







# Better Together Learning Collaboratives

February 2023

# **Agenda**

- Brief overview of the Better Together project
- Review Better Together Learning Collaboratives framework
- Share resources & materials
- Discuss implementation strategies
- Indiana implementation example
- Questions?



# Better Together Overview (2019-2022)

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# Arizona Arkansas Indiana Mississippi Arkansas Cocilion for Obesity Plevention EARLING LAB

# **The Three Components of Better Together**



State-level Systems Change



**Learning Collaboratives** 



Statewide Go NAPSACC

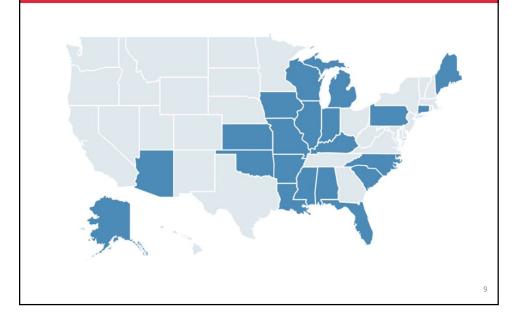
# **Go NAPSACC**



# **PURPOSE**

Support improvements to ECE environments that foster healthy eating, physical activity, and overall development in children

# **Go NAPSACC** is currently utilized in 21 states



# Who is eligible to use the Better Together Learning Collaborative materials?

- Any state with an active Go NAPSACC license.
- The current cost of Go NAPSACC contract is \$30k/year for unlimited statewide use. Email <a href="mailto:gonapsacc@unc.edu">gonapsacc@unc.edu</a> for more information.
- The Better Together Learning Collaboratives are facilitated by certified Go NAPSACC consultants.

\*Training and certification of consultants is free with a Go NAPSACC contract.

NOTE: The March 7 webinar will cover an Open-Source Learning Collaborative model that does not include Go NAPSACC and can be used by any state.

# What are the Better Together Learning Collaboratives?

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# **Better Together Learning Collaboratives**







## **Learning Collaboratives**

(to promote ECE program changes to support healthy development)

- Integrates the Go NAPSACC quality improvement process and tools into updated Nemours Children's ECE Learning Collaboratives.
- Materials adaptable for virtual or in-person delivery.

# Learning Collaborative Framework Community of learners Networking Sharing resources Exploring research Equitable support Self-Defined Leadership Team Owner/ Director Teacher Other Staff member Teacher

Learning Sessions	Interactive, educational and participatory sessions led by a Go     NAPSACC consultant(s)	
	Held at regular intervals over 3-4 months	
	•Focused on continuous improvement through the Go NAPSACC 5- step Improvement Process	
Action Periods	Go NAPSACC self-assessment of current practices to find strengths and areas for improvement	
	Leadership Team guides education and action planning for entire ECE program staff to lead to implementation of new healthy habits	
Technical Assistance	Consultant(s) work with small groups of ECE providers during sessions AND between sessions via phone, virtual meetings, email and/or in-person visits	
	Consultant(s) support program change through reminders, motivation, strategies, resources and links to community resources	
Celebrating	Completion of Go NAPSACC 5-step Improvement Process	
Successes &	Change in child care programs!	
Outcomes		

# **Learning Collaborative Modules**

### **Physical Activity:** Fostering healthy physical activity habits in infants, toddlers, and preschoolers by:

- Increasing the amount of indoor and outdoor play and physical activity
- Promoting daily Child and Adult-led

# **Child Nutrition:**

Supporting healthy eating habits in children by:

- · Serving healthy foods and beverages
- Increasing use of recommended feeding practices

### Breastfeeding & Infant Feeding:

Focus on the nutritional needs of infants by:

- Supporting breastfeeding and breastfeeding families
- Using responsive feeding techniques for all infants Addressing
- nutritional needs of older infants

## Screen Time:

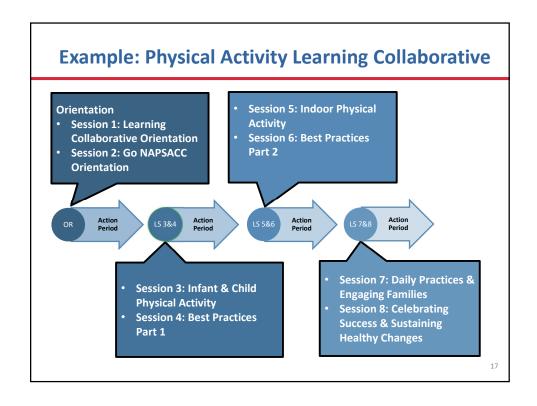
Reduce screen time in ECE settings by:

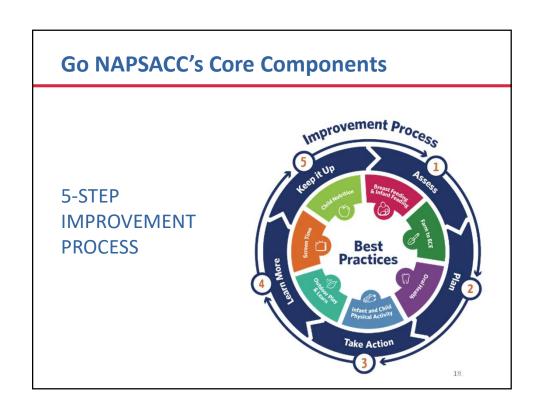
- Using screen time sparingly and only for educational purposes.
- **Engaging** in more active, interactive, and developmentally enriching practices

### All Modules include:

- · Nutrition and physical activity resources for children, staff, and families
- Guidance for adding new practices in ECE program policies Tools to support continued growth and learning

# **Structure** Learning Collaborative Content Area **Provider Training Sessions** Session 2: Go NAPSACC Orientation Familiarize ECE programs with Go NAPSACC Register for Go NAPSACC Complete Go NAPSACC self-assessment Session 3: Module Specific Content **Best Practice Sessions:** Session 4: Best Practice Session RT/CL **Recorded or Consultant Led** Review self-assessment results & collaborate with ECE program to create action plans Create three Go NAPSACC action plans Create two Go NAPSACC action plans Session 5: Module Specific Content Session 6: Best Practice Session 2 RT/CL Consultant Support: Action Period Collaborate on the creation of action plans Check-in Retake Go NAPSACC self-as **Provider Tasks: Action Period** Key Session 7: Module Specific Content Session 8: Celebrating Success & Sustaining Healthy Changes Session nstorm support needed for final implementa action plans and discuss remaining tasks Action Period Objectives for Consultants Action Period Tasks for ECE Programs RT/CL: Recorded Training or Consultant-led





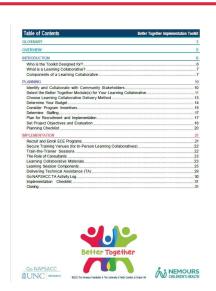
# **Resources & Materials**

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# **Resources & Materials**

Implementation Toolkit







Resource Guides

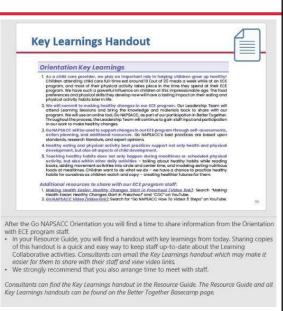




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# **Resources & Materials**

PowerPoints with Notes





Recorded Trainings **Fruits** 



Go NAPSACC Best Pract

- Fruit (not including and turn to the "What differences do you see offered 2 times power and the "What differences of the "What differences do you see of the two these two types of canned fruit" handout in the Resource Guide. Look at the nutrition labels for pineapple chunks. What differences do you notice in the two labels? Look at the ingradients and nutritional contents. the ingredients and nutritional content.
(You can download the Resource Guide
Fruit that is fresh
by clicking on the notebook icon.)

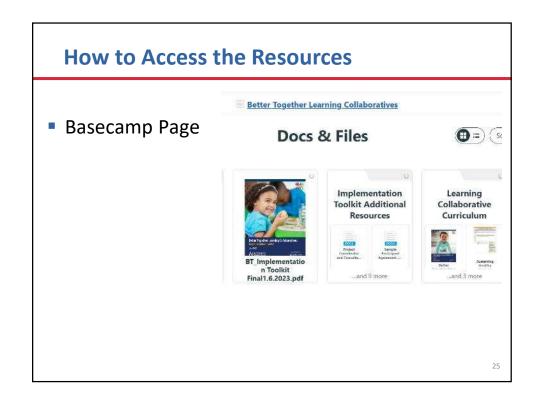
canned in its own juice is offered added sugar every time fruit is served.

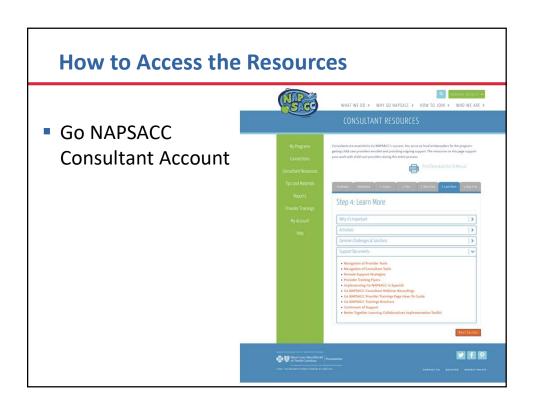


# **How to Access the Resources**

Implementation **Toolkit** 

Infant and Child Physical Activity	Child Nutrition	Breastfeeding and Infant Feeding	Screen Time
Physical Activity PowerPoint	Child Nutrition PowerPoint	Breastfeeding & Infant Feeding PowerPoint	Screen Time PowerPoint
Resource Guide	Resource Guide	Resource Guide	Resource Guide
Physical Activity Best Practices Part 1 Recorded Training	Child Nutrition Best Practices Part 1 Recorded Training	Breastfeeding & Infant Feeding Best Practices Recorded Training	Screen Time Best Practices Recorded <u>Training</u>
Physical Activity Best Practices Part 2 Recorded Training	Child Nutrition Best Practices Part 2 Recorded Training		





# Planning & Implementation Considerations

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# **Implementation**

Learning Collaboratives Implementation Checklist			
Determine the Learning Session dates and secure training venues.			
Recruit and enroll ECE programs.			
Confirm participation with ECE programs. Share the details of the Learning Session. (time; place and parking for in-person; time and link for virtual).			
Source and distribute Learning Session materials and supplemental supplies.			
Facilitate Train-the-Trainer sessions.			
Prepare for facilitation.			
Deliver TA during Action Periods.			
Monitor and evaluate program change.			
Provide incentives.			
Complete final evaluation.			
Report findings to stakeholders and funders.			

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# **Better Together State Experience**

# **Example: Mississippi Implementation**





- ECE programs take a baseline self-assessment.
- MSDH conducts a one-day training with goal setting.
- As they work their Action Plans against the selected goals, ECE programs receive technical assistant support from state health educators.
- ECE programs take a follow-up selfassessment.

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# **Example: Indiana Implementation**







- SPARK has hired 5 Mental Health and Wellness Coaches who will facilitate the content in a collaborative format.
- Better Together aligns perfectly with the "wellness" component of the SPARK initiative of mental health and wellness.
- 10-12 programs for each collaborative with 1-2 coaches facilitating and providing TA.
- Sessions will take place virtually, but we are interested in providing TA onsite.
- Participating programs will also be able to collaborate with each other in between live sessions via Groups. We can create private groups and invite people to join to encourage engagement with each other.
- Groups is also where we will ask them to upload photos or videos of changes they make as they work through their GNS action plans.
- Participants will also receive Professional Development Training credit for time spent participating in the live sessions.

# **Program Impact – Norita in Indiana**



https://youtu.be/ND4Y9I0EHx8

# **Program Impact – Words of Participants**

"I'm updating my written policies on infant and child nutrition. I believe this will help build a stronger relationship and help better educate parents."

Rising Stars Day Care, Arizona



"We included more physical activity time both indoor & outdoor. This also includes more adult-led activities...The children are happ[ier]. Conflicts & challenging behavior have been reduced!"

Little Dreamers Childcare

"Family dining. It's amazing to see the children being so independent and careful. They also try new foods because they can pick what they want."

Straightway Preschool Academy, Arkansas

"Being more mindful about
"intentional" adult led activity and
giving cues about being full or done at
meals. Childhood obesity is such a
real issue and giving the children tools
to use while they're young is so
important."

Muddy Feet Early Learning, Indiana

# Better Together Outcomes

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# Program impact over two years in four states

Wave 1: September 2020- May 2021; Wave 2: September 2021 - May 2022

21,504 Children served by the participating ECE programs

422
ECE programs in low-income communities

1,078
ECE
Professionals
trained

# Characteristics of Participating Programs:

Program Type:

- Center-based: 62%
- Family Child Care Home: 15%
- Head Start: 14%
- School-based: 9%

Participate in CACFP: 72% Average years in operation: 18

# Program Impact 1st self-assessment was completed prior to the module's Learning Sessions. 2nd self-assessment was completed after Action Plan implementation. Numbers on the far right indicate the change in percent of Go NAPSACC Best Practices achieved. Percent of Go NAPSACC Best Practices Achieved Self Assessment Physical Activity 2nd 62 +19 Child Nutrition 1st 2nd 66 +11 Breastfeeding & 1st 43 +17 Infant Feeding 2nd 60 +11 Screen Time 1st 49 +12



