

ACEs Program Training

On Monday, November 26th, students will not have school, but the teachers will be attending professional development training provided by Dr. Jennifer McKenzie, an Associate Professor at Southern Utah University, on the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) program. The ACE Study reveals strong relationships between many later-life health risk conditions. For example, students who have higher ACEs scores are associated with obesity, substance abuse, depression, and lung, heart and liver disease. ACEs are also associated with higher levels of homelessness and criminal justice involvement. An ACE is defined as surviving any of the following categories of abuse, neglect or loss prior to the age of 18 and include:

- Emotional abuse by a parent
- Domestic violence
- Physical abuse by a parent
- Growing up with alcohol and/or drug abuse in the household
- Sexual abuse by anyone
- Emotional neglect
- Physical neglect
- Loss of a parent
- Living with a family member experiencing mental illness
- Experiencing the incarceration of a household member

The ACEs program implements the Restorative Integral Support (RIS) program and resources to help students who are experiencing at-risk factors and help them to build relationships with supporting staff such as teachers, and community members to prevent the ACEs consequences. However, the good news is that students who experience ACEs and their consequences can be prevented. The public is welcome to attend the ACEs training in the Kanab High School auditorium on November 26th from 9:00 am -12:00. For more information on the ACEs research, please visit the following web page:

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/acestudy/index.html>

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