



aces aware 

GRANTEE



# ACEs Aware in Santa Cruz County



# Overview of ACEs Aware Initiative in California

## ACEs Aware Mission

To **change and save lives** by helping providers understand the importance of **screening for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)** and training providers to **respond with trauma-informed care** to mitigate the health impacts of toxic stress.

## Led by



**Dr. Nadine Burke Harris**  
California Surgeon General



**Dr. Karen Mark**  
Medical Director  
Department of Health Care Services

To learn more about ACEs Aware, visit  
<https://www.ACEsAware.org>

## ACEs Aware initiative

**ACEs and toxic stress represent a public health crisis** that has been, until recently, largely unrecognized by our health care system and society. The good news is that research has shown that there are many ways to **prevent ACEs, reduce and heal from toxic stress, and build healthy, resilient communities**. Screening for ACEs, assessing for toxic stress, and responding with evidence-based interventions, can significantly **improve the health and well-being of individuals and families**.

California's Surgeon General, Dr. Nadine Burke Harris, has set a bold goal to **cut Adverse Childhood Experiences in half in one generation**. To achieve this, Dr. Burke Harris and Dr. Karen Mark, Medical Director of the Department of Health Care Services, are leading the **ACEs Aware initiative** as part of Governor Newsom's *California for All* initiative. ACEs Aware provides training and payment to Medi-Cal providers for ACEs screening, and trains providers and networks of care to respond with evidence-based interventions and trauma-informed care.

In June 2020, ACEs Aware awarded grants to **100 organizations** to expand the reach and impact of the ACEs Aware initiative. **Two grants were awarded to organizations that operate in Santa Cruz County.**

# ACEs Aware in SCC: Overview of Grantees

Grantee	County of Santa Cruz's Health Services Agency, Family Health Unit in the Public Health Department (HSA – PHD)		Stanford Children's Health   Lucile Packard Children's Hospital (SCH   LPCH)
Funded Partner	First 5 Santa Cruz County (First 5)	Health Improvement Partnership (HIP)	
What	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6-session <b>Network of Care</b> Learning Series (Nov 2020 – June 2021)</li> <li>Designed in partnership with <b>HSA – PHD, HIP &amp; Family &amp; Children's Services</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 <b>Peer-to-Peer Learning</b> Sessions (Oct 2020 – June 2021)</li> <li>Designed to support the integration of ACEs screening using a <b>Quality Improvement (QI)</b> and <b>Change Management Coaching</b> lens</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 <b>Listening Sessions</b> (July – Dec 2020)</li> <li>12 <b>Project ECHO® sessions</b> (Jan – June 2021)</li> </ul>
Where	<b>Santa Cruz County</b> (Open to out-of-county)	<b>Santa Cruz County</b>	<b>Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, San Mateo Counties</b>
With Whom	<p>Community members, organizations, and initiatives that <b>develop, implement, fund, and/or utilize services</b> provided through <b>medical, social, and community networks of care</b>. Groups/sectors will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consumers (parents/caregivers)</li> <li>Community advocates</li> <li>Healthcare</li> <li>Behavioral health</li> <li>Public health</li> <li>Social services</li> <li>Education (birth to college/career)</li> <li>Public safety</li> <li>Government</li> <li>Philanthropy</li> <li>Private sector</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>	<p><b>Medi-Cal providers and healthcare facilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cohort of <b>5 clinical sites</b>, selected via application process</li> <li>Application open to members of the <b>Safety Net Clinic Coalition (SNCC)</b> and <b>practices serving Medi-Cal patients</b>.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Listening Sessions:</b> Leaders of <b>pediatric practices</b> that serve children with Medi-Cal in the 3 counties</p> <p><b>Project ECHO® sessions: broader medical network of care</b>, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pediatrics primary care practitioners &amp; specialty physicians</li> <li>Mental health providers</li> <li>Social workers</li> <li>Physical and occupational therapists</li> <li>Psychologists</li> <li>Educators</li> <li>Representatives of county Medi-Cal managed healthcare plans, California Children's Services, Regional Centers, public health nursing agencies</li> </ul>

# ACEs Aware in SCC: Grantee Goals & Key Activities

	HSA – PHD		SCH   LPCH
	First 5	HIP	
<b>Overall Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reinforce ACEs Aware training topics, applying an explicit racial equity lens</li> <li>Strengthen medical, social, and community networks of care</li> <li>Increase capacity to implement policy solutions that address systemic adversity and build community resilience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote shared learning and quality improvement among Medi-Cal providers in adopting ACE screenings and providing trauma-informed care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use the Project ECHO® model to create a network of care that empowers pediatrics primary care clinicians and interagency partners to identify and respond to ACEs in children with Medi-Cal in the three participating counties</li> </ul>
<b>Key Activities</b>	<p>Design and facilitate a 6-session Learning Series that provides opportunities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Increase or reinforce knowledge about “the Pair of ACEs” – Adverse Childhood Experiences in the context of Adverse Community Environments</li> <li>✓ Share best practices and lessons learned about screening for ACEs and assessing risk for toxic stress</li> <li>✓ Strengthen referral pathways and culturally responsive networks of care that respond to and foster healing from ACEs</li> <li>✓ Identify, advocate for, and implement policy solutions that build community resilience by addressing the Pair of ACEs</li> </ul>	<p>A cohort of five clinical sites will receive quality improvement/practice coaching and change management coaching and then participate in Peer-to-Peer Learning Sessions designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Elucidate and overcome pain points of integration between physical and mental health providers who work in a health center team</li> <li>✓ Share challenges and best practices in workflows with implementation of ACE screenings</li> <li>✓ Support use of clinical protocols to determine treatment plans</li> </ul>	<p><b>Listening Sessions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Learn from pediatrics leaders about opinions, barriers, opportunities, lessons learned, and successes around universal ACEs screening in the pediatrics population</li> </ul> <p><b>Project ECHO® sessions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Review ACEs Aware terminology about toxic stress, Adverse Childhood Events, and treatment options when a child has experienced ACEs</li> <li>✓ Allow practitioners from many fields to come together to create countywide identification and referral networks of trauma-informed care</li> <li>✓ FREE CME available to a range of providers</li> </ul>

# ACEs Aware in SCC: Integrated Timeline

Who	Oct '20	Nov	Dec	Jan '21	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
<b>First 5</b>		<b>11/12/20</b> <b>Session 1</b> The Pair of ACEs in Practice (Center for Community Resilience)		<b>1/14/21</b> <b>Session 2</b> Connecting Across Sectors (CCR)	<b>2/11/21</b> <b>Session 3</b> Connecting ACEs, Equity & Resilience (CCR)	<b>3/11/21</b> <b>Session 4</b> TBD*	<b>4/8/21</b> <b>Session 5</b> TBD*	<b>May/June 2021</b> <b>Session 6</b> Community Conversation in partnership with HIP	
<b>HIP</b>	<b>10/27/20</b> ACEs Tool Integration Application opens	<b>Nov 2020 – Jan 2021</b> ACEs Tool Integration Cohort Established Practice Readiness Assessment Quality Improvement Coaching			<b>2/9/21</b> Peer-to-Peer Session  <b>Feb – April 2021</b> Change management coaching		<b>4/13/21</b> Peer-to-Peer Session Pain Points of Integration		<b>May/June 2021</b> Community Conversation in partnership with First 5
<b>SCH   LPCH</b>	Listening Sessions			<b>1/6/21</b> ECHO: Screen	<b>2/3/21</b> ECHO: Screen	<b>3/3/21</b> ECHO: Treat	<b>4/7/21</b> ECHO: Treat	<b>5/5/21</b> ECHO: Heal	<b>6/2/21</b> ECHO: Heal
				<b>1/20/21</b> ECHO: Screen	<b>2/17/21</b> ECHO: Screen	<b>3/17/21</b> ECHO: Treat	<b>4/21/21</b> ECHO: Treat	<b>5/19/21</b> ECHO: Heal	<b>6/16/21</b> ECHO: Heal

\* Session topics and speakers will be confirmed after receiving additional input from project partners and Network of Care Learning Session participants.

# SCC ACEs Planning Team



## Susan Paradise

Health Services Manager

[Susan.Paradise@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:Susan.Paradise@santacruzcounty.us)

Oversight of County's ACEs Aware grant



## Najeeb Kamil

Senior Human Services Analyst

[Najeeb.Kamil@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:Najeeb.Kamil@santacruzcounty.us)

Planning partner, integrate ACEs framework in Child Abuse Prevention Workgroup



## David Brody

Executive Director

[dbrody@first5scc.org](mailto:dbrody@first5scc.org)

Oversight of First 5's ACEs Aware grant from HSA



## Maritza Lara

Program Manager

[maritza@hipscc.org](mailto:maritza@hipscc.org)

Oversight of HIP's ACEs Aware Grant from HSA, program design, project management, reporting, and communications

## Christine Sieburg

Program & Communications Manager

[csieburg@first5scc.org](mailto:csieburg@first5scc.org)

Project management, reporting, communications



## In collaboration with

### Dr. Barbara Bentley

Licensed Clinical Psychologist

[BBentley@stanfordchildrens.org](mailto:BBentley@stanfordchildrens.org)

Clinical Associate Professor (Affiliated), Stanford School of Medicine; Co-lead LCPH's ACEs Aware grant with Dr. Christina Buysse, MD

## Nicole Young

Optimal Solutions Consulting

[nicole@opti-solutions.com](mailto:nicole@opti-solutions.com)

Consultant to First 5: Learning Series content, design, facilitation

Consultant to CORE Investments: co-host Network of Care Learning Series, bilingual in-meeting Zoom support

