From ACEs to Action: Why Adoption Competency is a Strategic Intervention for Children and Families Impacted by Child Welfare

Adoption Competent Mental Health · https://bridges4mentalhealth.org/hub/adoption-competence/from-aces-to-action-why-adoption-competency-is-a-strategic-intervention-for-children-and-families-impacted-by-child-welfare/

A key evolution in ACEs-informed work is the shift away from viewing adversity as destiny. Adoption competent care reflects this same shift. Rather than treating ACEs as fixed predictors of poor outcomes, adoption competent practice recognizes that:

- Relationships can help heal the impact of early adversity.
- Caregiver preparation strengthens stability and attachment
- Identity-informed and trauma-responsive care promotes long-term well-being

In this way, adoption competency functions as a modifiable intervention that can change the trajectory associated with early adversity.

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