show optimal outcomes after diagnosis and treatment for autism, screening to promote early detection of autism and developing theoretical models of autism. She edited a volume, *The Neuropsychology of Autism* in 2011, is a co-author of the Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (M-CHAT), and the M-CHAT, Revised. She also published a book for educators on adapting classroom strategies for children with autism (*Autism in Your Classroom*), and her newest book, *Activity Kit for Babies and Toddlers at Risk* for parents was first place winner of the *American Journal of Nursing* Book of the Year Award, Child Health Category in 2016. She is currently developing a website that will be available for free to parents, to teach them principles of behavioural teaching and stimulating attachment.

Thyde Dumont-Mathieu, MD, MPH is a Board Certified Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrician who has been in practice for over fourteen years. Her clinical subspecialty is in ASD. Her research interests include ASD, Health Services and Health Equity. She has been working with Dr. Deborah Fein on validation and revision of the M-CHAT since 2003. She collaborates with Dr. Marcella Nunez Smith, an internist and the Executive Director of the Equity Research and Innovation Center, at Yale since 2009. She is part of an Autism Research Collaborative at CT Children’s Medical Center and UConn. Her current research study, *Strategies to Promote Culturally Effective Screening, Referral and Service Provision in Primary Care Practices and Birth to Three Programs*, funded by the CT Health Foundation, is a collaborative effort between CT Children’s Medical Center and the state’s Early Intervention Program.

Tere Ramos-Dunne, Esq. is an education, children and civil rights attorney working at the MA Law Reform Institute, MA’s poverty law center, to assert the rights of limited English proficient (LEP) families across the state. Tere’s work focuses on issues related to children who have disabilities and who are also limited English proficient. Prior to MLRI, she worked as an attorney at the Disability Law Center (DLC), focusing on special education issues related to the Hispanic community across Massachusetts. Prior to joining DLC, Tere was the executive director of Special Education Advocates, a special education and disability advocacy focused on underserved LEP communities. Tere is currently serving appointments to the MA Board of Social Workers, the MA Autism Commission education sub-committee, and the MA SJC’s Access to Justice Committee’s sub-committee on administrative agencies. She is also the Chair of the MA Department of Education’s Special Education Advisory Committee.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name

Professional Degree/Certification

Association/Program of work

Email Address

Phone Number

Information for Badge

Employer name

Work City, State

Please select if special diet is required:

- Vegetarian Gluten Free

Registration deadline: Wednesday, April 10, 2017

SPACE IS LIMITED

Payment should be in the form of a check payable to: University of Massachusetts Medical School

Mailing address:

UMass Memorial Children's Medical Center
C/o Andrea Pastick
Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics
55 Lake Avenue North, Suite S4-301
Worcester, MA 01655