# Before We Begin...

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Access the note taking slides now! The link can be found in the chat.



This presentation is being recorded.

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Review interactive features for today's session. Locate the controls on the toolbar at the bottom of your screen.

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A follow-up email will be sent to all participants within two days.





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# Learning Objectives

- Define key trauma terms and concepts
- Understand the concept of historical trauma in tribal communities
- Understand the link between trauma and
- Identify connections between trauma and child development
- Understand the concept of resilience
- Describe protective factors that build resilience



## Your wellbeing is important



It is okay to ask for help



### Link: <a href="https://youtu.be/sWzwP-f36iA">https://youtu.be/sWzwP-f36iA</a>

#### Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)





#### **Adverse Childhood Experiences**

Maternal Depression

Emotional & Sexual Abuse

> Substance Abuse

> > **Domestic Violence**

Physical & Emotional Neglect

Divorce

**Mental Illness** 

Incarceration

Homelessness

**Adverse Community Environments** 

Poverty

Discrimination

Community Disruption

Lack of Opportunity, Economic Mobility & Social Capital Violence

Poor Housing Quality & Affordability



# Let's think about this

#### Historical Trauma has caused...

- Loss of cultural ways of achieving wellness and balance
- Loss of people in communities who are able to provide ceremony or practice traditional healing and cope with difficulties

Add current day trauma and stressors...

- Poverty
- Institutional racism

How do we cope with little resources...

- Substance abuse
- Substance dependency
- Self-harm
- Domestic Violence
- Suicide
- Poor interpersonal relationships
- Unresolved Grief
- Anxiety

Which increases risk for more trauma...

Fatalities from car wrecks

Suicides

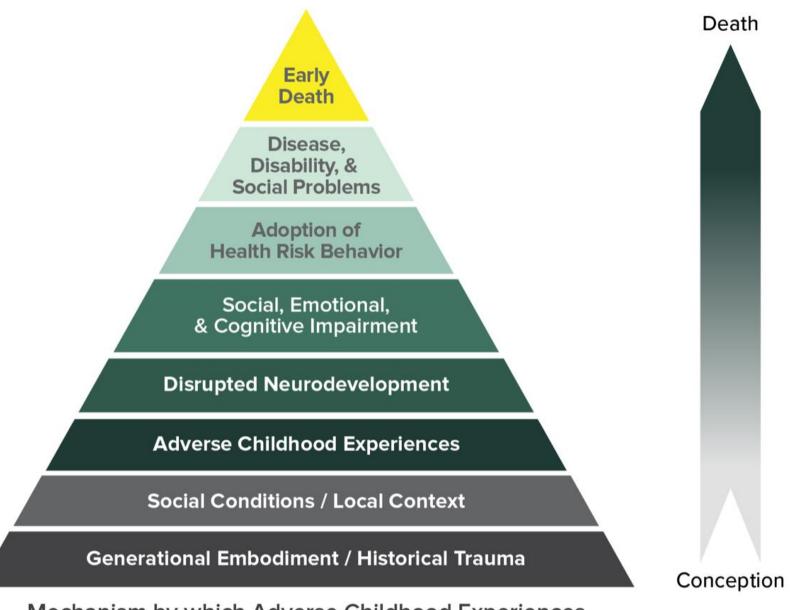
Physical/Sexual/Verbal Abuse and Neglect

Intimate Partner Violence

Jail incarceration leaves children without parents

Witnessing a trauma

Historical trauma, systemslevel traumas, and ACEs across the lifespan



Mechanism by which Adverse Childhood Experiences Influence Health and Well-being Throughout the Lifespan

Trauma responses in your community

Spiritual

Physical

What do you see?



Cognitive

**Emotional** 



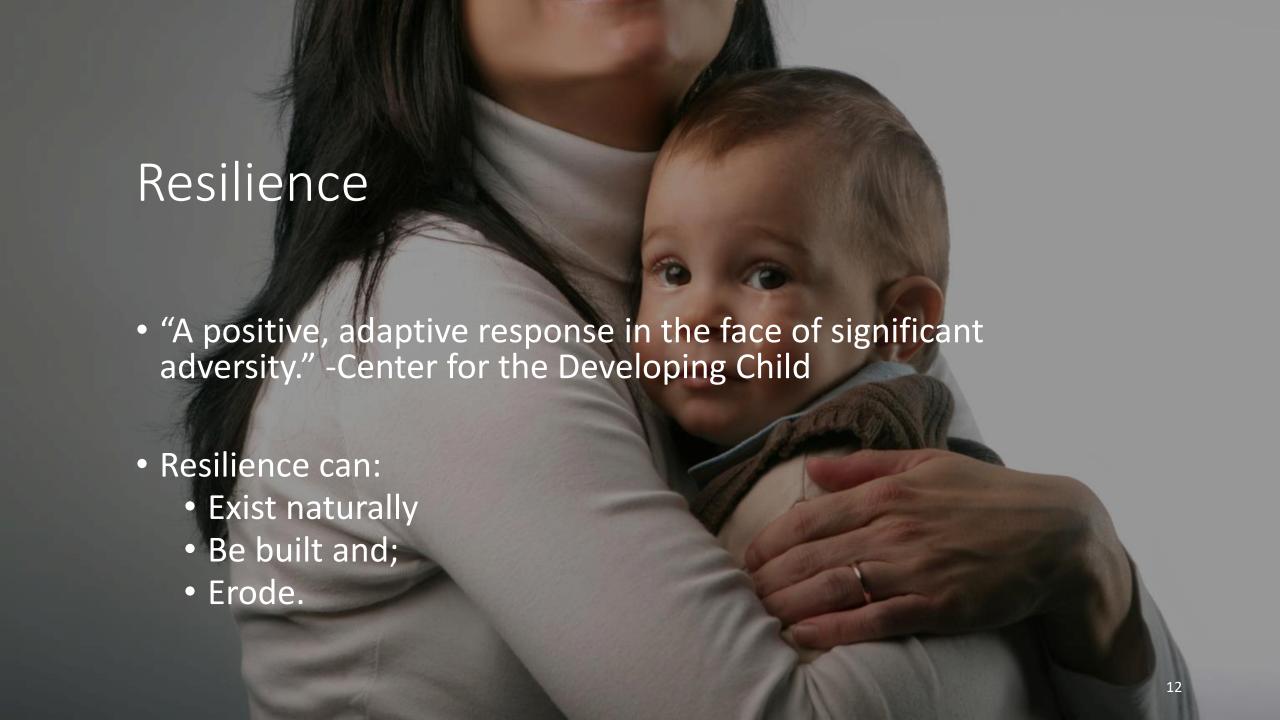
# Changing the Conversation

Ask what function the behaviors serve to keep that child, that adult, that community safe?

- Reducing fear, anxiety
- Staying physically safe
- Avoiding heartache through relationships

Movement towards recognizing children, adults and communities as struggling to cope with what they have experienced.





# The Science of Resilience



# Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs)

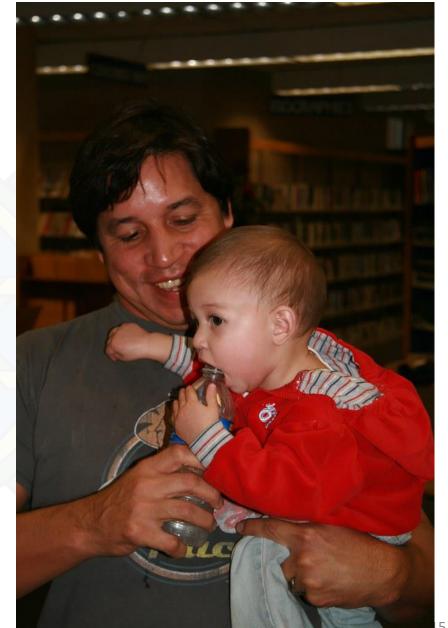
#### How much or how often during your childhood did you:

- 1. feel able to talk to your family about feelings;
- 2. feel your family stood by you during difficult times;
- 3. enjoy participating in community traditions;
- 4. feel a sense of belonging in high school;
- 5. feel supported by friends;
- 6. have at least two non-parent adults who took genuine interest in you; and
- 7. feel safe and protected by an adult in your home.



# Fostering Resilience

- Avoid toxic clichés that suggest a person could "pull themselves up by their bootstraps," or toughen up. It evokes shame if a person is unable to.
- Positive responses to adversity happen in the context of supportive relationships and community resources.





# Protective Factor: Relationships

- Research continuously finds that having at least one solid and trusting relationship with a supportive adult is the single most important protective factor for children.
- There are three conditions:
  - The support is unconditional
  - The person shows stability
  - The child trusts the person



Respond Calmly & Appropriately

**Demonstrate Control** 

Be Willing to Tolerate Strong Emotions



# Protective Factor: Building Mastery

- A sense of control over their life
- A belief that they can overcome difficulties and be in charge of their destiny
- A sense that they can accomplish something if they put their mind to it



# Positive Feedback

#### Youth impacted by trauma:

- may have experienced minimal amounts of positive attention
- may expect negative attention
- may engage in inappropriate behavior to obtain negative attention

# Positive Feedback should be:

- Specific
- At high rates
- Sincere



# Voice and Choice

#### Youth impacted by trauma:

- experience loss of power and control
- may be triggered by direct instruction

#### Empower youth by:

- Creating opportunities for input
- Creating opportunities for leadership
- Providing choices with instruction
- Providing wait time to allow for youth to make their choice



# **Protective Factor: Executive Functioning and Self-Regulation**

Mental skills learned through adult modeling and predictable routines.

Plan

Stay focused

Follow instruction

Prioritize tasks

Set goals

Control impulses

## Problem Solving Steps

	Youth Action	Adult Action
Step 1.	Stop	"First, let's stop."
Step 2.	Breathe	"Now, take a deep breath. Smell the flowers
		and blow out the candles 3 times."
Step 3.	Say the problem	"Say what the problem is."
Step 4.	Say how you feel	"Say how you feel about it."
Step 5.	Choose a solution	"What are some solutions? Pick one."
Step 6.	Check in	"How did it go? Did it work?"



#### Social and Emotional Skills

- Learn to identify feelings in self and others
- Learn strategies for regulating feelings
- Learn ways to express thoughts, emotions, needs
  - Activity: Progressive Muscle Relaxation
  - Resources
    - Bounce Back for Classrooms
    - Students, Trauma and Resiliency
    - Cognitive Behavioral Interventions for Trauma in Schools for American Indian Youth

### Lesson 8 Belly Breathing Process



1. Place one hand on your chest and one hand on your belly.



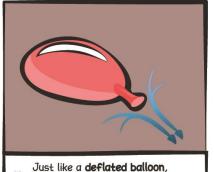
 Count to 4 slowly inhaling through your nose. Allow your belly to lift the hand resting on it.



3. Imagine your belly is a balloon being filled up with air.



**4. Exhale** slowly as you **count** to **4** through your **mouth**. Air should come out of your **belly**.



Just like a **deflated balloon**, your **hand** should sink down with your **belly** as you exhale.



Repeat several times until you feel calm.

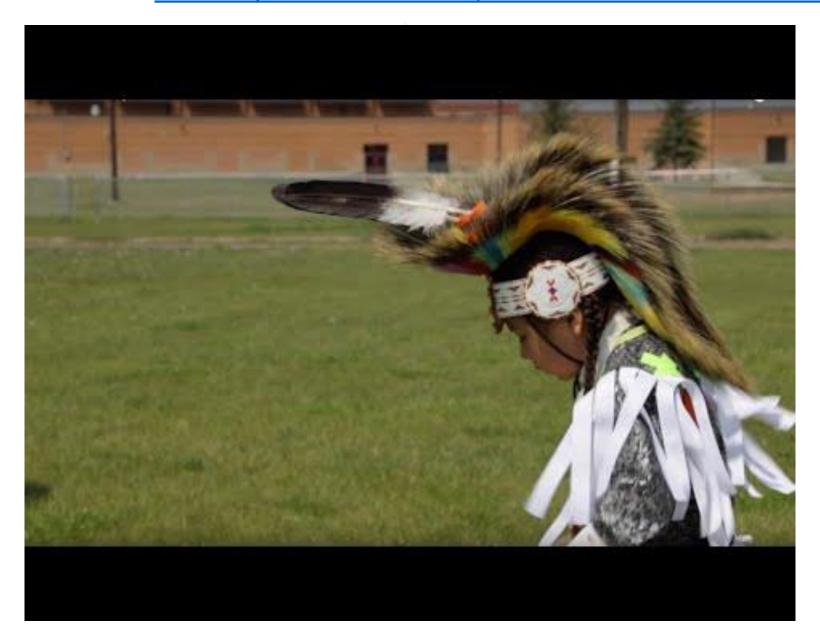
# Protective Factor: Cultural and/or Spiritual Connections



Connection to people, place, and community create a sense of belonging that builds a resilient child.



## Link to video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Om4D0I2E4JY">www.youtube.com/watch?v=Om4D0I2E4JY</a>





# Peer Youth Mentoring Programs

- Indigenous youth are paired with each other in a school or community organization
- Participants increase feelings of cultural connectedness (Crooks, Exner-Cortens, Burm, Lapointe, & Chiodo, 2017)
- A strategy for youth who
  - Cannot access their cultural community due to distance
  - Are not interested in participating in cultural events or practices



### What's Next:

What ideas will you take away from our training?

What will you do with what you have learned?

What are you able to do in your role or sphere of influence to help promote resilience and healing?

Who might you be able to talk to about trauma in order to keep the conversation going?

Who else needs to hear this message?



#### Being by Tanaya Winder

Wake up, greet the sun, and pray. Burn cedar, sweet grass, sage sacred herbs to honor the lives we've been given, for we have been gifted these ways since the beginning of time. Remember, when you step into the arena of your life, think about those who stand beside you, next to, and with you. Your ancestors are always in your corner, along with your people. When we enter this world we are born hungry, our spirits long for us to live out our traditions that have been passed down for generations. Prayer, ceremony, dance, language—our ways of being. Never forget you were put on this earth for a reason honor your ancestors. Be a good relative.

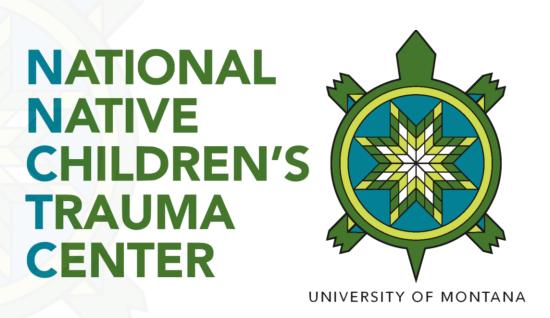
# Thank you!

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