

2021 ASTHO Adverse Childhood Experiences Learning Community – Cohort 4

Request for Applications

I. Background

Over the last three years, ASTHO has collaborated with state health agencies and other public health organizations to examine national trends in Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) prevention [priorities](#), [strengths](#), and [areas of improvement](#). Through three ACEs Learning Community cohorts, ASTHO and state partners have explored the connection between ACEs and negative health outcomes and the relationships between primary prevention of ACEs and the prevention of substance misuse, violence, and suicide. ASTHO is currently recruiting two new jurisdictions to participate in the Cohort 4 of the ACEs Learning Community. The recent Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences: Data to Action awardees (Minnesota Department of Health and New Jersey Center for Health Care Strategies, Inc.) are participating, and there is room for two more jurisdictions to join.

- **Request for Applications Released:** September 7, 2021
- **Due Date:** September 30, 2021
- **Selection:** Early October
- **Project Period:** October 2021- July 2022
- **Submit your application to** sbh@astho.org

II. Overview

ASTHO's ACEs Learning Community aims to increase state and territorial capacity for the primary prevention of ACEs.

Purpose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promote cross-collaboration among health agencies and cross-sector and community partners. ● Support peer learning and relationship-building opportunities to identify evidence-based and experience-based practices for the primary prevention of ACEs.
Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Connect with peers and the Safe States Alliance to discuss strategies for advancing ACEs prevention and troubleshoot challenges. ● Receive resources tailored to your technical assistance (TA) needs in partnership building, data, and/or policy support (e.g., partner assessment report, partner site visit toolkit). ● Facilitate access and connection to relevant state, federal, national, ASTHO, and other partner subject matter expertise and resources.

Commitment
<p>Between October 2021 and July 2022, participation would include the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three webinars, including a kickoff, policy scan discussion, and closeout (Approximate time commitment: 1.5 hours each, 4.5 hours total). • Follow-up calls on TA interests on an as-needed basis (Approximate time commitment: 45 minutes per month). • Key informant interview or focus group discussion on major accomplishments (Approximate time commitment: 60-90 minutes). • Pre/post-test to assess learning community goals/outcomes (Approximate time commitment: 30 minutes).

III. Past Activities

During the past three years of the project, ASTHO has presented several public health agencies with various capacity building and TA.

- **Year 1:** ASTHO held an ACEs Leadership Summit with attendees from Arkansas, Oklahoma, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin. The summit covered ACEs legislative tracking and data-driven prevention strategies.
- **Year 2:** ASTHO collaborated with seven health agencies (Arkansas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Washington) through the ACEs Learning Community to promote cross-sector collaboration and advance the primary prevention of ACEs. Three states participated in site visits where they invited relevant state partners to focus on building relationships to enhance their ACEs work.
- **Year 3:** ASTHO coordinated an ACEs Policy Academy with five ACEs Learning Community states to increase knowledge and inspire agency staff to establish upstream policies that promote safe, stable, and nurturing environments for families to thrive. This academy offered hands-on activities to conceptualize the policy development framework and gave experience-based recommendations to integrate policy into their agency's work.

ASTHO provided the following supports during previous ACEs Learning Community activities.

Policy	Cross Collaboration	Data to Action Planning	Resource Sharing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative scan: An overview of state-level policy being proposed and enacted. • Policy support: An overview of legislative trends and an overview of CDC's policy developmental framework. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual site visit: To conduct partnership building activities to align efforts and build connections. • Stakeholder mapping: A tool to list and analyze partners and their resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner readiness assessment: A survey to better understand engagement issues among state private and public partners. • Data report: A suggested model for combining various ACEs data sources into one comprehensive document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource sharing: ACEs-related resources published by ASTHO, our learning community states, and other partners.

IV. Applicant Process

Participation in the ACEs learning community is open to all states and territories interested in advancing ACEs prevention work, including but not limited to [CDC evidence-based strategies](#). ASTHO also encourages states and territories to apply if they demonstrate one or more of the descriptions below:

1. States/territories interested in advancing their partnership engagement and collaborative work, including but not limited to assessing partnership engagement and coalescing multi-sector partners to align efforts to prevent ACEs.
2. States/territories interested in informing and advancing data-informed and evidence-based policy.
3. State/territories interested in learning from state and territory peers on advancing ACEs prevention, troubleshooting challenges, and leveraging existing assets.

Name: _____ **Health Agency:** _____

Email: _____

Please provide a short explanation of why your state/territory would like to participate in this learning community.