

Positive Impact of Education Class for Parents with Adverse Childhood Experiences on Child Behavior

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What Is the Problem?

- Adverse childhood events (ACEs) are a risk factor for a variety of poor health and developmental outcomes.
- There is little information on low-cost interventions that help to ameliorate the impact of ACEs on childhood outcomes.
- The importance of family resilience in overcoming ACEs is well-known.
- Community education classes may provide a way to build parenting skills among parents with children at risk for poor developmental outcomes and potential ACEs exposure.

What Are the Findings?

- Children of parents who participated in a series of community educational classes showed improvement in their psychosocial development as measured by the ASQ:SE 2.
- This improvement was independent of parental ACEs scores.
- Screening for ACEs in the community setting was feasible and acceptable to class participants.

Who Should Care Most?

- School districts and other community education providers.
- Health care professionals.
- Policymakers.
- Nonprofit organizations.
- Grant providers.

Recommendations for Action

- Consider designing additional community educational interventions aimed at families and children who have been exposed to ACEs and are at risk of poor health and developmental outcomes.
- Consider screening for ACEs outside the office setting.