

Building a Network of Community Leaders to Support Early Developmental Screening: Minnesota Act Early Delegate network in Diverse Cultural Communities

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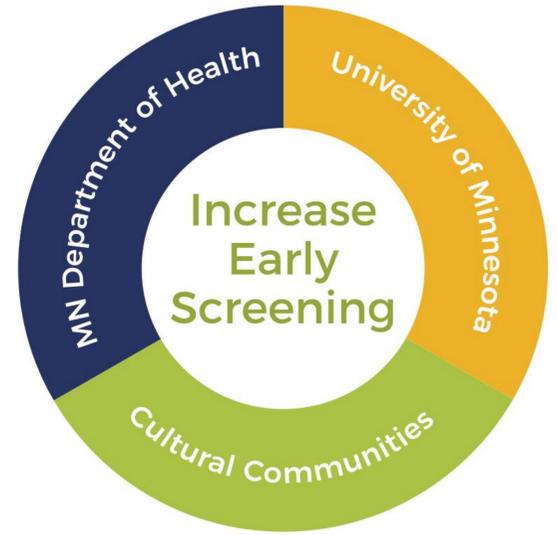


MN Act Early Delegate Project

PROJECT GOAL: To promote early developmental monitoring, screening and identification of developmental delays in diverse communities through outreach of the LTSAE campaign message.

Built a network of MN Act Early Delegates in diverse communities to promote child developmental milestones, screening, and connection to early referral system, Help Me Grow (HMG).

MN Act Early Team and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) contributed training in developmental milestones, screening, Help Me Grow/Act Early materials, and resources to support outreach.



Project Foundations

Cultural communities have the knowledge for effective outreach in their own cultural communities. Recruited parent leaders from diverse communities to conduct outreach directly within communities (Hmong, Somali, and Latino).

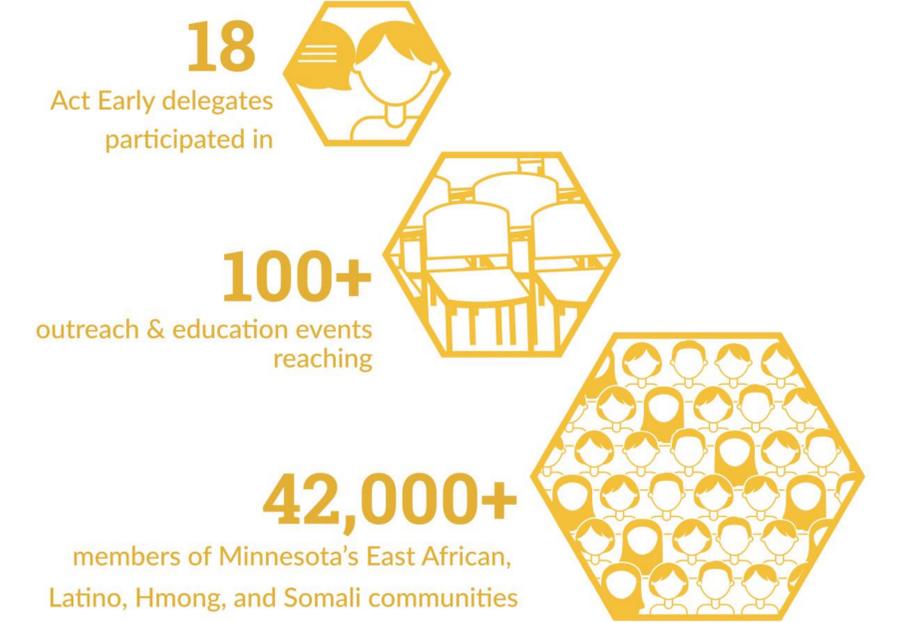
Partnerships with diverse community organizations to integrate Act Early messages and materials. Community partner organizations include Hmong Helping Hands, Somali Parent Partners, Mexican Consulate, Alianza Mujeres. Additional partnerships with MN-LEND and MN-ADDM projects.

MN Act Early Project Components

Identified key leaders within diverse communities to serve as Act Early Community Liaisons. Each Act Early liaison led a team of delegates in their cultural community. Act Early delegates conducted outreach on the MN Act Early message. Key project components:

- Recruit diverse community leaders
- Train parent community leaders
- Parent-to-parent outreach in communities
- Customize and translate Act Early materials
- Promotion of MN Early Referral (HMG)
- Cultural views on development webinars
- Public Service announcements on local radio stations (Spanish, Somali, Hmong)

MN Act Early Project Reach



MN Act Project Components

Conducted outreach at large community cultural events to family meetings in churches, mosques, community centers, etc. Examples of large outreach activities at major community cultural events such as:

- Hmong New Year Festival
- Somali Community Clinic Outreach
- Latino Church Outreach
- Head Start Family Outreach Nights
- Latino Health Fair Outreach
- Somali Parent Network Teleconference Network
- Somali, Hmong, Latino Act Early Radio Outreach

Project Evaluation & Outcomes

This project resulted in increased capacity and awareness of the signs of developmental delays. Parent leaders in diverse communities were developed. Partnerships with community organizations representing diverse communities. Examples of specific outputs include:

- Trained 18 MN Act Early Parent Community Leaders
- Customized Act Early Materials for diverse communities
- Developed numerous multimedia tools to promote early screening
- Integration of Act Early into diverse community organizations

