



California Essentials for Childhood Initiative

“Building Synergy and Connection Across the Essentials for Childhood (EfC) Initiative”

Thursday, February 11, 2021

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

Zoom Housekeeping



Minimize Distractions

Lines have been muted, but please **chat the host** if you wish to speak



Technical Issues

For any technical issues, please **send a message directly to the host** through the chat box.



Engage and Participate!

- Ask questions in the Q&A box or via the chat.
- Respond to Subcommittee Questions in “chat”

CHARM Principles

Communication

Have Fun

Accountability

Respect

Make Space & Take Space

Created by Marcella Maggio and Alejandra Aguilar, 2019.

Essentials for Childhood Initiative

Mission & Vision



All California children, youth, and families thrive in safe, stable, nurturing relationships, and communities where they live, work, and play.



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.



Backbone Agencies:

California Department of Public Health &
California Department of Social Services



**Essentials for Childhood Initiative:
Coalition**



Subcommittee:
Trauma-Informed
Practices



Subcommittee:
Equity



Subcommittee:
Data



Subcommittee: Policy/
Strengthening
Economic Supports

Purpose of Today's Convening

- Communicate about the **successes** and **progress** of the Essentials for Childhood Initiative
- Allow for participants to offer **feedback** and **guide** the efforts of the EfC Initiative and its subcommittees
- Determine where **opportunities** exist to support participants in their efforts to reduce and prevent Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and child maltreatment (CM) in California

Webinar Presenters



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



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



Antoinette Manuel, M.Ed.
Executive Director
KidsFirst Child Abuse
Prevention Council of Placer
County

Webinar Presenters



Gail Kennedy, MPH
Chief Operating Officer
ACEs Connection



Dr. Flojaune Cofer, Ph.D.
All Children Thrive,
California
Public Health Advocates

Convening Agenda

Agenda	
1.	The Silver Lining of 2020
2.	EfC Initiative Coalition Chair Remarks
3.	EfC Initiative Subcommittee Overview and Discussion
4.	All Children Thrive, California Presentation
5.	Closing Remarks, Evaluation, and Next Steps

The Silver Lining of 2020

Angela Ponivas, MSW

Chief, Office of Child Abuse Prevention
California Department of Social Services



Resilience

Definition:

1. the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties;
2. the ability to spring back into shape; elasticity.

Synonyms:

[flexibility](#) · [pliability](#) · [suppleness](#) · [plasticity](#) · [elasticity](#) · [springiness](#)

The Three P's (Pivots, Partnership & Productivity)

Pivots

- Technology/Creative Connection
- Telework
- Virtual Trainings

Partnership

- DPH – ACEs, Critical Incidents, CA Child Well-Being Coalition e-Guide
- CDE – Guidance re Distance Learning
- DHCS – Guidance re Telehealth Services
- FFPSA – Identification of a Framework and a Vision

Productivity

- OCAP's 2020-2025 Strategic Plan
- OSG's Report
- FRCs and Helplines provide COVID Support
- CAPC Best Practice Guide
- Systemic Bias is called-out



Community in Unity Creates Child Well- Being

Denzel Washington Quotes from his Commencement Speech at Dillard University, 2015

“The most selfish thing you can do in this world is help someone else. Why? The gratification you get, the good feeling you get, the joy you get in helping others.”



“Don’t just aspire to make a living. Aspire to make a difference.”

Coalition Chair Remarks

Antoinette Manuel, M.Ed. and Gail Kennedy, MPH

Chair Remarks



Antoinette Manuel, M.Ed.
Executive Director
KidsFirst Child Abuse
Prevention Council of Placer
County



Gail Kennedy, MPH
Chief Operating Officer
ACEs Connection

In the chat, please share:

Where is there 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)?

EfC Initiative Subcommittee Activities/Discussion

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

EfC Initiative Overview

The EfC Initiative supports a coalition and four subcommittees:

- Policy & Strengthening Economic Supports
- Equity
- Data
- Trauma-Informed Practices

Each subcommittee has defined a focus and activities, your feedback guides and shapes the work

A Few 2020 EfC Initiative Efforts

- Revised Mission & Vision Statements
- Scopes of work and description of focus for each EfC Initiative subcommittee
- ACEs BRFSS Data Report
- Coping with Stress (English and Spanish)
- Trauma-Informed Nutrition Factsheet
- EfC Initiative One-Pager
- State Department and Agency Environmental Scan
- Recommendations for CDSS' Prevention Planning Indicators
- Local Control Accountability Plan Toolkit
- Five COVID-19 specific coalition webinars
- Model/Sample Policy Review supported by strategies in the CDC's Violence Prevention Technical Packages

EfC Initiative: 2021 Efforts

The EfC Initiative will be working to support 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

Policy & Strengthening Economic Supports

Policy & Strengthening Economic Supports Subcommittee

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.

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*

In the chat, please share:

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?

Equity

Equity Subcommittee

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*

In the chat, please share:

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

Data

Data Subcommittee

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

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*

In the chat, please share:

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

Trauma-Informed Practices

Trauma-Informed Practices Subcommittee

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

Activities



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



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)]



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

Updates

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

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

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

In the chat, please share:

What trauma-informed activities would you like to see the EfC Initiative take on that are responsive to the needs of California's children and families?

In the chat, please share:

What do you need from the EfC Initiative to stay connected and feel supported in your efforts to improve child wellbeing in California, given the current climate?

Coalition Progress Evaluation Survey



**We Value Your
Feedback!**

Survey link:

[https://tinyurl.com/efc
progress2020](https://tinyurl.com/efcprogress2020)

Please complete by COB, Thursday, February 18, 2021

All Children Thrive

California



February 11, 2021





Forces Driving Inequality
No Safety Net • Uncertainty

**They have experienced a lot together
and are the true experts where they live.
Love and care for one another.**

WHAT IS ACT?

- **3-year initiative** funded by the **Mental Health Services Act**
- **Building networks** of people and places across the state that are working together to identify solutions that **transform systems** shaping child wellbeing
- Bringing together residents, youth, city officials and community leaders who know their cities best to **co-design solutions**
- **Healing** the adversities affecting all of California's children today and transform their future.



ACT Goals

Shape Perspective:

Onboard cities and help cities realize the essential role they play in public health efforts to address child well-being and trauma prevention. Cities work with community members and partners to identify their role and sense of purpose in promoting child well-being, preventing trauma, and advancing equity.

Innovate through Collaboration:

Cities network with one another to learn about other challenges, potential solutions and to create opportunities to strategize and learn together. These will be done through Learning Communities.

Shift Power:

Embed community voices into policy, planning, development, and city-wide, cross-sector systems improvement.

Sustainable Change:

Passing policies, creating strong programs, bringing in funding, and transforming systems so that children and families thrive.

THE STEPS

Engage communities across the state to participate

Help communities assess their data to understand the root causes of child and community adversity

Communities set goals, design a roadmap for success, and adopt plans for action

Through the ACT-CA network, communities learn together and develop new best practices for transformative change

CHILD WELL-BEING



Team Leaders

Adult and youth community members - participate, spread the word, and help implement; promote and advocate for strong, healthy communities, children's health, and well-being and family focused solutions; ensure that policy changes are meeting the needs of community members and are sustained; hold decision-makers accountable; mobilize other community members; and are the voice of the campaign for social change.

Community-serving and youth organizations - increase community member awareness and participation in ACT; build trust and integrity with adult community members and youth; get feedback and input from adult and youth community members to improve processes or policies and advance efforts; and support active adult and youth community leadership (community activation) by creating conditions for large groups of community members to lead and be involved in transformational efforts.

Team Partners

City/County officials - are champions for ACT and have the power to push an agenda with City Council or Board of Supervisors; spark a call to action; adopt resolution and policy/policies; ensure they have an equity focus when providing resources and services within their community; and take intentional action to bring about social change.

Institutions/other - provide leadership and guidance; participate, help spread the word, and implement; ensure they have an equity focus when providing resources and services within their community; have a common goal and shared vision; and take action to bring about social change.

HOW IT WORKS



- 1. Establish a Core Team**
 - 2 or more residents
 - 2 or more city officials/staff
 - 2 or more Community-based representatives from organizations that advocate/create policy for child wellbeing
- 2. Assigned 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***

YOUTH DESIGN TEAMS



- Central to ACT is ensuring youth voices of the most vulnerable youth are heard
- Each city will have a Youth Design Team to inform the issues that will be addressed
- The Youth Design Teams create a leadership pipeline to better understand and promote policy changes

All Children Thrive - CA Cities

ACT 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.

ACT Pilot City: a city that is formally part of the ACT-CA Pilot. They will be recipients of TA provided by Coaches.

ACT 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.

The **ENGAGE** stage is about cities becoming familiar with ACT, making a commitment to action, and formally joining the ACT Initiative.

Engage Stage Key Outcomes/Milestones:

- Cities align with ACT vision and values
- Cities/Design Teams commit to participate
- Cities/Design Teams conduct a community assessment
- Cities/Design Teams choose priorities/North Star goals
- Cities adopts ACT resolution

The **GROW** stage helps cities select *Community Action Areas* and introduces cities to the *Learning Community* and *Data Dashboard*

Grow Stage Key Outcomes/Milestones:

- Cities engage in ACT Learning Community and Data Dashboard
- City Design Teams select and co-create Community Action Areas
- City Design Teams receive technical assistance and training associated with Community Action Areas
- City Design Teams develop implementation, evaluation, and sustainability plans

In the **ACCELERATE** stage, cities enact and implement policies and develop a sustainability plan which may include identifying additional funding support.

Accelerate Stage Key Outcomes/ Milestones:

- Cities continue to deepen connections within Learning Community
- Cities scale policies and programs for increased impact
- Cities measure outcomes of policies and programs
- Cities secure funding
- City Design Teams develop a sustainability plan

ACT COMMUNITY ACTION AREAS:



CREATING PROTECTIVE ENVIRONMENTS



STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC SUPPORTS



PROMOTING HEALTHY CHILD DEVELOPMENT



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



ACCESS TO SAFE AND STABLE HOUSING



BONUS AREA
MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Promoting Healthy Child Development



Creating Protective Environments



Youth Development & Civic Engagement



Strengthening Economic Supports for Children & Families



Access to Safe and Stable Housing



BONUS AREA
Mental Health & Wellness

Funding: Request for Applications

The purpose of the **RFA** is to advance an ACT city's work plan goals by paying for personnel and program costs

- Not an “open RFA”
- Only ACT Pilot and Vanguard city teams can apply
- ACT Core Teams decide which Community-Based Organization (non-profit 501c3) should apply for the funds
- ~\$1 million fund

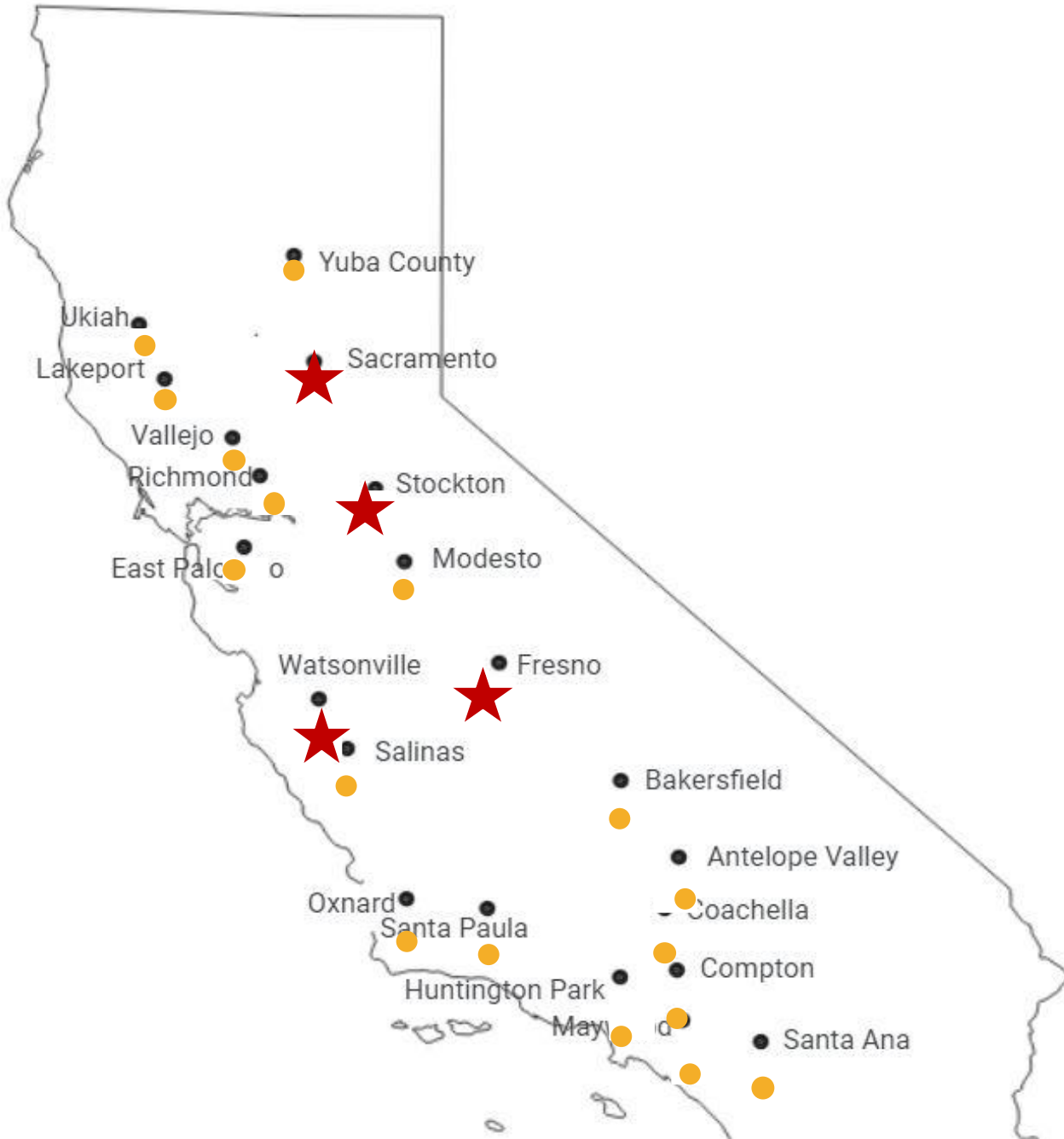
ACT California Cities

22 Fully onboarded cities

- **3 Vanguard Cities**

- ★ Fresno
- ★ Sacramento
- ★ Stockton
- ★ Watsonville

- **19 Pilot Cities**



Stages and Phases of ACT

PHASE 1 (Engage Stage)	Expressed Interest
	Attended Info Session
	Follow-Up Email
	Coach Outlines ACT-CA Criteria & Process
	Designation of Affiliate, Pilot, or Vanguard
PHASE 2 (Engage Stage)	Added to Learning Community
PHASE 3 (Engage Stage)	Core Team Established
	Establish Youth Design Team
	Apply for Funding for a Coordinator through CBO Core Team Member
	Coach Works with Core Team to Decide on Community Action Area
PHASE 4 (Engage Stage)	Other ACT-CA Team Member
	Begin Design Team Establishment
	Sign a Letter of Commitment
	Track RFA Deliverables
PHASE 5 (Engage Stage)	Establish a Mechanism for Youth and Resident Voices
	Passing of the City Resolution (City Commitment to ACT-CA)
	Track RFA Deliverables

Stage 1: Engage

- 4 cities are in **Phase 1**
- 5 cities are in **Phase 2**
- 10 cities are in **Phase 3**
- 0 cities are in **Phase 4**
- 2 cities are in **Phase 5**

Cities have not yet reached Stage 2: Grow (**Phase 6**) or Stage 3: Accelerate (**Phase 7**)



**Sacramento passes first in
the nation policy to redefine
public safety!**

QUESTIONS?

email: info@act-ca.org
website: www.ACT-CA.org



Closing Remarks & Next Steps

Complete the Coalition Progress Evaluation Survey



**We Value Your
Feedback!**

Survey link:

[https://tinyurl.com/efc
progress2020](https://tinyurl.com/efcprogress2020)

Please complete by COB, Thursday, February 18, 2021

Complete the Convening Evaluation



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Feedback!**

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feb2021convening](https://tinyurl.com/efcfeb2021convening)

Please complete by COB, Thursday, February 18, 2021



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
- For more information on California Earned Income Tax Credit, visit: caleitc4me.org

Resources

- CDC MMWR: [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](#)
- Prevention Institute's, Beyond Screening Report: https://preventioninstitute.org/sites/default/files/publications/Beyond%20Screening-Expanding%20California%27s%20Approach%20to%20ACEs_final%20Oct%202020%20%28003%29.pdf
- Prevention Institute's February 17th Webinar, "Peer Learning Forum on Trauma-Informed Approaches During Catastrophic Events": https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0pdemspj4vGdYG4lUt_1vI2eXlnRoB-h7Q
- ACEs Connection, California ACEs Action (RFAs, events, resources, timely information, etc.): <https://www.acesconnection.com/g/california-aces-action>
- Children Now's "2020 California Children's Report Card": <https://www.childrennow.org/portfolio-posts/20-report-card/>
- 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; register at: <https://www.tfaforms.com/4881535>

Next Steps

- Responses to the subcommittee and coalition questions will be analyzed and shared with the subcommittees and the coalition chairs
- A convening summary will be available in the next week and slides will be sent out with this document
- Upcoming Meeting Dates:
 - Subcommittee Meetings: **Late March** (calendar invites forthcoming)
 - Next Convening: *Tentatively* **Fall 2021**

Thank You!