

ACEs Connection Steering Committee Meeting #3

Meeting Summary and Key Take-Aways

August 27, 2018

The ACEs Connection Steering Committee met for the third and final meeting of this phase, on Friday August 24th and again refined our vision, purpose, principles, objectives, and the draft system maps from our last meeting. We opened the meeting with a storytelling activity-- asking the Steering Committee members to imagine themselves forward in time, in the type of resilient and deeply connected community we want to create. They were asked to imagine who they were with, what kind of work was happening around them, and how they felt there; there was an overarching theme of *inclusion* in all of these future visions. The Committee then began to look forward at the process plan and goals for the upcoming KIDS Network meeting on September 5th. The following are our refined *proposed* purpose statement, principles, and objectives:

Purpose

Santa Barbara ACEs Connection is a network dedicated to holding the space and the vision to collaboratively create an integrated and resilient community built upon a foundation of relational health and wholeness.

Principles

- Build trust and relational health as a foundation for resilience
- Create a supportive, safe, equitable, accessible and inclusive network
- Welcome, hear, and honor all voices
- Grow our capacity to collaborate
- Innovate and experiment with imagination and creativity
- Bring our whole selves with fidelity and integrity
- Embrace trial and error to learn and grow (make it ok to try + fail)

Objectives

- Build trust and healthy relationships within organizations and the network
- Support organizations in operating from the vision, purpose and principles as they seek to become trauma-informed and resiliency-focused
- Ease our individual and collective ability to move between organizational and network realities, responsibilities & priorities
- Coordinate existing actions for greater impact
- Collaborate at higher levels across sectors for systems change
- Collectively shift our community focus toward a shared vision that promotes multiple pathways to resilience

In the process of refining the key elements above, the Steering Committee highlighted several important points to guide the future ACEs Connection Network members and activities. One of these points is to define the language used throughout the purpose statement, principles, and objectives in order to make these statements more accessible to everyone involved. The Steering Committee also discussed the importance of supporting agencies and organizations with tools and resources to implement these systems level goals into their day to day work. It was also noted that we are currently focused on setting the high level context for this work, and the action planning details will come during the next phase of work.

The Steering Committee also spent time preparing for the KIDS Network meeting on September 5th, where we will work on the Overlap Map activity as a group. This is one of the most accessible entry points into navigating the system, and we hope it will give the meeting attendees a chance to step into ambiguity, feel uncomfortable in the process, and experiment with seeing the system.

As we move towards the action phase a few high level questions emerged: Where are priorities, opportunities, strategies for coordinating existing actions, blockages, and high action points? How will the next phase be steered? Are individuals in this group interested in continuing on in the process? Is this structure working? Does this feel right to continue on as a group in the action plan phase?

We hope to address some of these questions and share all of our progress with the larger network at the KIDS Network meeting next Wednesday, September 5th.