



ACES

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ACES DEFINED

- Adverse Childhood Experiences
- ACE score
 - Tally of different types of abuse, neglect, and other hallmarks of a rough childhood
 - The rougher your childhood, the higher your score is likely to be
 - The higher your chance for later health problems
- 10 types of childhood trauma are measured in ACES

ACES can have lasting effects on....



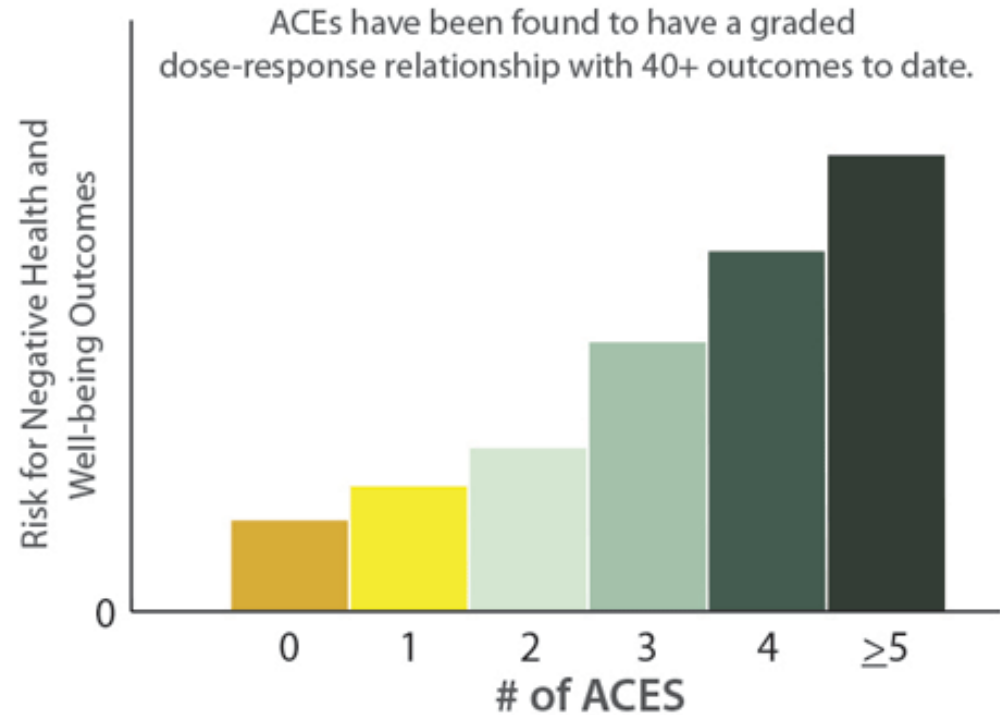
Health (obesity, diabetes, depression, suicide attempts, STDs, heart disease, cancer, stroke, COPD, broken bones)



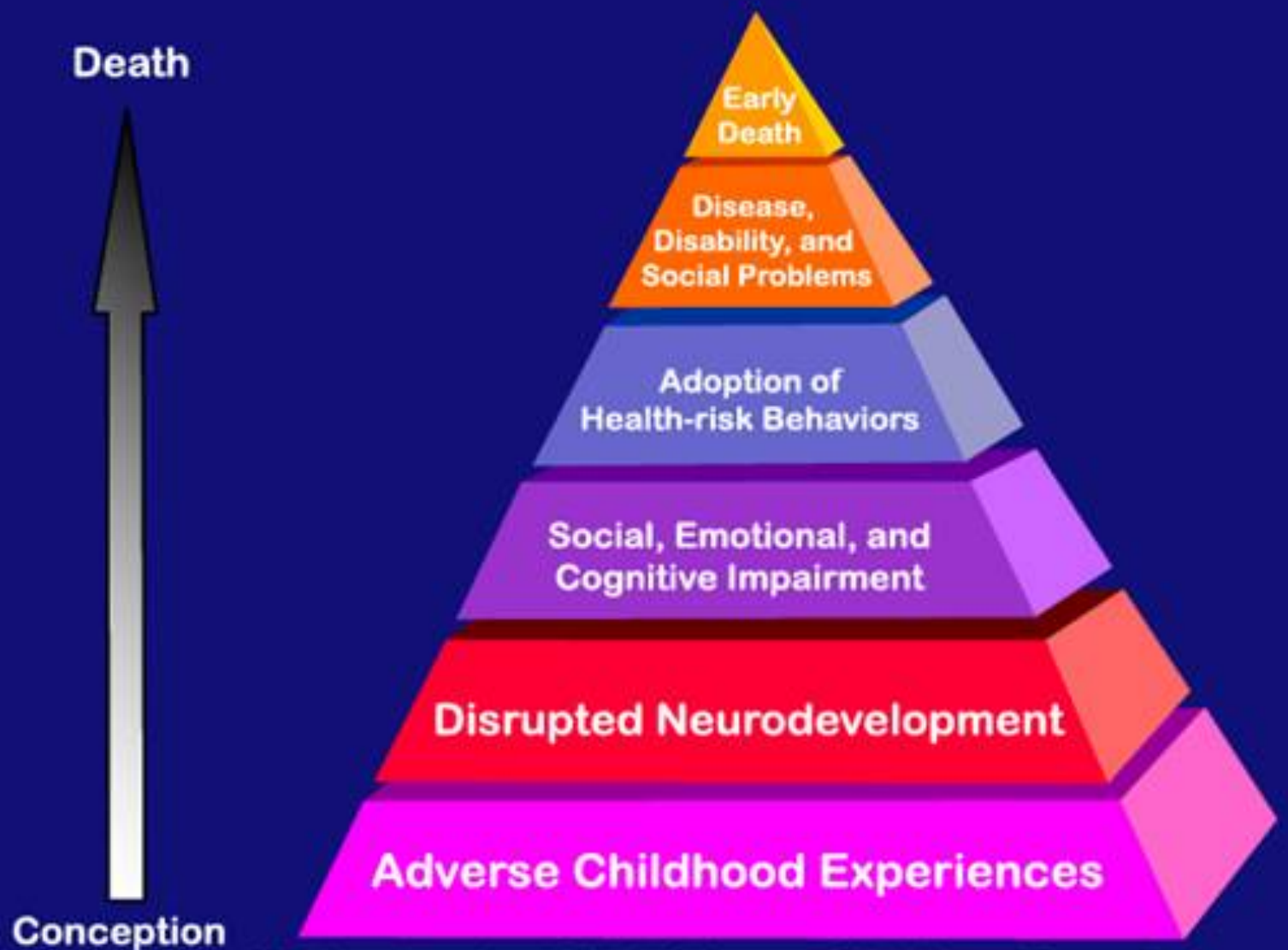
Behaviors (smoking, alcoholism, drug use)



Life Potential (graduation rates, academic achievement, lost time from work)



*This pattern holds for the 40+ outcomes, but the exact risk values vary depending on the outcome.



Mechanisms by Which Adverse Childhood Experiences Influence Health and Well-being Throughout the Lifespan

Prevalence of indicators of negative well-being, by number of adverse childhood experience (12-17)

Measure of well being	0 ACEs	1 ACEs	2 ACEs	3+ ACEs
High externalizing behavior	18%	26%	33%	41%
Low engagement in school	25%	33%	44%	48%
Household contacted due to problems at school	13%	23%	31%	38%
Grade repetition	6%	12%	14%	21%
Does not stay calm and controlled	24%	34%	40%	44%
Does not finish tasks started	27%	36%	44%	49%
Diagnosed with a learning disability	9%	13%	16%	23%
Fair or poor physical health	2%	4%	4%	6%

WHAT CAN WE DO?

- Identify barriers and challenges upfront with the community (before deciding on the services)
- Provide services to deal with depression, anxiety, trauma, PTSD, domestic violence, substance dependence, and other conditions that get in the way of creating an environment of positive relationships that a child needs from the beginning and throughout the developmental life-span
- Consider location, capacity, cultural alignment, community assessed needs and community involvement strategies
- Strengths-based approach to supporting children that incorporates natural supports (“the village”), services (“treatment, support, advocacy”), and skills building related to self-advocacy, education and empowerment
- Create family centered, youth focused services and supports
- Utilize a ‘wraparound’ approach to working with children and their families

REFERENCES

- https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childabuseandneglect/cestudy/ace-graphics.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fviolenceprevention%2Facestudy%2FACE_graphics.html