

## Meeting Notes

Adverse Childhood Experiences: Building a Community Response

Friday, June 23, 2017

Dublin Street United Church, Guelph ON

### Summary of Key Messages & Material

#### *What are ACEs and why do they matter?*

- [Adverse Childhood Experiences Primer](#)
- [Nadine Burke – Ted Talk](#)

#### *Key Note: Jean Clinton*

- See presentation attached

#### *What is the Parent Outreach Worker Program?*

- See presentation attached
- POW Program Video: <http://guelphneighbourhoods.org/nni/>

#### *Highlights from other Models*

- Example from: [Walla Walla](#)
- See table on next page

For more resource and information about Adverse Childhood Experiences, follow this link: [Nurturing Neighbourhood Initiative](#)

Target Group	Interventions and Outcomes
Families & individuals who are at-risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education about ACEs</li> <li>• Relationship building</li> <li>• Connecting families in need with formal/informal supports</li> <li>• Tailored therapeutic interventions</li> </ul>
General Public/ Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness raising or education about ACEs</li> <li>• Prevent people from “needing services”</li> <li>• Community building – empowering families to improve their neighbourhoods</li> </ul>
Direct Service Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness raising or education about ACEs</li> <li>• Skill building and training about how to prevent and mitigate the effects of ACEs</li> <li>• Adopt a trauma-informed/ACEs lens</li> <li>• Evidence-based programming</li> <li>• Screen for and identify ACEs</li> <li>• Seamless access</li> </ul>
Decision-Makers (Elected officials, Senior Leaders)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness raising or education about ACEs</li> <li>• Use ACEs lens in decision and policy-making</li> <li>• Aligning policies and funding priorities</li> </ul>
<b>Research &amp; Evaluation</b>	

### **Facilitated Discussion Highlights**

In the afternoon, event participants were asked to think about the following three questions:

**1) What would a community without Adverse Childhood Experience look like?**

**2) Post where your organization is right now in terms of prevention and repair**

**3) What are all the things that you could do in your organization/community to prevent and/or repair the effects of ACEs?**

Below is a themed summary of the all the ideas that came up in response to the questions above. This table will be used to engage stakeholders in conversations and decisions about the next steps our community will take to prevent and mitigate the effects of ACEs.

<b>Intervention</b>	<b>Target Group</b>	<b>Action Ideas</b>
Educate and Train	Parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>empower and educate parents and support them to change their behaviours, no blame or guilt</li> <li>more promotional material being available in the community (not just agencies, funders, etc)</li> </ul>
	Educators OEYC Staff Neighbourhood Groups Medical World Leadership Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborative Learning Opportunities</li> <li>Share resources/information</li> <li>Focused training on prevention</li> <li>Shift mindset from “what’s wrong?” to “what happened?”</li> <li>Educate to create “ACEs informed staff”</li> <li>Provide trauma informed training to all staff (build a common language)</li> <li>identify how ACEs IS our work, not part of our work</li> <li>build ACEs/resilience into school programming, ensure we have trauma informed teachers/ staff/schools, give them the tools to know what other organizations can support them</li> <li>building capacity to ‘welcome complexity</li> <li>Educate about the community “work we do” (Child Welfare)</li> <li>Using social media for educational messages</li> <li>more promotional material being available in the community (not just agencies, funders, etc)</li> <li>*education/promotion/evaluation (needs more work/training)</li> </ul>

Intervention	Target Group	Action Ideas
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>more knowledge of different outreach between agencies and service providers</li> </ul>
Raise Awareness		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>prevention awareness; care for caregivers</li> <li>awareness raising about the issue</li> </ul>
Advocate		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>advocate to decision makers</li> <li>Advocate for POW</li> </ul>
Shift beliefs/norm/mindset	Service providers Educators Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>changing the norm</li> <li>Changing mindsets; “what’s wrong?” to “what happened to you?”</li> <li>Shifting mindset about behaviour : -misbehaviours— stress behaviour; -what’s wrong—what happened to you</li> <li>How to be more intentional about applying an ACEs lens to our work</li> <li>Normalizing ACEs conversations</li> <li>Challenging old beliefs and the status quo (push each other to think differently) (Child Welfare)</li> </ul>
Deliberate conversations/ story telling	Community members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaging in conversation to build relationships</li> </ul>
	General Public/Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sharing stories to empower process</li> <li>Sharing success stories with the community(Child Welfare)</li> <li>Telling a common story rooted in high quality evidence</li> <li>Talk about it with everyone you know</li> </ul>
	Amongst each other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Courageous conversations</li> <li>Even when we might disagree, have tough conversations in support of the families we work with(CW)</li> <li>Cross board discussions to talk about how we can work together(Child Welfare)</li> </ul>
	Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sense of urgency and media attention</li> <li>National coverage</li> <li>Using social media for educational messages</li> </ul>
	Everyone (messaging - include resilience, health and economic case)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hopeful messages of resilience</li> <li>Talk about how it is not a death sentence, not reversible but can build resiliency</li> <li>Framing ACEs: less chronic disease burden/less economic burden</li> </ul>
Support	People who are	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social connections, personal not social media</li> </ul>

Intervention	Target Group	Action Ideas
informal supports and connections	struggling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generation to generation support</li> <li>• Actively find networks then intentionally work to support and sustain them(Child Welfare)</li> <li>• Network support; parents connected to other parents and professionals</li> <li>• Intentionally connecting people (informal relationships)</li> <li>• Building a sense of community/community members who care for each other (if we could do this well we would need less formal services, however HOW do we do this?)</li> <li>• Understand the importance of social connections and building relationships (not just a cute story but a way to change lives)</li> <li>• Schools provide spaces where kids are found and community can meet</li> </ul>
Affordable, accessible, responsive services and supports	People who need services and supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistance for parents of ACE(s)</li> <li>• We all need the skills for emotional regulation</li> <li>• Pour \$ into affordable therapy</li> <li>• Self-reflection and links to support</li> <li>• Workers (front line staff) need to have direction to make decisions that work for children and families, the need to be supported to get “out of the box” (Child Welfare)</li> <li>• Awareness leading to navigation around supports</li> <li>• Accessibility; hours; location/equitable</li> <li>• Invest in affordable housing; guaranteed annual income; safe and affordable housing</li> <li>• Maintain programs that we know work (evidence based, client feedback) (Child Welfare)</li> <li>• Let go of the services/programs that might not be as effective(Child Welfare)</li> <li>• Collaborate on shared goals in partnership with family(Child Welfare)</li> <li>• Recognize the signs and symptoms</li> <li>• Support the POW model/Adopt the POW model at your organization</li> <li>• Go to them, don’t have them come to us</li> <li>• Accessible child care; quality childcare</li> <li>• Creating support systems that are more universal/less stigmatizing</li> </ul>
Fund Prevention and	Funders and Decision-makers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding is directly attached to prevention</li> <li>• Policy makers need to see value in funding evaluation</li> </ul>

Intervention	Target Group	Action Ideas
evaluation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>process</li> <li>• More money from funders, realignment of existing funding</li> <li>• Fund <u>PREVENTION</u></li> <li>• Build community plant and pool resources</li> <li>• Jordan’s Principle (do the right thing now, argue about \$ later) (Child Welfare)</li> <li>• Educate medical world to shift approach and then invest to support implantation of those approaches</li> </ul>
Find Champions		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need champions to sit with decision makers</li> <li>• Making groups accountable for the future—this investment in the future is hard to market when the results aren’t seen for many years</li> </ul>
Data, Research and Evaluation	Decision Makers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data is very powerful and motivating to more people and issues</li> <li>• Research supports vision</li> <li>• Prioritize data collection and sharing related to this issue (informs programs/funding opportunities)</li> <li>• Common language, common tools/assessments</li> </ul>
	Service Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate accessibility of programs/outreach emphasis (formal and informal)</li> <li>• Education/promotion/evaluation (needs more work/training)</li> <li>• Service evaluation, climate surveys</li> <li>• Education/promotion/evaluation (needs more work/training)</li> <li>• Need to start by assessing the needs of this stakeholder group and prioritizing what we can provide</li> <li>• ACE screening tools as part of “front line” work(Child Welfare)</li> </ul>
Work Together	Service Providers/ Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move beyond collaboration and make intentional linkages</li> <li>• Strengthen partnerships</li> <li>• Creating partnerships between agencies to share resources/”warm referrals”</li> <li>• Improve coordination of overall system</li> </ul>
Other Considerations		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LISTEN TO THOSE WITH EXPERIENCE What they need...</li> <li>• Consider rural needs</li> </ul>

Intervention	Target Group	Action Ideas
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="743 239 1455 302">• Not new information but validates why we should focus on this</li><li data-bbox="743 317 1354 344">• Mindfulness; practicing mindfulness/mentoring</li></ul>