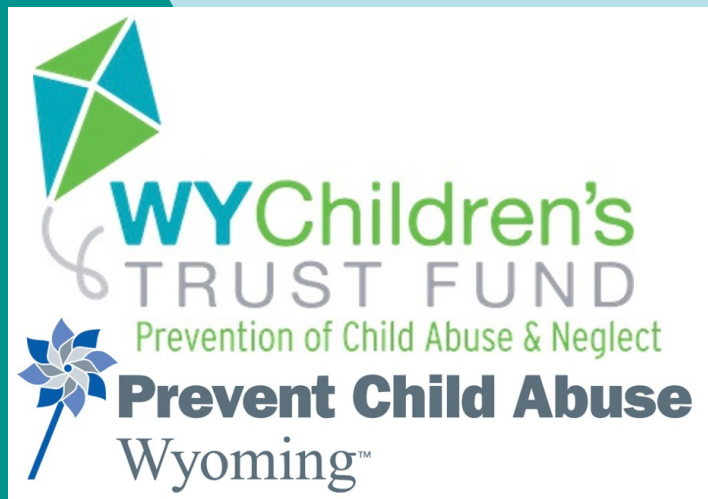




"ACEs" stands for "Adverse Childhood Experiences" which are potentially traumatic things that occur in a child's life.

These experiences can include things like physical, sexual, and emotional abuse, neglect, caregiver mental illness, and household violence.



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ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES & PROTECTIVE FACTORS

WYOMING CHILDREN'S
TRUST FUND

The Problem

The more ACEs a child experiences, the more likely they are to suffer from things like heart disease and diabetes, poor academic achievement, and substance abuse later in life.

ACEs affect people at all income and social levels, and can have serious, costly impact across the lifespan.

No one who's experienced significant adversity (or many ACEs) is irreparably damaged, though we need to acknowledge trauma's effects on their lives.

So, what can we do to prevent ACEs?

Protective Factors

Protective factors are conditions that, when present, increase the well-being of children and families and reduce the likelihood of maltreatment. Research shows that protective factors help prevent ACEs.

Some protective factors are:

Strengthen economic supports to families

- Strengthening household financial security
- Family-friendly work policies

Promote social norms that protect against violence and adversity

- Public education campaigns
- Approaches to reduce corporal punishment
- Bystander approaches

Ensure a strong start for children

- Early childhood home visitation
- High-quality child care
- Preschool enrichment with family engagement

Teach skills

- Social-emotional learning
- Safe dating and healthy relationship skill programs
- Parenting skills and family relationship approaches

Connect youth to caring adults and activities

- Mentoring programs
- After-school programs

