

Using Trans-Specific ACEs to Build Trans Health Literacy and Empowerment

Project Lead Organization: FORGE, Inc.

Funding Year: 2021

Funding Amount: \$16,500



Community Partners

PRIDEnet

All of Us Community Advisory Board,
Milwaukee

Populations of Focus

Gender Identity

Project Goal

The goal of this project was to share the Adverse Childhood Experiences study including trans-specific ACEs with trans community members in easy to understand formats.

Project Summary

FORGE is a transgender/nonbinary ("trans") organization focused on addressing violence, mental health, and health issues. FORGE's work is based on two guiding principles: being trauma-informed and empowerment-based. Their work with service providers often incorporates the [Adverse Childhood Experiences](#) (ACEs) research. The ACE study lays out the developmental and social consequences of ACEs and how those lead to specific adult health issues. Yet the ACEs data does not fully map to the trans experience: trans health data shows disparities far beyond what ACEs predict. FORGE has therefore developed eight trans-specific ACEs that may help explain those disparities.

The goal of this project was to share the ACE study including trans-specific ACEs with trans community members in easy to understand formats. Deliverables also introduced the *All of Us* Research Program to FORGE's intended audiences. 13 unique social media posts were developed and posted about the deliverables of this grant. They were posted on the FORGE's three Facebook pages, a FORGE Facebook group, over 20 Facebook groups (hosted by others), Twitter, and Instagram. Posts were shared and liked by viewers. A rack card was developed, and dissemination is underway.

A webinar about Trans-specific ACEs was presented on March 30, 2022, with over 400 registrants. The attendees were engaged, interactive, and full of additional questions and affirming comments. The highly engaging and well-attended Trans-specific ACEs webinar reached trans community members and providers. The webinar is archived [online](#) and accessible (ASL and captions), so that more community members can benefit from this resource.

Wisconsin



Key Words

Health Literacy

Virtual Programs

Trans Health

Project Highlights

262

people attended FORGE's webinar about Trans-specific ACEs, also reaching trans community members and providers. The webinar is archived [online](#) and accessible (ASL and captions), so that more community members can benefit from this resource.

31

out of 34 survey respondents (91%) said they increased their knowledge about Trans-specific ACEs and health disparities in the Trans community after attending the webinar.

13

social media posts were shared through FORGE's communication channels sharing relevant health information.

Trans-Specific Adverse Childhood Experiences

Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are events occurring in a young person's life that can lead to health disparities in adulthood. Childhood events including:

- Abuse (physical, emotional, sexual)
- Neglect (physical, emotional), and
- Household dysfunction (mental illness, incarcerated relative, parent treated violently, substance abuse, divorce)

...lead to an increased likelihood of...

- Depression and suicide attempts
- Alcohol and drug use
- Heart disease and COPD
- Stroke
- Diabetes
- Smoking
- Cancer
- Broken bones.

The more adverse childhood events (ACEs) a person experiences the more likely they are to have serious health outcomes in adulthood. Trans and nonbinary people have more ACEs than the general population.

Group	1 ACE	4+ ACEs
Gen Population	58%	20%
Trans/NTS	74%	31%

FORGE www.forge-forward.org

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Trans ACEs Rackcard

Trans-specific ACEs webinar
March 30, 2022 | 3-5 pm CT

Agenda preview:

1. What are ACEs
2. Life long history of health disparities
3. Trans-specific ACEs
4. Disrupting the ACEs
5. Protective factors

Register today!
forge-forward.org/event/trans-specific-aces-nnlm/

Supported by the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health

Social Media Graphic Promoting Webinar

Cost Estimates

This section gives you a general idea of what costs to expect when implementing a similar program. Current costs may vary.

- Personnel time to coordinate project activities - \$13,000
- Communications - \$900
- Graphic Designer - \$750
- ASL Interpretation - \$250
- Captioning- \$180

**Want to know more about this project?
View the [Project Record](#) on NNLN.gov**

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