

Hello ACEs community and guests, we hope you are staying cool this summer and for those that are back in school, we hope your new school year is off to a great start.

Our next Quarterly meeting will be on August 21st.



We are looking for your feedback, help us by taking our short 3 question survey- use QR code provided!

August 30, 2025, is National Grief Awareness Day. This national awareness day is observed annually and serves as a poignant reminder to acknowledge the multifaceted nature of grief and the importance of supporting those who are grieving.

For individuals with Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), grief can be particularly complex, intertwining with past traumas and potentially leading to prolonged mourning or complicated grief.

Recognizing this intersection is crucial, as it underscores the need for trauma-informed approaches in grief support, ensuring that individuals receive compassionate care that addresses both their loss and their past experiences.

As we approach this day, it's an opportune moment to reflect on the unique challenges faced by those with ACEs and to advocate for resources and support systems that cater to their specific needs.

Click [here](#) for ways to commemorate the day in the workplace.

"Grief is not a disorder, a disease, or a sign of weakness. It is an emotional, physical, and spiritual necessity, the price you pay for love. The only cure for grief is to grieve."

-Dr. Earl A. Grollman

Resources on Grief

[National Child Traumatic Stress Network: Traumatic Grief](#)

[Child Mind Institute: Going Back to School After a Tragedy](#)

[Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress: Grief Leadership: Leadership in the Wake of Tragedy](#)



Awareness Observation Days/Months

August

- International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, August 9th
- Grief Awareness Day, August 30th
- International Overdose Awareness Day, August 31st

September

- Positive Thinking Day, September 13th
- Suicide Prevention Week, September 8th – 14th
- Suicide Prevention Month



Mark your calendar

- Youth REP Training of Trainers, August 18th & 19th
- AZ ACEs Consortium 3rd Quarterly Meeting
- Fall 25 ACEs Training of Trainers, September 30th



Agency Spotlight

Icebreakers Foundation

Our mission is "Empowering Communities through Refreshing Change".

Our vision represents a focus on growth with youth and adult learners.

"Empowering Futures, Refreshing Lives: Icebreakers Foundation envisions a world where revitalization fosters sustainable growth, education, and well-being in communities globally. Through innovation, sustainability, and social responsibility, we aim to forge strategic partnerships that catalyze positive change. Our expanded focus includes youth and adult education, promoting training and development in technology, public service, and media, alongside providing food aid, human services, and job training."

We are guided by principles of innovation, sustainability, and unwavering social responsibility. Our goal is to forge strategic partnerships that catalyze positive change. By supporting us, you become a vital part of a movement dedicated to making a lasting impact on communities, empowering futures, and refreshing lives. Join us in creating a world where every individual and community can thrive. Your contribution can be the catalyst for meaningful, positive change.

Icebreakers Foundation follows the code: to make our communities stronger, we must teach one another. "Each one, teach one."

Consider donating by clicking [HERE](#).

Please contact Anthony Walton if you'd like to know more.

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Subcommittee Highlight

Rural & Indigenous Community Committee

What goals or objectives around ACEs has your committee/agency set out to achieve?

Building relationships and highlighting TI assets in rural and tribal communities

Can you share a specific success story or achievement of the committee/agency that you are particularly proud of, and how did it positively impact the community or organization?

San Carlos inspired others with their Care Center.

Can you highlight any noteworthy partnerships, collaborations, or projects that the committee/agency has been involved in, showcasing the positive outcomes and the broader impact on the community or organization?

Presentations by: Donna Manuelito, Assistant Superintendent, San Carlos Apache Presentation, and video share – Systemic reform to meet academic and social-emotional needs through culture, family, and community engagement. Results include decreased discipline and attendance concerns, increased graduation rates, and teacher and student satisfaction. Carlena James, White Mountain Apache Behavioral Health Services, Life Coach Program in White River Schools, Pamela Prasher, IMH-E®, CDCI, CCDF Program Manager, Childcare Development Fund/Certificate Program Early Childhood Education Center, Salt River Schools

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. Barbara Gordon, Fussy Baby/Birth to Five Specialist, Southwest Human Development. Tamara Littlesalt-Butler, Coconino Healthy Families, Family Spirit curriculum. Pearl Santillan- Regional Director, Coconino First Things First Presentation: FTF Statewide and Tribal resources. Frank Moraga, Coconino Coalition for Children and Youth.

Are there any ongoing or upcoming projects or initiatives that the committee/agency is particularly excited about?

They continue to request and suggest presenters.

Meetings are on hold at the moment
And should resume by end of 2025

Check us out on Social Media:



[@acesofarizona](#)



[AZ ACE Consortium](#)



[AZ-Aces-Consortium](#)

www.azaces.org



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