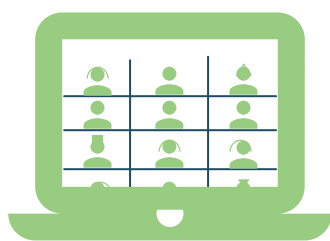


The SAFEST Choice Learning Collaborative

Prevent FASDs and care for those diagnosed with an FASD

THE COLLABORATIVE...



The **SAFEST Choice Learning Collaborative** aims to reduce the incidence of prenatal alcohol exposure (PAE) and improve outcomes in children with a suspected or diagnosed fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD). Pregnant patients will benefit from the screening and counseling on alcohol use. For pediatric patients, early identification can change the trajectory of their lives. These children are already in your practices.

ADDRESSES THE PROBLEM...

- Up to 5% of school-aged children have an FASD [1]
- 41% increase of heavy drinking among women during the pandemic [2]
- 13.5% of pregnant women report current drinking [3]
- 97% of pregnant women believe that screening for alcohol use should be a part of prenatal care [4]



BY FOSTERING A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE...

The curriculum focuses on



- ✓ FASD core knowledge and up-to-date clinical care
- ✓ Prevalence and trends of alcohol use
- ✓ Stigma, implicit bias, and cultural competency
- ✓ Screening for prenatal alcohol exposure (PAE)
- ✓ Unhealthy alcohol use screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment (SBIRT)
- ✓ Referral and care coordination
- ✓ FASD evidence-informed treatment

THAT IS EASILY ACCESSIBLE...

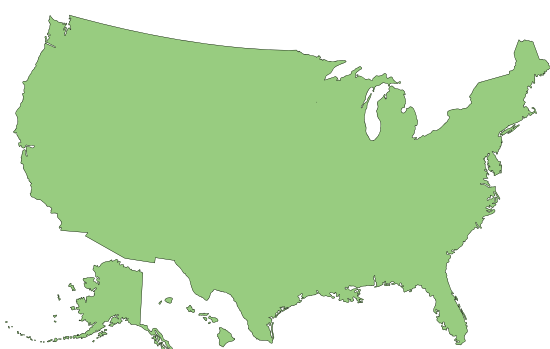
Participants will attend one (1) introductory webinar and ten (10) biweekly 75-minute virtual ECHO®* (guided telementoring) sessions over a five-month period. Sessions are enhanced by technical assistance on topics identified by participants. All ECHO sessions occur on an easily accessible virtual platform.

*ECHO® (Extension for Community Health Outcomes)



TO A VARIETY OF PROVIDERS...

Priority is given to health centers and tribal clinics located in the Northeast & the Upper Midwest. Participation is open to all appropriate clinic staff who will be involved in implementation of FASD prevention and care (i.e., physicians, advanced practice providers, nurses, other medical personnel, behavioral health staff, and community health workers).



TO PREVENT FASD.

The ECHO® sessions for the **pediatric-focused*** trainings begin in **September 2023** and conclude in January 2024.

Prenatal-focused* trainings will begin in **February 2024** and conclude in June 2024.

*Health centers serving both pediatric and prenatal patients may participate in both types of trainings.



"SAFEST Choice has been very impactful for our health center. I recommend it for other practices...regardless of perceived patient risk level."
-A physician who participated in Pediatric & Prenatal trainings in 2021 & 2022



This Learning Collaborative is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$956,211 with 100 percentage funded by HRSA/HHS and \$0 amount and 0 percentage funded by nongovernment source(s). The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

THIS PROGRAM WAS DEVELOPED THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER AND PROOF ALLIANCE.
safestchoice.org

[1] May PA, et al. Prevalence of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders in 4 US communities. JAMA.2018;319(5):474-482.

[2] Pollard MS, Tucker JS, Green HD. Changes in Adult Alcohol Use and Consequences During the COVID-19 Pandemic in the US. JAMA Netw Open. 2020;3(9):e2022942.

[3] Gosdin LK, Deputy NP, Kim SY, Dang EP, Denny CH. Alcohol Consumption and Binge Drinking During Pregnancy Among Adults Aged 18–49 Years — United States, 2018–2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2022;71:10–13. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7101a2external icon>.

[4] Toquinto SM, Berglas NF, McLemore MR, Delgado A, Roberts SCM. Pregnant women's acceptability of alcohol, tobacco, and drug use screening and willingness to disclose use in prenatal care. Women's Health Issues.2020;30(5):345-352.