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#### How the Trauma-Informed Approach Can Help Treat Substance Use Disorders

Susan Marie Halpin M.Ed. University of Massachusetts Medical School

Ft al.

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## How the Trauma Informed Approach Can Help Treat Substance Use Disorder



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### **Your Webinar Host**



Susan Halpin, M.Ed.

susan.halpin@umassmed.edu

NNLM NER, Education & Outreach Coordinator
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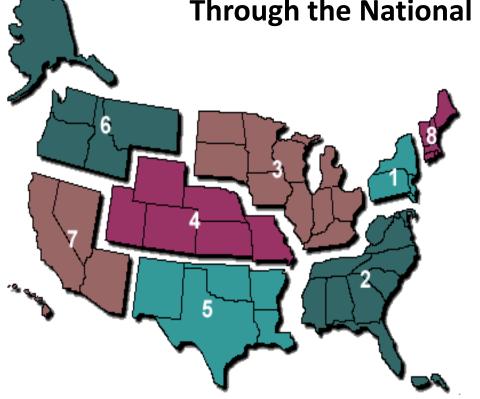
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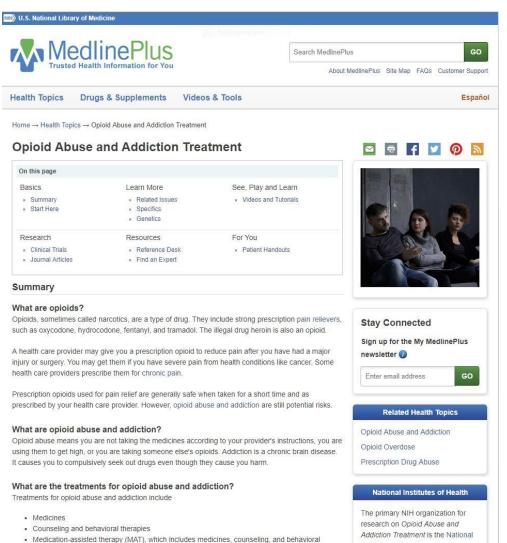
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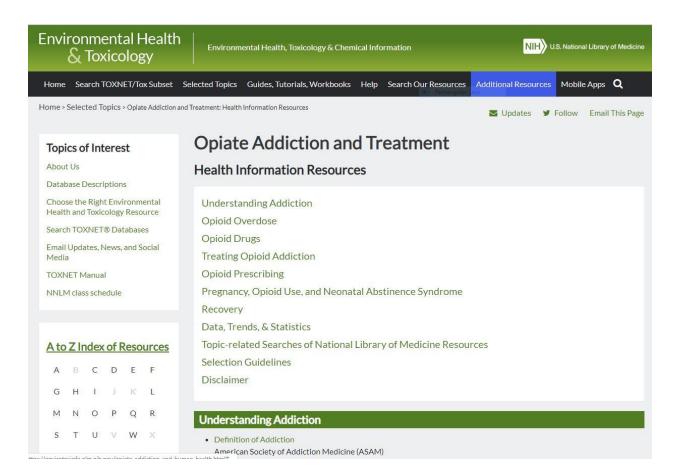
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ctiontreatment.html <u>https://envirotoxinfo.nlm.nih.gov/opiate-addiction-and-human-health.html#a7</u>

therapies. This offers a "whole patient" approach to treatment, which can increase your chance

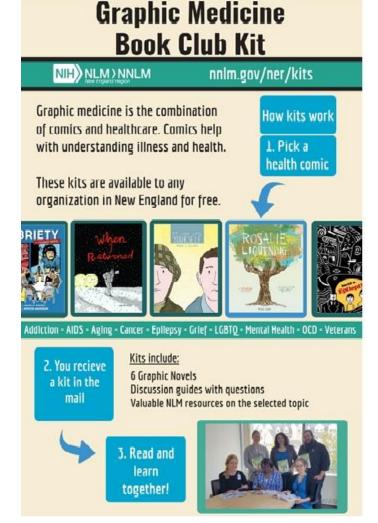
of a currectful recovery

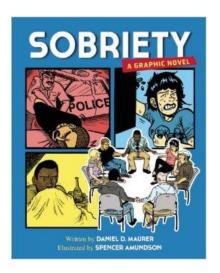
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## How the Trauma Informed Approach Can Help Treat Substance Use Disorders

Jenn McCarthy, MEd, MS, LCPC

## Today's Speaker



Jennifer McCarthy, MEd, MS, LCPC Senior Program Coordinator Healthcentric Advisors

### Chat in...

Introduce yourself...

Please type in your name, organization and state....





## Plan for session...

Explain the connection between Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Substance Use Disorders;

Describe promising practices for implementing the trauma-informed care approach; and

Consider how trauma-informed care might work in your organization.



# **Explain the connection between Adverse Childhood Experiences** (ACEs) and Substance Use Disorders

Describe promising practices for implementing the trauma-informed care approach

Consider how trauma-informed care might work in your organization



# Trauma and Substance Use Disorders

Machtinger refers to trauma as "the original gateway drug—opening the pathway to depression, anxiety, substance use, health problems, and early death."

(Rinker, 2019)



## Chat in...



When you think of trauma, how do you define it?



## SAMHSA's Definition of Trauma – The 3E's

An event of actual or extreme threat of physical or psychological harm which an individual experiences as traumatic, and which causes long-lasting effects



# Campaign for Trauma-Informed Policy and Practice

## **Policy Brief**

CTIPP
Campaign for Trauma-Informed
Policy and Practice

June 2017 | Number 1 | www.ctipp.org

#### Trauma-Informed Approaches Need to be Part of a Comprehensive Strategy for Addressing the Opioid Epidemic

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This policy brief reviews the evidence linking trauma and adverse childhood experiences to opioid addiction. It also provides examples of effective prevention and treatment programs, and describes innovative approaches being used by communities to address the current epidemic. The argument is made that efforts to address the opioid crisis will be effective only if we acknowledge the roots of addiction and make investments in proven and promising prevention and treatment strategies.

There is now powerful evidence showing a strong correlation between opioid addiction and traumatic experiences, particularly early childhood adversity. Evidence indicates that individuals exposed to opioid misuse experience multiple negative consequences, including loss of employment, poor physical and mental health, suicidal behavior, and disrupted family and social relationships. Among those who misuse opioids, the individuals most likely to experience problems with addiction are those who suffered multiple adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). General population surveys have estimated that 75% of individuals with substance use disorders have experienced trauma at some point in their lives;1 rates

yet to be learned about the specific developmental pathways and predictor variables of opioid addiction, programs that reflect the needs of people who have suffered from traumatic experiences must be part of any comprehensive strategy to attack the opioid epidemic. Fortunately, we have a substantial evidence base of programs that can help reduce childhood adversity in the next generation and build resilience and support recovery among those already addicted.

To date, few strategy discussions on ways to combat the opioid epidemic have addressed the role of ACEs in creating the foundation for addiction. Nor have they considered the importance of trauma-informed



# What are Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)?

- Centers for Disease Control and Kaiser Permanente (an HMO) Collaboration (1995-1997)
- Over a ten year study involving 17,000 people, Largest study ever done on this subject
- Participants were asked 10 questions

1 in 4

exposed to 2 categories of ACEs

1 in 16

was exposed to 4 categories

**22%** 

were sexually abused as children

66%

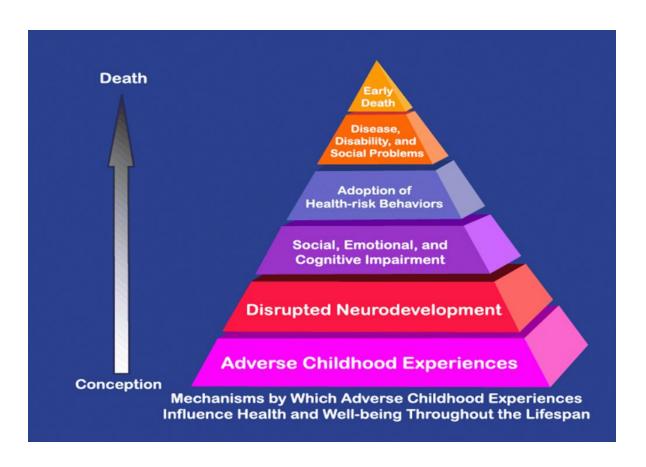
of the women experienced abuse, violence or family issues in childhood

Women were 50%

more likely than men to have experienced 5 or more ACEs

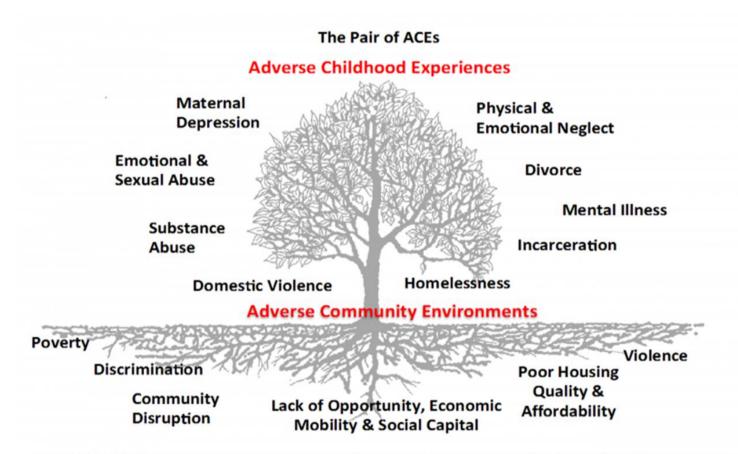


# How Do ACEs and Adverse Events Affect People?





## The Pair of ACEs



Ellis, W., Dietz, W. (2017) A New Framework for Addressing Adverse Childhood and Community Experiences: The Building Community Resilience (BCR) Model. Academic Pediatrics. 17 (2017) pp. S86-S93. DOI information: 10.1016/j.acap.2016.12.011



# ACEs and Substance Use Disorder Evidence

 Quinn et al., 2016 study demonstrated a dose response relationship between the number of ACEs and increased risk of prescription drug misuse in adults. Adults who reported 5 or more ACEs were 3x more likely to misuse pain meds and 5 times more likely to engage in injection drug use

• Sansone, Whitecar, and Wiederman (2009) found that over 80% of the patients seeking treatment for an opioid use disorder had at least one form of childhood trauma, with almost two-thirds reporting having witnessed violence in childhood



Explain the connection between Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Substance Use Disorders

Describe promising practices for implementing the traumainformed care approach

Consider how trauma-informed care might work in your organization



## Missouri Model: Developmental Continuum

Trauma aware

Trauma sensitive

Trauma responsive

**Trauma informed** 



## Where is Your Organization?

#### Trauma aware

Establishing awareness of the prevalence of trauma and effects on clients/staff

#### Trauma sensitive

Exploring trauma-informed principles and are preparing for integration

#### **Trauma responsive**

Integrating trauma-informed approach into practice

#### **Trauma informed**

Applying trauma-informed care approach as standard







### 6-Step Change Package

- 1. Complete the organizational self-assessment (Trauma-Aware)
- 2. Educate staff to attain a sustainable trauma-informed workforce (Trauma-Sensitive)
- 3. Engage Leadership/Board of Overseers to infuse traumainformed values throughout the organization's policies, procedures, and practices (Trauma-Responsive)
- 4. Screen and assess for trauma (Trauma-Responsive)
- 5. Ensure environment is safe, nurturing, and empowering (Trauma-Responsive)
- 6. Encourage the person's voice and choice, monitor their perception of care, and sustain the work (Trauma-Informed)



## Organizational Self-Assessment

Trauma Informed Oregon October 2015

#### STANDARDS OF PRACTICE FOR TRAUMA INFORMED CARE

I. Agency Commitment and Endorsement. Agency leadership acknowledges that an understanding of the impact of trauma is central to effective service delivery and makes operational decisions accordingly [includes Governance and Leadership, Policy, Finance and aspects of Engagement and Involvement\*].

1= we haven't started yet	2= we've done a little	3= we've done quite a bit	4= 1	ve're	ste	lar!
	uding administration and go on trauma and trauma info		1	2	3	4
	rogram/service information	e in agency policies, mission	1	2	3	4
Ic. Individuals with lived in the organization.  What roles?	experience in your service s	ystem have leadership roles	1	2	3	4



# The Essence of Trauma-Informed Care

Importance of Relationships

## What's wrong with you?

### What hurts?

- Interactions that are humiliating, harsh, impersonal, disrespectful, critical, demanding, and judgmental
- Language barriers
- Referring by their condition
- "It's not that bad"
- "Worse things have happened to people"

### vs. What happened to you?

### What helps?

- Interactions that express kindness, patience, reassurance, acceptance and listening
- Ask for clarification
- Person-first language
- "I'm sorry this happened to you"
- "That must have been very scary!"



## The Core Principles

### **Safety**

 How can we ensure physical and emotional safety for staff and patients/clients throughout our system of care?

#### **Trustworthiness**

 How can we maximize trustworthiness as administrators and supervisors? Make tasks and procedures clear? Be consistent?

#### Choice

 How can we enhance staff and residents'/patients'/clients' choice and control in their day-to-day work and lives?

#### Collaboration

 How can we maximize collaboration and sharing of power with staff and residents/patient/clients?

#### **Empowerment**

How can we prioritize staff and resident/patient/client empowerment



## Organizational Culture Shift

#### **Universal Precautions**

We assume that everyone has experienced some type of adverse event, unless otherwise notified.

#### Trauma-informed Lens

Involves everyone adopting a new way of thinking and acting (more than new information)



Explain the connection between Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Substance Use Disorders

Describe promising practices for implementing the trauma-informed care approach

Consider how trauma-informed care might work in your organization



### The 4R's

- Realizes Realizes widespread impact of trauma and understands potential paths for recovery - provide a safe and nurturing environment
- Recognizes Recognizes signs and symptoms of trauma in residents, patients, clients, families, staff, and others involved with the system – prescreen and screen
- Responds Responds by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, and practices – infuse TIC in all organizational operations
- Resists Seeks to actively resist re-traumatization partner with the resident/patient/client by using MI



## Two Prescreening Questions

- 1. Have you ever had an experience so upsetting that you think it changed you spiritually, emotionally, physically or behaviorally? For example, leading to problems: sleeping, eating, completing daily tasks, being around others ongoing places,(behavioral) with excessive physical body pain/discomfort (physical) periods of prolonged sadness/tearfulness, increased fear or irritability/anger (emotional)
- 2. Do you think any of these problems bother you now?
  - 2a. Do you want to discuss the problems?



# Evidence-Based Screening Tools

#### Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) Questionnaire Finding your ACE Score ra hbr 10 24 06

XX71 *1						C* 4	40			110
While v	mil were	growing	ıın	during	VAIII	firef	IX	vears	ot	life
TT THE !	ou were	STOWING	up,	uuiiiig	Jour	TITION	10	J Car is	VI	m.c.

1. Did a parent or other adult in the household often ...

Swear at you, insult you, put you down, or humiliate you?

or

Act in a way that made you afraid that you might be physically hurt?

Yes No

If yes enter 1

2. Did a parent or other adult in the household often ...

Push, grab, slap, or throw something at you?

or

Ever hit you so hard that you had marks or were injured?

Yes No

If yes enter 1

3. Did an adult or person at least 5 years older than you ever...

Touch or fondle you or have you touch their body in a sexual way?

or

Try to or actually have oral, anal, or vaginal sex with you?

Yes No

If yes enter 1

4. Did you often feel that ...

No one in your family loved you or thought you were important or special?

#### LIFE EVENTS CHECKLIST (LEC)

Listed below are a number of difficult or stressful things that sometimes happen to people. For each event check one or more of the boxes to the right to indicate that: (a) it <u>happened to you</u> personally, (b) you <u>witnessed it</u> happen to someone else, (c) you <u>learned about it</u> happening to someone close to you, (d) you're <u>not sure</u> if it fits, or (e) it <u>doesn't apply</u> to you.

Be sure to consider your entire life (growing up as well as adulthood) as you go through the list of events.

	Event	Happened to me	Witnessed it	Learned about it	Not Sure	Doesn't apply
1.	Natural disaster (for example, flood, hurricane, tornado, earthquake)					
2.	Fire or explosion					
3.	Transportation accident (for example, car accident, boat accident, train wreck, plane crash)					
4.	Serious accident at work, home, or during recreational activity					
5.	Exposure to toxic substance (for example, dangerous chemicals, radiation)					
6.	Physical assault (for example, being attacked, hit, slapped, kicked, beaten up)					



## Workflow for Prescreening/Screening

Medical Assistant or Care Manager could ask prescreening questions

Medical provider could decide whether to address concerns or refer to Behavioral Health professional

BHP could administer the full screening tool

BHP could refer to treatment



### Trauma Treatments

Sanctuary Model – Dr. Sandra Bloom

Seeking Safety – Dr. Lisa Najavits

Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) - Cohen, Mannarino, and Deblinger

Trauma Recovery and Empowerment Model (TREM) – Community Connections

Eye Movement Desentization Reprocessing (EMDR) – Francine Shapiro

Somatic Experiencing – Peter Levine



## Trauma-Informed Care in Public Libraries

Library social workers use trauma-informed care as the basis for interactions with customers

Person-first language

Strengths-based perspective

Compassion

Compassion

A focus on behavior

Creating welcoming spaces



## Trauma-Informed Care in Schools

8 key domains of trauma responsive schools and districts:

- Targeted interventions for trauma
- Early interventions for trauma
- Classroom-based strategies
- Whole school trauma programming
- Whole school prevention programming
- Whole school safety planning
- Community and family supports



## Trauma-Informed Care at the Workplace

#### Not Trauma-Informed

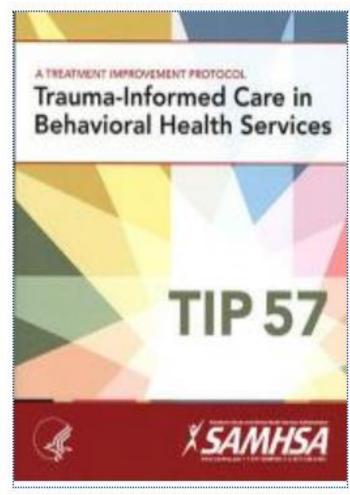
- Uses substances; doesn't comply to sobriety rule
- Avoids meetings or groups
- Paces, doesn't sleep, can't sit still
- Has "boundary" issues
- Unmotivated, doesn't pay attention, disinterested

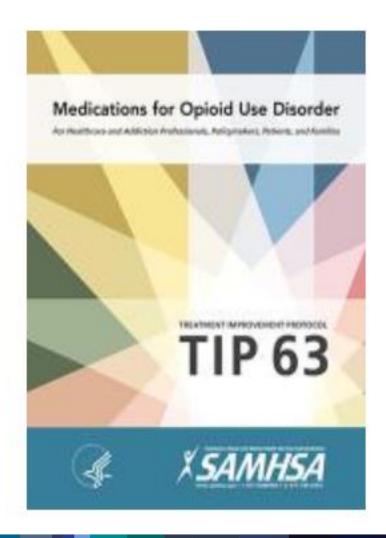
### Trauma-Informed

- Uses substance to regulate emotions
- Avoids groups to feel safe or not feel overwhelmed
- Is very alert; checking for possible dangers
- Tries to get needs met; does not understand what boundaries are
- Shuts down emotional responses when feeling overwhelmed



## SAMHSA Resources







# Fun Way to Remember TIC talk...

- What is an ACE? How many ACEs do you have?
- The 3E's
- What happened to you? vs. What is wrong with you?
- Universal precautions and trauma-informed lens
- The 4R's
- The core principles



# Trauma-Informed Organization

- ✓ Increases safety for all
- ✓ Improves the social environment in a way that improves relationships for all
- Creates a community of hope and health

- Cares for the caregivers
- ✓ Increases the quality of services
- Reduces negative encounters and events
- ✓Increases success and satisfaction at work



# SHIFT YOUR PERSPECTIVE Trauma-Informed Care

# Final Thoughts

- Trauma-Informed care is not a destination; it is a process and a way of doing business
- Use a "trauma-informed lens"
- Partner with your resident/patient/client
- Try implementing changes one-step-at-a-time
- What kind of nifty mottos or slogans can you develop to represent your trauma-informed organization? Hear with Your Heart

And finally...

"Hurt people, hurt people."



# Questions, Suggestions, Contact Me

### Jennifer McCarthy, MEd, MS, LCPC

Senior Program Coordinator

**Healthcentric Advisors** 

<u>imccarthy@healthcentricadvisors.org</u>



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## How the Trauma Informed Approach Can Help Treat Substance Use Disorders

~Join Jenn: Jump-in with questions /comments ~ Thank you so much!!!







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