



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Southern NM KIDS COUNT Conference *Childhood Trauma: From Symptoms to Systems Change*

### *Call for Proposals: Breakout Learning Sessions*

NM Voices for Children and Ngage New Mexico have opened a call for proposals for consideration at the Second Annual Southern New Mexico Kids Count Conference, to be held on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The theme this year is “*Childhood Trauma – From Symptoms to Systems Change.*” The afternoon hours of the conference will offer several 75-90 minute breakout learning sessions which will be determined by the quality and quantity of proposals we receive and are able to accommodate that align with the theme and goals of the event. Deadline for proposal submissions is **October 2, 2018.** (See below for more details and guidelines). Selected proposals will receive an honorarium of \$150/session.

## PART I: REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL OVERVIEW

### Background: A Crisis for Children & Families

We now know that for children, experiencing chronic, toxic stress can result in traumatization, which can in turn have lasting and dangerous effects on their physical and mental health throughout their lives. In New Mexico, our children have unspeakable odds stacked against them. At least 51% percent of New Mexico children have experienced an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE), and New Mexico has one of the highest proportion of children with three or more ACEs which equates to an ACEs rate of 18 percent — higher than the national average of 11 percent.<sup>1</sup> ACEs are potentially traumatic experiences causing toxic stress -- ranging from abuse and neglect to living with an adult with a mental illness -- that can having lasting, negative impact that carries over from and to multiple generations. Furthermore, in New Mexico children of color are the majority, and the data clearly shows that children of color experience ACEs at a disproportionately higher rate. A sibling statistic to our ACEs ranking, reported in the [2018 Kids Count Data Book](#), shows that New Mexico has fallen to 50th in the nation in child well-being and has the highest rate of children living in poverty – one in four – of any other state. Research shows that children living in poverty have higher rates of developmental delay, learning problems, and school behavioral issues. Economically distressed children have higher rates of chronic illness, hospital admissions, and mortality. Such challenges are beyond lifelong, and often carry over into subsequent generations, creating an urgency to prevent and reduce the effects of ACEs and associated toxic stresses.

### Purpose & Audience: A Conference about Childhood Trauma

We have a full-blown crisis before us and must increase our collective knowledge and ability to recognize and address both the symptoms of trauma in children AND the systems that enable the cycle of trauma to continue.

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<sup>1</sup> [The prevalence of adverse childhood experiences, nationally, by state, and by race or ethnicity](#), Vanessa Sacks and David Murphey, Child Trends, 2018

Failure to prevent or decrease the impact of ACEs will result in greater inter-generational health disparities and poor health across generations in families. Additionally, we must better leverage the strengths and assets throughout communities as we seek to create more resilience statewide. Thus, the conference will provide both a clinical and policy lens to increase understanding for child advocates, service providers, communities, and policymakers about the causes, symptoms, and impacts of ACEs in children in New Mexico specifically, as well as strategies for redressing childhood trauma at the individual, organizational, and policy levels.

### Guidelines: Call for Proposals to Present Breakout Learning Sessions

The conference will invite experts and community leaders to offer presentations and learning sessions for experienced practitioners and advocates to help conference attendees to *gain critical knowledge, strengthen their networks and resources, build skills for trauma informed care provision and strategic policymaker advocacy, and encourage collective action for policy and systems change in our state.*

### Breakout Session Thematic Areas

Below are a list of thematic areas identified as important components of addressing childhood trauma by practitioners and throughout our organizations, agencies, policies, and systems. The list is not comprehensive, and we are open to suggestions not listed below. We want to ensure a balance of offering current research and practices, as well as data-supported non-mainstream and non-Western approaches to defining and responding to trauma and promoting resilience. The final program will emphasize local and regional expertise and experience and will be composed of a diverse array of presenters and perspectives, including those with clinical and policy knowledge to redress childhood trauma at the individual, organizational, and systematic levels, as well as those with deep experience in working with traumatized children, families, and communities. Proposal topics might include and fall into the following themes:

1. **What Is Trauma:** Recognizing, responding to various types, causes, symptoms, and impacts of trauma
2. **ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences):** Understanding and working to reduce New Mexico's high rate of adverse childhood experiences, including a research-based perspective on ACEs
3. **Trauma-Informed Practice:** Building a trauma-informed practice or organization, including best and emerging practices with an eye toward cultural competence and strengths-based care (trauma-informed social work, trauma-informed schools and education systems, etc.)
4. **Traditional Responses to Trauma:** Indigenous or native perspectives and approaches to defining, addressing, and responding to trauma
5. **Policy & Systems Change:** Analysis and recommendations for how to improve policies and agencies working with children and families in New Mexico to be trauma-informed and effective at reducing ACEs
6. **Community Action & Strategies for Change:** Collective action strategies for policy and systems change in local communities and statewide, including real life case examples in New Mexico

### Components of a Successful Proposal Application Include:

- A description of how the workshop will help realize the purpose of the conference;
- A clear, concise title along with a statement as to which thematic area (above) that the proposal falls under or if you're proposing an additional topic;
- Two to four clearly written learning objectives for workshop participants;
- How instructor will use effective and innovative adult instruction techniques;
- Equipment and materials to be used, including any handouts (do not need to attach to proposal, but do need to list them);
- Plans for session design (a draft agenda – how you will use the full 75-90 minutes) with an eye towards the future of the field;
- A description of your credentials and/or what qualifies you to present on this topic;
- How the workshop will leverage research and an examination of current practices in topic area;
- A strict adherence to proposal format and word counts.

## Review Process

Each proposal will be reviewed and rated on the following criteria:

1. Relevance to conference theme and chosen thematic area.
2. Innovative, applied, and advanced content.
3. Quality and clarity of proposal.
4. Real world application of skills and knowledge gained.
5. Use of creative and real world examples.
6. Plan for audience interaction and critical thinking.

## Instructions & Reminders

1. Submission should include:
  - a. A completed Application Form by the deadline (Part II)
  - b. A high resolution head shot photo for the Conference Program
2. All pages of the application must be typed, word counts adhered to;
3. Only completed applications will be reviewed (incomplete, unedited, unprofessional, and/or hand-written proposals will not be reviewed);
4. All communications and responses to submitted applications will come from either Ngage New Mexico or NM Voices for Children to the lead presenter who will be responsible for conveying information to co-presenters; and,
5. Selected proposals will receive free full conference registration for session presenters.

## Part II: Application for Conference Presentation

Applications must be emailed to [abeer@ngagenm.org](mailto:abeer@ngagenm.org) by 5PM MST on October 2, 2018.

If you DO NOT receive an email confirmation that we received your proposal within two business days, please contact [abeer@ngagenm.org](mailto:abeer@ngagenm.org).

Presentations are currently planned to be 75-90 minutes in length. ALL SESSIONS SHOULD ALLOW TIME FOR 10 minutes of Q&A.

It should be noted that attendance for individual sessions can range from 30 to over 70 participants. Sessions that seek to have a small group and/or group activities **CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AND CAPPING IS NOT ALLOWED**. Rooms will be pre-set in theatre (chairs only) and cannot be re-arranged.

### PROPOSAL TITLE

Title of Presentation (15 words max):

### I. PERSONAL INFORMATION: NAME, CREDENTIALS, CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of person submitting application:

Contact phone:

Contact email:

Date application submitted:

Lead presenter name & credentials:

Area of specialization:

Employer:

Email:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone:

Phone 2:

**Additional Presenters:** (for students, list anticipated degree, graduation year, university/college)

Name and credentials:

Employer:

Name and credentials:

Employer:

Name and credentials:

Employer:

Have you presented to a group of 30 or more people?  Yes  No

Is this your only submission?  Yes  No

If no, please list titles of other(s):

## II. PRESENTATION TYPE:

- Lecture/PowerPoint
- Panel Discussion (at least three presenters- including a designated moderator)
- Group Interaction (if selecting this category, explain planned activities below in **250 words or less**)
- Other (explain in **250 words or less**)

## III. PRESENTATION THEME

*Select all that apply below. Later in the application you'll be asked to elaborate on the theme(s) chosen.*

- What Is Trauma:** Recognizing and responding to the various types, causes, symptoms, and impacts of trauma
- ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences):** Understanding and working to reduce New Mexico's high rate of adverse childhood experiences, including a research-based perspective on ACEs
- Trauma-Informed Practice:** Building a trauma-informed practice or organization, including best and emerging practices with an eye toward cultural competence and strengths-based care (trauma-informed social work, trauma-informed schools and education systems, etc.)
- Traditional Responses to Trauma:** Indigenous or native approaches to addressing and responding to traumatization
- Policy & Systems Change:** Analysis and recommendations for how to improve policies and agencies working with children and families in New Mexico to be trauma-informed and effective at reducing ACEs
- Community Action & Strategies for Change:** Collective action strategies for policy and systems change in local communities and statewide, including real life case examples in New Mexico
- Other (please describe in **250 or words or less**)**

## IV. PRESENTATION CONTENT

*A completed application must contain the following information filled in on this page. Attachments are not necessary and will not be accepted for review.*

- A. Presentation Title (**15 words or less**)
- B. Presenter(s) Biographies (**150 words for each presenter**)
- C. Participant Learning Objectives (**list two – four objectives**)
- D. Presentation Abstract/Summary (**500 words or less**)

- E. Brief Presentation Description (for event program selected) (150 words or less)
  
- F. Material & Equipment Needs (150 words or less)
  
- G. Plan for implementing adult learning methods in presentation, including innovative and interactive audience engagement (300 words or less)
  
- H. Description of how workshop will leverage research and an examination of current practices in topic area (200 words or less)
  
- I. Draft Session Agenda or Plan (200 words or less)

#### APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Application is completed and proofread. Incomplete applications will not be accepted
- Content materials are advanced and applied
- High resolution photos of all presenters attached
- Application is signed and dated by lead presenter

Lead Presenter Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_