

## Trauma-Informed Community Network (“TICN”) of Alexandria: Building a Resilient Community!

The Department of Community and Human Services is working to convene a diverse group of individuals from various systems (government agencies, nonprofits, faith-based communities, community members, private providers, etc.) who share a commitment towards the creation of a more trauma-informed and resilient community in Alexandria.

If you consider yourself to be a “trauma champion,” or want to learn more and become involved in advancing and supporting trauma-informed and trauma sensitive practices in the community, please consider joining our emerging trauma-informed community network!

**About Trauma-Informed Community Networks (“TICNs”):** Throughout Virginia, there are more than 19 communities coming together across disciplines around trauma-informed care. Most often in Virginia, these groups form as *trauma-informed community networks (TICNs)*. Every TICN looks different because they are built by the local community, however, in each of these communities, these networks share common characteristics. They:

- Build a stronger, more resilient trauma-informed community,
- Increase awareness of trauma and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and identify areas that the group can collectively build upon,
- Develop a shared language about trauma and resilience,
- Help organizations to become trauma informed, conduct trainings, support, and implement new practices in schools, courts, and community services,
- Create a mechanism for collaboration, and the sharing of information and resources,
- and much more.

These TICNs help to connect practice across disciplines and help to identify gaps and how policies can be implemented. Virginia’s community networks play a key role in advancing trauma-informed policy and promoting a statewide policy agenda. *For more information about Virginia’s TICNs and the Campaign for a Trauma-Informed Virginia, visit the Voices for Virginia’s Children website: <https://vakids.org/trauma-informed-va/trauma-informed-community-networks>*

### **Please Consider Joining our Trauma Informed Community!**

Email Chelsea Eickert ([chelsea.eickert@alexandriava.gov](mailto:chelsea.eickert@alexandriava.gov)) if you would like to be added to the TICN email list. There will be a Kickoff Event in May in which we will begin the process of designing our TICN based on our community’s needs and strengths. We hope to soon have a webpage for the TICN where people can subscribe to our network and find more information, updates, resources, meeting dates, etc.

For more information, contact Chelsea Eickert at [Chelsea.eickert@alexandriava.gov](mailto:Chelsea.eickert@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.3142.

