



National Landscape Scan of TIC/ACEs Evaluation Efforts

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The following report was prepared by:

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Prepared for:
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Project
Objectives

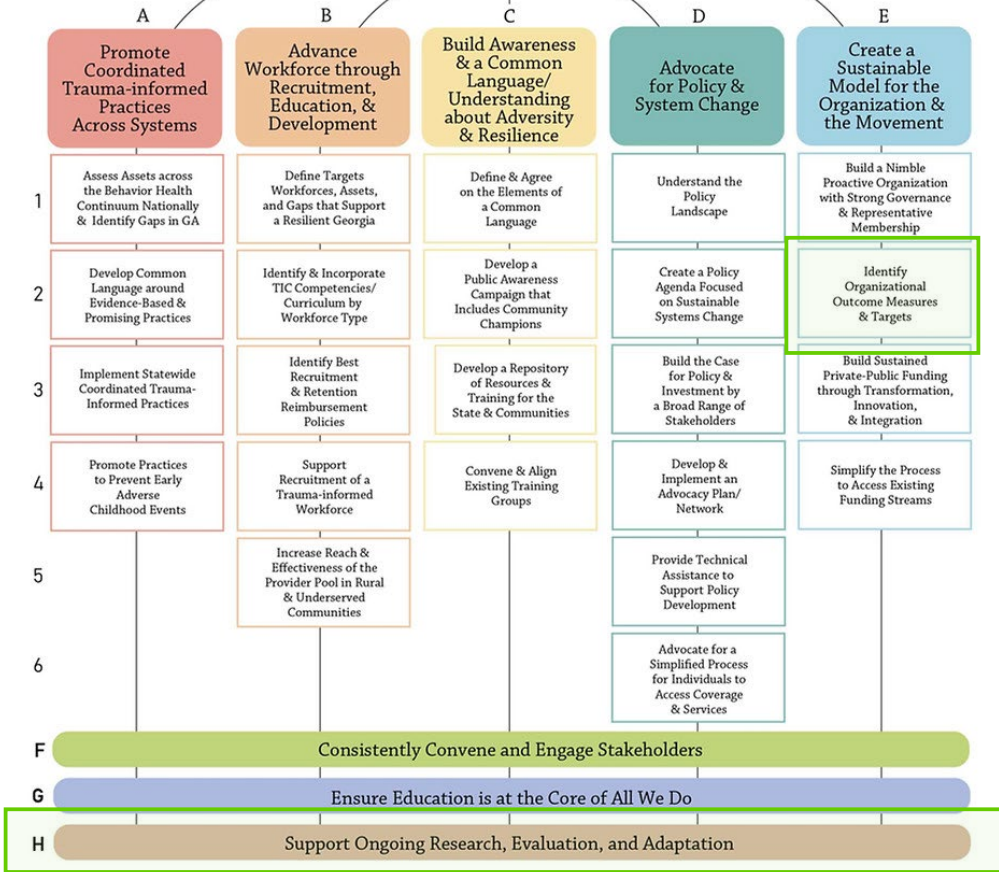
Conduct Evaluation Scan: A National Scan of existing state-wide initiatives that aim to deliver Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) and prevent or reduce Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) across the U.S. was conducted in 2019, as an extension of that scan, an evaluation scan was conducted on the highest rated initiatives (25) to review their evaluation efforts.

Purpose: To investigate best practices of evaluation efforts of Collective Impact initiatives and relevant examples to build upon evaluation methods for Resilient Georgia's efforts across the state of Georgia.

Resilient Georgia, Inc. Strategic Map: 2019-2022

Align Public and Private Efforts & Resources across the State that Support Resiliency for All Persons Aged 0 - 26 and their Families

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The following research efforts are in support of Strategy E2 & H outlined in Resilient Georgia’s Strategy Map:

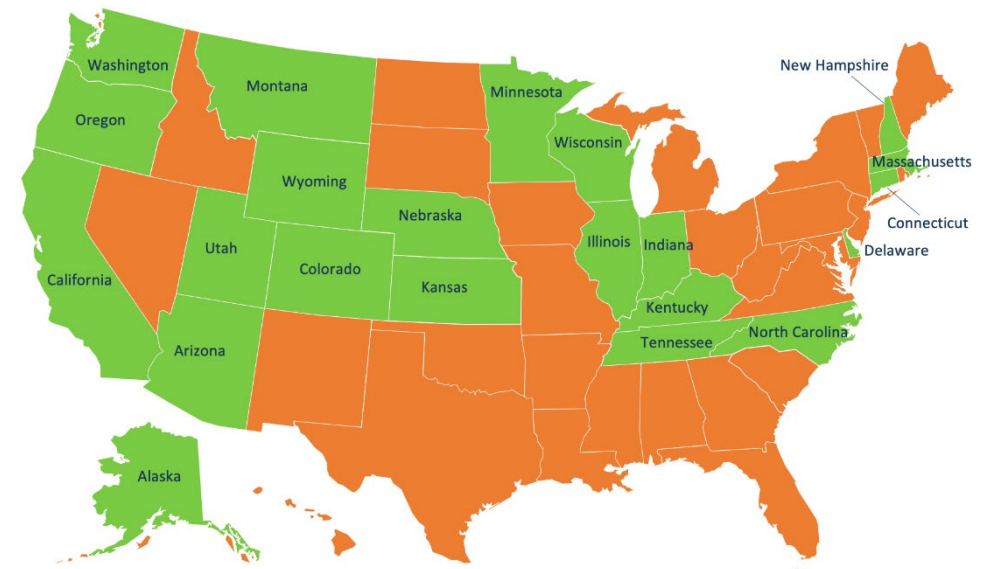
Strategy E2:
“Identify Organizational Outcome Measures & Targets”

Strategy H:
“Support Ongoing Research, Evaluation, and Adaptation”

If the State-Wide TIC/ACE Initiatives met 5-7 of the criteria in the National Scan, the initiative was considered for the Evaluation Scan.*

National Landscape Scan: Criteria for Rating

- 1 Effort explicitly defines ACEs, Trauma Informed Care and/or Toxic Stress and has services directly related
 - If the effort is Behavioral Health or Mental Health based (broad), and the reader can interpret direct work is being based explicitly on ACEs/TIC/T Stress without using the language, it may be counted
- 2 Collective Impact Effort- Public (state or federal agencies), Private (Corporations or for-Profit Companies), Non-Profit, Academia and Community Organizations or Leaders at the table
 - Can count as collective impact if they have 3 or more of these groups at table
- 3 Effort is Statewide, or has at least one rural and one large metro component
- 4 Effort is Evidence Based
- 5 Effort has positive published results
 - Ideally this is peer reviewed, but if they make a good argument for their work on website with citations or concrete numbers or population touches, it can count
- 6 Effort has State leadership buy in (Commissioner level, Legislatures, Governor, Mayor of large metro area, etc.)
- 7 Effort has effective Communications aimed at public (website, blog, newsletter, etc.)



States highlighted green indicate they've met the requirements, some states having multiple initiatives.



Leading Statewide TIC/ACES Initiatives

Highlighted: Of the top scoring initiatives identified (25 in 22 States) there were a total of 14 initiatives that were identified to have conducted some level of evaluation.

Coalition Name*		
1. Alaska Resilience Initiative	10. The Children’s Policy and Law Initiative of Indiana (CPLI) Positive School Discipline Institute	18. New Hampshire Project GROW (Generating Resilience, Outcomes, and Wellness)
2. Arizona ACEs Consortium	11. Kansas Power of the Positive	19. North Carolina Resilience and Learning Project
3. California Campaign to Counter Childhood Adversity (4CA)	12. Kentucky BOUNCE (Building Resilient Children and Families)	20. Trauma Informed Oregon
4. Colorado Trauma Informed System of Care (COACT)	13. Massachusetts Child Trauma Project	21. Building Strong Brains Tennessee
5. Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut Trauma-Informed Initiatives (CHDI)	14. Massachusetts Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative (TLPI)	22. Utah Trauma Resiliency Collaborative
6. Trauma Matters Delaware	15. Minnesota Family Wise Services	23. Washington State Family Policy Council (1994-2012), ACEs Public-Private Partnership Initiative (2012-)
7. Illinois ACEs Response Collaborative	16. Elevate Montana	24. Wisconsin Fostering Futures
8. Illinois Center for Childhood Resilience	17. Bring Up Nebraska	25. Wyoming Children's Trust Fund
9. Illinois Childhood Trauma Coalition		

*Additional details and links in companion excel document

Evaluation Identification Process

1. Website Research

A deep dive into each initiative's website, related pages, blogs, etc. to determine evaluation status.

2. Similarity

Discern likeness to Resilient Georgia's framework and initiative design to understand relevance to this project.

3. Literature Review

PubMed, Google Scholar, and other databases were utilized to review any applicable published journal articles, white papers, or executive summaries related to each initiative to review the evaluation design used.

4. Contacting Initiatives

If the initiative was determined to have a similar framework or initiative design to Resilient Georgia, yet there was no publicly available literature describing evaluation work or methodology, more information was requested of the initiatives or identified researchers.



Top Scoring Initiatives: Of the top scoring initiative identified (25 in 22 States) there were a total of **14** initiatives that were identified to have conducted some level of evaluation*.

	Title	Model/Description
1	Alaska Resilience Initiative	Pre & Post Surveys
2	California Campaign to Counter Childhood Adversity (4CA)	Screening/Training Data Collection
3	Colorado Trauma Informed System of Care (COACT)	Self-reported measures of daily life and family functioning among participants: National Outcome Measurements and CCAR measurements
4	Illinois Center for Childhood Resilience	Qualitative Interviews of Project Implementation Process
5	Kansas Power of the Positive	Outcome Evaluation & Social Network Analysis
6	Massachusetts Child Trauma Project	Cohort Study of Clinical Intervention with Children in DCF
7	Massachusetts Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative (TLPI)	Thematic & Pattern Analysis of Focus Group Interviews
8	Minnesota Family Wise Services	Qualitative Interviews of ACE Interface Curriculum
9	Elevate Montana	Model/Description Not Provided
10	Bring Up Nebraska	Model/Description Not Provided
11	North Carolina Resilience and Learning Project	Model/Description Not Provided
12	Building Strong Brains Tennessee	Model/Description Not Provided
13	Washington State Family Policy Council (1994 to 2012), ACEs Public-Private Partnership Initiative (2012 onwards)	Longitudinal Interrupted Time Series Design with Baseline Data
14	Wisconsin Fostering Futures	Organizational-Impact & Individual Participant Impact, Collected via Survey

*Additional details and links in companion excel document



Criteria For Assigning Similarity to Resilient Georgia's (RG) Framework

If each was answered 'YES' then criteria was met

- ✓ Has the Initiative been evaluated?
 - At the largest level encompassing the the entire initiative?
- ✓ Is the Initiative coalition based?
- ✓ Does the Initiative operate in multiple sectors?
- ✓ Does the Initiative operate in similar sectors to RG?
 - RG operates in the following sectors:
 - Business, Education, Faith, Healthcare, Justice, Public Health, Social Services, Youth-Serving Organizations



For the purpose of this study, the following Initiatives were contacted to clarify evaluation status and potentially collaborate on methodology:

1. Utah Trauma Resiliency Collaborative
2. Illinois Childhood Trauma Coalition
3. Building Strong Brains Tennessee
4. Kansas Power of the Positive
5. Trauma Informed Oregon
6. Bring Up Nebraska
7. Elevate Montana

Of the seven Initiatives listed above, Kansas 'Power of the Positive' and 'Trauma Informed Oregon' have responded and have helped in the efforts of this study.



Of 14 initiatives that were identified to have conducted some level of evaluation, **FIVE** were found to be similar in composition to Resilient Georgia.

	Title	Model/Description
1	Kansas Power of the Positive (2014-)	Outcome Evaluation & Social Network Analysis
2	Elevate Montana (2015-)	Model/Description Not Provided
3	Bring Up Nebraska (2017-)	Model/Description Not Provided
4	Building Strong Brains Tennessee	Model/Description Not Provided
5	Washington State Family Policy Council (1994 to 2012), ACEs Public-Private Partnership Initiative (2012 onwards)	Longitudinal Interrupted Time Series Design with Baseline Data

Why aren't we seeing more evaluations?

Some Potential Reasons:*

- Often community-wide efforts that operate in various sectors are difficult to assess for several reasons related to time, funding, organizational capacity, and available measures.
- Additionally, many Initiatives have long-term goals (e.g. ACEs reduction) and have yet reached the typical organizational maturity to see long-term outcomes, usually 5-7 years or longer. Also, formal operation dates do not necessarily constitute operation of services.
 - However, because Collective Impact (CI) models can be particularly difficult to implement and may utilize a gradual role-out process, that timeline may be longer.
- Most commonly, data collection is not consistently or completely collected across an Initiative making the evaluation process more difficult, time-consuming, and potentially costly.
- If evaluation work has been conducted, outcomes may not be publicly available, potentially because they may be constructive.



Statewide TIC/ACE Coalition Evaluation Spotlight

Washington State Family Policy Council (1994-2012), ACEs Public-Private Partnership Initiative (2012-)

Brief Description

This evaluation encapsulates several relevant examples, unique to any ACE initiatives, in terms of range and capacity. The evaluation design combined qualitative, quantitative, retrospective, and prospective data to produce assessments of the effectiveness of comprehensive community change efforts.

Basic Evaluation Elements:

- Data analysis of 10-15 years of data from each site.
- Narrative and timeline reports of each community's ACEs rates, including community capacity-building initiatives.
- Comparisons with similar communities in Washington (outside of the program) and state level indicators.

Evaluation Objectives:

- Test the effectiveness of complex community-based strategies to mitigate/prevent ACEs, and positively influence other child safety and development outcomes.
- Document strategies and processes to achieve those outcomes.
- Contribute to related state and national ACEs and family support efforts by testing for the most practical, replicable, and robust strategies that could be used by a range of communities.
- Document case studies of the public and private costs avoided or saved that are reasonably attributable to these ACEs mitigation and prevention strategies.

Source Links

http://www.appi-wa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/APPI-WA-Cross-Site-Report-Final-3-31-15_full.pdf



Statewide TIC/ACE Coalition Evaluation Spotlight Cont.

Washington State Family Policy Council (1994-2012), ACEs Public-Private Partnership Initiative (2012-)

Brief Description

Method:

Quantitative analysis compared similar counties by resources, economy, and geography. Data sources included child maltreatment reports and foster care placements from the Children's Administration, the BRFSS, the HYS and education data.

- These data provided 30 indicators in 5 domains: ACEs, child abuse & family support, school climate/student success, risk behavior reduction, youth development, and community development.

Outcomes:

- Many indicators were not statistically significant except:
- 3 counties had a lower prevalence of adult ACEs than the comparison group.
 - 1 county showed a decrease in the rate of alleged child abuse/neglect victims.
 - 5 counties showed slower increases in hospitalizations due to injury among women compared to the state
 - 1 county showed a decrease in school suspension/expulsions, youth arrests for violent crimes compared to the state.
 - 2 counties had 2-3x less school absences than comparison counties.
 - And other similar trends

Conclusion:

While there were county level changes, it's difficult to attribute them directly to ACEs efforts:

1. Trends were often mirrored in comparison counties
2. Using the available data specific changes cannot be directly attributed to ACEs efforts

Source Links

http://www.appi-wa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/APPI-WA-Cross-Site-Report-Final-3-31-15_full.pdf



Statewide TIC/ACE Coalition Evaluation Spotlight

Kansas Power of the Positive (2014-)

Brief Description

Evaluation was done by Wichita State University through online surveys. Activities were documented and assessed for consistency with research on what constitutes effective efforts of community change

Evaluation Designs:

1. Community Check Box Evaluation System (2016, 2017):

- Outcome Mapping: tracking and documenting changes within organizations

3. Social Network Analysis (2018):

- Measures and assess partnership quality and effectiveness and organizational flow among members

2. Qualitative Data Collection (2017-2018):

Outcome Measures:

- Initial Outcomes: Organizational Change, Media Coverage (*new practices within coalitions/increase capacity*)
- Intermediate Outcomes: Community Action (*changes in policy, practice or procedure*)
- Long-Term Outcomes: Community Change (*changes at the systems-level*)

Source Links

<https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/DocumentCenter/View/11404/2018-KPoP-Final-Evaluation-Report-PDF>





Peer Reviewed Publications

PubMed, Google Scholar, and similar databases were searched for publications related to Collective Impact Evaluation models and literature relevant to Resilient Georgia's evaluation efforts.

	Title*	Model/Description	Link
1	Learning and Evaluating in the Collective Impact Context	CI Evaluation Guidelines (Part 1-3 found via link)	Evaluating-Collective-Impact
2	Advancing the Measurement of Collective Community Capacity to Address Adverse Childhood Experiences and Resilience	Development of Relevant Assessment Tool & Justification of use in ACE Collaboratives	ACR3
3	Analysis of Measures of Trauma-Informed Approaches	Systematic review of trauma-informed measures; community/systems level change may be applicable for collaborative evaluation.	TIA Evaluation
5	Using Social Network Analysis as a Tool in Action Research	Social Network Analysis	SNA
6	Developmental Evaluation of a Collective Impact Initiative: Insights for Foundations	Developmental (combination of Qualitative methods)	Developmental Evaluation
7	A Qualitative Evaluation of Minnesota's ACE Interface Initiative and NEAR* Science Efforts	Qualitative Interviews, Thematic Analysis	Familywise Evaluation

Next Steps: Suggestions for Future Research & Evaluation



Collective Impact (CI) scholars suggest that a non-traditional evaluation lens should be taken rather than expecting definitive judgments of success or failure. Instead, CI initiatives should expect feedback, direction changes, and to capture system dynamics and partnership successes and failures. This may require utilizing multiple methods of evaluation to reach the initiative's objectives for their evaluation.



APPENDIX: Sources

1. Cabaj, M. (2014). Evaluating collective impact: Five simple rules. *The Philanthropist*, 26(1).
2. Smart, J. R. (2017). Collective impact: Evidence and implications for practice.
3. Preskill, H., Parkhurst, M., & Juster, J. S. (2001). Learning and evaluation in the collective impact context. *Guide to evaluating collective impact*. Available from: [https://collectiveimpactforum.org/sites/default/files/Guide% 20to% 20Evaluating% 20CI](https://collectiveimpactforum.org/sites/default/files/Guide%20to%20Evaluating%20CI).