

Sexual Violence Prevention Legislation Scan

ASTHO conducted a scan of state legislation focused on adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and housing stability. ASTHO chose these areas because strategies to mitigate these issues have the potential to strengthen protective factors and reduce risk factors for sexual violence.¹

ACEs are incidents that harm social, cognitive, and emotional functioning and undermine the safe, nurturing environments children need to thrive. ACEs include emotional, physical, or sexual abuse, household dysfunction, and emotional or physical neglect, among other things. Research shows that ACEs can lead to negative physical, mental, and behavioral health outcomes and can affect social development and risk-taking behaviors into adolescence and adulthood.² Almost half of children nationwide have experienced some form of adverse experience, and individuals who have experienced at least one ACE are more likely to have experienced multiple ACEs.³ At the threshold of four ACEs, the risk for negative physical and mental health outcomes increases, and at six or more ACEs the risk of premature death increases by 20 years.⁴

ASTHO narrowed the scope of its housing stability legislation analysis to include Housing First and rapid rehousing policies. Housing instability can include trouble paying rent, overcrowding, moving frequently, or forced moves including eviction or foreclosure.⁵ Persons with housing instability or lack of housing experience disproportionate rates of sexual violence.⁶ In addition, evictions impact the protective factors that can reduce the risk of sexual violence, such as neighborhood cohesion and connections to schools⁷, and increase risk for violence from homelessness.⁸ As an example of the intersection between sexual violence, ACEs, and housing instability, homeless women who experienced childhood sexual abuse were also more likely to have experienced adult physical or sexual victimization.⁹

Housing First is a homeless assistance approach that connects people with permanent housing without preconditions. The premise is that people need their basic needs met (e.g., food and shelter) before they can address other issues, such as employment or substance misuse.¹⁰ Supportive services are often offered in conjunction to maximize housing stability and reduce recidivism. Housing First models have shown to be effective in increasing long-term housing stability, as well as improving physical and behavioral health outcomes.¹¹

Methods

ASTHO staff used CQState Track to identify and track proposed legislation that met specific search criteria. The terms used for tracking ACEs and housing stability policies are documented in Table 1.

ASTHO staff tracked the status (i.e. introduced or enacted) of legislation from Jan. 1, 2018, to May 11, 2018. This includes legislation introduced and enacted in 2017 if a state had a two-year session that ended in 2018. Duplicates of the same bill were removed (House or Senate versions) and only the most recent versions were kept. ASTHO staff also categorized ACEs and housing stability legislation by topic to

identify common themes and strategies across jurisdictions. Topics of ACEs legislation included child welfare, education, healthcare, justice system, task force. Topics of housing stability legislation included construction, funding, taskforce, and other.

Table 1.

ACEs Tracking Terms	(Adverse, traumatic experiences, or trauma) and (child, children, or childhood) Trauma informed care (Social, emotional, or development) and screening and (child or children)
Housing Tracking Terms	Housing-First or rapid rehousing

Legislative Scan Results

Figure 1 and Figure 2 illustrate the states that introduced or enacted ACEs legislation and housing stability legislation, respectively. Introduced legislation includes any bill or resolution that met search criteria but was not signed into law or adopted by the legislature. For ACEs, the scan produced 75 pieces of legislation from 26 states and the District of Columbia (Appendix A). Out of the 26 states that introduced legislation, seven states enacted ACEs related legislation: Massachusetts, Maryland, Illinois, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Utah, and Washington state.

The housing stability scan produced 52 pieces of legislation from 14 states and the District of Columbia (Appendix B). Out of the 14 states that introduced legislation, Washington state and the District of Columbia were the only states that enacted housing stability legislation.

Washington state was the only jurisdiction to successfully pass both an ACEs bill and housing bill during the 2018 session.

Figure 1: Introduced or Enacted ACEs Legislation

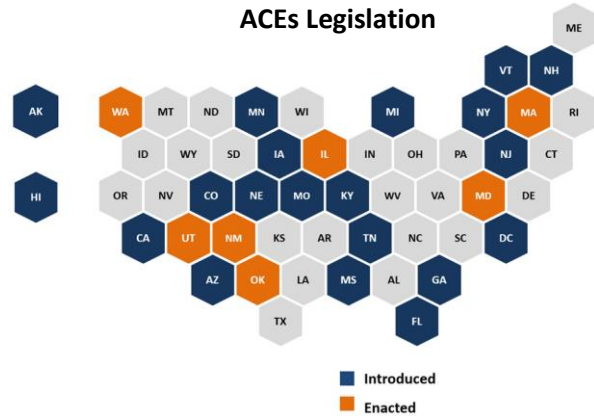
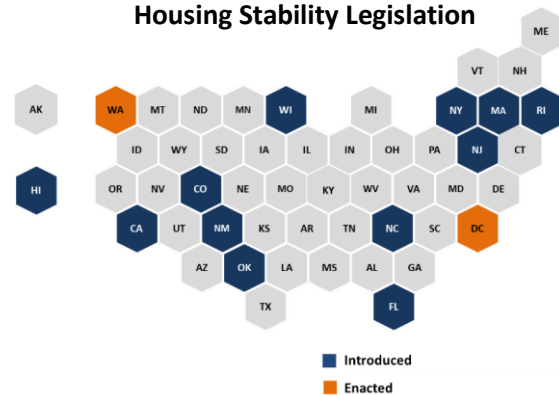


Figure 2: Introduced or Enacted Housing Stability Legislation



funds to provide homeless specific services and childcare to families in emergency temporary shelters, such as for domestic violence or substance use treatment facilities.

Implementing Legislation: State Example

Washington state was the only jurisdiction to pass both ACEs legislation and a housing bill during the 2018 session. Two ACEs bills passed. The Trauma Informed Care -- Advisory Group Act expanded requirements for trauma-informed child care training to address ACEs and develop specialized care and interventions for children with underlying trauma, disabilities, or other conditions throughout the state.¹³ The new law tasks the Trauma-Informed Care Advisory Group, a new advisory body comprised of clinical experts, early learning stakeholders, and parents selected by the Department of Children, Youth and Families, with developing a five-year strategy to expand training and awareness in trauma identification and positive behavior supports in early learning environments.¹⁴ The second bill implemented the recommendations from the children's mental health workgroup. Recommendations include improvement of mental healthcare access for children and their families by providing services through the education system (i.e., early learning and K-12 education) and healthcare systems.¹⁵ The legislation also establishes a child care consultation program to link child care providers with evidence-based, trauma-informed, and best practice resources regarding caring for children who present symptoms of trauma.¹⁶

The Homeless Housing and Assistance -- Document Recording Surcharge Act intends to increase access and remove barriers to housing for individuals and families in Washington in order to address the immediate and long-term consequences of homelessness.¹⁷ The housing act adds a new \$62 surcharge on documents recorded by the county auditor.¹⁸ The new surcharge funds the homeless housing grant program and administration of that program.¹⁹

These new laws align with the state's strategic plans to address ACEs²⁰ and housing and homelessness.²¹ The Trauma Informed Care -- Advisory Group Act and bill to implement the recommendations from the children's mental health workgroup build on existing efforts to address ACEs by implementing cross-sector workgroups and initiatives, such as the state's Essentials for Childhood Initiative, as well as programs building the capacity of schools, strengthening families, and enhancing mental and behavioral health services²². Washington was one of the first states to gather data to inform state prevention policy and pass the nation's first ACEs reduction law in 2011.²³ In addition, the Homeless Housing and Assistance -- Document Recording Surcharge Act complements activities already underway and helps states partner with local counties and corporate partners to tailor new strategies for homeless families with children and those on the brink of homelessness.

Conclusion

Overall, states are making strides to address social determinants of health through ACEs and housing stability legislation. While not expressly focused on sexual violence, innovative solutions to address ACEs and housing stability may strengthen primary prevention of sexual violence because they target risk and protective factors that are common across issues.²⁴ Risk and protective factors for sexual and other forms of violence are broad and can encompass a range of economic and social policies. Other organizations are tracking legislation involving standards for childcare²⁵ and economic policies involving livable wages and paid family/medical leave²⁶, all of which contribute to the protective factors that can reduce sexual violence.²⁷ Public health agencies and their sexual violence prevention partners can

educate state leaders about the impact of violence in communities and policy strategies that have been shown to prevent violence.

Appendix A: Adverse Childhood Experiences Legislation

Please note, the enacted legislation in the appendix are highlighted.

Topic	State	Bill No.	Description
Child Welfare	AK	HB 337a	An act requiring the Department of Health and Social Services to provide family support services information to the parent or guardian of a child who is the subject of a report of harm.
	CO	HB 18-1044	Amends the Colorado Children's Trust Fund Act to place a greater priority on preventing child maltreatment fatalities and continuing to prevent child maltreatment.
	CO	HB 18-1319	Extending services for a successful adulthood for former foster care youth and make an appropriation.
	HI	HB 1923	Requires operators of child care facilities to comply with additional requirements for safe sleep policies to prevent sudden unexpected infant deaths and sudden infant death syndrome.
	MD	HB 1582	Establishing a State Medical Director for Children Receiving Child Welfare Services in the Department of Human Services.
	MD	SB 1218	Establishing the Ending Youth Homelessness Grant Program to focus on preventing and ending youth homelessness and addressing disparities based on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity.
	MO	HB 1767	An act to repeal sections 210.110 and 210.112, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to treatment services for children entering foster care.
	NE	LB 801	A bill for an act relating to children; to adopt the Panhandle Beginnings Act; to state intent relating to appropriations; and to declare an emergency.
	NH	SB 592	An act relative to the child welfare system.
	NJ	SCR 100	A Concurrent Resolution urging the Governor to develop strategies to reduce children's exposure to adverse childhood experiences.
	NM	HB 341	Relating to the public peace, health, safety and welfare.
	NM	SB 74	Relating to state government; creating the early childhood services department.
	TN	HB 2580	Requires the commissioner to on the adequacy of resources to assist children and youth impacted by the opioid epidemic and adverse childhood experiences.
	WA	SB 5763	An act relating to implementing recommendations from the children's mental health work group.
WA	SB 6467	An act relating to creating a pilot program to allow certain counties to provide additional family services through community truancy boards and site secure crisis residential center facilities.	
Education	CA	AB 2083	An act to add Section 16521.6 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to foster youth.

CA	AB 2691	An act relating to pupil health and school staff trauma.
CA	AB 3063	An act relating to education finance for the Opportunity Youth Reengagement Program.
GA	HB 763	A bill relating to compulsory attendance for students in elementary and secondary education, to expand the student attendance protocol committees to school climate.
IA	HB 2350	An act requiring school employee training and protocols relating to suicide prevention and trauma-informed care.
IL	SB 2541	With respect to age-appropriate developmental screening and age-appropriate social and emotional screening, provides that the Department of Public Health must develop rules and appropriate revisions to the Child Health Examination form.
KY	HB 604	Create a new section of KRS Chapter 158 to require each school to employ at least one mental health professional for every 1,500 students.
MI	HB 5524	A bill to develop or adopt a professional development course for teachers on mental health first aid.
MO	HB 2378	An act to repeal section 174.125, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to teacher training on trauma-informed approach.
NE	LB 998	A bill for an act relating to the Educational Service Units Act; to create a collaborate school behavioral and mental health program.
NM	HB 136	Relating to public schools; creating the childhood poverty awareness training act.
NM	SB 233	Relating to protection of students in need of accommodation who are accused of sanctioned offenses to provide supportive services and due process; limiting the use of restraint and seclusion.
NY	A10063	Requires training for teachers, administrators and supervisors in childhood trauma and its impact on child development and learning.
NY	SB 7756	An act to amend the social services law, in relation to mandating training of direct care workers in adverse childhood experiences.
NY	SB 8000	Requires training for teachers, administrators and supervisors in childhood trauma and its impact on child development and learning.
UT	HB 264	This bill enacts language authorizing grants for school-based counselors and social workers.
UT	HB 380	This bill amends provisions related to the School Readiness Initiative.
UT	SB 2	This bill supplements or reduces appropriations previously provided for the support and operation of public education; includes enhancement for at-risk student's program and school nurses.
VT	HB 578	An act relating to establishing the Coordinator of Trauma-Informed Systems and the Childhood Trauma Tri-Branch Commission.
VT	HB 580	An act relating to trauma-informed policies in educational settings.
VT	SB 261	An act relating to mitigating trauma and toxic stress during childhood by strengthening child and family resilience.

	IA	HF 2176	An act requiring school employee training and protocols relating to suicide prevention and trauma-informed care.
	IL	HR 0795	Urging the State of Illinois to create healthy environments for children, even when they struggle with a host of challenges and to find creative solutions for each child to reach their full potential.
	KY	HB 538	Require a mental health screening for students in conjunction with immunizations required for elementary, middle, and high school.
	NM	SM69	Request the search of funding sources for the development of an early childhood educator incentive program to encourage more candidates to enter the early learning workforce.
Healthcare	CA	SB 1004	To impose a tax to fund county mental health programs, including, but not limited to, prevention and early intervention.
	IA	SF 515	An act relating to appropriations for health and human services and veterans.
	MO	HB 2679	An act to amend chapter 208, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the adverse childhood experience questionnaire.
	NE	LB 534	A bill for an act relating to behavioral health.
	VT	HB 553	An act relating to hospital budgets and reinvesting hospital budget surpluses in social determinants of health.
	VT	HB 579	An act relating to trauma-informed care in healthcare settings.
	VT	S 290	An act relating to hospital budgets and reinvesting hospital budget surpluses in social determinants of health.
	WA	HB 1713	An act relating to implementing recommendations from the children's mental health work group.
Justice System	AZ	HB 2638	Dignity for Incarcerated Women Act; to allow for trauma-informed care, considerations for postpartum recovery, and substance use treatment for primary caretakers or pregnant prisoners.
	FL	HB 1351	Requiring the program to incorporate specified components to be considered an early childhood court.
	FL	SB 1442	Requiring the program to incorporate specified components to be considered an early childhood court.
	HI	SB 2305	Requires the establishment of a pilot visitation center or centers for children of incarcerated parents at one or more correctional facilities in the State.
	MA	S 2371	The omnibus bill tackles issues in decriminalization, diversion, bail reform, mandatory minimums, solitary confinement, extraordinary medical placement, juvenile justice, collateral consequences, and criminal penalties and procedures.
	MO	HCB 11	An act to repeal certain sections to enact in lieu thereof thirteen new sections relating to persons under protective custody.
	NY	SB 4784	Restricts the use and length of time of segregated confinement and creates alternative therapeutic and rehabilitative confinement options.

	TN	HB 862	Enacts the "Tennessee Zero to Three Court Initiative" to create five additional zero to three court programs throughout the state to be administered by the department of children's services.
	UT	HB 177	This bill addresses trauma-informed justice.
Multiple	HI	HB 1926	Requires an integrated and multigenerational approach to delivering human services to reduce the incidence of intergenerational poverty and dependence on public benefits.
	HI	HR 14	Requests government services to work with the family reunification working group and other community stakeholders to develop a plan to establish visitation centers at all state correctional facilities.
	IL	SB 2925	Provides that the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board shall develop or approve a curriculum for a certified training program for school resource officers.
	MN	HF 2972	A bill for an act relating to families; expanding the Office of Ombudsperson for Families; requiring a report; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2016.
	MN	HF 3138	Relating to state government finance, such as governing Department of Health and public health, and establishing the Vulnerable Adult Maltreatment Prevention and Accountability Act.
	VT	HR 550	An act relating to childhood trauma and the best interests of the child.
	VT	SB 280	An act relating to the Advisory Council for Strengthening Families.
Task Force	DC	B22-172	A bill to establish the Maternal Mental Health Task Force to study maternal medical healthcare and make recommendations regarding specified matters pertaining to maternal mental healthcare.
	DC	B22-687	A bill to establish an Adverse Childhood Experiences Health Task Force.
	MN	SF 3388	A bill for an act relating to human services; establishing a task force on childhood trauma-informed policy and practices; requiring a report.
	MO	HR 2217	An act to amend chapter 210, RSMo, by adding a new section relating to the trauma-informed care for children and families board.
	MO	SB 1004	This act creates the "Trauma-Informed Care for Children and Families Board."
	MO	SCR 47	This concurrent resolution establishes the Task Force on Trauma-Informed Care for Veterans.
	MS	SB 2339	An act to create the mental health summit to study certain issues relating to the state's mental health system for the elderly and children.
	NM	SM 95	A memorial recognizing the University of New Mexico and members of the 2017 J. Paul Taylor Early Childhood Task Force.
	OK	SB 1517	An act creating the Task Force on Trauma-Informed Care to study and make recommendations to the Legislature on best practices with respect to children and youth who have experienced trauma.
WA	HB 2861	An act relating to expanding the provision of trauma-informed child care, including the creation of an advisory group.	

	WA	SB 5440	An act relating to establishing the legislative-executive WorkFirst poverty reduction oversight task force.
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Appendix B: Housing Stability Legislation

Topic	State	Bill No.	Description
Construction	HI	HB 1447	Directs DHS to develop and implement residential campgrounds for the homeless.
	HI	HB 2475	Authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds and appropriates proceeds to the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation for the development and construction of permanent supportive housing units for the chronically homeless.
	HI	HR 157	Urging the Department of Hawaiian home lands to commit to providing housing first for Native Hawaiian beneficiaries.
Funding	CA	AB 232	Appropriations relating to homelessness relief.
	CA	AB 3171	Appropriations relating to homelessness and to require the creation of a program to help homeless individuals to achieve economic independence.
	CA	SB 392	Appropriations relating to public social services.
	CA	SB 912	An amendment to the Health and Safety Code, relating to housing.
	CA	SB 918	Appropriations for the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to homeless youth.
	FL	HB 3443	Provides an appropriation for the Rapid Rehousing Program - Fort Lauderdale.
	HI	HB 699	Appropriates funds to continue to administer the housing first program, and to expand the housing first program outside of Oahu, for chronically homeless individuals.
	HI	HB 772	Appropriates funds to support homelessness outreach, mitigation, and prevention efforts.
	HI	HB 1195	Appropriates funds to provide homeless outreach services and rental subsidies to reduce and prevent homelessness.
	HI	HB 1196	Appropriates funds for the Housing First Program and the Rapid Rehousing Program. Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority for the State Rent Supplement Program.
	HI	HB 1240	Appropriates funds to the coordinated statewide homeless initiative, subject to certain conditions.
	HI	HB 1766	Appropriates funds to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority for public housing improvements and renovations, and to administer a Rent Supplement Program.
	HI	HB 2281	Establishes an Ohana Zones program to provide housing to homeless individuals and families based on principles similar to the housing first program and appropriates unspecified funds for the program.
	HI	SB 4	Appropriates funds to DHS to reimburse housing first program providers that provide housing.
	HI	SB 1107	Appropriates funds to DHS for the coordinated statewide homeless initiative, subject to certain conditions.

	HI	SB 1215	Appropriates funds to DHS for the housing first program and the rapid re-housing program to assist chronically homeless individuals and individuals who require financial assistance to avoid homelessness.
	HI	SB 2027	Appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services for the Coordinated Statewide Homeless Initiative.
	HI	SB 2873	Appropriates funds to DHS and DOH to continue to administer programs for individuals or families who require assistance to avoid or escape homelessness.
	MA	SB 2368	Appropriations: \$60 million for disabled homeowners loans and grants; \$65 million for state financial assistance for community-based housing for individuals with mental illness and disabilities.
	NM	HB 132	An appropriation for rapid rehousing services for homeless people.
	WA	HB 1980	An act relating to creating a low-income home rehabilitation 2 revolving loan program.
	WA	SB 5903	An act relating to the Housing for All Act.
	WI	SB 317	An act relating to: transitional housing grants and making an appropriation.
Multiple	HI	HB 1440	Establishes various provisions to address homelessness and establishes civil rights boards to address civil rights of homeless.
	HI	HB 2014	Requires the Governor to identify available state land for the establishment of a homelessness village. Establishes the Puuhonua Homeless Villages program.
	HI	HB 2461	Establishes within the Department of Human Services a Hawaii County Homeless Villages program.
	HI	SB 182	Requires the department of health to establish a comprehensive and coordinated continuum of treatment services for substance abuse and co-occurring mental health disorders.
	HI	SB 2628	Establishes within the Department of Human Services a Puuhonua Homeless Villages program.
	OK	SB 1554	An act relating to homelessness; creating the Homeless Housing Coordination and Planning Act.
Other	DC	B2 2293	To amend the Homeless Services Reform Act and to clarify the membership, appointment process, roles, and responsibilities of the Interagency Council on Homelessness and its members.
	HI	HB 1816	Provides for Ohana zones for temporary shelter and services in support of permanent housing placements for individuals experiencing homelessness.
	HI	HB 2021	Requires the Department of Human Services, in consultation with the Department of Health, to establish a pilot project to procure services from a designated service provider to operate a facility to provide shelter and mental health treatment for homeless individuals.
	HI	HB 2650	Requires the Department of Human Services to develop a publicly accessible system that tracks appropriations made for contracts with

			provider agencies that offer services to homeless persons on behalf of the State and measures the effectiveness of services.
	HI	SB 2	Requires the Auditor, with the assistance of the Department of Human Services, to conduct a study to assess the impact of using Medicaid funds to provide coverage for the treatment for homelessness.
	HI	SB 2025	Beginning January 1, 2019, requires all health plans in the State, including EUTF health plans and Medicaid managed care programs, to provide coverage for the treatment of homelessness.
	HI	SB 2401	Establishes the Ohana Zones Pilot Program, the Emergency Department Homelessness Assessment Pilot Program, and the Medical Respite Pilot Program. Makes appropriations.
	HI	SB 2958	Establishes within the Department of Human Services a Puuhonua Homeless Villages Pilot Program and requires DHS to identify lands for the pilot program.
	MA	HB 4293	Entitles families placed in emergency temporary shelters, domestic violence shelters, substance abuse and recovery shelters or non-emergency assistance shelters to homeless child care assistance vouchers from the department of early education.
	MA	SB 2386	To provide for a capital outlay program to rehabilitate, produce and modernize state-aided public housing developments.
	NJ	A 1719	An act concerning housing related services provided to Medicaid recipients.
	NY	AB 8124	Directs the division of veterans' affairs to establish the veterans' housing program to ensure homeless veterans are being housed under federal housing first principles.
	NY	SB 6214	Relates to providing veterans' housing; requires state agencies that provide shelter to homeless veterans to do so based on federal housing first principles without preconditions or barriers.
	RI	H 7093	An act relating to state affairs and government - housing resources and homeless shelters.
	RI	H 7953	An act relating to human services - Rhode Island pathways project.
	WA	HB 1570	An act relating to expanding access to homeless housing and assistance.
	WA	SB 5864	An act relating to ending homelessness.
Task Force	CO	HB 1021	Concerning addressing the issue of youth who are experiencing homelessness in Colorado, and appropriations.
	NC	H 647	An act establishing the joint legislative task force on homelessness and directing the task force to study "housing first" and its application in North Carolina.
	NY	AB 5314	Requires social services districts to establish a homeless housing task force for purposes of developing a ten-year plan and guidelines to address long-term and short-term housing.

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- ¹³ H.R. 2861, 65th Gen. Assemb., Reg. Sess. (Wa. 2018) (enacted).
- ¹⁴ *Ibid.*
- ¹⁵ H.R. 1713, 65th Gen. Assemb., Reg. Sess. (Wa. 2018) (enacted).
- ¹⁶ *Ibid.*
- ¹⁷ S.B. 5252, 65th Gen. Assemb., 3d Spec. Sess., (Wa. 2018) (enacted).
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