# ACT ACT/CA is sponsored by the California Department of Public Health in

## ALL CHILDREN THRIVE - CALIFORNIA

Creating cities of the future where all children thrive

### **ABOUT**

The All Children Thrive California pilot (ACT/CA) is a three-year, equity-focused, community-driven initiative that takes a city-focused approach, supporting families through evidence-based programs and services that build community resilience, reduce adversity and trauma, and advance the conditions that allow all children to thrive.

ACT/CA builds on the emerging national ACT initiative prioritizing children's health in cities across the U.S. ACT aims to catalyze a broad social movement for child and family wellbeing, linking many disparate programs into an integrated effort to achieve collective impact. The national ACT initiative has been designed by a team of national and international experts, incubated over five years and is ready to serve as a vehicle to catalyze a new policy agenda that promotes the wellbeing of children, and boldly address the troubling challenges facing kids today.

### THE CHALLENGE

Childhood trauma and its lasting impacts pose significant threats to physical and behavioral wellbeing throughout the lifespan. Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are a fundamental contributor to many of California's most urgent and costly social problems, including violence, poor academic performance, homelessness, drug addiction, mental illness, and chronic health conditions like heart disease and diabetes. A source of trauma and toxic stress, ACEs are so damaging—and their causes so deeply woven into our social fabric—that their prevention and intervention have been made top public health priorities.

### STRATEGIC RESPONSE



The California Department of Public Health is working with the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families, and Communities (UCLA), Public Health Advocates (PHAdvocates), and Community Partners, along with many other local partner organizations to pilot ACT/CA in cities across the state. Through Technical Assistance and coaching, cities and counties will receive support to establish strategies to prevent ACEs and to promote individual and community resilience and child wellbeing. ACT/CA will establish a learning network and opportunities for cities to share collaboration and mobilization strategies, policy and program innovations, and lessons learned. ACT/CA will develop a data infrastructure to monitor and improve efforts to ensure child health, development, and wellbeing.



partnership with the following:









### **OBJECTIVES FOR ACT/CA**



• Establish an ACT Equity Advisory Group



Identify the approaches to preventing childhood trauma, diminishing its risks, and improving child, family, and community wellbeing



Review and analyze data infrastructures currently in use around the world to monitor and improve efforts to ensure child health, development, and wellbeing



Build an ACT/CA collaborative platform and learning system that includes tools and strategies to support social innovation and systems level changes



Provide coaching and TA to cities to prevent ACEs and promote resiliency

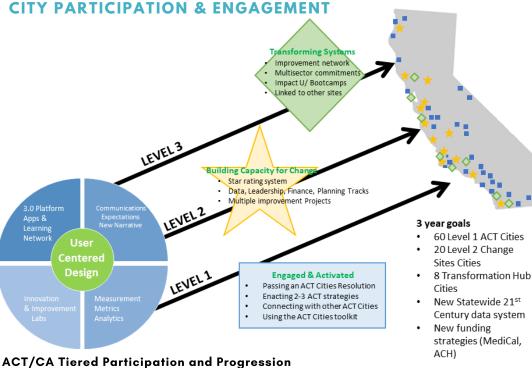
For more information, please visit http://allchildrenthrive.org

## **ACT CALIFORNIA (ACT/CA)**

### What will ACT/CA achieve for California's cities?

The ACT/CA initiative is a movement that offers a statewide strategic agenda to measurably and sustainably reduce the lifelong corrosive effects of childhood poverty and inequality. ACT/CA's whole child, equity-from-the-start approach, strategically and comprehensively addresses mounting challenges by deploying evidence-based interventions, and using state-of-the-art data, design, and social innovation to spur rapid cross-site learning and change.

ACT/CA will engage cities and support their efforts with tools, policies and practices that will enable them to address child poverty and related adversities, promote flourishing families, and ensure all children succeed, achieve their full potential, and thrive. ACT/CA will help transform cities into microenterprises of social innovation, not just solving their own problems, but also networking their contributions into statewide and national solutions to optimize the health, development, and wellbeing of all children.



ACT/CA cities will develop and mature as they test and learn what works. Most cities can start at the first level by becoming engaged and activated in achieving their ACT City goals, progress to the second level as they build leadership, data, budgeting and planning capacity; and at level three, further progress toward full scale transformation effort.

Powered by an interactive platform to accelerate the ability of all cities to "learn their way forward," ACT/CA will use state of the art design, innovation, and networked and collaborative learning tools to build capacity across the state. As some cities implement ACT data and tracking innovations, others will plot roadmaps to success by aligning city and local resources. Underpinning these efforts, ACT's learning network and collaborative platform will rapidly spread improvements through peer-to-peer learning, technical assistance, coaching, and change management.