



## **Developmental and Social Emotional Screening through Help Me Grow – Long Island**

**What is Help Me Grow – Long Island?** Help Me Grow – Long Island is a partnership connecting families and providers to community resources and child development information in Nassau and Suffolk counties, with the mission of promoting optimal development of Long Island's young children.

**What is developmental screening?** A developmental screening is a formal research-based instrument that asks questions about a child's development, including language, motor, cognitive, social and emotional development. A screening does not provide a diagnosis, rather, it indicates if a child is on track developmentally and if close monitoring, further evaluation, or intervention is warranted.

**What is social emotional screening?** Social-emotional development is a child's ability to experience, express, and manage emotions; develop positive relationships with caregivers and others; and explore their environment with curiosity and confidence. Social-emotional screening is an applied method for detecting and monitoring signals that indicate whether a young child may be delayed in aspects of social-emotional development, such as communication, autonomy, affect, and interaction with people.

**Why is screening important?** One in seven children have a developmental delay. The earlier delays are caught and addressed, the more likely a child is to get back on track with their development in time for school. While observation alone catches about 30% of delays, standardized screening tools capture 70-80% of delays. That is why it is important to screen ALL children, not just children you suspect of having a delay.

**Why should I screen?** As provider, you are dedicated to engaging and supporting the development and wellbeing of children, and you are a key partner with the families of the children you serve. You may also be the first to observe potential delays or know what to do when there is a concern. If developmental concerns are caught early, you can help ensure that children receive the extra support they need while in your care and are linked to the appropriate services. Offering screening can also support conversations with parents around concerns.

### **Why should I screen through Help Me Grow – Long Island?**

Help Me Grow – Long Island provides screens, training, and access to an online data management system. This allows you to:

- Access screens, learning activities, activity sheets, and letter templates for communicating with families
- Automatically score and interpret screening results
- Create your own web link to send to families to complete the screen online
- Keep records on how the children in your program are doing, and track tasks such as referring for an evaluation, providing new screens, or discussing concerns with families
- See trends in how children at your site are developing, which can be used to inform your curriculum or for reports

**To Contact Help Me Grow – Long Island Directly:**

Call: 516-548-8924

Visit: [www.helpmegrownny.org](http://www.helpmegrownny.org)

Email: [info@hmgli.org](mailto:info@hmgli.org)



### **Will it cost me money?**

No! We use the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3) for the developmental screen, and the Ages and Stages Questionnaire- Social Emotional (ASQ-SE) for a social emotional screen. You would typically have to pay for the screens and system from the publisher, Brookes Publishing, but Help Me Grow – Long Island covers the cost of screening and training so you can offer this service to the families you serve.

### **I already screen. Why should I partner with Help Me Grow – Long Island?**

Help Me Grow – Long Island provides access to the ASQ Online, which is a free online data system with multiple features. It provides easily downloadable copies of the ASQ-3 and ASQ-SE, along with activity sheets, tip sheets, and letter templates for parents and doctors; it allows you to create your own webpage for screening, if you would like to have an online option for the parents you serve to complete; it also allows you to see all of your screens in one place and run data reports, which can help you make more informed decisions about individual children and the families you serve as a whole. For example, if you see a trend of children in your program falling behind in their communication skills, you can use that to see how you can help families promote their child's language skills.

In addition, the Help Me Grow – Long Island partnership is building a regional database of how children on Long Island are growing and learning. This is important for Long Island to advocate for what we need to support our families. By connecting with Help Me Grow – Long Island about your screening efforts, you are contributing to our ability to better serve Long Island's families. (Please note, aggregate data from screening partners is used to identify trends but individual data is NEVER available for this purpose).

### **How do I screen through Help Me Grow – Long Island?**

1. Email [info@hmgli.org](mailto:info@hmgli.org) and indicate your interest in screening at your site.
2. You will set up a time to discuss screening at your site and complete a Partner Collaboration Plan to determine how best to do so.
3. We will schedule a time to train relevant staff.
4. You're trained and ready to go!

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