

Maryland Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) Data Inventory Survey

The ACEs Data Inventory Survey

We at MDH, BHA are reaching out to other state and local agencies to further develop a collaborative, multi-agency response to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) across the lifespan. Maryland is currently one of five States participating in the National Governors Association Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences Learning Collaborative. As data is an essential component to this initiative, we are in the process of developing a comprehensive inventory of ACEs and ACEs related data elements and resources in Maryland. In order to complete this work, we are reaching out to other state agencies and organizations to review the ACES Data Inventory template and complete this brief survey. The survey and template aims to identify ACEs related data elements and resources that are currently used or available at each agency/organization and to learn about any ACEs/Trauma programs and initiatives that your agency may be involved in. Please take a few moments to review the data template and respond to the survey items below. Thank you

1. **Please provide the name of your agency/organization:**
 - a. SMCHD
2. **Are there any Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) related programs or initiatives currently being implemented by your agency or in your jurisdiction?**
 - a. Yes/No
3. **Please Describe any ACE related Programs or Initiatives:**
 - a. **Family Violence Coordinating Council (FVCC)** - the purpose of this council is to increase efficiency and coordination efforts of the community to combat and end domestic violence.
 - b. **Healthy Families Southern Maryland** is a nationally accredited evidence-based home visiting program targeting new parents through home visits with professionally trained staff. The program uses a child development curriculum and links to community resources to help parents bond with their baby, and access medical care, housing, and childcare. The program is accredited and maintains fidelity according to the National Healthy Families America standards. This program targets new parents through referrals from SMCHD, DSS, MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, and SMCPs Baby Talk Child Care Centers.
 - c. **Strong Beginnings** is a program that targets a population of underserved women of child-bearing age and pregnant women who are facing issues related to behavioral health, including mental health and substance use, in themselves or a partner. The program maintains fidelity to the evidenced-based Baby Basics curriculum and offers case management services delivered by a nurse and peer recovery specialist. Participants are identified through SMCHD, MedStar St.

Mary's Hospital (Obstetrics Unit), the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office (SMCSO) Detention Center, local substance use providers, and SMCPSS.

- d. **Pyramid Walden St. Mary's County, Maryland Crisis & Trauma Support** - the mission is to contribute to the wellbeing of the communities we serve by providing a comprehensive array of trauma-informed behavioral health and recovery support services. Focusing on integrated behavioral health (trauma-informed mental health and substance use disorder treatment), crisis intervention services, and recovery support services. Youth Recovery Center via Walden offers comprehensive, trauma-informed behavioral health and recovery support services for youth ages 12 to 17 who have been impacted by substance misuse, whether by drug use themselves or in a family member. Youth may also participate in The Center serves as a safe and sober place for adolescents to receive counseling and support. The program maintains fidelity to evidence-based and promising practices to provide screening, intervention, and recovery support to adolescents.
- e. **Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)** is a multidisciplinary team that works collaboratively to make system-wide improvements in response to sexual violence.
- f. **Southern Maryland Center for Family Advocacy** -promote a zero tolerance policy toward interpersonal violence. This policy is promoted by providing lay advocacy services, legal advice and representation, information and referral, and other related services to survivors of domestic violence. These services are delivered both independently and in collaboration with the judicial system and other service providers including nonprofit agencies, law enforcement, the educational system, concerned citizens, elected officials and community leaders, and business/industry in Southern Maryland
- g. **Department of Social Services** - provides services to residents who are vulnerable, elderly and/or physically or intellectually disabled. Covering a large range of programs; [Adoption](#); [Adult Services](#); [Bureau of Special Grants](#); [Child Protective Services](#); [Child Support Services](#); [Constituent Services](#); [Disability Help Center](#); [Foster Care](#); [Homeless Services](#); [In-Home Aides Services](#); [Maryland Emergency Food Program \(MEFP\)](#); [Maryland Legal Services Program](#); [Maryland Office for Refugees and Asylees](#); [Mobile Point of Sale Equipment Program \(MPOSEP\)](#); [Paternity Establishment](#); [Safe Haven](#); [Statewide Nutrition Assistance Equipment Program \(SNAEP\)](#); [The Emergency Food Assistance Program \(TEFAP\)](#); [Workforce Development](#)
- h. **MedStar St. Mary's Hospital** - in collaboration with the SAFE/SANE Nurse who provides the sexual assault screening at the county's only hospital MedStar is a full-service hospital committed to delivering state-of-the-art emergency, acute inpatient and outpatient care to residents of southern Maryland. The only hospital in this growing area, it offers advanced technologies and a highly trained staff with excellence in behavioral health, diabetes management, emergency and urgent care, hospice, oncology, orthopaedics, radiology, wellness, and women's services.

- i. **Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)** is a harm-reduction based public safety program targeted to reduce entry into the criminal justice system. Police officers divert individuals to a community-based intervention for law violations driven by unmet behavioral health needs, in lieu of the criminal justice cycle. LEAD case managers work with this target population to connect them to a wide range of support services, including substance use disorder treatment. Individuals who have a known history of alcohol, drug, poverty, homelessness, or mental health related needs are eligible for diversion into the LEAD Program. SMCSO and SMCPS are building capacity for this program with an expected launch in 2021 and will maintain fidelity to national LEAD protocols.
- j. **The Cove** provides free support and help for children and adolescents ages 12 to 17 who have been impacted by drug addiction, whether by misusing a substance themselves or encountering a family member who is struggling with addiction. The Cove serves as a safe, sober, and fun place for adolescents to receive counseling and support.
- k. **Botvin Life Skills Training (LST)** is an evidence-based substance misuse prevention program that teaches youth social and self-management skills. LST is a highly interactive and promotes positive youth development. Any student can be referred to this program through their SMCPS counselor. Fidelity to the curriculum is maintained and the program is delivered through on-site behavioral health professionals in middle school and high school settings.
- l. **Peer Recovery Outreach** is provided through the SMCHD Overdose Response Program and Harm Reduction Program. Peers work with individuals in recovery and their families to prevent relapse; provide training on recognizing signs of overdose and responding with naloxone; outreach to individuals who have overdosed and are treated in emergency medical care settings; and implement a comprehensive set of harm reduction strategies including syringe exchange services for individuals at whatever their stage of readiness for recovery.
- m. **Community Alcohol Coalition (CAC)** is coordinated by SMCHD to address underage and binge drinking in SMC through community coalition work on health policy, changing social norms, and mass communications campaigns targeting parents and youth.
- n. **Violence Injury Trauma (VIT) Task Force** SMCHD in collaboration with its many community partners through the local health improvement coalition, Healthy St. Mary's Partnership, conducted a Community Health Assessment in 2020. The topic of Violence, Injury, and Trauma (VIT) emerged as one of the top health priority areas to address in the next community health improvement plan. This was based on local data on the topic as well as feedback from multiple focus groups and key informant interviews.
- o. **Violence Injury Trauma (VIT) Action Team**-The Violence, Injury, and Trauma Action Team of the Healthy St. Mary's Partnership is dedicated to addressing community violence, domestic violence, unintentional and intentional injuries, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), and the trauma associated with these factors which can affect a person's health and well-being.

4. Please List the ACEs related indicators currently being used to support ACEs programming in your agency/jurisdiction.

- a. LAP's (FVCC)
- b. EP's (Emergency Petitions)
- c. <https://smchd.org/aces/>
- d. The Most Common ACEs experienced in St. Mary's County are:
 - i. Emotional Abuse - 32%
 - ii. Divorce or Separation - 23%
 - iii. Household Substance Abuse - 21%
 - iv. Intimate Partner Violence - 15%
- e. The Violence, Injury, and Trauma Action Team is in the process of creating priority areas and objectives to assist with focused strategies for the team to work on:
 - i. Decrease % of adults over the age of 18 that state that they had experienced at least 3 childhood adversities
 - ii. Decrease the suicide rate
 - iii. Reduce the percentage of high school students that seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months; Reduce the percentage of high school students that reported they had made a plan about how they would attempt suicide in the past year; Reduce the percentage of gay, lesbian, or bisexual high school students that reported having seriously considered attempting suicide
 - iv. Decrease rate of domestic violence
 - v. (Developmental) Reduce the rate of sexual assault
 - vi. Reduce the number of violent crimes
 - vii. Reduce the number of homeless individuals in St. Mary's County

5. Please list the ACEs related data sources that are being used to support ACEs programming in your agency/jurisdiction.

- a. LAP Stats from DSS and MedStar
- b. BRFSS
 - i. Adults over the age of 18 stated that they had experienced at least 1 childhood adversity - 64.5% - Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in Maryland: Data from the 2018 Maryland BRFSS
 - ii. Adults over the age of 18 stated that they had experienced at least 3 childhood adversity - 29.2% - Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in Maryland: Data from the 2018 Maryland BRFSS
- c. YRBS
 - i. Middle school youth reported having had suicidal thoughts in the past year - 19.4% - YRBS, 2018
 - ii. High school youth reported having seriously considered attempting suicide - 20.8% - YRBS, 2018
 - iii. High school students reported they had made a plan about how they would attempt suicide in the past year - 16.4% - YRBS, 2018
- d. MD SHIP, The Maryland Uniform Crime Reporting Program, 2013-2017

- e. St. Mary's County (Uniform Crime Reporting Program)
 - i. Violent Crimes in SMC in 2019 - 231 - Uniform Crime Reporting Program, 2019
- f. County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, Uniform Crime Reporting Program
 - i. Suicide rate (per 100,000 population) - 11 - County Health Rankings & Roadmaps - National Center for Health Statistics - Mortality Files, 2015 - 2019
 - ii. Annual average rate of violent crimes (per 100,000 population) - 221 - County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, Uniform Crime Reporting Program, 2014& 2016
- g. MD SHIP Child Maltreatment Rate, Domestic Violence Rate, Suicide Rate
 - i. Rate of domestic violence - 768.6 - MD SHIP, The Maryland Uniform Crime Reporting Program, 2013-2017
 - ii. Child maltreatment rate - 4.2 - MD SHIP, Maryland Department of Human Resources (DHR), 2017
- h. St. Mary's Commission for Women Survey, 2020:
 - i. Stated that they knew someone who had been threatened by a partner - 60.2%
 - ii. Stated that they knew someone who had been physically hurt by a partner - 60.2%

6. Discuss how your agency/jurisdiction is using data to support ACEs related programming.

- a. We are using ACEs related data to support a grant funded project on ACEs related to substance use disorder. This initiative is focused on 1) strengthening current evidence-based (or informed) programs within the community, 2) using existing or new data to inform, tailor and implement or adapt current ACE prevention or mitigation strategies, and 3) implementing an academic detailing program to facilitate conversations about ACE impacts in adult primary care settings.
- b. Violence, Injury, and Trauma Action Team - part of the Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC), Healthy St. Mary's Partnership (HSMP). This action team, established in January 2021, is dedicated to addressing community violence, domestic violence, unintentional and intentional injuries, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), and the trauma associated with these factors which can affect a person's health and well-being.

7. Please describe any current reports, research, or data analysis work being produced by your agency/jurisdiction that include ACEs related indicators or outcomes.

- a. St. Mary's County Commission for Women conducted a survey on interpersonal relationships among youth in St. Mary's County. Of the 166 survey respondents, 38.6% stated that they had been threatened by a partner, 60.2% stated that they knew someone who had been threatened by a partner, and 60.2% stated that they knew someone who had been physically hurt by a partner.

- b. [2020 Community Health Needs Assessment](#)
 - c. In the planning process of creating an ACEs Data Dashboard for St. Mary's County.
- 8. **After reviewing the ACEs Data Inventory Template, please provide any feedback or comments that you may have in the box provided below (i.e., additional aces data elements, data sources used, reports, etc...).**
 - a. [2019 Health Status Report for St. Mary's County](#)
 - b. [County Health Rankings Website](#)
 - c. [Healthy People 2030](#)