Impacts of COVID-19 and Public Safety on Children: *All Children Thrive is Part of the Solution*
OUTLINE

- COVID-19 and it’s Disparities
- Public Safety and Police Brutality
- ACT-CA: Part of the Solution
Our Current Realities

● Reality #1:
  ○ COVID-19 is negatively impacting children, particularly those most vulnerable
  ○ COVID-19 has affected individuals and communities unequally -- exacerbated by pre-existing inequities

● Reality #2:
  ○ Children and families are living in the midst of one of the biggest racial uproar in recent history
  ○ Children of color have been re-traumatized by witnessing constant police brutality against African Americans
COVID-19 DISPROPORTIONALITY IN BLACK AND LATINX COMMUNITIES

• Entirely explained by structural racism
• Historical and ongoing cycle driven by social determinants of health
• Results in:
  ■ Increased risk for infection
  ■ Increased risk for complications
THE TITANIC

“We are in this together”

- Sure, but...
  - More 3\textsuperscript{rd} class passengers died than 1\textsuperscript{st} class passengers
  - Men died more than women and children
  - 1\textsuperscript{st} class women were most likely to survive compared to 3\textsuperscript{rd} class men
Uninterrupted History Timeline of Over Policing Black People – America’s DNA

- Enslavement
- Paddy Rollers
- Convict Leasing
- Civil Rights
- Police Assaults on Protestors
- Reconstruction
- KKK
- Lynchings
- Great Migration
- War on Drugs
- Incarceration
OTHER COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY STRUCTURAL RACISM
ADVERSE CHILDHOOD TRAUMAS (ACEs)

ABUSE
- Physical
- Emotional
- Sexual

NEGLECT
- Physical
- Emotional

HOUSEHOLD DYSFUNCTION
- Mental Illness
- Incarcerated Relative
- Mother treated violently
- Substance Abuse
- Divorce

Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
OTHER SOURCES OF CHILDHOOD TRAUMA

DIRECT TRAUMA
- Physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and neglect
- Witness to domestic violence
- Parental alcohol/drug abuse, mental illness
- Loss of caregiver from death, divorce, and imprisonment

COMMUNITY TRAUMA
- Witness to Police Brutality
- Witness to violence/threat
- Lack of safe housing
- Community Disinvestment

FAMILY TRAUMA
- Parental alcohol/drug abuse, mental illness
- Loss of caregiver from death, divorce, and imprisonment

CHILD TRAUMA
- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Emotional abuse and neglect
- Witness to domestic violence

BROAD SOCIAL FACTORS
- Community
- Family
- Child

GENERATIONAL TRAUMA
- Personal/Structural Racism
- Concentrated Poverty
- Lack of Social Support
- Forced Displacement
IMPACTS OF CHILDHOOD TRAUMA

**Behavior**
- Lack of physical activity
- Smoking
- Alcoholism
- Drug use
- Missed work

**Physical & Mental Health**
- Severe obesity
- Diabetes
- Depression
- Suicide attempts
- STDs
- Heart disease
- Cancer
- Stroke
- COPD
- Broken bones

Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
ALL CHILDREN THRIVE CALIFORNIA (ACT/CA)

A one-time allocation of $10 million in Proposition 63 administrative funds to prevent adverse childhood experiences, counter their effects, promote healing, and foster individual and community resilience to give all California children the opportunity to thrive.
WHAT IS ACT – CA?

All Children Thrive – California is a community-led movement that:

- Transforms current systems to improve child and family well-being.
- Connects resident, community, and youth voices to city officials, caregivers, healthcare workers, educators, and service providers to align policies, programs, and resources.
- Builds networks of people and places co-designing innovative solutions and sharing their learning to help all of California’s children thrive.
**THE WHAT:**

- Building networks of people and places across the state that are working together to identify solutions that transform systems shaping child wellbeing
- Bringing together residents, youth, city officials and community leaders who know their cities best to co-design solutions
- Healing the adversities affecting all of California’s children today and transform their future.

**ACT - CA FOCUSES ON:**

- Early Childhood
- Trauma-informed communities/Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Housing
- Economic Development
- Youth Development
- Community Data
THE STEPS

Engage communities across CA to participate and act.

Help communities assess their data to understand the root causes of child and community adversity.

Communities set goals, design a roadmap for success, and adopt plans for action.

Through the ACT-CA network, communities learn together and develop new best practices for transformative change.
WHY JOIN ACT - CA?

- Become part of the Movement
- Bolster and unify other city initiatives
- Leverage MHSA funding
- Broadens civic engagement
- Strengthens effective community outreach
- Like HEAL Cities, ACT-CA can be a signature initiative
WHAT WOULD PARTICIPATION LOOK LIKE?

Join and engage your city’s Design Team

Support the adoption of a resolution to become an ACT-CA city

Join the ACT-CA network to build better systems for children and youth

Take part in the ACT-CA community-led assessment
REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY

- Currently, public safety is limited to police, fire safety, and emergency management

- INSTEAD IMAGINE A WORLD WHERE...
  - “Public Safety Services” include community partners and youth-focused prevention services
  - Stable, affordable housing, quality education, healthy and accessible food, and economic security, led to safer communities
  - Trauma-informed crisis workers respond to non-emergency requests, such as homelessness and mental health concerns, lowering risk for current first responders
YOUTH DESIGN TEAMS

- Central to ACT-CA is ensuring youth voices of the most vulnerable youth are heard.
- Each city will have a Youth Design Team to inform the issues that will be addressed.
- The Youth Design Teams create a leadership pipeline to better understand and promote policy changes -- so that ALL CHILDREN THRIVE.
WE’RE LOOKING FOR CITIES!

If you’re interested in becoming an ACT-CA city, please reach out to Kaytie Speziale at KS@ PHAdvocates.org!
THANK YOU!

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