FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Trinity County Public Health Awarded ACEs AWARE Grant

TRINITY COUNTY – The Trinity County Public Health Branch (TCPHB) has received grant funding from the Office of the California Surgeon General (CA-OSG) and the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to participate in the state’s Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Aware initiative. Trinity County Public Health will be conducting local Healthcare Provider Engagement activities to promote the ACEs Aware initiative among the Medi-Cal provider community in Trinity County.

A total of $14.3 million was awarded to 100 organizations throughout the state to extend the reach and impact of the ACEs Aware initiative. ACEs Aware seeks to change and save lives by helping Medi-Cal providers understand the importance of screening for Adverse Childhood Experiences and training them to respond with trauma-informed care.

The ACEs Aware grant provides funding that enables the TCPHB to design and implement training, provider engagement activities, and work with community organizations that serve Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Now more than ever it is critical to address toxic stress in our children and communities given the added stressors of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) as well as the social and economic inequities that have resulted. Our healthcare partners have a vital role in providing trauma informed care in order to move our children and communities toward healing.

“We are looking forward to working in partnership with this amazing group of community leaders to further our efforts to help health care providers become ACEs Aware,” said California Surgeon General Dr. Nadine Burke Harris.

Added Dr. Karen Mark, DHCS Medical Director: “DHCS is committed to preserving and improving the overall health and well-being of all Californians. The ACEs Aware initiative is a vital part of the Medi-Cal program’s response to the COVID-19 emergency.” Also, these grants will reach Medi-Cal providers who serve at-risk populations locally and throughout the state to ensure the delivery of high-quality, integrated care for Medi-Cal members.
TCPHB is dedicated to facilitating Provider Engagement Activities that support our Health Care Providers and Community Partners in moving toward an ACEs Aware healthcare and social system. Together we will move forward with a better understanding of Trauma Informed Care and building resiliency in our communities.

Mary Baracco RN, PHN, CNM has many years of training and experience in ACEs and trauma informed care. She has been an educator and advanced practice nurse for over 20 years. She will be providing support, coordination, and training to our Community Partners and Healthcare Providers through our ACEs Aware Grant! We ask that you please join us in this worthy endeavor. To our Healthcare Providers and Partner communities please watch for exciting activities, professional speakers, other information and materials yet to come! TCPHB is honored to have been chosen for this Grant Award.

The full list of ACEs Aware grantees is available on the ACEs Aware Website.

For additional information please call Trinity County Public Health at 530-623-8209 or toll free at 1-800-766-9147 or you may visit our website at trinitycounty.org/Public-Health

About ACEs Aware

Led by Dr. Nadine Burke Harris, California Surgeon General, and Dr. Karen Mark, Medical Director for DHCS, the ACEs Aware initiative offers Medi-Cal providers core training, screening tools, clinical protocols, and payment for screening children and adults for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), which are stressful or traumatic experiences people have by age 18 that were identified in the landmark ACE Study. ACEs describe 10 categories of adversities in three domains – abuse, neglect, and/or household dysfunction. ACEs are strongly associated with at least nine out of 10 of the leading causes of death in the United States. Part of Governor Gavin Newsom’s California for All initiative, the goal of ACEs Aware is to reduce ACEs and toxic stress by half in one generation. Follow ACEs Aware on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram.

Office of the California Surgeon General

The role of California Surgeon General was created in 2019 by Governor Gavin Newsom to advise the Governor, serve as a leading spokesperson on public health matters, and drive solutions to the state’s most pressing public health challenges. As California’s first Surgeon General, Dr. Nadine Burke Harris has established early childhood, health equity, and ACEs and toxic stress as key priorities.

California Department of Health Care Services

DHCS is the backbone of California’s health care safety net, helping millions of low-income and disabled Californians each and every day. The mission of DHCS is to provide Californians with access to affordable, integrated, high-quality health care, including medical, dental, mental health, substance use treatment services, and long-term care. DHCS’ vision is to preserve and improve the overall health and well-being of all Californians. DHCS funds health care services for about 13 million Medi-Cal beneficiaries.