

## Facts about Screening for Parents and Families

### What is screening?

- Screening is asking routine questions to find out if your child has a health, behavioral or developmental issue.
- Your doctor screens by asking you basic questions about your child.
- Most questions are the same for every parent, but a few questions may differ depending on your specifics.
- Screening is not about parenting skills; all children have the possibility for issues and all children should be screened.

### Why do screening?

- Regular screenings help your doctor take better care of your child.
- Screening helps your doctor examine if your child is developing on schedule.
- Screening helps catch issues early, before some signs are present.
- When issues are caught early, children are helped earlier and treatment is usually more effective.
- Your doctor may identify a problem and refer your child for services that may help overcome any issues.

### What happens without screening?

- There is no proof that your child is developing on the right schedule.
- Issues may go unnoticed until later when they may be more difficult to address.
- Children who start school with issues, that did not receive help for them, are more likely to fall behind.