



BUILDING RESILIENCE TO IMPROVE POPULATION HEALTH

LAUNCH TEAM

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In direct response to ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences), The Michigan Health Improvement Alliance (MiHIA) is connecting and synchronizing diverse coalitions across the region in order to build resilient and connected families, safe and supportive environments, flourishing children, and overall improved population health. ACES are traumatic and extremely stressful events experienced by children and the corresponding life-long harmful effects on physical and mental growth and development as well as a lower standard of living and a shorter lifespan. It is estimated that almost 50% of American children have experienced at least one ACE. The original ACES research study which surveyed 17,000 adults found that nearly two-thirds of all adults have experienced one or more ACES and among that population 87% have experienced more than one adverse childhood experience and 50% have experienced three or more ACES. Research also has confirmed that ACES rarely occur in isolation, are highly interrelated and tend to occur in clusters.

The Launch Team for this effort is comprised of members from various sectors within the region: champions of healthcare, hospitals, K-12 schools, law enforcement, the faith-based community, and nonprofits. Action items can be grouped into three categories: strategy, education, and communications:

Strategies: Build a regional strategy map, create a project evaluation plan, build a project management HUB via MiHIA's Dashboard 4.0 Platform, implement processes for data gathering and sensemaking processes, and develop a diversified funding strategy

Education: Secure options for ACES content for ongoing professional continuing education for practicing professionals, connect existing programs for shared professional development, conduct two ACES summits in 2019 and 2020, provide five Michigan ACE Community Champion Training sessions in the region, and convene a learning network for sharing and collaboration.

Communications: Develop communications for raising awareness for the general public and school professionals, expand a Call to Action speaker circuit initiative, and provide input opportunities for stakeholders and funders regarding ongoing projects

Progress indicators in the short term include an increase in the following: partnerships developed or strengthened, number of collaborations and coalitions advanced, number of educational events conducted, and the number of people reached through education and training. On an intermediate timing, progress will include: reduced violence and child abuse along with an increase in: neighborhood safety, early childhood programs, activities that build family or community protective factors for youth, trained providers or staff, trauma-informed approaches integrated into workplaces and practices, and the number of clients who have been screened, referred or educated.



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ACTION ITEMS INCLUDE:

- Build a regional strategy map
- Build a project management HUB via MiHIA's Dashboard 4.0 Platform
- Secure options for ACES content for ongoing professional continuing education for practicing professionals
- Conduct two ACES summits in 2019 and 2020
- Connect existing educational program opportunities for shared professional development and continuing educational collaborations
- Provide five Michigan ACE Community Champion Training sessions in the Great Lakes Bay Region (GLBR)
- Expand and implement a Call to Action speaker circuit initiative
- Develop communications for raising awareness for the general public
- Develop communications for raising awareness in the school districts (for parents and staff)
- Convene a learning network for sharing information and collaboration opportunities
- Implement qualitative data gathering and sensemaking processes
- Provide stakeholder and funder input opportunities regarding ongoing projects
- Create a project evaluation plan to ensure success and strategy
- Continue to develop a diversified financing strategy to support trauma-informed service delivery

The Michigan Health Improvement Alliance (MiHIA) has been awarded a 2019 Community Health Impact grant by the Michigan Health Endowment Fund (Health Fund) to address Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and to catalyze efforts on building communities of resilience across the region. The work ahead will be a catapult for addressing trauma in the 14-county MiHIA region. Due to its on-going nature, the grant will be instrumental in helping to sustain this multi-year project.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) refer to traumatic and extremely stressful events that occur during childhood and the corresponding harmful effects on health and the standard of living for the rest of a survivor's life. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, ACEs have been linked to risky health behaviors, chronic health conditions, low life potential, and early death. Having a positive impact on the survivors can have a positive impact on chronic health conditions, improve maternal and infant health and lower substance use/abuse rates and suicide rates.

MiHIA, acting as the backbone organization, will connect and synchronize diverse coalitions across the region with resources, professional development, and consultative support to accelerate and share approaches for preventing and addressing trauma and ACEs and promoting resilience. The initiative will facilitate a support structure that will engage stakeholders across the region to catalyze positive health outcomes for individual communities.

Community partners will also engage through the convening and development of a Steering Team comprised of members from various sectors within the region: champions of healthcare, hospitals, K-12 schools, law enforcement, the faith-based community, and nonprofits.

MiHIA appreciates and recognizes the generous support of the Michigan Health Endowment fund to be able to implement this initiative.

To become a partner in this endeavor, please contact admin@mihia.org for more information.

Strategy for ACEs and Trauma-Responsive Practices

