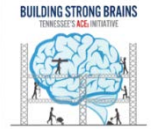


Building Strong Brains: Tennessee's ACEs Initiative

A Presentation for
Implementing Trauma-Informed Programs and Practices
Congressional Briefing

July 14, 2016



Building Strong Brains: Why Now?

- Public investments in childhood can produce long-term improvements in the cognitive and social development of children, so this investment is important to building healthy, strong future generations and citizens.
- Building Strong Brains' goal is to make sure all Tennessee children have what they need to thrive.
- That the future prosperity of Tennessee depends on building strong brain architecture in early years has crystalized—in a way and at a time—that makes it imperative to act.

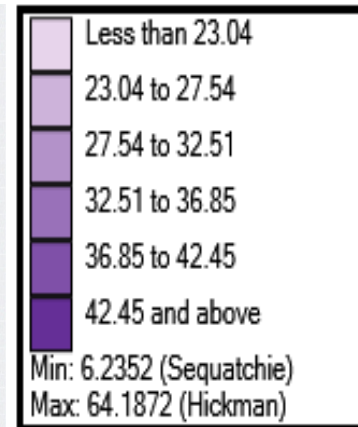
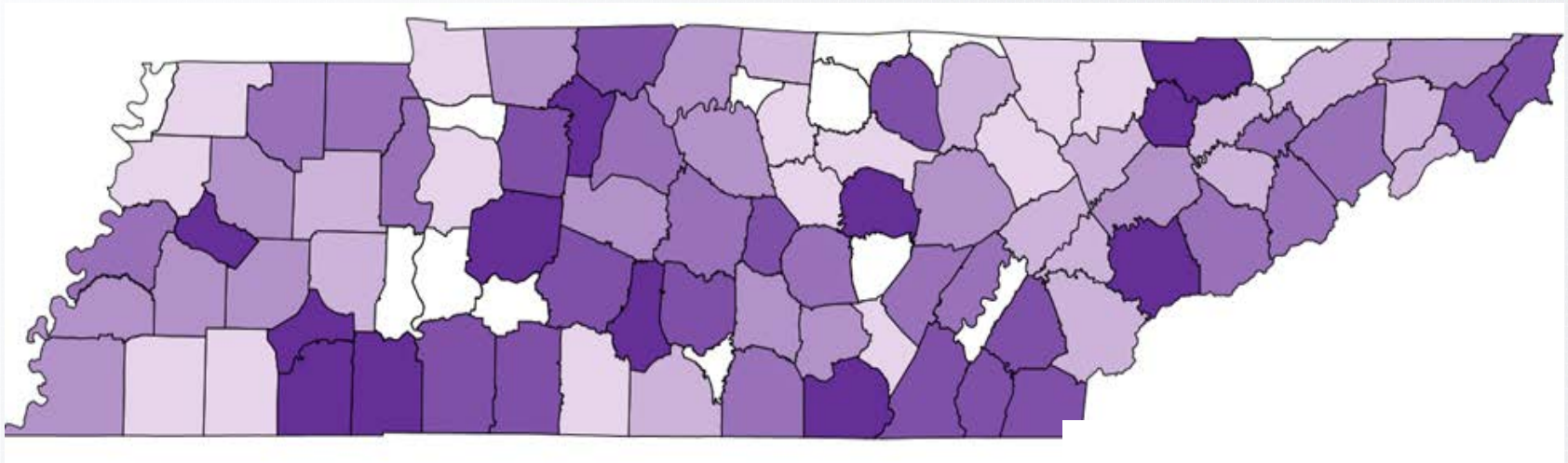


The Tennessee Context

TENNESSEE AT A GLANCE	
Total population	6.6M
Population Under 18	22.7%
Population Under 5	6.1%
Ethnicity	78.8% White
	17.1% Black/African American
	4.6% Hispanic/Latino
Median Household Income	\$44,621
Persons Below the Poverty Level	18.3%
Persons w/o Health Insurance ≤ Age 65	14.1%
TENNCARE AT A GLANCE	
Total HCFA 2017 Budget	\$11.1B (\$3.5B State) of which \$10.85B is TennCare
Covered Population	1.4M people—more than 20% of total population
	53% of all births
	50% of all children
	3% account for 50% of total program costs!!!

Tennessee ACEs Geographic Distribution

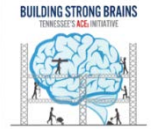
***Percentage of survey respondents with 2 or more ACEs**





ACEs Initiative Mission

Building Strong Brains: Tennessee's ACEs Initiative works to change the culture of Tennessee so the state's overarching early childhood philosophy, policies, programs and practices utilize the latest brain science to prevent and mitigate the impact of adverse childhood experiences.



ACEs Initiative Goals

- 1 Increase the potential that every child born in Tennessee has the opportunity to lead a healthy, productive life.
- 2 Raise public knowledge about ACEs.
- 3 Impact public policy in Tennessee to support prevention of ACEs and to reduce community conditions that contribute to them.
- 4 Support innovative local and state projects that offer fresh thinking and precise measurement of impact in addressing ACEs and toxic stress in children.
- 5 Seek sustainable funding to ensure the state maintains a long-term commitment to reduce the impact of adverse childhood experiences.
- 6 Embrace open, responsive governance through the Three Branches Institute (3BI) and statewide planning groups.



Concurrent Developments on ACES

ACE Awareness Center

- Shelby County, 2014
- ACEs in Shelby County Survey, January 2015: Getting To Our Roots: Transforming Our Community Through Families
- Universal Parenting Places begun

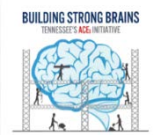


- ACE Awareness Foundation established, 2015



Three Branches Institute

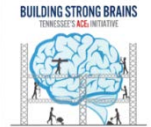
- Initiated in August, 2012, to form common agenda to advance child welfare and juvenile justice
- Growing awareness of ACEs activities across Tennessee 2013/2014
- Call for Summit, July 2015
- Established ACEs as lead agenda, November, 2015



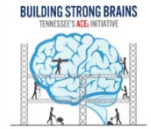
ACEs Summit: A Call to Action

- November 2015 by invitation of Governor Bill and First Lady Crissy Haslam and Deputy Governor Jim Henry and Pat Henry
- Attended by Leaders of Government, Communities, Philanthropy, Academia, Faith Organizations & Providers
- Structured around the “Two Sciences”: Brain Science and Communication Science
- Public debut of the “Brain Architecture Game”
- Concluded with Tennessee ACEs panel and Call To Action.

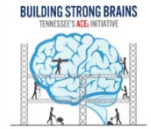
Brain Architecture Game

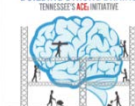


Game In Action



Summit: Tennessee Panel





Result: Front Page News!!

SUMMER

Changing the culture on childhood trauma

Childhood trauma in Tennessee

More than half of Tennessee residents experienced childhood adversity; one in five experienced three or more adverse childhood moments.

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Separation/divorce 31%	Violence between adults 19%	Exposure to mental illness 18%	Physical abuse 14%	Incarceration 11%	Substance abuse 31%	Sexual abuse 12%
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Tennessee leads to steps in public health on childhood efforts

ANITA WADHWA | INVESTIGATING JOURNALISM

Many of the state's top officials spent Thursday morning playing a brain game — fitting together pipe cleaners and straws to create brain networks that would withstand weights that represent the effects of toxic stress on a child's developing brain.

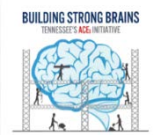
First lady Crissy Haslam worked with Tennessee Supreme Court Chief Justice Sharon Lee. At a nearby table TennCare Director Darin Gordon and Department of Human Services Commissioner Raquel Hatter puzzled through creating their own starry brain model, as did lawmakers, mayors, judges, doctors, child welfare experts, philanthropists, business executives and educators.



The Inception of Building Strong Brains— Three Key Factors



- Consensus that ACEs prevention and mitigation must be community-based and community-developed
- Proposal from FrameWorks Institute for Knowledge Mobilization
- Deputy Governor's directive for all child-serving agencies to identify two leaders each with the authority to help guide the project. This became the Public Sector Steering Group.



Infrastructure Already in Place

- Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth
- Department of Health focus on ACEs
- The Children's Cabinet co-chaired by the Governor and First Lady
- Increasingly Trauma-informed Service Systems

Building Strong Brains Public Private Partnerships



- Public Sector Steering Group

Balanced by

- Private Sector Steering Group

Supported by

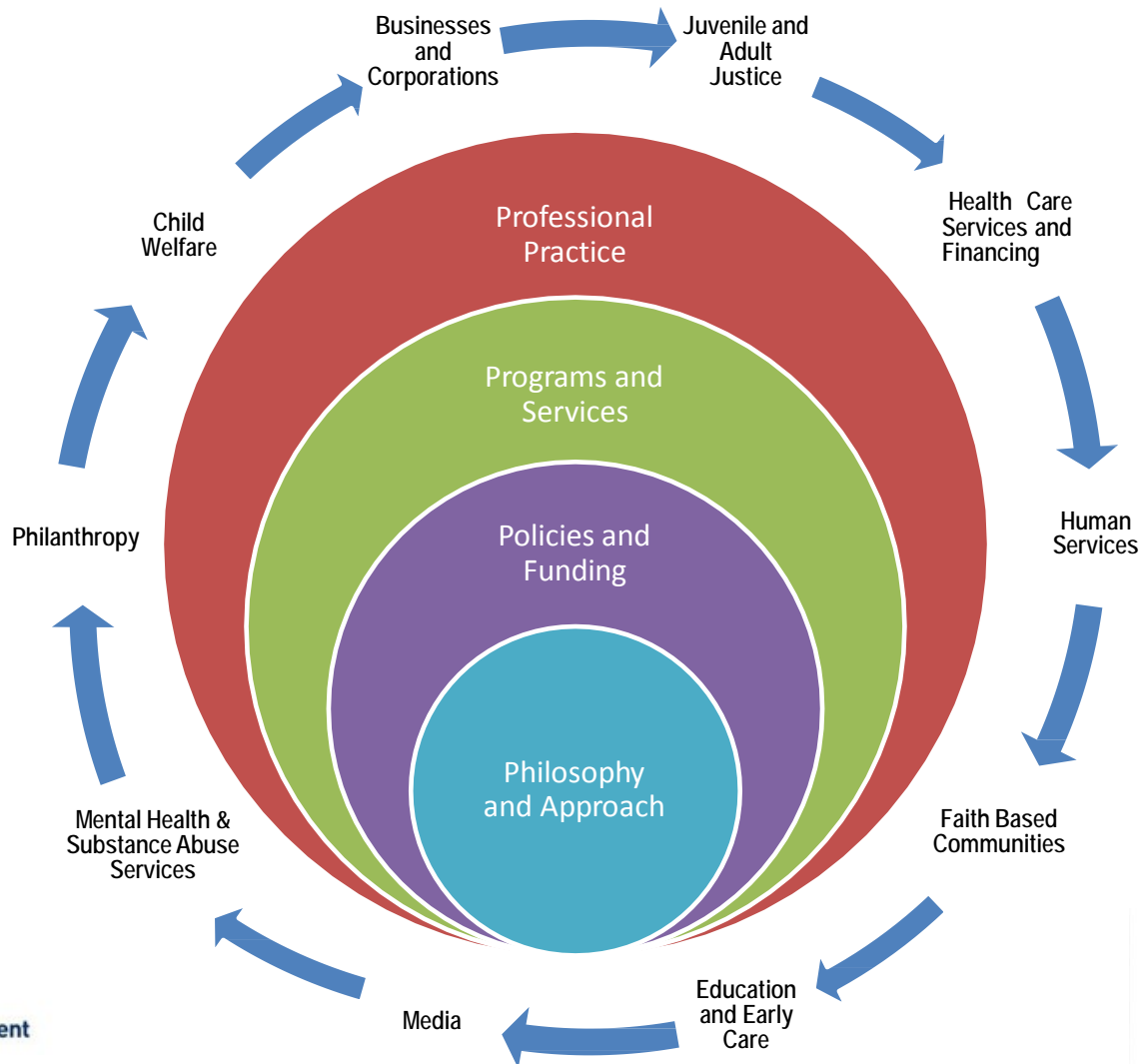
- Foundations and In-kind Resources
Tennessee State Government

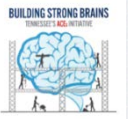


BSB Intentions: Transform the “4 Ps”

Adverse Childhood Experiences: Prevention, Mitigation, and Recovery
Anticipated Multi-Sector, Multi-Level, Public and Private Impacts

2-29-16

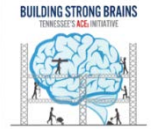




Knowledge Mobilization Path

A Statewide Top Down ↔ Grassroots Approach to Achieve Community-based Solutions

- Three Symposia
 - Symposium 1: The Science of Biology and Health
 - Symposium 2: The Science of Programmatic Innovations
 - Symposium 3: The Science of Policy
- Three FrameLabs—A deep dive into Communication Science applied to Early Childhood Development
 - FL1: Public Sector Steering Group
 - FL2 & 3: Health Providers, Educators, Judges, Faith community, NFPs, Advocates, Business Leaders, other influential community leaders



What We Learn: The Fundamentals of Complex Communication

- **VALUES**—Why does it matter? What is at stake?
 - Prosperity and Ingenuity
- **METAPHORS**—What are the solutions?
 - **Brain Architecture**—A metaphor for sensitive periods of development [early years and adolescence]
 - **Serve and Return**—A metaphor for essential responsive interactions between children and adults
 - **Toxic Stress**—A metaphor for how adverse experiences can influence biology and development
 - **Resilience Scale**—A metaphor for social determinants of wellbeing and resilience as outcome
 - **Levelness**—A metaphor for child mental health

Now That We Know.... What Do We Do?



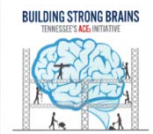
- **ACTION PLANS**

- Community-based and implemented, building on community strengths and addressing community support needs
- Broad array of strategies from fortifying Early Childhood Development to reducing environmental conditions that are ACEs

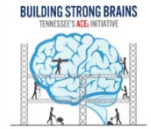
- **INNOVATION TEAMS**

- Developing new ways to solve old problems
- Borrowed from Alberta Family Wellness Initiative

Where Are We On The Knowledge Mobilization Path?



- **COMPLETED**
 - FrameLab 1: Part 1—March 17/18; Part 2—May 19
 - Symposium 1: June 21
- **IN PLANNING STAGES**
 - FrameLab 2: Part 1—September 13/14
 - Symposium 2: TBD for early December
- Surprise Injected into the Path:
\$1.25M Appropriation for ACEs-related activities



What Comes Next?

- Complete “Master Deck” for Brain Science, Communication Science and Trauma
- Establish Innovation Team to develop Interdepartmental Training Plan
- Evaluate ACEs-related proposals and initiate ones approved
- Implement strategies to engage affinity groups that are often difficult to reach
- Synchronize w/ “2G for Tennessee!”

Effecting Policy— Influencing the Future



- Learn from newly funded ACE-related activities. Apply learnings to grow effective prevention and mitigation strategies
- Include provisions for ACEs prevention and trauma-informed services in all health-related contracts
- Develop and promote finance models that demonstrate ROI for early childhood development
- Research policies, regulations and laws to find approaches to overcome obstacles to support, children, families and communities wholistically

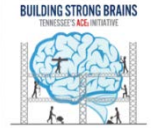


Policy Areas to Watch

- Supportive of ACEs Prevention
 - Title IV-E Waivers
 - Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Services [Note: Reauthorization expires March 2017. Must be vigilant to assure continuation.]
 - Medicaid policies that permit maternal screening for depression and counseling for mothers in treatment
 - Strategies to improve families' economic security—Housing, Nutrition, Mental Health, Substance Abuse
 - Likely others, now being researched

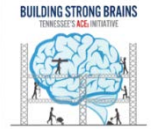
Possible Federal Policy Areas to Develop

- Major policy areas that would support ACEs prevention and mitigation
 - Reduce income inequality
 - Establish baseline income support
 - Provide parental leave
 - Provide substance abuse programs supportive of both parents and children
 - Extend Medicaid coverage to prevention services and address social determinants of health
 - Assure EITC, TANF and SNAP Housing Supports



Conclusion

- The Initiative has the benefit of many assets
 - The Governor, First Lady and Deputy Governor as Champions
 - 3BI as conduit for agenda
 - Motivated, visible Community Leadership
 - Active, organized Project Management infrastructure
 - Relationship with FrameWorks Institute
 - Good publicity and Public Relations
- There is a long way to go—It is not a sprint.
It is a marathon.



Conclusion

With this Initiative, there is Confidence in Ability to
Change the Culture

from

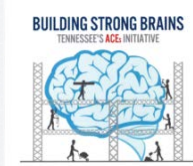
What is wrong with you?

to

What happened to you?

Thank you!

On behalf of



Building Strong Brains: Tennessee's ACEs Initiative

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