



Mikah Owen, MD, MPH, MBA
Co-Principal Investigator, UCAAN

ACEs Aware Goals and Objectives



Raising Awareness

Train and expand awareness among Medi-Cal providers on ACE screening and response



Practice Change

Support implementation of ACE screening and response for Medi-Cal providers



Network of Care

Support development of a trauma-informed network of care

Reduce ACEs and toxic stress by half in one generation

Training: Becoming ACEs Aware in California



Becoming ACEs Aware in California is a free, two-hour online training that educates clinicians and their teams on how to provide trauma-informed care, screen for ACEs and assess the risk of toxic stress, and use clinical protocols to develop a treatment plan to prevent and mitigate toxic stress.

Training: Becoming ACEs Aware Certified

Number of people who completed the
Becoming ACEs Aware in California training



Source: February 2024 data report

- ✓ Qualified Medi-Cal providers are eligible for a \$29 payment for qualifying Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) screenings for pediatric and adult patients (up to age 65) with full scope Medi-Cal.
- ✓ The training offers 2.0 Continuing Education credits and 2.0 Maintenance of Certification credits upon completion.
- ✓ Providers who intend to receive Medi-Cal payment for ACE screenings must complete the training and provide their NPI information as part of the training evaluation.
- ✓ Certified clinicians are encouraged to join the [ACES Aware Clinician Directory](#).

ACEs Aware Learning Center



- *Becoming ACEs Aware in California* core training
- 93+ hours of training content
- More than 37,000 views

Training topics also include:

- How to launch and sustain an ACE screening initiative in primary care clinics
- ACE screening and trauma-informed care in reproductive health settings
- Evidence-based strategies for mitigating toxic stress

Training & Provider Engagement Webinars



- 36+ webinars
- 17,000+ live attendance
- 16,000+ recorded attendance



training.acesaware.org

ACEs Aware Goals and Objectives



Raising Awareness

Train and expand awareness among Medi-Cal providers on ACE screening and response



Practice Change

Support implementation of ACE screening and response for Medi-Cal providers



Network of Care

Support development of a trauma-informed network of care

Reduce ACEs and toxic stress by half in one generation

Technical Assistance

ACEs Aware Clinical Implementation Pilot Program

The ACEs Aware Clinical Implementation Pilot Program

Background
Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are a preventable root cause of numerous health conditions and social challenges. In California, 62 percent of adults have experienced at least one ACE, and 16 percent have experienced four or more ACEs. Among Californians enrolled in Medi-Cal, 60 percent report that they have at least one ACE, and 23 percent have four or more ACEs. Identification of exposure to ACEs and other risk factors for toxic stress – through universal and routine ACE screening – helps clinicians provide more effective, equitable, specific, and high-quality health care.

The ACEs Aware initiative offers Medi-Cal providers training, screening tools, clinical protocols, and payment for screening children and adults for ACEs. 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.

The purpose of the ACEs Aware Clinical Implementation Pilot Program is to help California Medi-Cal providers overcome barriers to implementing and sustaining an ACE screening and response initiative in their clinic.



Eligibility

To be eligible for the ACEs Aware Clinical Implementation Pilot Program, applicant organizations must meet the following requirements:

- Be a clinical service provider located in California.
- At least 25 percent of patient/client population of the clinic must be enrolled in Medi-Cal.
- Is not currently screening for ACEs or screens less than 25 percent of patient/client population for ACEs.

Additionally, organizations that receive an ACEs Aware Clinical Implementation Pilot Program award will commit to:

- Ensuring all clinical staff complete the Becoming ACEs Aware in California core training and attest to completion (as appropriate).
- Forming an ACE screening and response implementation team.
- Attending three virtual meetings with the ACEs Aware technical assistance team (before, midway, and at the end of the grant period, which begins when the organization receives funds).
- Launching an ACE screening and response pilot within three months of receiving the award.
- Submitting a final report.



The ACEs Aware Clinical Implementation Pilot Program

Program Timeline
Pilot program period will be nine months, with the start beginning the day the funds are received.

Funding Amount:
Pilot award amount will be based on the clinic's number of providers eligible for Medi-Cal payment for ACE screening.

Provider types can be found at:
www.acesaware.org/learn-about-screening/telling-provider-types

Number of Eligible Providers*	Funding Amount
1-9 eligible providers	\$5,000
10-24 eligible providers	\$10,000
25 or more eligible providers	\$15,000

Health systems with multiple clinics are encouraged to submit one application, instead of each clinic applying separately. Additional funding for health systems with multiple locations and more than 10 providers will be considered. Exceptions must be justified.

Timeline
Applications for the ACEs Aware Clinical Implementation Pilot Program will be accepted on a rolling basis.

Application Process
Providers are invited to complete the online application form at:
www.acesaware.org/submit-form

Questions about the application process can be submitted to questions@acesaware.org





Technical Assistance

Contact Us

We are here to help! Please use the form below to submit any questions you have about the ACEs Aware initiative.

Technical Assistance: Health care teams are invited to use the form to request technical assistance to implement ACE screening and response.

If you are requesting support for the Becoming ACEs Aware in California training, please use the [support form on our learning management system](#).

Please fill out the form below and a member of our team will respond back soon.

Name:

Email:

Organization:

☐ I'm not a robot 

What is the general nature of your question?
----- Choose a category -----

Your question(s):
Please explain the question or issue in detail so that we can better assist you.



**Assistance is
a click away.**

UCAAN

Resources for the Clinical Response to ACE Screening

STRESS BUSTERS



The diagram is a circular infographic with 'STRESS BUSTERS' in the center. It is surrounded by seven colored segments, each with an icon and a label: Supportive Relationships (blue, handshake icon), Quality Sleep (dark blue, clock icon), Balanced Nutrition (purple, apple icon), Physical Activity (red, bicycle icon), Mindfulness Practices (orange, hands in prayer icon), Experiencing Nature (green, tree icon), and Mental Healthcare (teal, heart icon).

Stress Busters: Seven Ways to Manage Stress

We all have stress in our lives, but did you know that using strategies to manage stress, or prevent it in the first place, can help us live healthier and longer lives?

Stress Busters are seven ways you can manage your day-to-day stress as well as counter toxic stress from Adverse Childhood Experiences. All Stress Busters have been shown to improve brain health and immune function and balance stress hormones. See which ones might work best for you and the people you care about.

Check out Stress Buster tips and strategies in our new patient handouts, and find additional resources on the individual Stress Buster webpages listed below.

[READ THE STRESS BUSTERS OVERVIEW HANDOUT](#)

More information and resources on the seven Stress Buster strategies:


SUPPORTIVE
RELATIONSHIPS


QUALITY SLEEP


BALANCED NUTRITION


PHYSICAL ACTIVITY


MINDFULNESS
PRACTICES


EXPERIENCING NATURE

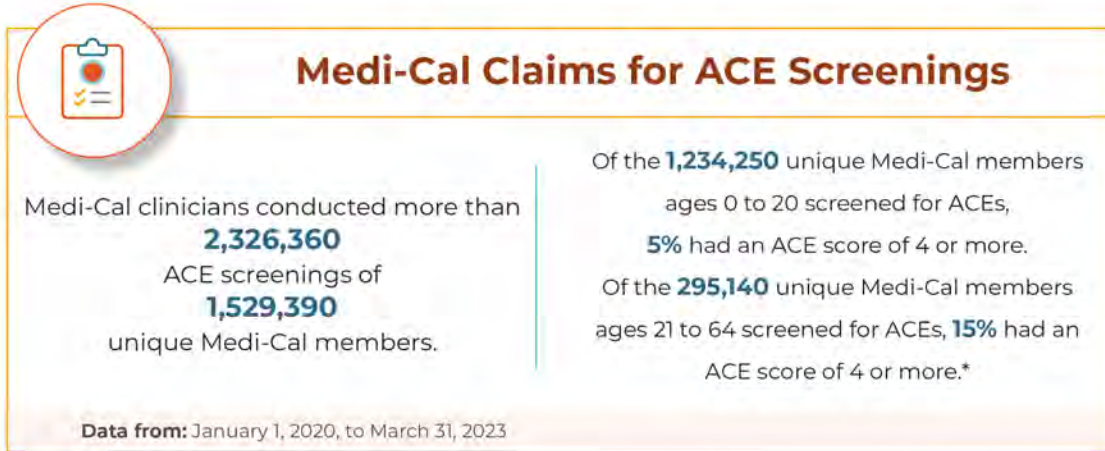

MENTAL HEALTHCARE

Go to
acesaware.org/managestress
to find:

- Patient handouts
- Online course for providers
- Short videos
- Crisis and safety resources
- And more!



ACE Screening in the Clinic



Source: February 2024 data report

ACEs Aware Goals and Objectives



Raising Awareness

Train and expand awareness among Medi-Cal providers on ACE screening and response



Practice Change

Support implementation of ACE screening and response for Medi-Cal providers



Network of Care

Support development of a trauma-informed network of care

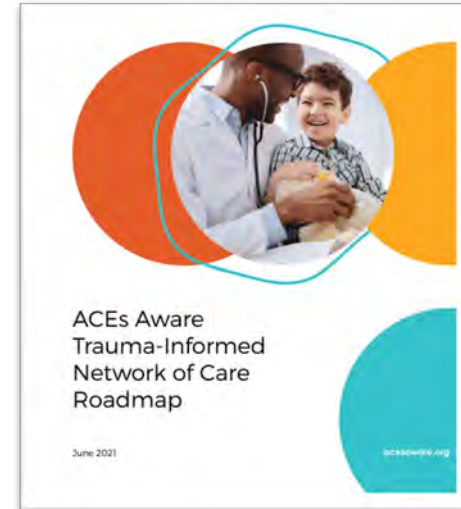
Reduce ACEs and toxic stress by half in one generation

\$64.5+ Million in Grants across California



Trauma-Informed Networks of Care

- The clinical response is necessary, but not sufficient, to address the individual and population-level impact of ACEs and toxic stress.
- Cross-sector collaboration is needed to support the health of children, adults, and families with evidence-based stress-mitigation strategies and supports.
- ACEs Aware published the [*Trauma-Informed Network of Care Roadmap*](#) to catalyze cross-sector collaboration and increase the collective capacity of clinics and communities to prevent, identify, and respond to ACEs and toxic stress.



Growing Networks of Care in Communities

Trauma Informed Network of Care Grant Awards



- A network of care is a group of **interdisciplinary** health, education, and human service professionals, community members, and organizations.
- Supports families by providing access to **evidence-based “buffering” resources** and supports.
- Helps to **prevent, treat, and heal** the harmful consequences of toxic stress.

PRACTICE Grant

Goals:

- **Partnerships**

- Strengthen partnerships to screen for ACEs in order to identify clinical risk for and respond to toxic stress.

- **Services Development**

- Develop sustainable, practical, community-informed, and evidence-based services that target toxic stress physiology and ACE-Associated Health Conditions, and support the prevention of ACEs and toxic stress.

- **Workforce Development**

- Build a sustainable workforce to support ACE screening, toxic stress response, and prevention of ACEs, toxic stress, and ACE-Associated Health Conditions.

PRACTICE:

Preventing and
Responding to ACE-
Associated Health
Conditions and Toxic
Stress in Clinics
through Community
Engagement

PRACTICE

The 25 grantee teams, from 15 California counties, serve a wide range of diverse patient populations.

Grant cycle runs through March 2024

Goal: increase the workforce and services needed for primary care clinics to expand and sustain screening and response to ACEs and toxic stress in local communities.

Leverage new sources of funding made available through the transformation of Medi-Cal, through initiatives such as CalAIM

