




From Awareness to Action: Immersive Community-Based FASD Training for Pediatric Care Teams

Kendra Gludt¹, Haylee Turner², Julia Conkel-Ziebell¹, Jacqueline S. German^{3,4},
Nicole Kitten³, Ashlie McGuire¹, Vincent C. Smith^{3,4}, Daniel P. Alford^{3,4}

¹Proof Alliance, St. Paul, MN
²Los Angeles General Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA
³Boston Medical Center, Boston, MA
⁴Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine, Boston, MA

Supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Cooperative Agreement UT953486

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- Health professional FASD knowledge and training is inadequate*
- **SAFEST Choice Program Aim:** Improve FASD outcomes by training pediatric healthcare teams on how to identify and care for children and adolescents with suspected or diagnosed FASD.
- SAFEST Choice Training Programs:
 - **5-Month Virtual ECHO® Learning Collaboratives**
 - **2-Day In-Person Immersion Trainings**

Free continuing education credit for physicians, nurses, psychologists, social workers

* Smith VC et al. *J Popul Ther Clin Pharmacol* 2017; McCormack JC, et al. *Res Dev Disabil.* 2022

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Program Overview Virtual Project ECHO® Learning Collaborative

10 sessions over 5 months

- Didactics, videos, individuals with living experience
- Clinic case presentations with clinical questions, discussion and recommendations
- Technical assistance: individual and group sessions
- Demonstrated significant increases in knowledge, confidence and practice change*


* Alford DP, German JS, Kitten N, et al. A National FASD Learning Collaborative for Pediatric Care Teams. *J Ped Clin Pract.* 2026

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Program Overview
Immersion Training

2 days in-person, community based

- Connecting pediatric care teams to local FASD resources
- Inter-professional collaboration between clinic teams within a specific geographic area
- Incorporated local faculty
- Panel of people with living experience
- Core curriculum didactics
- Interactive skills practice
- Follow-up virtual case presentations



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Evaluation: Immersion Training

Total participants = 52

Pre-surveys (baseline) n=42
Post-surveys (immediate post) n=36
Program evaluations n=44

Metrics
Moore's Framework* 1-5

1. Participation
2. Satisfaction
3. Knowledge
4. Confidence
5. Practice

*Moore DE, et al. J Contin Educ Health Prof. 2009

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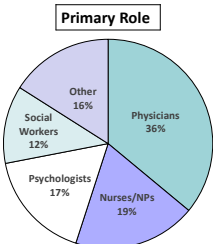
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Results: Participation

52 participants from 15 clinics within Los Angeles County, California, U.S.

- Approximately half specialized in adoption and foster care
- Over half had little to no previous education on FASD
- 94% (49/52) of participants attended both days

Primary Role



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Results: Satisfaction

Program Content

- 98% felt it was a valuable learning experience
- 100% felt training format was engaging
- On average, 75% felt presentations were extremely relevant to their work
 - The most relevant topic was on interventions (83%)

Improved Collaboration

- 100% agreed (70% strongly) they learned from their peers
- 93% agreed (59% strongly) the program helped them better understand the abilities and contributions of inter-professional team members

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Results: Changes in Knowledge

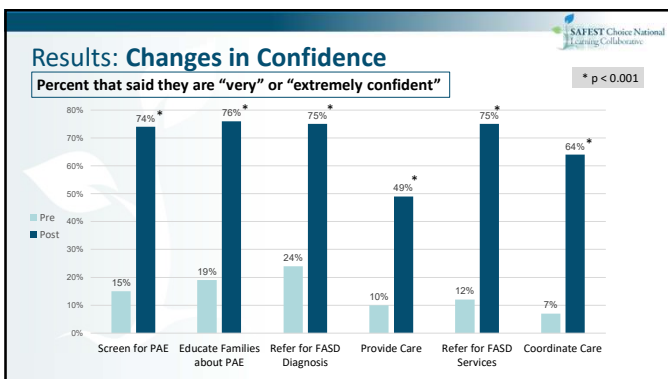
Composite Knowledge Score significantly improved from 71% to 86% (p < 0.0001)

Knowledge questions tested:


- FASD prevalence
- Signs of FASD
- Screening questions
- Non-stigmatizing language
- Clinic practice
 - How often/who to screen
 - When to refer
 - How to manage care

As a result of this training, do you feel you are better able to:	Yes	Partially
Describe the potential effects of PAE and how to screen for it	90%	9%
Define key FASD characteristics and assessment domains	86%	14%
Identify local FASD-specific resources	88%	11%

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Results: Practice Change


- 98% stated they planned on making changes in their clinical practice based on what they learned in the training.

Practice Change Themes

- Initiate screening/improve screening/increase to universal screening
- Provide more referrals for an FASD diagnostic assessment
- Provide more resources after an FASD diagnosis
- Provide more patient education on FASD

- 87% agreed (56% strongly) training helped them work more effectively with inter-professional team members

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Conclusions

This FASD Learning Collaborative program has success as a condensed, in-person immersion training.

- Engaged a diverse audience of inter-professional pediatric healthcare teams in peer learning and collaboration
- Connected pediatric healthcare teams to local FASD resources
- Increased knowledge and confidence related to FASD identification and care management
- Demonstrated intent to make practice change


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Future Opportunities through 2029:

- Annual virtual 5-month cohorts
- In-person 2-day immersion trainings



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Thank you!

Questions?

safestchoice@bmc.org



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