

# COMMUNITY STORIES

TRAUMA INFORMED TASK FORCE OF GREATER LA



## TRAUMA INFORMED TASK FORCE OF GREATER LA

- Creates an inclusive and collaborative pipeline of participation that provides opportunities for community members to network and learn from each other and participate in leadership opportunities
- Provides education, training, and technical assistance to practically implement trauma-informed approaches to communities and organizations in Los Angeles.
- Actively engages in initiatives that support regions, partnerships, common goals, and topics that build resilience.
- Supports community members with lived experience of ACEs and other traumas to lead the momentum, participate in shared decision making, and influence local trauma informed policy changes.

**EARLY RESULTS:** Over the past year, the Trauma Informed Task Force of Greater Los Angeles (TITFGLA) has updated our strategic plan, expanded membership, provided education about adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and the effects of toxic stress through film screenings and community roundtables, and partnered with the Trauma Informed Systems Change Workgroup in Los Angeles, where we have specifically focused on the role of authentic community engagement and leadership within systems change.

**MISSION:** Our mission is to cultivate responsive and collaborative communities that foster healing and well-being.

**MEMBERS:** We are a grassroots collaboration of community members representing early childhood, family services, education, health care, mental health, juvenile justice, and other community-serving organizations. We strive to create a more resilient Los Angeles by educating individuals, communities and organizations about ACEs, trauma, and resilience, and by providing training and resources for making policy and practice changes that are needed to create healing in our communities, organizations and systems.

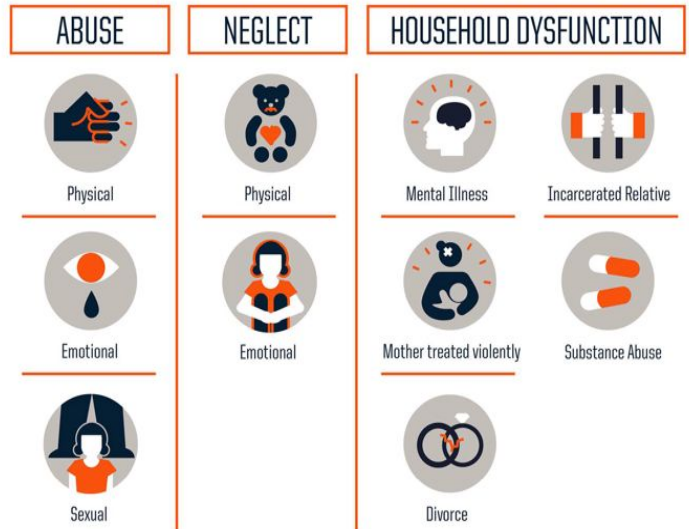
**ACEs FACTS FOR LOS ANGELES CHILDREN:** One in five children in Los Angeles County and City experienced at least two ACEs, a higher percentage compared to the state.\*

Data Source: [As cited on kidsdata.org](#), Rodriguez, D., et al. (2016)



**WHY ACEs MATTER:** Adverse childhood experiences, or ACEs, are potentially traumatic experiences that occur in childhood, such as abuse, neglect, substance abuse or mental abuse in the household, domestic violence, or having a parent in prison. In the absence of a nurturing caregiver or other protective factors, these early adverse experiences can negatively impact growing brains and bodies.

The more types of trauma people experience, the more severe the consequences. Compared to someone who did not experience any childhood adversity, for example, a person who has experienced four ACEs is 12 times more likely to attempt suicide, seven times more likely to become an alcoholic, and twice as likely to have heart disease or cancer. People with high ACE scores are more likely to struggle with depression and autoimmune diseases. ACEs can also affect a child's health and wellbeing during their childhood. More broadly, ACEs have a negative impact on our schools, criminal justice system, economic vitality, and public health.



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Credit: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

## WHAT TRAUMA INFORMED TASK FORCE OF GREATER LA IS DOING ABOUT ACEs:

- Providing an opportunity for community members to network, support and learn from each other.
- Educating people in Greater Los Angeles about ACEs and the effects of toxic stress.
- Actively supporting the implementation of trauma-informed practices that increase resilience and wellness for all residents across the lifespan.

**TRAUMA INFORMED TASK FORCE OF GREATER LA** is dedicated to preventing and reducing the number of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) in the greater Los Angeles area, creating opportunities to heal from past trauma and building a resilient Los Angeles community. **JOIN US** and engage with our Communications and Community Engagement Subcommittees.

[www.facebook.com/traumainformedla](http://www.facebook.com/traumainformedla)

Find out more about ACEs, Resilient Los Angeles and ACEs Connection Network at

<http://www.acesconnection.com/g/los-angeles-aces-connection>

ACEsConnection.com and ACEsTooHigh.com. Learn more about the California Campaign to Counter Childhood Adversity at 4CAKids.org.