## Building a Trauma-Informed Cincinnati: A Community Safety Strategy



Dr. Wendy Ellis December 12, 2023



### **What We Do**

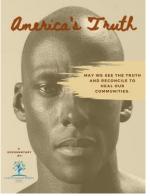


**National Networks & Collaborative** 

> **Fostering Equity Tools Truth & Equity**







**Equity Dashboards** 



Community Resilience

Public Health 3.0

**Policy & Advocacy** 



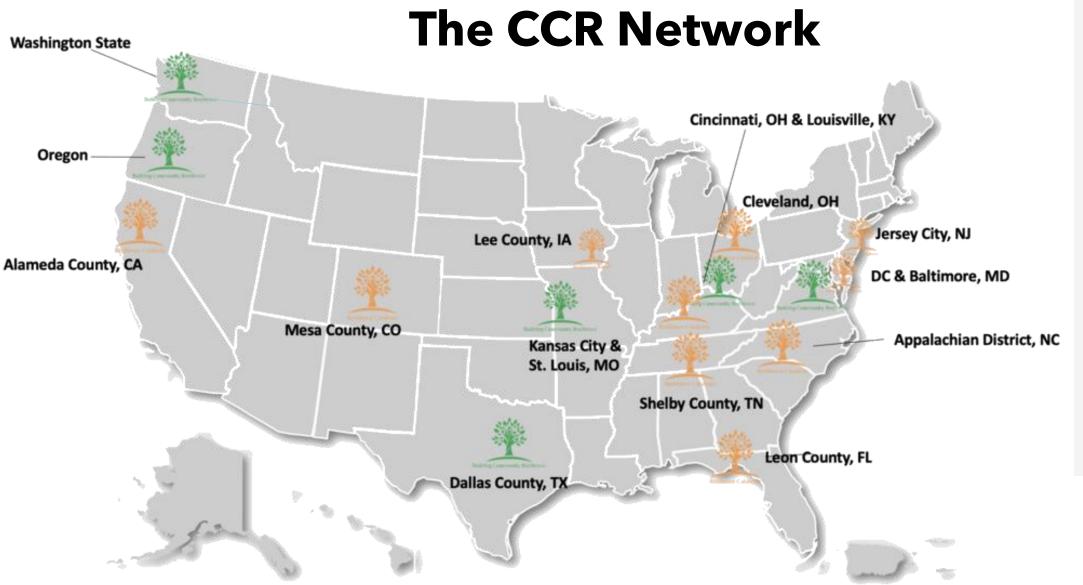
Milken Institute School

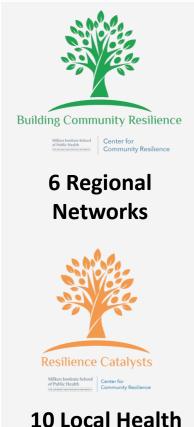
**Center for Community Resilience** 



**Community & Data-Driven Systems Change** 







**Departments** 



Milken Institute School of Public Health

**Community & Data-Driven Systems Change** 

#### Framing the Issue

#### The Pair of ACEs

#### **Adverse Childhood Experiences**

Maternal Depression

Physical & Emotional Neglect

Emotional & Sexual Abuse

**Divorce** 

Long-term effect on

health

**Outcomes** 

Substance Abuse

Incarceration

**Domestic Violence** 

Homelessness

**Adverse Community Environments** 

**Poverty** 

Discrimination

Community Disruption

Lack of Opportunity, Economic Mobility & Social Capital

Violence
Poor Housing
Quality &
Affordability

Mental Illness

**Systemic Drivers** 

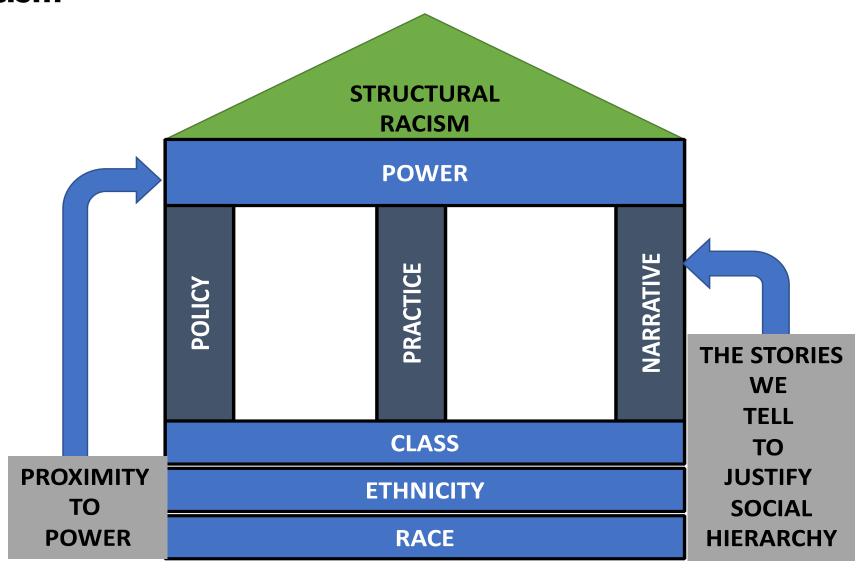
**Policy & Practice** 

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

The context (community & family environment) play a key role in how an individual 'bounces back' from adversity.



### **Understanding Root Cause of Community Trauma: Structural Racism**





### Trauma Informed Approach

### **Six Guiding Principles**

- Safety (Psychological, community & physical)
- Trustworthiness & transparency
- Peer Support
- Collaboration & mutuality
- Empowerment & choice
- Cultural, historical, gender, etc. acknowledgement and respect



Source: Centers for Disease Control Injury Prevention Center



# Why Cincinnati? Why Now?

The Pair of ACEs

#### **Adverse Childhood Experiences**

Maternal
Depression

Emotional &
Emotional &
Sexual Abuse

Divorce

Mental Illness
Substance
Abuse

Domestic Violence

Homelessness

**Adverse Community Environments** 

Discrimination

Poverty

Community Disruption Lack of Opportunity, Economic Mobility & Social Capital Poor Housing Quality & Affordability

Violence

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

# Unrelenting Stressors = Accumulated Community Trauma

### The Leaves & Branches Child Poverty

45.6 % Students Grades 1-4 Live in Poverty



53.1% Overall - concentrated in predominantly Black and Appalachian neighborhoods (26% Avondale, 20% Riverside)

**The Soil** 

47% renters, 21% homeowners are cost-burdened

Childcare costs \$9720/year (30% of a single mother's income)

### Community resilience looks like...



Safe and stable neighborhoods



Community advocacy and agency



Environments that promote social connectedness



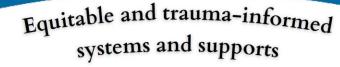
Healthy and supported individuals and families



Social and economic mobility



Access to capital



Health-promoting infrastructure

Restorative justice

Affordable housing

Fair policing practices

Community-driven policy

Integrated social services

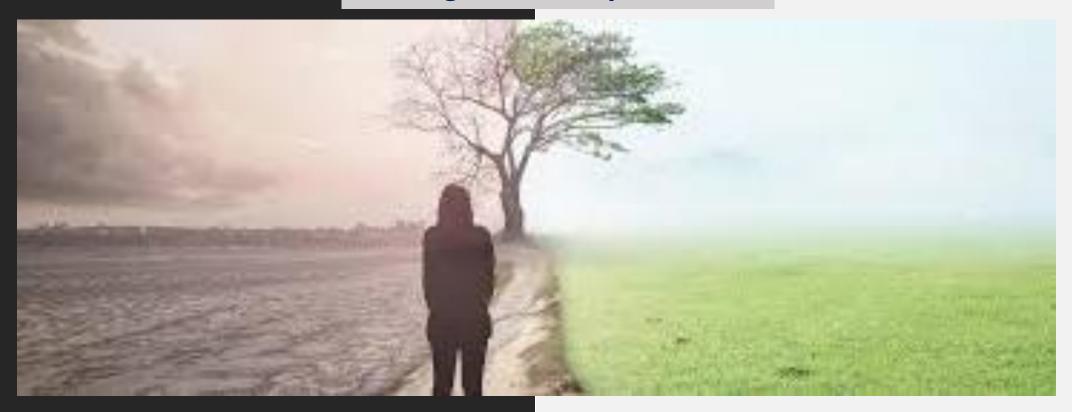
Fair lending practices

Living wages

Equity-based school financing



#### **Framing Community Resilience**



### Fear

Instinct (Fight or Flight)
Undermines Social Cohesion
Promotes Anxiety, Depression, Anger

# Hope

Secondary Emotion
Requires Nurturing
Promotes Health, Wellbeing





### Systems Change: The Resilience Movement

- City Council Initiated, Community Centered
- Goal: Building a racially, socially and economically just & thriving Baltimore.
- Core Values:
  - Trauma-Informed Practice
  - Trauma-Responsive Policy
  - Community-Driven Agenda
  - All Sectors In



TOGETHER

