



February 11, 2021 Convening Summary Building Synergy and Connection Across the Essentials for Childhood (EfC) Initiative

Viewpoints and thoughts shared are not necessarily representative of the California Department of Public Health, the California Department of Social Services, or the State of California.

Background

The [California Department of Public Health, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch](#) (CDPH/IVPB) and the [California Department of Social Services, Office of Child Abuse Prevention](#) (CDSS/OCAP), co-hosted an [Essentials for Childhood \(EfC\) Initiative](#) online convening on Thursday, February 11, 2021. This event, entitled “Building Synergy and Connection Across the Essentials for Childhood (EfC) Initiative,” took place on Zoom from 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM with 68 participants in attendance, representing 49 state and local government, non-profit, and philanthropic organizations.

The purpose of the “Building Synergy and Connection Across the Essentials for Childhood (EfC) Initiative” convening was to 1) communicate about the successes and progress of the EfC Initiative; 2) to allow for participants to offer feedback and guide the efforts of the EfC Initiative and its subcommittees; and 3) determine where opportunities exist to support participants in their efforts to reduce and prevent Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and child maltreatment in California.

The EfC Initiative, a coalition led in partnership by CDPH and CDSS, seeks to address child maltreatment as a public health issue; aims to raise awareness and commitment to promoting SSNR&E; creates the context for healthy children and families through social norms change, programs, and policies; and utilizes data to inform actions. Utilizing a collective impact model, the EfC Initiative advances the common agenda of multiple agencies and stakeholders through alignment of activities, programs, policies, and funding so that all California children, youth, and their families attain SSNR&E.

Representatives from the following organizations and programs attended the “Building Synergy and Connection Across the Essentials for Childhood (EfC) Initiative” Convening:

- ACEs Connection Network
- All Children Thrive-California, Public Health Advocates
- All Children Thrive-California, UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities
- American Academy of Pediatrics- Orange County CA



- Aurrera Health Group
- Berkeley Media Studies Group
- Blue Shield of California Foundation
- Butte County Child Abuse Prevention Council
- Cahto Tribe of the Laytonville Rancheria
- California Child Care Resource & Referral Network
- California Coalition Against Sexual Assault
- California Emergency Medical Services Authority
- California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare, California Training Institute Initiative
- California Child Care Resource & Referral Network
- California Department of Community Services and Development
- California Department of Public Health
- California Department of Social Services
- California First 5
- California Partnership to End Domestic Violence
- Child Abuse Prevention Center, Strategies TA
- Child and Family Policy Institute of California
- Child and Family Services Citizens Review Panel
- Center for Youth Wellness
- Citizen Review Panels
- Early Edge California
- Family Hui, Lead for Tomorrow
- First 5 Butte County Children and Families Commission
- First 5 LA
- First 5 Shasta
- First 5 Yolo
- Health in All Policies, Strategic Growth Council
- Kidsdata.org, Population Reference Bureau
- Kids First, Child Abuse Prevention Council of Placer County
- Lake County Office of Education
- Leah's Pantry
- Nurse-Family Partnership
- Parents Anonymous Inc.
- Office of the California Surgeon General
- Oregon Health and the Science University Foundation
- Prevention Institute
- Public Policy Institute of California



- Rady Children's Hospital, Advancing California's Trauma-Informed Systems (ACTS), Chadwick Center for Children, Youth, and Families
- Santiago Canyon College
- The Children's Partnership
- Tulare County Child Abuse Prevention Council
- UC Berkeley
- Upper Lake School District
- WestEd Center for Prevention and Early Intervention
- YMCA, Childcare Resource Service

Agenda

The agenda and session development efforts for the “Building Synergy and Connection Across the EfC Initiative” were informed by the work that the EfC Initiative subcommittees undertook from October 2019; guidance from the EfC Initiative chairs; and recommendations from the backbone agencies.

The “Building Synergy and Connection Across the EfC Initiative” agenda is as follows:

AGENDA		
Time	Topic	Facilitator(s)
9:00 AM – 9:10 AM	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housekeeping • EfC Initiative Overview 	Elena Costa
9:10 AM – 9:30 AM	Keynote: The Silver Lining of 2020	Angela Ponivas, MSW
9:30 AM – 9:50 AM	Coalition Co-Chair Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antoinette Manuel’s Remarks • Gail Kennedy’s Remarks • Discussion Questions 	Antoinette Manuel, M.Ed. & Gail Kennedy, MPH
9:50 AM – 10:30 AM	EfC Initiative Subcommittee Activities/Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlights/2021 • Subcommittee Updates & Discussion Questions 	Elena Costa
10:30 AM – 10:50 AM	All Children Thrive, CA Presentation	Dr. Flojaune Cofer, PhD
10:50 AM – 11:00 AM	Closing Remarks, Evaluation, and Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation • Resources • Next Steps 	Elena Costa

Session Descriptions and Summary of Participant Feedback

Descriptions of the convening sessions and a summary of responses and recommendations from the discussion questions follow:

9:00 AM – 9:10 AM | Welcome

Presented by: Elena Costa, EfC Initiative Program Coordinator, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, California Department of Public Health

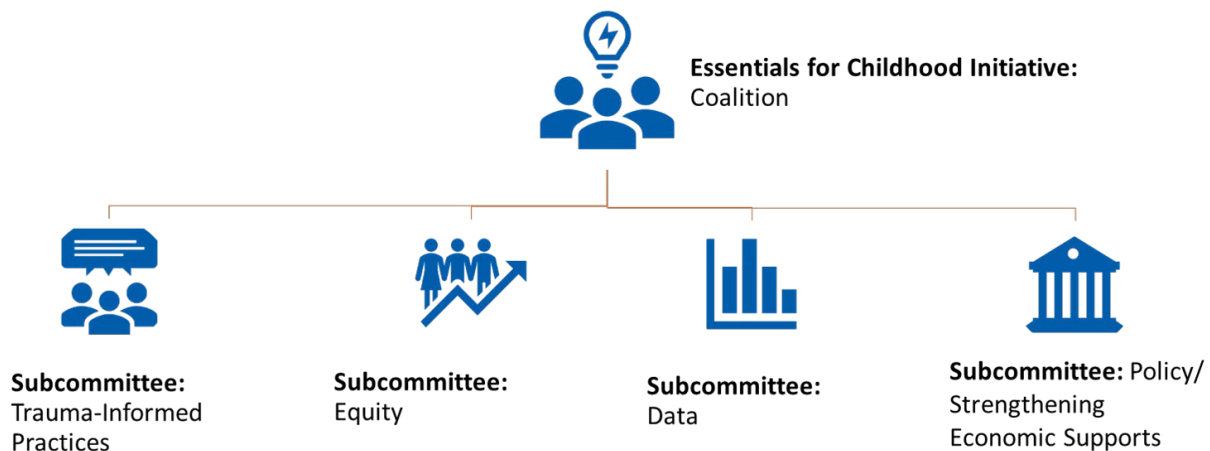
Description: Attendees were welcomed to the virtual convening. Elena introduced the goals, purpose, and intended outcomes for the convening. She then gave an orientation to the agenda, Zoom platform housekeeping, and the mission and vision of the Essentials for Childhood Initiative which were created by an Ad Hoc Subcommittee in April 2020. In addition, she shared that the EfC Initiative is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and is in its second cycle of five year funding (2018-2023).

- Mission: Support and participate in mutually reinforcing activities and strategies across multiple agencies and stakeholders that optimize the health and wellbeing of all children in California.
- Vision: All California children, youth, and families thrive in safe, stable, nurturing relationships, and communities where they live, work, and play.
- Organizational Chart



Backbone Agencies:

California Department of Public Health & California Department of Social Services





- More information can be found on the Essentials for Childhood Initiative webpage at this [link](#).

9:10 AM – 9:30 AM | Keynote: The Silver Lining of 2020

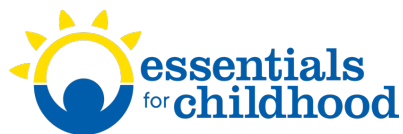
Presented by: Angela Ponivas, MSW, Chief, Office of Child Abuse Prevention, California Department of Social Services

Description: Angela gave a keynote speech titled, “The Silver Lining of 2020,” to the coalition. Angela reminded the attendees that while everyone may ready be to say goodbye to 2020, it is important to pause and highlight the silver lining of 2020. She emphasized the ways in which as a collective, everyone met the challenge, grew from it, and progressed.

Angela dubbed “Resilience” as the theme of 2020. She highlighted the ways the coalition shined brightly as they collectively demonstrated tremendous resilience in the face of difficulty, loss, and grief.

Angela then explained the Three P’s (Pivots, Partnership & Productivity), in that the coalition members learned how to pivot, partner and be productive in less than stellar circumstances. Examples of collective pivots were learning how to connect and further work through digital platforms such as Zoom, WebEx, and Teams; which facilitated a larger turnout for virtual trainings and the implementation of teleworking. Angela shared the ways the California Department of Social Services strengthened partnerships with the California Department of Public Health, California Department of Education, and California Department of Health Care Services as they were able to address topics such as child wellbeing and ACEs, guidelines for recognizing child abuse and neglect in distance learning and telehealth environments, and the Families First Prevention Services Act. Angela then provided an overview of accomplishments that CDSS and other organization achieved during 2020, such as the CDSS 2020-2025 Strategic Plan, the Office of the Surgeon General’s Report, the Governor’s recognition of Family Resource Centers as a prevention network, CDSS and Strategies 2.0’s CAPC Best Practice Guide, and the acknowledgement of systemic racism and bias as well as CDSS newly formed Office of Equity.

Angela reminded the coalition that collectively walked through 2020 with resilience and demonstrated how to reach new heights through Innovation, partnership and growth. Angela touched on importance of learning self-care and caring for one another for survival, as never before. Despite of social distancing, connections were made and deepened, and we learned first-hand that social connection may be the most important of the five protective factors. She spotlighted examples of building community outside of work, by reaching out to neighbors and extended family.



Angela then asked the coalition to look into moving forward into 2021 with the knowledge learned from the past year and to seek to build stronger community infrastructure that supports primary and secondary prevention strategies that support and strengthen families. Angela shared a quote by Denzel Washington that reflected what she learned from 2020: “The most selfish thing is help someone else. Why? The gratification you get, the good feeling you get, the joy you get in helping others. So don’t aspire to make a living. Aspire to make a difference.” Angela closed her keynote speech by reiterating the way the members of the coalition understand the benefits of serving others and value being able to serve vulnerable communities. She shared her gratitude for the collective shared connection in helping others, and thanked the coalition for their continued commitment to take care of themselves, their families and their communities. She ended by remarking on the privilege it is to know that the coalition is connected in this desire to achieve well-being in California.

The following supportive resources were shared in the chat:

- Learn more about the California Department of Social Services, Office of Child Abuse Prevention and visit the website [here](#).
- Review OCAP’s 2020-2025 Strategic Plan [here](#).
- Review the Office of the California Surgeon General Report [here](#).

9:30 AM – 9:50 AM | Coalition Chair Remarks

Presented by: Antoinette Manuel, Director of KidsFirst Child Abuse Prevention Council of Placer County, Gail Kennedy, Chief Operating Officer (COO) at ACEs Connection, EfC Initiative Coalition Chairs

Description: Gail Kennedy, Chief Operating Officer (COO) at ACEs Connection and Antoinette Manuel, Director of KidsFirst Child Abuse Prevention Council of Placer County were introduced as the chairs of the EfC Initiative coalition. Participants were reminded that Debbie Lee of Futures Without Violence had retired and that Antoinette Manuel had joined the coalition as its new chair in partnership with Gail Kennedy. Antoinette was invited to share remarks.

Antoinette’s Remarks: Antoinette introduced herself and her work at KidsFirst Family Resource Center and Child Abuse Prevention Council in Placer County. She has been in the agency for six years and was recently appointed the Executive Director about a year ago.

The passion that fuel her work stems from past childhood experiences. Antoinette shared her experience of figuring out her ACE score when she had just entered the field six years ago. In her words, she aced it and was troubled at first. After unpacking and processing, Antoinette realized that she had been able to overcome so much adversity, build resilience, and attribute it



to her family members and community being dedicated to her journey. She expressed gratitude for the support she received that turned the tide for her and helped her blossom into the person she is today. Antoinette shared two quotes by Maya Angelou that she lived by and reflect who she is and her journey: "You may not control all the events that happen to you, but you can decide not to be reduced by them." "My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor and some style."

Antoinette highlighted her struggle with her voice as something that stems from her past and while her preference to be in the background, she is dedicated to continually sharing her voice and perform as it serves a purpose that is far greater than her feelings of discomfort. She shared memories of her brother who recently passed away who was the opposite, he always ready to shine on a stage and confident, and his encouragements to her regarding her stage fright. He would say, "You've got this. Believe in your message and deliver it. It's just that simple."

Antoinette acknowledged the past year's events and the devastating impact on the country, and children and families in the community. She recognized the burnout so many teams that are passionate about this work are experiencing and the challenges and isolation students, parents, and caregivers are experiencing. While there is much exhaustion, she also spotlighted the fact that everyone keeps pushing forward. Antoinette emphasized the victories, the partnerships made and strengthened, and the inspiring perseverance demonstrated by everyone. She stated that the goal of creating the thriving communities will start with the work that the coalition is already doing, in the spirit of advocating for those who need it most

She closed her speech with sharing the reinvigorated spirit to keep on fighting the good fight and continue to support children and families affected by broken systems and inequities. She gave words of encouragement to the coalition: "We got this. We are stronger together. This is a marathon, not a sprint." She reiterated the importance of practicing self-care, as one cannot pour out of an empty cup for now is the time to dig deep.

Antoinette thanked the coalition for doing the work day in and day out to support the communities they serve and dedicated her speech to her brother.

The following supportive resources were shared in the chat:

- Learn more about KidsFirst Child Abuse Prevention Council of Placer County [here](#).
- Learn more about Antoinette [here](#).

Gail's Remarks: Gail expressed her gratitude to Antoinette for sharing her voice and her story, for joining the team, and contributions to the coalition. She remarked on the beauty of meetings such as this being the relationships and connections that can be formed and wished that this convening could have been in person. Gail expressed further gratitude to Angela for



her encouraging contribution to the meeting and gave a shout out to the back-bone team for collaborating closely and making the convening happen. She gave a special thanks to all the coalition members for having done so much in their respective work and communities. Gail then emphasized the importance of practicing self-care and led the coalition in a short guide breathing exercise. She transitioned to the discussion questions for the attendees with a short story about opportunities for synergy. An example was offered about ACEs AWARE Grantees and Road to Resiliency funded partners and that it may be useful to support engagement in mutually reinforcing activities across these projects, as well as others who are working to improve child wellbeing in California.

The following supportive resources were shared in the chat:

- Learn more about ACEs Connection [here](#).
- Learn more about ACEs AWARE Grantees (Round 1 and Round 2) [here](#).
- Learn more about OCAP's Road to Resilience funded partners [here](#).

Discussion Question: A question was posed to participants to which they responded in chat: Where is the possibility of collaborations, correlations, or intersections between the EfC Initiative community and your work that would be supportive of what is coming next (post COVID-19)?

Attendees made suggestions regarding opportunities for counties:

- Look into making collaborations by region vs by county, as counties are stressed beyond their capacity
- Help tell the story of counties that are working on collaborative Child Abuse Prevention Plans, supported by OCAP
- Connect community collaborators with American Academy of Pediatrics—CA (AAP-CA has an ACES Aware Project), so that county chapters and school health care providers, such as school nurses, can address connections to family support services, essential services, and supplies for kids
- Provide county data on social determinants and CDR
- County Child Welfare and FFPSA plans
- **Example:** First 5 California is currently funding county-level home visiting coordination grants for home visiting services to be coordinated and aligned locally

Attendees made suggestions regarding data:

- Nearly all childcare programs are moving to CDSS as of July 1. I think this is a great opportunity to be sure that childcare programs incorporate quality metrics for



social-emotional and trauma-informed practices (right now quality metrics are very focused on health/safety and academic preparation), folks would like to maximize this

- **Example:** In San Diego, the Children's Bureau project (Partners in Prevention) focuses on increasing child and family wellbeing... would love to learn and share learnings as we move forward in our aspiration of building a more responsive system of care to meet family needs (TIC, equity, data driven, etc.)
- After Kidsdata moves to PRB in March, we will have more capacity and opportunity for collaboration as it relates to data -- making data about CA children available, helping organizations use data and create dashboards, and talking about data
- We need to find a way to increase the sample size for CA in the National Survey of Children's Health. They have great indicators, but the sample is too small.

Attendees made suggestions regarding opportunities to include the voice of marginalized communities:

- Need for greater collaboration with LGBTQ entities would look like as a lot of interfamilial violence happens to queer and trans youth which greatly affects health outcomes later in life.
- The Children Now County scorecards include more data on LGBTQ youth this year
- The Children's Partnership is launching the Hope, Healing, and Health Collective later this month which will center the voices of LGBTQ youth of color, Black girls, Latina girls, and Native youth on their perspectives on mental health/well-being and strategies they have used to promote healing and wellness in COVID times that will inform our statewide policy advocacy on mental health for young people.
- So important to include those perspectives rather than presuming we can speak for marginalized QT youth.
- Look for intersections/collaborations with racial justice/BIPOC led efforts that align

Attendees made suggestions regarding opportunities for messaging:

- Finding ways to share our resources and tools far and wide, reaching the most marginalized folks. -- For example, the Cal Partnership to End Domestic Violence developed a Virtual Story Platform, addressing the many challenges that families are currently facing. -- The first story addresses Paid Leave, gender norms, and the impact of stress on relationships. -- Check it out and share: <https://preventionacrossca.org/monica.html>
- Continue messaging of connections of child maltreatment to other forms of violence like sexual and domestic violence prevention



Attendees made suggestions regarding trainings:

- The current child-care health and safety training does not include much training regarding trauma-informed care. It would be a wonderful training topic, but the training law would have to be changed to add more prevention training hours to the 8 hours that are currently required.
- Find out if you can work with the training organizations of the State Work Force to extend their self-care courses to include trauma-informed training. The training entity for the state is : CalHRStatewideTraining@geniussis.com
- It would be wonderful if partner organization or programs could demonstrate how they integrate trauma informed practices internally and externally with those that they serve
- There is interest in collaboration to increase trauma-informed care trainings to child-care providers beyond trainings from the Emergency Foster Children Bridge Program.
- Suggested Collaborations/Connections:
 - Collaboration between All Children Thrive and OCAP's Prevention Planning Teams.
 - Collaboration with All Children Thrive cities in policy development
 - Connections with Title V-funded Local MCAH programs
 - Collaborate with All Children Thrive to build a population measurement for Community Level ACEs and Resilience.
 - The CDSS-sponsored Citizen Review Panel on Critical Incidents would hope to collaborate in efforts to prevent child maltreatment deaths and near-deaths
 - The pandemic has really highlighted the key role of child-care in families' lives and economic security. Connect with efforts to stitch together child-care programs to make them more easily available, and just more available (and affordable), to families.
 - We are working to engage the field of early childhood on leveraging the opportunities of the Prevention and Early Intervention Fund as part of the Mental Health Services Act to ensure young children and their caretakers/caregivers are supported in their work to ensure positive socioemotional development for young children, especially those whose communities have experienced the traumas of racial injustice and immigration enforcement.



Resources shared in chat by attendees:

- Learn more about KidsFirst Child Abuse Prevention Council of Placer County by visiting: <https://www.kidsfirstnow.org/> and ACEs Connection by visiting: <https://www.acesconnection.com/>
 - Learn more about ACEs AWARE Grantees (Round 1 and Round 2) here: <https://www.acesaware.org/heal/grants/>
 - You can see all of the OCAP's Road to Resilience funded partners here: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/ocap/about-ocap/funded-programs>
 - First 5 California home visiting grant program information is here: <https://www.cafc.ca.gov//partners/investments.html#visiting>
 - Fussy Baby - Early Childhood Mental Health - You'll hear about opportunities to educate and inform policymakers about the importance and urgency of investing in early childhood mental health strategies and services. bit.ly/BeyondtheFussyBaby
 - The Cal Partnership to End Domestic Violence developed a Virtual Story Platform, addressing the many challenges that families are currently facing. -- The first story addresses Paid Leave, gender norms, and the impact of stress on relationships. -- Check it out and share: <https://preventionacrossca.org/monica.html>
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9:50 AM – 10:30 AM | EfC Initiative Subcommittee Activities/Discussion

Presented by: Elena Costa, EfC Initiative Program Coordinator, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, California Department of Public Health

Description: The Subcommittee Activities and Discussion sessions were utilized to provide an overview of the EfC Initiative, which supports a coalition and four subcommittees: 1) Policy & Strengthening Economic Supports, 2) Equity, 3) Data, and 4) Trauma-Informed Practices. Each subcommittee has defined a focus and activities. In addition, the EfC Initiative is in year three of a five year grant, and this convening is intended to provide a space for coalition members to give input for what activities and outputs the Initiative should complete with the remaining time of the project.

- A few of 2020 EfC Initiative Efforts: *(Documents with an asterisk are available upon request. Please email blanca.enriquez@dss.ca.gov to receive a copy.)*
 - Revised Mission and Vision Statements
 - Scopes of work and description of focus for each EfC Initiative subcommittee
 - ACEs Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Data Report, available [here](#).



- Coping with Stress During the COVID-19 Pandemic One-Pager (English and Spanish), available [here](#).
- Trauma-Informed Nutrition Factsheet, available [here](#).
- EfC Initiative One-Pager*
- State Department and Agency Environmental Scan*
- Recommendations for CDSS' Prevention Planning Indicators
- Strategies for Trauma-Informed School Communities: Practices to Improve Resiliency in School-Aged Children and Address Adverse Childhood Experiences (formerly titled "Local Control Accountability Plan Toolkit"*)
- Five COVID-19 specific coalition webinars
 1. 4/29/20 Webinar: Trauma-Informed Care/Practices in Light of COVID-19: Applying Lessons Learned from Child-Serving Systems with Dr. Melissa Bernstein, an Implementation Specialist with the Advancing California's Trauma-Informed Systems (ACTS) Initiative. Click [here](#) to access the webinar recording and slide deck.
 2. 5/13/20 Webinar: Health Equity and COVID-19: Opportunities to Improve Child Wellbeing through Policy with Dr. Flojaune Cofer, Senior Director of Policy with the All Children Thrive (ACT) California project. Click [here](#) to access the webinar recording and slide deck.
 3. 6/11/20 Webinar: California's Budget & Legislative Landscape Impact of a Pandemic on Child Wellbeing with Kelly Hardy, Senior Managing Director of Health & Research for Children Now. Click [here](#) to access the webinar recording and slide deck.
 4. 6/16/20 Webinar: Fostering HOPE (Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences) during COVID-19 with Drs. Robert Sege and Dina Burstein. Click [here](#) to access the webinar recording and slide deck.
 5. 7/15/20 Webinar: Office of Child Abuse Prevention 2020-2025 Strategic Plan with Angela Ponivas, Bureau Chief at the Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) at the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). Click [here](#) to access the webinar recording and slide deck.
- Model/Sample Policy Review supported by strategies in the CDC's Violence Prevention Technical Packages
- EfC Initiative 2021 Efforts will be focused on supporting activities that:
 - Focus on the implementation of existing state laws that strengthen economic supports for children and families
 - Apply an equity lens to shared risk and protective factors
 - Share the linkage between child maltreatment and substance use/misuse
 - Are synergistic with the efforts of California's Child Death Review Teams
 - Address tele-mental health and health as it pertains to the digital divide



The following supportive resource was shared in the chat:

- Learn more about the operational procedures and practices of the EfC Initiative by reviewing the new draft 2021 EfC Initiative bylaws that is available upon request. This is a living document and your feedback ensured that the bylaws are the best fit for the coalition and its subcommittees. Please email blanca.enriquez@dss.ca.gov to receive a copy and to share edits you have.

During this session, participants also received an orientation to each groups' proposed topics and activities and share about the efforts to each subcommittee to date. A discussion question for each subcommittee was proposed for participants to share their responses in the chat; the information obtained from the activity would guide the efforts of the subcommittees. Descriptions of the Subcommittees' proposed activities and an analysis of the recommendations from the facilitated discussions follow:

1. Policy and Strengthening Economic Supports Subcommittee

Chairs: Pamela Mejia, MPH, MS, Head of Research for Berkeley Media Studies Group; Flojaune G. Cofer, PhD, MPH, Senior Director of Policy for Public Health Advocates, All Children Thrive, California; Caroline Danielson, PhD, MPhil, Policy Director and Senior Fellow for the Public Policy Institute of California; and Alejandra Aguilar, MA, Lead of the Statewide Prevention Program for the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence

Subcommittee Description: Supports equitable policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) change by identifying and prioritizing key strategies, such as implementation of existing state policies that strengthen economic supports for families and children [e.g. Paid Family Leave and the California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC)], educating on the need for PSE change, and developing educational materials.

Continued on next page

Activities

Updates



Develop a list of **promising or evidenced-based strategies** that support the adoption/implementation of policies (e.g., local or state organizational, institutional, legislative, etc.) to improve child wellbeing

- “Drivers of Policy and Community Change” Policy Platform -*Underway*
- Model/Sample Policy Review-*Completed*



Develop **educational materials** that would support the efforts of advocates to take on various policy topics

- CDC Technical Package Crosswalk-*Completed (Available by email)*
- Coping with Stress (English and Spanish)- *Completed*



Showcase communities/institutions that have undertaken various policy efforts

-California County Coalition E-Guide-*Completed*



Develop a comprehensive **policy toolkit on key policy concepts** that could contain information such as: existing model policies; list of communities and/or institutions who have successfully implemented the policy of focus; evaluation tools; public opinion poll instruments; among others

- Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Toolkit- *Completed*
- Review of the the Paid Family Leave Toolkit- *Completed*

Discussion Questions:

- What activities would you like to see the EfC Initiative take on that would support education for policy (e.g., voluntary, legislated, organizational) change that improves child wellbeing?
- Are there opportunities that you see for synergistic efforts that support the implementation of existing state laws that strengthen economic supports for California’s children and families?

Subcommittee members shared in the chat:

- Suggestions to undertake activities to address:
 - Food security and access to stable housing
 - Child care and early childhood mental health
 - Barriers as more women are leaving the workforce due to childcare and distant learning during COVID-19
- All Children Thrive would like technical assistance on policy selection within cities and trainings on how to use CX and C3 tools for policy selection.
- Ensure that Child Abuse Prevention Councils (CAPCs) get information and guidance about the policy materials that the EfC Initiative has put together.
- Provide guidance and support for county child death review teams and the establishment of an interagency state child death review team in order to better monitor the number of deaths due to abuse in California, especially in rural areas.



- Develop a set of recommendations for how the Prevention Early Intervention funding stream as part of the Mental Health Services Act can be leveraged to support young children and their caregivers to promote positive socioemotional development.
- Make the policy section of the LCAP toolkit accessible to youth.
- Explore alignment with California WIC Association. They have a California Work and Family Coalition that produced a toolkit titled "Speak Up for Paid Sick Days!"
- Develop a series on state and local budgets in the interest of encouraging community engagement.
- Define racism as a public health issue. Community traumas like police violence and immigration enforcement create individual trauma for families and children that require specific strategies to prevent and address in communities of color.
- Connect with the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence and explore virtual stories about addressing the needs of youth during distance learning, the impact of stress and isolation on their well-being, and the needs they have for teachers [here](#). (contact: Alejandra@cpedv.org)
- Undertake activities to support the California Health and Human Services Agency Master Plan for Early Learning and Care. View [here](#).
- Explore if State training organizations would be interested in providing parenting courses to state workers.

Additional questions attendees shared in the chat:

- What are communities doing to address the drop in prenatal visits?
- Are there other programs or policies in addition to the CalEITC tax credit and Paid Family Leave (PFL) that the subcommittee should focus on?

2. Equity Subcommittee

Chairs: Lucy Morse Roberts, MA, Family Hui Director at Lead4Tomorrow and Michael Williams, MSW, Director of Strategies TA at the Child Abuse Prevention Center

Subcommittee Description: Undertakes activities which focus on building the EfC Initiative's capacity to practice equity in every group, stage, and action by embedding equity into all interventions and practices.

Activities

Updates



Develop a shared understanding and **definition** of the term “equity”

- Definition of “equity”- *completed*
- Glossary of equity-related terms- *completed*



Invite **guest speakers** to present in spaces such as coalition meetings and/or webinars on the topic of **equity and how it intersects** with adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)

- 1 coalition presentation- *completed*



Upon request, **collaborate, review, and provide recommendations/guidance** to other EfC Initiative subcommittees and/or other entities

- Providing support for the “Drivers for Community and Policy Change” Policy Platform- *underway*
- Providing support for the Trauma-Informed Practices Policy Platform- *underway*



Identify **priority populations** and geographic **regions** to focus efforts

-Digital Divide Report and Presentation- *underway*
- Shared Risk and Protective Factors project- *underway*

Key Informant Interviews to identify how best to tailor interventions to needs of priority populations

- Key Informant Interviews- *completed*

Discussion Question: How can the EfC Initiative support your efforts to advance equity in your work?

Subcommittee members shared in the chat:

- Provide assistance with getting an oversample on the National Survey of Children’s Health (and perhaps other surveys), so samples are sufficient for reliable breakdowns to identify areas of inequity.
- Provide assistance with addressing the digital divide in underserved communities.
- Provide assistance and recommendations for developing an indicator for Readiness to Learning, so we could observe differences among different racial/ethnic and social economic groups.
- Provide assistance and recommendations for developing equity data indicators and what metrics could be collected.
- Define racism as a public health issue and develop recommendations for next steps to take to become anti-racist.
- Santiago Community College is working on developing a community college course for early childhood educators on social justice and equity in early learning environments.
- Support efforts to provide education on historical and intergenerational trauma.
- Adopt anti-racist quantitative statistics to better understand population health outcomes and well-being.



- Undertake activities to support free transportation opportunities. Many families experiencing poverty do not have transportation to health care appointments, mental health appointments, or even to get basic needs, such as food.
- Support organizations and communities learn how to review existing policies and their effects to make sure that they are anti-racist and don't contribute to racial inequities.

Attendees shared the following resources in the chat:

- View examples of resources and tools that educate about racial equity [here](#).
- Review readiness indicators used in 2005 in California [here](#).
- Review the Center for the Study of Social Policy's approach to racial equity work [here](#).
- The California Training Institute (CalTrin) is a CDSS/OCAP grant-funded program, delivering free training and resources to child abuse prevention organizations in California. View a list of upcoming free webinars [here](#). Sign up to join CalTrin's mailing list [here](#).

[3. Data Subcommittee](#)

Chairs: Lori Turk-Bicakci, PhD, Senior Manager of Data and Research for Kidsdata, a program of the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health and David Dodds, PhD, MPH, Deputy Director of Evaluation for First 5 California

Subcommittee Description: Develops data-related policy, guidance, and projects, and assists EfC Initiative subcommittees with being data-informed.

Continued on next page

Activities

Updates



Policy development and/or recommendations for state or local government related to data

- Provide recommendations to add PCEs and ACEs to statewide surveys or complementary programmatic assessments- *ongoing*
- Support for the “Drivers for Community and Policy Change” Policy Platform- *underway*



Develop **data toolkits or technical support resources** for local government or agencies

- Data Toolkit that incorporates existing databases- *underway*
- Data Matrix- *completed*
- Training webinar on messaging about ACEs data- *completed*



Develop a **data project** as a resource

- Analyze and report findings from the Awareness, Commitment, and Norms Survey- *underway*
- ACEs BRFSS Data Report- *completed*
- Support CDSS with recommendations for the Prevention Planning Indicators- *completed*
- Support ACT with recommendations for data dashboards- *completed*
- Support and report findings from the “Family Experiences During COVID-19 Questionnaire”- *underway*

The following resources were shared to support review of the Data Subcommittee’s activities:

- Access the ACEs Data Messaging Webinar [here](#).
- View the 2011-2017 ACEs BRFSS Data Report [here](#).

Discussion Question: What data-related activities would you like to see the EfC Initiative take on that support California’s children?

Subcommittee members shared in the chat:

- Make the Data Matrix and the Data Toolkit available for use.
- Provide a list of organization engaged in the coalitions.
- Encourage data collection on ACEs by providing anonymous access to ACEs questionnaires.
- Support California in developing a linked longitudinal population measurement system of well-being along the life course available at the neighborhood level.
- Does your data use the "Healthy Places Index" as a template for socioeconomic stress?
- Determine where there are intersections between FHOP and MCAH reports
- Connect with the Office of Digital Innovation and Insights within California Human and Health Services Agency to learn of their plans related to better managing child and family well-being.



- In the early learning field, there is a lack data on parental preference for child care. Suggestion to support efforts to collect information about if parents prefer center-based care, home-based care, or paid family leave at various ages of child.
- Track infusion of State and Federal Grant dollars to support communities.
- Suggestion for Data Subcommittee to work with other state agencies and organizations trying to determine how to establish unique identifiers that would allow tracking across time and across systems to evaluate utilization and outcomes of services.
- Parents would greatly prefer paid parental leave. In low-income families, there is much trauma produced due to the forced separation that must occur in order to financially support the family. In order for parents, especially those with a background of childhood adversity, to develop positive, healthy family bonds and relationships, they need the time to spend together without the additional toxic stress that comes with struggling to avoid homelessness and ensure food security.

4. Trauma-Informed Practices Subcommittee

Chairs: Trauma- Informed Practices Chair: Colin Gutierrez, MPH, Senior Program Associate, Health in All Policies, for the Public Health Institute

Subcommittee Description: Develops resources that support statewide and local efforts to adopt and implement trauma-informed practices and approaches.

Continued on next page

Activities

Updates



Develop general and/or sector-specific trauma-informed practice **definitions** and/or recommendations

- Trauma-Informed Practices/Approaches Policy Platform- *underway*
 -Environmental Scan: State Departments and State Agencies- *completed*



Develop or compile a **toolkit of materials that support local efforts** to adopt trauma-informed policies, procedures, and practices into specific systems or domains [e.g., integrating trauma-informed practices into education system through Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAP)]

- Strategies for the Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAP) Toolkit- *completed*
 - Nutrition Factsheet- *completed*
 - Tobacco Cessation Factsheet- *underway*



Upon request, provide assistance and support in **identifying and documenting existing** ACEs science, trauma-informed practices, and resilience building best practices/activities at state and local levels

- “Drivers for Community and Policy Change” Policy Platform- TI strategies- *completed*

Discussion Questions:

- What activities would you like to see the EfC Initiative take on that would support education for policy (e.g., voluntary, legislated, organizational) change that improves child wellbeing?
- Are there opportunities that you see for synergistic efforts that support the implementation of existing state laws that strengthen economic supports for California’s children and families?

Subcommittee members shared in the chat:

- The need for the development of trauma-informed strategies and trainings:
 - Highlight trauma-informed workplace strategies in helping organizations
 - A clearinghouse for layperson trauma-informed resources
 - Research best practices, creating a proposal for trauma-informed trainings, and ensuring things are culturally competent
- Teachers have shared the need for support...
 - ...when identifying warning signs of child abuse, stress, neglect, etc. during virtual learning and how to respond in a trauma-informed way when a disclosure



is made. California Partnership to End Domestic Violence is looking to find trainings on this topic (contact: Alejandra@cpedv.org)

- ...with the impact distance learning has had on [teachers'] mental health and the lack of access to support.
 - Click [here](#) to CDSS developed guidance for educators teaching virtually and other COVID-19 Resources
 - OCAP oversees child abuse prevention training for child care providers. See their website [here](#).
- A few years ago, the child care training community produced a child health and safety primer of agencies and organizations that deal with child health and safety. A primer of the essentials participants and their wheelhouse would be nice.

10:30 AM – 10:50 AM | All Children Thrive, California Presentation

Presented by: Co-Directors of All Children Thrive, California: Dr. Flojaune G. Cofer, PhD, MPH, Senior Director of Policy for Public Health Advocates, All Children Thrive, California and Dr. Joanna Mimi Choi, MD, MPH

Description: During this session, participants were introduced to All Children Thrive, California, a three-year pilot project directed by Public Health Advocates, the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families & Communities, and Community Partners, funded by the Mental Health Services Act. Drs. Cofer and Choi shared that the project is bringing together residents, youth, and city officials to transform the systems that shapes child wellbeing through a community-based approach. A Big Picture Video was shared to help orient participants, click [here](#) to watch the video. To learn more about All Children Thrive, California, please visit their website [here](#) or view their one-pager [here](#).

The four goals of ACT are to:

1. Shape Perspective—help cities understand the role of public health in addressing child wellbeing and how to co-design a model with community members
2. Innovate through Collaboration—cities network with each other to share, learn, and create innovative solutions
3. Shift Power—embed community voices into policy, planning, and development of cross-sector systems improvement
4. Sustainable change—passing policies, creating strong programs, bringing in funding and transforming systems

The stages

- Engage stage helps communities across the state to participate



- Key Outcomes: Align with ACT vision and values; ACT teams commit to participate and conduct a community assessment, choose priorities, and set goals; cities adopt ACT resolution
- Grow stage helps cities select Community Action Areas and introduces cities to the Learning Community and Data Dashboard
 - Key Outcomes: Engage in the Learning Community & Data Dashboard; select a community action area and receive technical assistance; develop implementation, evaluation, and sustainability plans
- Accelerate helps cities enact and implement policies and develop a sustainability plan which may include identifying additional funding support
 - Key Outcomes: Deepen connections with the Learning Community; scale policies and programs; measure outcomes; secure funding; develop a sustainability plan

Who is participating:

- Adult & Youth Community Members
- Community-serving and youth organization
- City & County officials
- Institutions

How it works:

1. Establish a Core Team
2. Assign an ACT coach to help define an Action Area
3. Expand the Core Team to a design team of a broad representation of youth, community residents, and organizations that support child wellbeing
4. Join a Learning Community

Types of ACT Cities:

- (3) Vanguard City—a city leading the way in new developments or ideas that are part of the ACT-CA Change Strategies. These are cities that may further ahead in the development stage.
- (14) Pilot City—a city that is formally part of the ACT-CA Pilot. They will be recipients of TA provided by coaches.
- (5) Affiliate City—a city that is part of the broader ACT Learning Community. They may not be part of the initial pilot cities but are interested in the development of ACT-CA.

Community Action Areas

1. Creating Protective Environments (1 city)
2. Promoting Healthy Child Development (1 city)
3. Access to Safe and Stable Housing (1 city)



4. Strengthening Economic Supports (3 cities)
5. Youth Development and Civic Engagement (9 cities)
6. (Bonus Area) Mental Health and Wellness (2 cities)

Funding Opportunity: Request for Applications (RFA)

- The purpose of this RFA is to advance an ACT city's work plan goals by paying for personnel and program costs
- For more information, please visit the following [link](#).

10:50 AM – 11:00 AM | Closing Remarks, Evaluation, and Next Steps

Presented by: Elena Costa, Essentials for Childhood Initiative Program Coordinator, Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, California Department of Public Health

During this session, participants were invited to:

- Complete the Coalition Progress Evaluation Survey: <https://tinyurl.com/efcprogress2020>
- Complete the Convening Evaluation Survey: <https://tinyurl.com/efcf2021convening>

The following resources were shared:

- California Parent & Youth Helpline funded by CDSS:
 - Provides support and resource referrals to parent and youth during the current COVID-19 pandemic, 7-days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 - Call or text 1-855-4APARENT (855-427-2736) for services in English, Spanish and other languages. For more information, please visit: <https://caparentyouthhelpline.org/>
- Vital Signs: Prevalence of Multiple Forms of Violence and Increased Health Risk Behaviors and Conditions Among Youths
 - The latest CDC Vital Signs report examines: Types of violence experienced by teens age 14 to 18 years old; Highlights on how experiences of violence are associated with health conditions and risky behaviors.
 - To access the report, please visit this [link](#).
- 2021 Tax Filing Season begins on February 12, 2021
 - To speed refunds during the pandemic, the IRS urges taxpayers to file electronically with direct deposit
 - April 15th is the (current) deadline for filing 2020 tax returns
 - Check [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov) for the latest tax information



- The 2021 CalEITC4me.org Toolkit which includes social assets, supportive educational materials, and other resources to encourage Californians to file have been posted on ACEs Connection. To view the toolkit, please visit: this [link](#).
- For more information on California Earned Income Tax Credit, visit: caleitc4me.org
- The CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) highlights that the total number of emergency department visits related to child abuse and neglect have decreased during the pandemic, but the percentage of such visits resulting in hospitalization has increased: Trends in U.S. Emergency Department Visits Related to Suspected or Confirmed Child Abuse and Neglect Among Children and Adolescents Aged <18 Years Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic. Click [here](#) to view the report.
- To view Prevention Institute's, Beyond Screening Report: please visit this [link](#).
- Click [here](#) to view the ACEs Connection California ACEs Action (RFAs, events, resources, timely information, etc.) page.
- To view Children Now's "2020 California Children's Report Card," please click [here](#).
- To register for Children's Defense Fund, Child Watch 2021: The State of California's Children and Youth in the COVID Era" Virtual Symposium, March 5, 2021; 9 AM – 1:00 PM PST; please click this [link](#).

The following next steps were shared:

- Responses to the subcommittee and coalition questions will be analyzed and shared with the subcommittees and the coalition chairs
- A convening summary and slide deck will be made available for all participants
- Upcoming Meeting Dates:
 - Subcommittee Meetings: Late March (calendar invites forthcoming)
 - Next Convening: Tentatively Fall 2021