



On behalf of Social NET Works, we would like to share some **exciting news** with you. Over the past 18 months, cross-sector stakeholders in Brookings County have worked through the SD Resilient Communities Framework from the South Dakota Center for Prevention of Child Maltreatment (CPCM). We are very excited to announce that **Brookings County will be the first community in the state recognized by CPCM** as having met the criteria for a South Dakota Resilient Community.

On April 14 at 10:30 a.m., CPCM will present a "SD Resilient Communities: Brookings County" award and also launch the program statewide. Please mark your calendar, and watch for more details about the award ceremony that will be held in the Council Chambers and live-streamed. This award shows that our community is exceptionally committed to increasing our ability to know about, respond to and prevent child maltreatment.

Our work is just beginning, though, as we now begin the SUSTAIN portion of the SD Resilient Communities framework. **We invite your help to increase the resiliency of our youth and families in Brookings County by taking the pledge and committing to becoming a Brookings County Resiliency Motivator.** All individuals, businesses and organizations who are "early adopters" and **take this pledge by April 1, 2021** will be recognized during the award ceremony and added to the new SD Resilient Communities website when it is launched by CPCM.

Please see the next page for evidence-based reasons why preventing childhood maltreatment is in everyone's best interest. Then, if you're ready to **join the Brookings County Resiliency Motivators**, please print, sign and return the pledge form or complete it online.

As always, please contact us if you have questions or would like more information or a presentation on SD Resilient Communities: Brookings County.

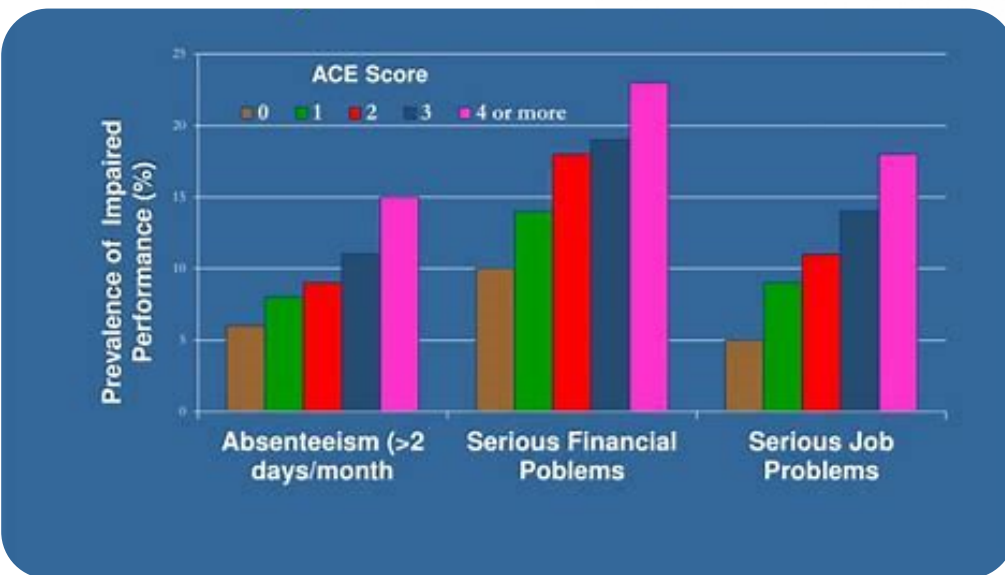
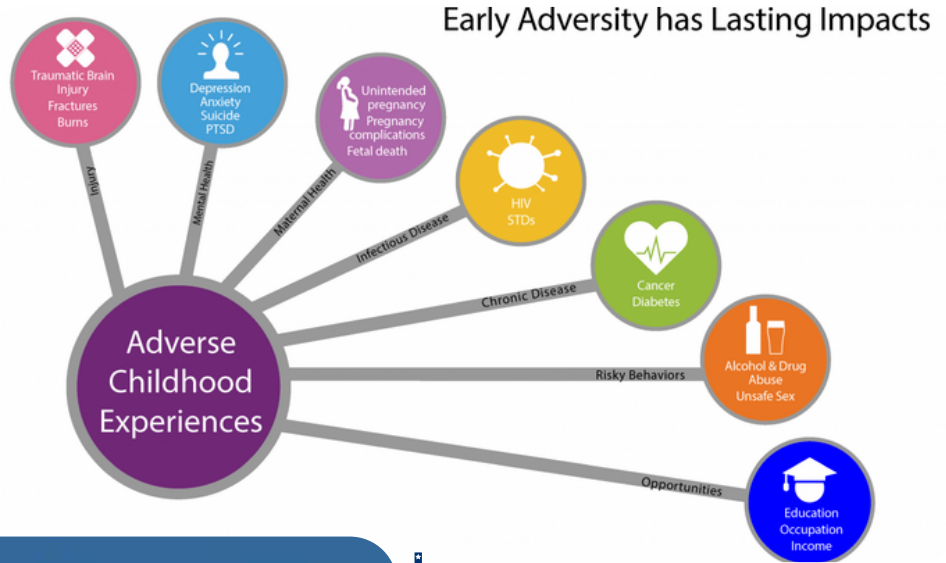
Sincerely, Social NET Works: socialnetworksbrookings@gmail.com

Chad Adamson, Mickelson Middle School Counselor
Darla Biel, Brookings County Youth Mentoring Program Executive Director
Heidi Gullickson, Brookings Area United Way Executive Director
Nikki Eining, Avera Behavioral Health of Brookings
Michelle Vande Weerd, Brookings School District Curriculum Director

PS: Upcoming quarterly Resilient Communities: Brookings County Motivator meetings are **April 14** (award ceremony), **May 12**, **Aug. 11** and **Nov. 10** -- all at 10:30 a.m.

Why Prevent ACEs in Brookings County?

CDC research identifies Adverse Childhood Experiences as having **lasting, negative effects on health, well-being, and opportunity.** ACEs increase the risks of injury, STDs, maternal and child health problems, teen pregnancy, involvement in sex trafficking, and a wide range of leading causes of death, such as cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and suicide.

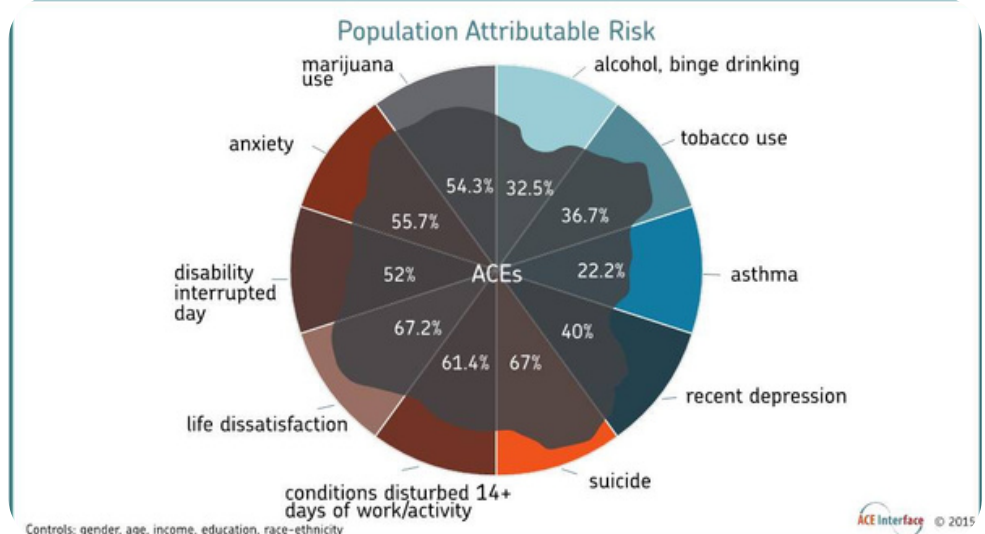


ACEs directly **impact work performance** and household income.

The more adversities an individual experiences, the **more job difficulties and financial problems** that individual is at risk of experiencing.

By preventing and appropriately responding to ACEs, **we can prevent**

substance abuse, mental health difficulties, serious job problems, chronic health conditions and deaths by suicide.



SOUTH DAKOTA RESILIENT COMMUNITIES FRAMEWORK

South Dakota children are facing child abuse and maltreatment at an alarming rate. Research shows us that Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) have a direct impact on an individual's nervous system, which creates long term health and at-risk behavior linked consequences. There is hope as childhood maltreatment IS preventable; however, **neighborhoods, systems and communities must work together to build resiliency opportunities.** These resiliency opportunities ensure South Dakota children and families have safe, stable, and loving environments in which to grow and thrive. The SD Center for Prevention of Child Maltreatment (CPCM) has created a ***Resilient Communities: South Dakota*** program to provide communities with guidance and support so that cross-sector collaborations can work together to identify and amplify ways that they, together, can know about, respond to and prevent child maltreatment at the local levels.

On April 14, 2021 at 10:30 a.m., Brookings County will become the first community in the state to be recognized by CPCM as having met the criteria to be a *South Dakota Resilient Community.*

To sustain these efforts will take everyone's support and continued motivation to make Brookings County youth and families resilient in the face of adverse experiences. **We invite you to take the pledge and commit to joining the team of Brookings County Resiliency Motivators.** See the next page for details and information on how to join these efforts to create a more trauma-informed, self-healing community.

BROOKINGS COUNTY RESILIENCY MOTIVATOR PLEDGE

I/We are ready to become part of sustaining efforts in Brookings County to become a trauma-informed, self-healing community in order to better know about, respond to, and prevent childhood maltreatment.

I/We acknowledge that 1 in 2 individuals in Brookings County are affected by childhood maltreatment, and I understand that adverse childhood experiences can have tremendous negative impacts on people throughout their lifespan.

I/We acknowledge that all residents in Brookings County have rights to safety and basic needs, and that we all have a part to play in creating resilient youth, families and individuals.

By signing this pledge and becoming a "SD Resilient Communities: Brookings County Motivator," I acknowledge that I and other adults in my business or organization will join multi-sector, community-wide efforts to know about, respond to, and prevent child abuse in Brookings County. Working together, we can create a community in which everyone can thrive.

As a Brookings County Resiliency Motivator, I/We commit to:

1. Appoint a Key Representative from my business or organization to attend quarterly SD Resilient Communities: Brookings County meetings. Quarterly meetings will be a time to report what our environment is doing to increase resiliency of youth and families, celebrate and highlight what is already happening in our community, increase awareness of strategies and best practices that can help prevent adverse child experiences and trauma in our community, and network with others in order to increase and learn about community collaborative activities focused on prevention of childhood maltreatment
2. Require annual mandatory reporter training to staff who have direct contact with youth and families.
3. Host or send staff annually to a trauma-informed training that works best for your business or organization (virtually, onsite, at a quarterly meeting, etc. . . . As a Brookings County Resiliency Motivator, you will receive information about upcoming training opportunities, many of which are free.
4. Send success stories of how your business or organization is creating a more resilient community for youth and families in Brookings County. I understand that my/our participation in Brookings County resiliency efforts and associated success stories will be shared in the media and also on the SD Resilient Communities website.

Please take this pledge online here: <https://forms.gle/LGi7qQbA77k3FRtUA> **or print, sign and return this page via email** to socialnetworksbrookings@gmail.com.

Printed Name:

Signature:

Date: