

# Washington County ACEs Initiative

## *A Community Response to Adverse Childhood Experiences*

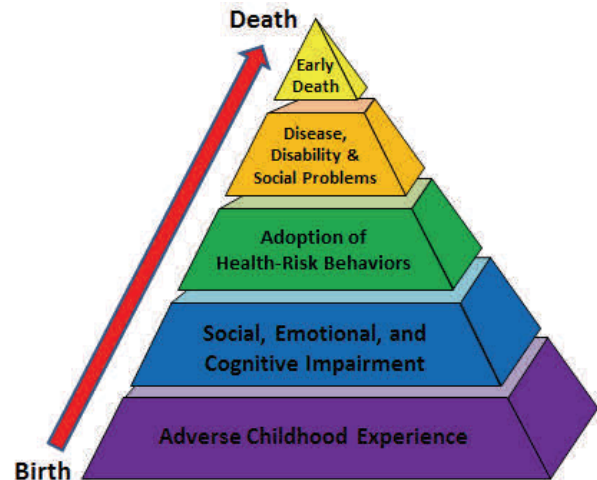


### WHAT ARE ACEs?

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are traumatic or stressful events that occur prior to the age of 18. Examples of adverse childhood experiences include: abuse, neglect, bullying, poverty, racial discrimination, community violence, substance abuse, domestic violence, natural disasters, mental illness, divorce or family separation.

### THE REALITY OF ACEs

- ACEs are common and often go unaddressed.
- ACEs are linked to developmental delays.
- ACEs are linked to maladaptive, antisocial behaviors.
- ACEs are linked to alcoholism and alcohol abuse.
- ACEs are linked to smoking and substance abuse.
- ACEs are linked to early initiation of sexually activity.
- ACEs are linked to depression and suicide attempts.
- ACEs are linked to intimate partner violence.
- ACEs are linked to chronic disease.



### COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Washington County Public Health conducted a county-wide assessment of 74 community stakeholders in December 2014. The survey results showed:

- 81% of community members were familiar with the ACE Study
- 62% of agencies were addressing resiliency
- 41% of community partners were trained to provide trauma-informed services

Washington County Public Health conducted another county-wide assessment of 293 community stakeholders in September 2015. The survey results showed:

- 89% of community members were familiar with the ACE Study
- 74% of agencies were addressing resiliency
- 50% of community partners were trained to provide trauma-informed services

### THE WASHINGTON COUNTY ACEs INITIATIVE SEEKS TO

- Raise awareness of ACEs and the life-long impact of childhood trauma.
- Mobilize comprehensive responses to ACEs across the lifespan.
- Support efforts to build resilience in families and communities as a way to overcome adversity.
- Support efforts to create safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments for children.
- Increase efforts to integrate a trauma-informed approach into practice, programs and policies.

### THE WASHINGTON COUNTY ACEs INITIATIVE MEETINGS

The ACEs Initiative currently has over 50 partners and meets quarterly at the Hillsboro Main Library.

For more information please contact:

Octavia Chambers at 503-846-3637 or [octavia\\_chambers@co.washington.or.us](mailto:octavia_chambers@co.washington.or.us)

# Resources

## Adverse Childhood Experiences:

Free Online Training:

- Futures Without Violence: <http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/>
- Iowa Department of Public Health: <http://www.iowaaces360.org/>

Additional Resources:

- ACEs Connection: <http://www.acesconnection.com/>
- ACE Response: <http://www.aceresponse.org/>
- ACEs Too High: <http://acestoohigh.com/>
- Adverse Childhood Experiences Study: [www.cestudy.org](http://www.cestudy.org)
- CDC's Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study: <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/cestudy/>

## Trauma:

Free Online Training:

- Australian Childhood Foundation: <http://www.childhood.org.au/>
- Center for Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation: <http://ecmhc.org/index.html>
- Child Trauma Academy: <http://www.childtraumaacademy.com/>
- Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS): <http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/>
- The National Child Traumatic Stress Network: <http://www.nctsn.org/>

Additional Resources:

- Center on the Developing Child: <http://developingchild.harvard.edu/>
- SAMHSA National Center for Trauma-Informed Care: [www.samhsa.gov/nctic](http://www.samhsa.gov/nctic)
- The Sanctuary Model: <http://www.sanctuaryweb.com/index.php>
- Trauma Informed Oregon: [www.traumainformedoregon.org](http://www.traumainformedoregon.org)
- The Trauma Informed Care Project: <http://www.traumainformedcareproject.org/>
- THRIVE: <http://thriveinitiative.org/thrivetraining/>

## Promoting Resilience, Healthy Families and Healthy Communities:

Free Online Training:

- FRIENDS Online Learning Center: <http://friendsnrcelearning.org/>
- National Children's Advocacy Center: <http://www.nationalcac.org/>
- The National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds (Alliance): <http://www.ctfalliance.org/>
- VetoViolence: <http://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/>

Additional Resources:

- Essentials for Childhood: <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childmaltreatment/essentials.html>
- Parenting Ideas Club: <http://www.parentingideas.com.au/Home>
- Resilience Trumps ACEs: <http://resiliencetrumpsaces.org/>

