Resilient & Trauma-Informed Community:
Responding to ACEs & toxic stress through community partnerships

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Objectives

• Describe the benefits of a community change model that encourages cross-sector action for preventing and addressing ACEs and toxic stress.

• Identify a framework for mobilizing and aligning community partnerships to effectively respond to the impact of ACEs and risk of toxic stress.
At Gundersen Health System, we are working to adopt a Trauma-Informed Care framework

ACEs and toxic stress identified as a public health crisis and strategic priority for Gundersen Health System

Trauma-informed care recognizes and responds to the signs, symptoms, and risks of trauma to better support the health needs of patients who have experienced ACEs and toxic stress.

At Gundersen Health System, we are working to adopt a Trauma-Informed Care framework

**Understanding** the prevalence of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

**Recognizing** the effects of ACEs and toxic stress on health and behavior

**Training** leadership, providers, and staff on responding to patients with best practices in trauma-informed care;

**Integrating** knowledge about trauma and adversity into policies, procedures, practices and treatment planning; and

**Resisting** re-traumatization by approaching patients who have experienced ACEs and/or other adversities with non-judgmental support.

Impact of ACEs and toxic stress extends beyond the walls of a health system

ACEs and toxic stress identified as a public health problem.

In order to be successful inside of our walls, we needed to bridge effective & collaborative community partnerships.
The ACEs Aware initiative advocates for a Trauma-Informed Network of Care, which is a cross-sector, interdisciplinary group of community partners providing access to evidence-based buffering resources and working to prevent, treat, and heal the harmful consequences of toxic stress.

To mobilize collaborative, cross-sector efforts we knew we needed to leave some old roadmaps

Resilient & Trauma-Informed Community
Kaleidoscope Model of Change

Our Community
Connected, Healthy, and Resilient

Strengthening Resilience
Enhance protective factors to help people bounce back and reduce risk for poor health outcomes

Disrupting the Cycle
Reduce risk of child exposure to trauma through prevention and early intervention

Restoring Lives
Integrate accessible and effective supports that foster healing and recovery

Foundation
Establish shared knowledge and understanding to support trauma-informed values, actions and systems

Resilient and Trauma-Informed Community (RTIC) is a solution-oriented, relationship-based framework designed to have a sustained community impact.

RTIC supports the establishment and maintenance of a collaborative network of community partners to foster cohesive and coordinated system improvement efforts that support a connected, healthy and resilient community.
Four Phases for building a Resilient & Trauma-Informed Community

We Start in the Foundation: Creating Conditions for Community Change

Goals for the Foundation

- Increase knowledge of ACEs & toxic stress, TIC, Resilience & Collective Impact
- Build infrastructure to support collaborative work among partners
- Engage champions as community partners

Sectors Engaged in the Community Effort

- Early Childhood
- Education PK-12
- Higher Education
- Youth Serving Organizations
- Non-Profit
- Government
- Elected Officials
- Healthcare
- Faith-based
- Law Enforcement
- Civic Volunteer
- Neighborhood Associations
- Business
- Media
- Mental Health Providers
Built a RTIC Network of Champions as our community of care infrastructure

~250 RTIC Champions representing different sectors of our community

Four Phases for building a Resilient & Trauma-Informed Community

The Action Phases

Because of the community infrastructure built in Foundation phases, we now have a robust RTIC Network of cross-sector partners that can mobilize quickly around opportunities to Disrupt the Cycle, Strengthen Resilient and Restore Lives.

What does the work of a Resilient & Trauma-Informed Community look like?

**RTIC System Teams** include a team of Champions working on cross-sector alignment of action to achieve systems-level change that Disrupts the Cycle, Strengthens Resilience and Restores Lives.

**RTIC Facilitator** supports the change process of the cross-sector, community partner team of Champions working towards targeted systems level change.

What does the work of Resilient & Trauma-Informed Community look like?

RTIC System Teams of Champions working together to align actions in order to achieve community-level changes

Champion (health care)  Champion (human services)  Champion (schools)

RTIC Facilitator supports collaborative change process

References


