Strategies 2.0

Family Strengthening has a dual role of both supporting families and also improving the conditions in which they live. While there are programs and practices available to address individual and family level resilience, professionals, leaders, and community change agents need tools to address the adverse community environments, systems barriers, and inequities that underlie child and family trauma. Strategies 2.0's Building Community Resilience (BCR) Toolkit is one resource to advance that needed community transformation work. Several of California's County Prevention Teams as well as Regional Learning Communities have already engaged in discussions around building community resilience and used some of the BCR tools in their planning and implementation of strategies to reduce child abuse and neglect.

The Building Community Resilience Toolkit Series was developed by Strategies 2.0 as part of an integrated learning system for California; it supports professional development for new and experienced service providers, supervisors, and administrators in the family and community strengthening field, as well as child and family-serving partners. The four volumes within the BCR Toolkit series are based on the Framework for *Addressing Adverse Childhood and Community Experiences: The Building Community Resilience Model* by Wendy Ellis and William Dietz (2017). The BCR Model is a comprehensive approach to fostering collaboration in targeting causes of adversity in childhood and building community resilience. It is a circular process of assessment, readiness, implementation, and sustainability (Ellis & Dietz, 2017), as illustrated in the graphic below.

Building Community Resilience:
Process of Assessment, Readiness, Implementation & Sustainability
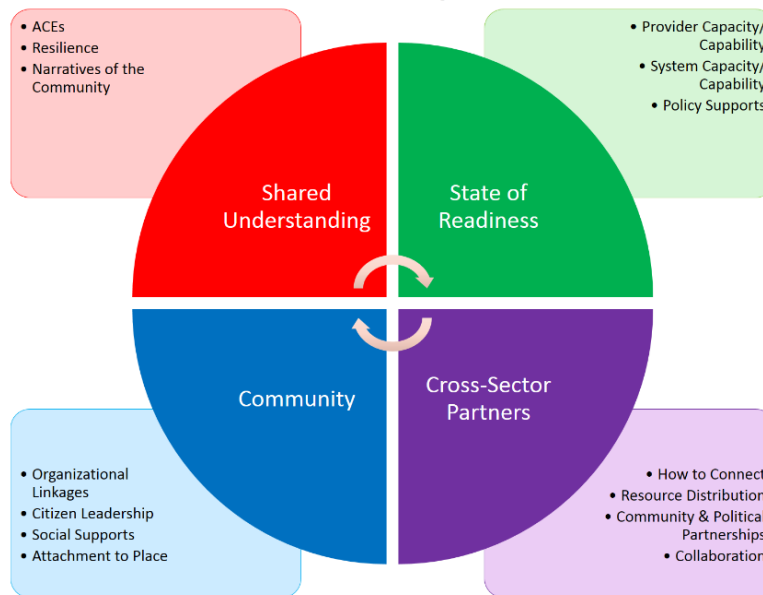
Ellis, W., Dietz, W. (2017) A New Framework for Addressing Adverse Childhood and Community Experiences: The Building Community Resilience (BCR) Model. Academic Pediatrics. 17 (2017) pp. S86-S93. DOI information: 10.1016/j.acap.2016.12.011

Each volume of the BCR Toolkit focuses on a different part of the process and provides in-depth tools and resources to promote organizational effectiveness in addressing the daily conditions that contribute to health and well-being outcomes of individuals and communities:

I. **Shared Understanding: Working Together to Build Community Resilience**
II. **State of Readiness: System and Provider Abilities to Respond and Build Supports**
III. **Cross-Sector Partners: Connecting and Collaborating**
IV. **Sustaining Community Resilience to Create Lasting Change**

No single service program can provide all that is needed to support and strengthen every family. A system of well-coordinated, accessible, family-centered services must rest on a foundation of a healthy community that provides adequate basic services and opportunities for education, housing, and employment. Everyone has a role to play!

Take Action

1) **Understand and practice how to use a toolkit.** Each volume of the BCR toolkit series lays out *Suggestions for Use.*

   ➢ Review the topics and tools included in each volume;
   ➢ Read thoroughly, adding existing knowledge;
   ➢ Make note of where policy changes or additional resources may be needed;
   ➢ Facilitate discussions for all staff and partners;
   ➢ Review the tools and determine which are the best fit for your organization's or community's current needs;
   ➢ Try out the tools as provided, adapting where needed for a better fit with your organization;
   ➢ Consider and plan for how community resilience will be sustained following use of the BCR Toolkit Series.

Strategies 2.0

Strategies 2.0 is a multi-dimensional initiative to help professionals and organizations make a bigger impact.

We train, support, and link professionals and organizations together to more effectively support families as well as build power to advance.

2) **Enroll in Strategies 2.0 trainings** to learn more about how to effectively support families and strengthen communities or find a **Regional Learning Community** to attend (online or in person). Find out more at StrategiesCA.org/trainings.

Resources

To access all volumes of the Building Community Resilience Toolkit Series and Knowledge to Action Briefs here: http://strategiesca.org/resources/

For a variety of local, regional and national resources on trauma and resilience, connect to: https://www.acesconnection.com

For the latest news and resources from the BCR Collaborative at the Redstone Center, go to: https://publichealth.gwu.edu/departments/redstone-center/resilient-communities

References

Ellis, W.R. & Dietz, W.H. (2017). A new framework for addressing adverse childhood and community experiences: The building community resilience model. Academic Pediatrics, 17(7s), S86-S93.