



California Essentials for Childhood Initiative Newsletter

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Vision: All California children, youth, and their families thrive in safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments

Save the Date

Leadership Action Team Meeting
February 8, 2017 (Note date change)
Sacramento, CA

DHCS sponsors Dr. Felitti talk on the ACE Study on January 17, 2017
CDPH Auditorium in Sacramento, CA

First 5 Child Health, Education, and Care Summit 2016

First 5 California held an inspiring and productive [2016 Child, Health, Education, and Care Summit](#) on November 8-10, 2016 in Sacramento, CA. Essentials participated in two presentations at the Summit: 1) Addressing Poverty; and 2) Child Adversity and Resilience on Kidsdata.org. During her keynote address, the California Secretary of Health and Human Services, Diana Dooley, highlighted the Essentials collective work on shared indicators, particularly praising the recent rollout of childhood adversity and resilience data on Kidsdata.org.

First 5 Evaluation of Talk.Read.Sing.

First 5 California's Talk.Read.Sing.® media campaign encourages talking, reading, and singing to young children to promote healthy brain development. In a 2015 report, researchers from NORC (University of Chicago) reported high recall of First 5 California's Talk.Read.Sing. television and radio ads among adult survey panel respondents (n=994). Sixty-five percent of respondents reported either unaided recall or recognition of these ads. Among respondents recognizing the ads, a high proportion (74%) also reported the ads led them to talk, read, and sing more with their child. A regression analysis found that campaign exposure was significantly associated with an increased likelihood of respondents engaging in talking, reading, and singing.



New Childhood Adversity and Resilience Data Topic on Kidsdata.org

The California Essentials for Childhood Initiative is excited to announce the release of the new Childhood Adversity and Resilience data topic on [Kidsdata.org](#), a collaborative effort of the Essentials' Shared Data and Outcomes Workgroup and the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health. This new topic brings together three different sources of child adversity and resilience data with over 50 new indicators. These three sources taken together expand the childhood adversity and resilience framework to include measures of the broader social environments that impact California's children and families. County-level breakdowns are available to inform local planning and implementation efforts in support of safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments for all children and families.

The indicators come from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS – adults reflecting on their Adverse Childhood Experiences or ACEs), the Maternal and Infant Health Assessment (MIHA – postpartum women's childhood hardships), and the National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH – parental report on current child adversity). Both the NSCH and MIHA include a wider range of adverse experiences, such as exposure to extreme poverty, community violence, and food and housing insecurity, whereas the BRFSS ACEs Module focuses primarily on family dysfunction. Each source provides a unique but conceptually-related perspective of childhood adversity. We think this is the first time that such a broad set of childhood adversity measures have been available in one place. We are pleased to help make these measures accessible to our California communities.

This data product represents the culmination of the collaborative work of several Essentials partners including: Kidsdata, the California Department of Public Health's Maternal Child and Adolescent Health programs, First 5 California, and ACEs Connection among others. The creation of this new data topic helps to promote data-informed solutions to address child adversity and community resilience. Special thanks to all members of our Shared Data and Outcomes Workgroup, especially co-chairs Gail Kennedy and David Dodds!

Help Fight Poverty with EITC



Your organization can help reduce poverty for California families! There is a coalition of state and federal agencies and non-profits working to spread awareness about the [Earned Income Tax Credit \(EITC\)](#). To get involved or to order education materials contact: Adam Gosney (adam.gosney@csd.ca.gov).

ACEs: Awareness to Action Conference and Pediatric Symposium

The Center for Youth Wellness in San Francisco held its second biannual Conference on Adverse Childhood Experiences October 19-21, 2016. Living up to the theme, *Awareness to Action*, the conference featured dynamic leaders and practitioners in the “ACEs movement” and was attended by over 450 people from across California, the U.S. and other countries. California’s Essentials for Childhood Initiative staff and partners were involved in the conference planning committee and also moderated a panel on Trauma-Informed Systems and Workforce Development including a presentation on our Framework for Promoting a California Trauma Informed Approach.

Resilience Screening

The UC Davis Department of Family and Community Medicine, in partnership with Resilient Sacramento and the ACES Connection Network, screened the acclaimed documentary film *Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope* on November 1, 2016, at the Sacramento Central Library with over 200 attendees. Nadine Burke Harris, MD, MPH from the Center for Youth Wellness, an Essentials for Childhood partner, hosted a discussion following the screening.

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Community Corner: Reducing Recidivism through Nurturing Parenting Program Home

The Child Abuse Prevention Center (CAPC), an Essentials for Childhood partner, has an extensive history in preventing child abuse, neglect and abandonment through education, advocacy, health, and safety.¹ CAPC administers the Birth & Beyond Family Resource Center program that provides home visitation, parenting workshops, and crisis intervention services in nine high-risk communities in Sacramento County with the goal of reducing the incidence of child abuse and neglect through parenting education. Birth & Beyond uses the evidence-based Nurturing Parenting Program which is a family-centered trauma informed initiative designed to build nurturing parenting skills as an alternative to abusive and neglectful parenting and child-rearing practices. The educational components of the home visitation program are provided by AmeriCorps members. We are highlighting the findings of a recent evaluation of the Birth & Beyond home visitation program.

CAPC conducted a quasi-experimental study to evaluate the impact of parent participation in the Birth & Beyond home visitation program on the likelihood of a subsequent referral for child maltreatment to child welfare. The study compared two groups of families: 496 families who received at least eight hours of Birth & Beyond home visitation lessons and 985 families identified by Sacramento County Child Protective Services (CPS) who received no Birth & Beyond home visitation lessons. All families included had prior substantiated referrals with CPS, with an average of two or more children. The comparison families were matched on several criteria including severity of CPS involvement, education level, language, and marital status, number of children, age, and race/ethnicity.

Results demonstrated that among parents who had a previous history with CPS, those who received at least eight hours of Birth & Beyond home visitation services were 29% less likely to have a future substantiated CPS referral over a four-year period than those who did not participate in Birth & Beyond.² Birth & Beyond operates at an average cost of \$700 per parent compared to the average expense of nearly \$210,000 per child protection case, saving Sacramento County millions of dollars annually— an impressive return on investment.³ Based on the demonstrated success of Birth & Beyond, many public and private agencies can use the program as a model to prevent child abuse and neglect and to create safer, more stable and nurturing relationships, and environments for all children.

References:

1. [The Child Abuse and Prevention Center](#)
2. [AmeriCorps Impact Evaluation Birth & Beyond Home Visitation](#)
3. [Estimated Annual Cost of Child Abuse and Neglect](#)



Panel on Trauma-Informed and Resilience-Building Communities with Jane Stevens, Teri Barila, Ariane Marie-Mitchell, and DeAngelo Mack at the CYW ACEs Conference on October 19-21, 2016, in San Francisco, CA. Photo Credit: Jason Steinberg/Steinberg Imagery.