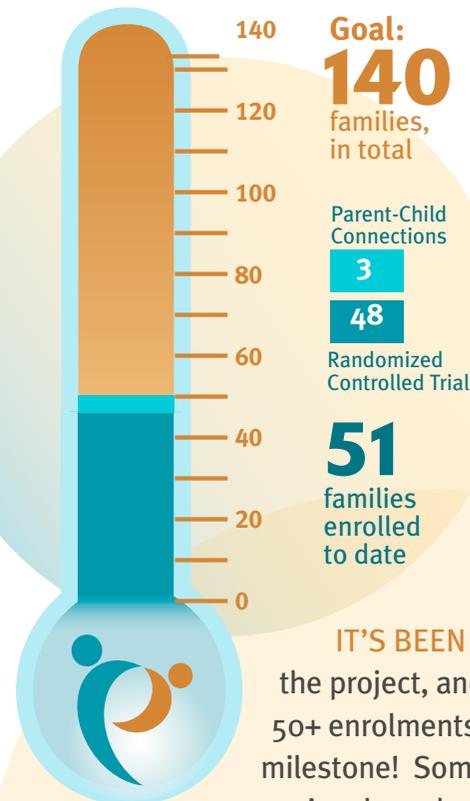


We're On the Home Stretch!

IT MIGHT BE HARD TO BELIEVE, but we are now on the home stretch of the PACE Coaching project! In some sites, a few families have already completed the post-study assessment battery, and more will do so in the upcoming months. This seems like a good time to remind everyone about the study timeline from now until completion, as illustrated in the roadmap to the right.

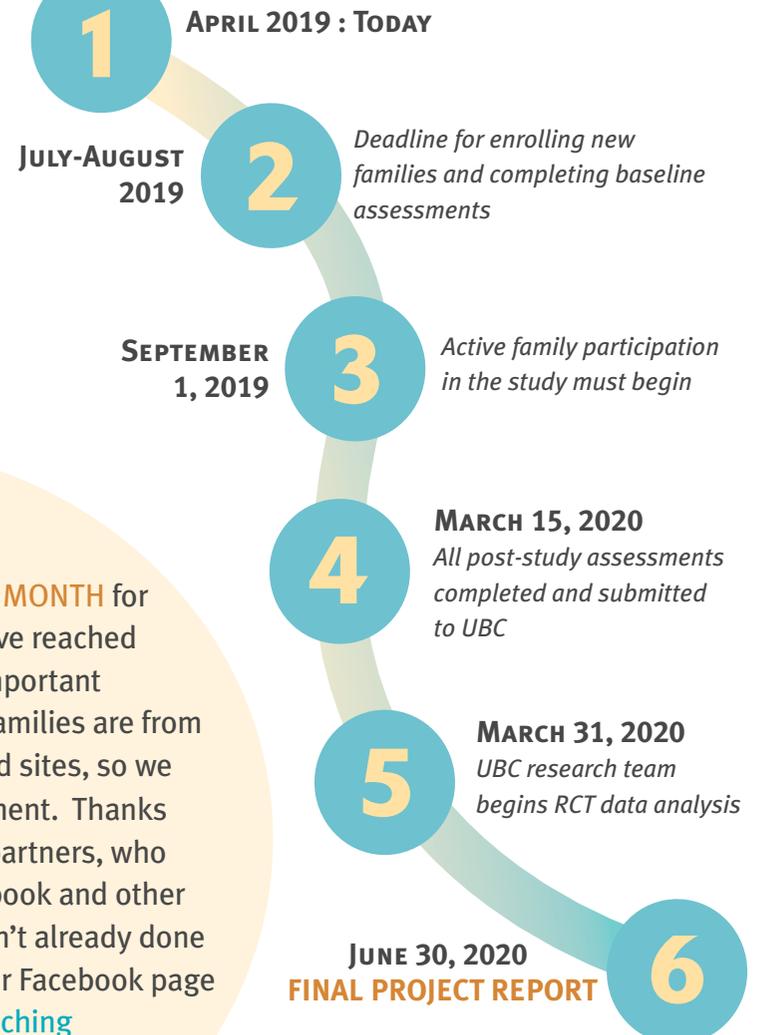
This timeline is meant to accommodate the fact summer is right around the corner! Coaches, Qs, enrolled families, or some combination of the three may take time off for vacation. In addition, some of our partner agencies close down for at least one month (in some cases, two!) over the summer. If you are in one of these sites, enrolment (and all baseline assessments) **MUST** be completed before you close, so that families can begin **active participation in the study by September 1**, at the latest. "Active participation" means that Parent Coaching families begin to

[More on next page](#) ✨



IT'S BEEN A BUSY MONTH for the project, and we have reached 50+ enrolments – an important milestone! Some new families are from previously under-enrolled sites, so we are especially thrilled with that achievement. Thanks to our fabulous Qs, coaches, and other partners, who are diligent in getting word out via Facebook and other media in their communities! If you haven't already done so, please "like," "follow," or "share" our Facebook page or our recruitment post: [@UBC.Pace.Coaching](#)

THE ROAD AHEAD



On the Home Stretch!

Continued from previous page

receive coaching, and Assess & Monitor families begin the six-month period of access to *Help is in Your Hands* and services available in their community. If your agency stays open and coaches are available over the summer months, the enrolment and assessment period can be extended – **but families MUST begin active participation by September 1**, regardless. What this means is that, in some cases, enrolment is open for only 3 or 4 more months, depending on the summer schedule of everyone involved. Repeat after me: recruit, recruit, recruit until July!



Working with Our MCFD Partners

YOU MAY RECALL that parents who are assigned to the Parent Coaching group of the RCT (not Parent-Child Connections) have a decision to make if their child is diagnosed with autism while enrolled in PACE Coaching. They can apply for autism funding and then either (a) withdraw from the project and use their autism funding immediately, or (b) remain in the project and defer access to their autism funding until the coaching period is over. So far, two families have been in this situation and both have chosen option (b).

When a parent is assigned to Parent Coaching, we provide Qs with a letter that they are to give to a parent who chooses option (b) after an autism diagnosis. The letter, in turn, is passed on by the parent to the CYSN Worker who assists with the autism funding application. The letter is

meant to insure that no funding will be “lost” if a parent decides to remain in PACE Coaching and defer access.

We have worked closely with Tamara Kulusic, Autism Policy Manager and member of our Advisory Committee, to acquaint relevant MCFD staff with this procedure. She has distributed a link to a video about the project and the funding procedure to CYSN Workers and Autism Funding Branch staff, to insure that they can support parents appropriately. The

UBC research team is also eager to support families in this situation. If you know of a family in the Parent Coaching group whose child is scheduled for an autism assessment during the project, please feel free to contact Pat Mirinda (pat.mirinda@ubc.ca) so that she can reach out to the family individually.



Coach's Corner

Question: What would we do without our fabulous coaches?

Answer: Absolutely nothing!

It's true – coaches rule! In all but a few sites, coaches have been active with at least one family, and in some sites -- with two! Unfortunately, in a few places, coaches have been unable to use their skills because of low enrollment in the study. If you are one of these coaches, it will be important for you to be in close contact with your trainer once a family has been assigned to you. Janet, Mary, and Michaela – our also-fabulous trainers – are available to all coaches via Teleroo™ and email, to provide support and encouragement throughout the process.

On another note: Families who were enrolled in the Fall or Winter of 2018 and assigned to the Parent Coaching group or Parent-Child Connections will be completing the coaching process over the next few months. If you are the coach of one of these families, please make sure to upload to Teleroo a final C-ESDM Curriculum Checklist for the child. In addition, please prepare a BRIEF written summary of the goals you worked with the parent, which goals were met, which goals are still in progress, and some suggestions about next steps for the “in progress” goals. **PLEASE UPLOAD THIS SUMMARY TO TELEROO™** and give it to the parent as well. Parents should be encouraged to share the summary with whoever will provide them with ongoing support at the CDC or Health Unit (for example, a speech-language pathologist, IDP consultant, etc.).

Q S CORNER

OUR DEDICATED QS are the ears and eyes of this project across the province, and we could not function without their support. We rely on them to lead recruitment efforts, invite and consent families, and conduct assessments, all of which require effort and time on top of their other responsibilities. Qs rock!

Qs in many sites are now gearing up to conduct post-study assessments with families in Parent-Child Connections and in the Parent-Coaching or Assess & Monitor groups of the RCT. If you are a Q, you should have received (or will receive soon!) a snail mail reminder of what these assessments consist of and an email list of “end dates” for all families enrolled at your site. A few weeks before the end date, please contact the family to make a date for the final assessment. Once we receive them from you, we will send the family a brief summary of their child's assessment results and a thank you gift for participating in the project.

Speaking of assessments, if you need more XpressPost envelopes, business class grey envelopes addressed to UBC, or assessment forms of any sort, please let us know ASAP (pat.mirenda@ubc.ca) so we can send more!

As you know from the roadmap on page 1 of this issue, Qs and others at each site still have time to identify additional families for the study. We encourage all of you to be vigorous in this effort! We're on the home stretch of this marathon recruitment effort, and we are counting on you to stay strong to the finish line!

Behind the Scenes

WE WANT TO INTRODUCE two new members of the UBC research team and bid adieu to a third!



Shalet Rosario is a graduate student in Counseling Psychology at UBC, with a focus on supporting caregivers of children diagnosed with diabetes. She is assisting with the social media outreach campaign for PACE Coaching and will also serve as a video coder for the project. Previously, Shalet completed a M.A. degree in Counseling Psychology at the University of Mumbai (India). She has experience counseling child and adult survivors of child sexual abuse and other traumatic events, both face-to-face and via a telephone helpline. In her spare time, Shalet enjoys reading, painting, paper crafts, quilling, and cooking, among other interests.

A warm welcome as well to **Dr. Ed Kroc**, an Assistant Professor (one year term) in Measurement, Evaluation, and Research Methodology at UBC. He completed a Ph.D. in mathematics at UBC and worked previously as a Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in the Department of Statistics. His research interests focus on the foundations of measurement, measurement error models, and psychometrics. Dr. Kroc also has a keen interest in urban ecology, particularly on the life cycle of gulls.



Last, but not least, we bid a fond adieu to **Dr. Oscar Olvera Astivia**, who Dr. Kroc is replacing. Oscar has accepted a tenure track faculty position at the University of South Florida in Tampa, and will be moving there in June. We are grateful to Oscar for his contributions as a data analysis consultant for the project.

Congrats to our Teleroo™ Partners!

IF YOU ARE A COACH or a Q, you might have noticed that the Teleroo™ logo on your iPad now has a different look! That's because our Teleroo™ partners have recently launched a new collaborative  suite of health services technologies called Teleroo™ World. The platform is optimized to connect people and support evidence-informed decision-making anywhere in the world. It is now being used by clinicians, communities, and families who support people living with disabilities in the European Union (Belgium, Austria, Germany, Slovenia, Switzerland – and the list is growing), South Korea, the United States, and the United Arab Emirates. In addition, Teleroo™ was an Innovation Challenge finalist at the Special Olympics World Games in Abu Dhabi in March, 2019. We are so pleased for Robyn Woods (Henderson) and her colleagues for these important accomplishments. Yay, team! (PS: If you want to learn more about Teleroo™ see page 4 of *Keeping Pace*, issue 3).