



## **MEETING NOTES**

Meeting Purpose: This meeting convened health care providers, community-based organizations, and social service agencies to share the challenges they have encountered during the ACEs screening process.

### Attendees:

- Araceli Padilla
- Britta Vigurs
- Cal Gordon
- Cameo Culcasi
- Dan Chavez
- Diana Valadez
- Eric Lundberg
- Jorge Valenzuela
- Jorina Elbers
- Julissa Silva
- Cassandra Flores
- Laura Wishart
- Lizbeth Garnica
- Primavera Hernandez
- Priscila Bacio
- Samantha Galvan
- SIndia Garcia
- Suzette Reuschel-DiVirgilio
- Trudy Bearden

### Open Space: Sharing ACEs Clinical Challenges

- Araceli Padilla, Community Health Worker at HSA Clinics shared the challenges she faced when reaching out to patients who screened positive for ACEs.
  - Araceli shared an experience where a patient was not aware that their ACEs score would be shared and would be part of ACEs referral. The patient was upset and triggered by this outreach.
  - Araceli brought this up with the ACEs Clinical Team to prevent this from happening with future patients who screen positive if they would like an ACE referral.
- Cameo, NP, Behavioral Health Director at Doctors on Duty, shared the clinical challenges clinic staff have faced during the ACEs screening process.
  - Cameo shared that some patients are hesitant to answer the ACEs questionnaire and ask MAs of the importance of getting screened. There are some staff that are well-versed in explaining to patients the importance of ACEs screening and some are not. Cameo acknowledged that it may have to do with some staff needing additional education on ACEs.
  - Jorina suggested that MAs can provide education handouts on ACEs to patients so that they can know about ACEs before screening them.
- Diana Valadez shared that CHWs/Ps gain the trust of patients and the community reaches out to them to support them with their problems. However, CHWs/Ps should learn to set barriers and acknowledge the extent of help and support they can provide patients.

### Success Stories

- Jorina shared a success story of a patient with chronic pain and medical problems. This patient had a high ACE score and Jorina helped the patient understand how chronic stress can impact their health. After helping this patient regulate their nervous system for three months, their health significantly improved.

### Closing

- Our next ACEs Community of Practice meeting is on Wednesday, October 25, 12 - 1 pm.