







Resilient Lehigh Valley

A cross sector collective impact initiative dedicated to building a trauma informed and resilient community for all people across all ages by:

- Raising awareness on the impact of trauma (especially childhood trauma and historical trauma)
- Providing trainings on trauma informed and culturally responsive practices;
- Supporting organizations and sectors to become trauma informed and culturally responsive systems;
- Increasing collaboration and information/resource sharing between providers and sectors;
- Advocating for trauma informed policies, legislation and funding



Why is UWGLV Engaged in Trauma Informed Work?

- ➤UWGLV = 3 counties (Lehigh, Northampton, Carbon) & 22 public school districts
- ➤Investing in Community Schools for 15 years with varying levels of success
- ➤ Began to understand how exposure to childhood trauma was a root cause of issues we were addressing, from education to food, housing and healthy aging





Infrastructure of Our Work

- Executive Management Team (25 members)
- 4 Strategic Action Teams (8-15 members per)
- Full coalition membership (450 members)
- UWGLV as Backbone Support:
 - 1 full time Trauma Awareness AmeriCorps VISTA
 - 1 part-time PCCD Grant Coordinator (data)
 - About 50% of the Senior Director of Education's time
 - Additional social media and digital engagement support as well (PCCD grant)



Healing Trauma. Restoring Hope

What Does Our Trauma Informed Work Look Like?

- Annual Building Resilient Communities Conference
- Trauma Awareness, Trauma Informed Care and Historical Trauma and Equity trainings
- Launching new resource heavy website
- Covid-inspired child abuse and neglect mitigation campaign #keepkidssafe
- Handle With Care pilot with law enforcement and schools



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Benefits of UW Involvement in Trauma Informed Care

- Brought key new partners to the table;
- Deepened our Community Impact and outcomes;
- Brought in new state and national funding sources and donors;
- Seen as a trusted partner and resource;
- Responded quickly to emerging community needs related to mental health and trauma;
- Used to shape powerful campaign materials.



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Impact of Our Efforts

- Community engagement in our work grew from 30 at start to over 450 members currently
- Secured commitment from 5 school districts to officially adopt a districtwide trauma informed school model, with more to follow
- Data from our pilot trauma informed schools shows significant decreases in chronic absenteeism and disciplinary incidents (30-70%), increases in academics and great improvement in staff morale





 Feel free to reach out with any questions or suggestions to <u>betht@unitedwayglv.org</u> or (717)903-1302

 And check out our new website at <u>www.resilientlehighvalley.org</u> (should be going live by July 30th)



