

Act 43 charge:

On or before February 1, 2018, the Agency of Human Services shall update the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare and the House Committees on Health Care and on Human Services on work being done in advance of the response plan required by subsection (a) of this section.

Act 43, Subsection (a)

- On or before January 15, 2019, the Agency of Human Services shall present to the House Committees on Health Care and on Human Services and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare... a plan that specially addresses the integration of evidence-informed and family-focused prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery services for individuals affected by adverse childhood experiences.
- The plan shall address the coordination of services throughout the Agency....

The Plan must
propose
mechanisms
for:

- 1) improving and engaging community providers in the systematic prevention of trauma;
- (2) case detection and care of individuals affected by adverse childhood experiences;
- (3) ensuring that grants to the Agency of Human Services' community partners related to children and families strive toward accountability and community resilience

AHS Act 43 Report (2017)

**Report to
The Vermont Legislature**

Building resilience for individuals experiencing adverse childhood experiences

In Accordance with Act 43 of 2017

Submitted to: Senate Committee on Health and Welfare
Senate Committee on Appropriations

House Committee on Appropriations
House Committee on Health Care
House Committee on Human Services

Submitted by: Al Gobeille, Secretary, Agency of Human Services

Report Date: 8/15/2017

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Strengthening Families Framework



ACES

Adverse Childhood Experiences Score

The number of categories of adverse childhood experiences are summed (types, not incidents)

<i>ACE score</i>	<i>Prevalence in ACE study</i>	<i>VT ACE data 2011</i>
0	36.1%	42%
1	26%	23%
2	15.9%	12%
3	9.5%	9%
4 or more	12.5%	14%

AHS Trauma-Informed System of Care



STATE OF VERMONT Agency of Human Services (AHS)		
Trauma Informed System of Care	REVISION HISTORY: 10/30/08, 10/23/17	Chapter/Number 1.07
	EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/23/17	Attachments/Related Documents:
Authorizing Signature: <u>Al Gobeille</u> Date Signed: <u>10/23/2017</u> Name/Title: <u>Al Gobeille, Secretary</u>		

POLICY STATEMENT:

The Agency of Human Services is committed to being a trauma-informed and trauma-responsive organization (Act 45, section 3(12), (2003)). The purpose of this policy is to foster a human services system that employs and practices trauma-informed principles in relation to staff and the individuals and families it serves. We recognize that:

- Everyone may have experienced trauma: the people we serve, those we encounter while conducting business and staff;
- It is possible to traumatize or re-traumatize individuals through insensitive systems or interactions that violate a person's sense of safety and control;
- Trauma-informed services are essential for people to successfully access and benefit from AHS services and supports. People tend to avoid places and situations that make them feel unsafe or disrespected, therefore it is important that AHS staff are skilled in using a trauma-informed approach;
- For AHS staff to provide effective services, they also need to be supported by a trauma-informed workplace.

Toward this end, AHS and its departments will adopt and implement policies and practices created with a trauma-informed and prevention focus.

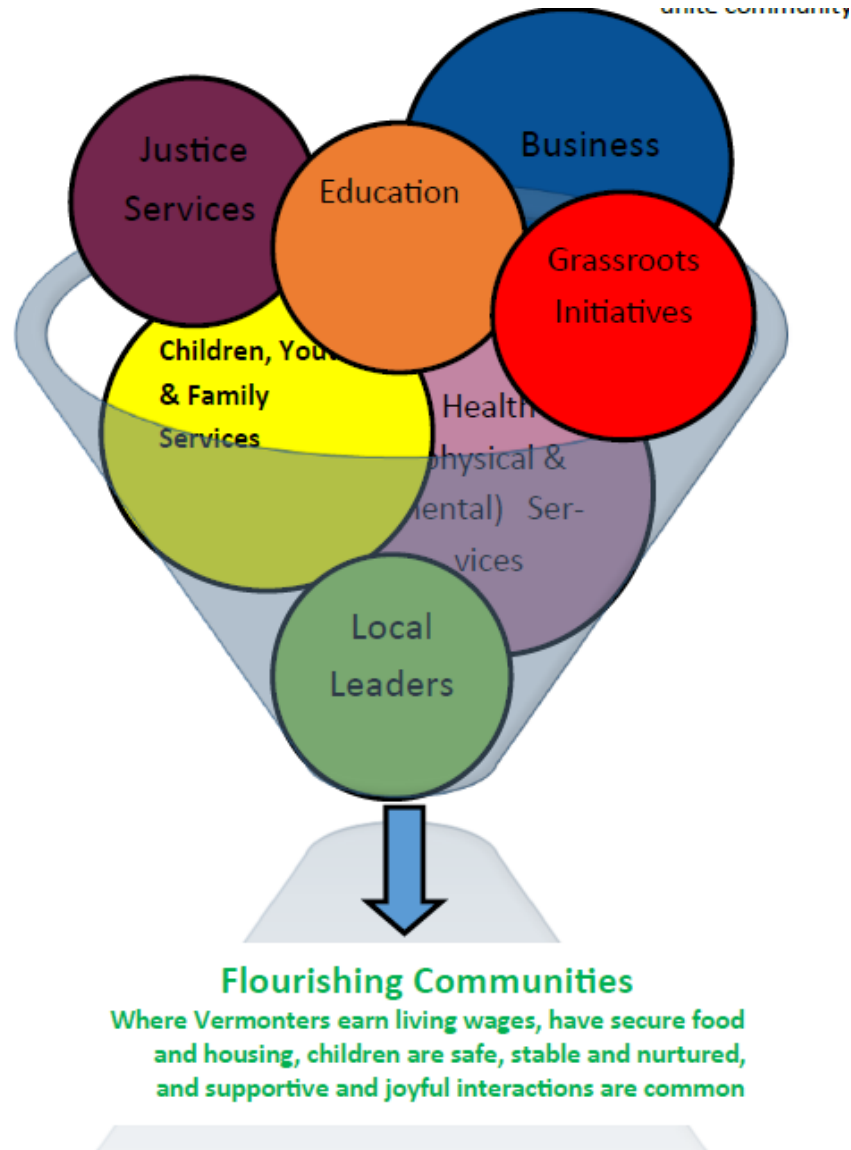
SCOPE: This policy applies to all AHS departments, offices and designees

BACKGROUND:

For nearly two decades, Vermont has recognized the impact of trauma in the lives of Vermonters and has taken steps to develop trauma-informed systems and enhance prevention efforts. Trauma sensitivity is a governing principle of the Agency of Human Services. AHS continuously works to: realize the widespread impact of trauma and toxic stress and understands potential paths for recovery; recognize the signs and symptoms of trauma in clients, families, staff, and others involved with the system; respond by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, and practices; and seeks to actively resist re-traumatizingⁱⁱ clients or staff of the agency through use of policies and procedures that may leave people feeling without choice in the situation, their privacy violated, or at risk of emotional or physical abuse.

Systems within each department of the Agency must meet the needs of individuals (including staff) who

Building Flourishing Communities



Building Flourishing Communities will unite community efforts by grounding them in the science that explains why Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) can be so devastating to health and well-being, and then helping to develop local leaders to implement local prevention efforts.



Building Flourishing Communities Master Trainer Candidates, 2017

**With a budget of \$3.4 million/year, on average,
Washington state saw these
financial results:**

\$27.9 million per year avoided caseload costs in child welfare, juvenile justice and public medical costs associated with births to teen mothers between 2002 and 2006

\$120 million per year conservative estimate of **taxpayer savings** due to the progressive nature of adversity over the life course – lost tax revenue, public services use, etc.

35/1 cost/benefit ratio – for every dollar spent, \$35 dollars were saved.



MAT Services
Resilience Beyond Incarceration
Truancy Intervention

Help Me Grow

Peer Supports & Recovery
Centers
Seven Challenges
SBIRT
DULCE

Early Multi-Tiered Systems of
Support (Pre-K)
Home Visiting – NFP, MECSH,
PAT
Bright Futures Guidelines (AAP)
Building Flourishing
Communities

