“What happens in early childhood can matter for a lifetime.”

Center on the Developing Child, Harvard University

THREE REASONS

- A child’s brain develops rapidly in the first years of life.
- Children need responsive, attentive caregiving in a safe predictable environment to thrive.
- Toxic stress puts children at risk for lifelong health concerns and decreased well-being.

RISK FACTORS

- Parental mental illness or substance abuse
- Language barriers
- Social isolation
- Extreme poverty

PROTECTIVE FACTORS

- Parental resilience
- Nurturing and attachment
- Parents’ knowledge of parenting and child development
- Social connections
- Support for families
- Social and emotional competence

RESOURCES

Adverse Childhood Experiences Study

- ACE Study Brochure
- ACE Score Calculator
- ACEs Infographic

ACEs Handouts for Parents, developed by the Community & Family Services Division, Spokane, WA Regional Health District – Each version has the same text but pictures reflect different cultures.

- ACES Handout v1
- ACES Handout v2

Center on the Developing Child, Harvard University

- Key Concepts
- The InBrief Series provides brief summaries of recent scientific presentations and research on the science of early childhood development.

- Multimedia Resources

Community Mapping Tool

2-1-1 Brochure

Questions to Ask Referral Sources

“The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program gives pregnant women and families, particularly those considered at-risk, necessary resources and skills to raise children who are physically, socially, and emotionally healthy and ready to learn.” Source: HRSA Maternal Child Health Bureau