

LEAD THE FIGHT PARTNERSHIP



Lead the Fight 2022: Giving Children with Trauma a Voice





Lead the Fight

The American Academy of Pediatrics defines ACEs as "the Public Health Issue of our time."

What are ACEs?

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are common – and in the absence of support, they can cause long-lasting harm. They include experiences like witnessing violence at home or living with a parent with serious mental or physical illness. When children experience multiple negative events like these, their bodies flood with stress hormones, damaging the developing brain and increasing their risk for later health problems like heart disease, diabetes, or depression.

Adverse Childhood Experiences and Lifelong Health

The landmark ACEs study identified ten early adverse experiences such as physical abuse, domestic violence, addiction in the home, and divorce. A survey was developed to help people measure their ACE "score." The majority score one or two, but many people score much higher. Adults with high ACE scores (directly related to experiences before age 18) show higher rates of health issues, substance abuse, and suicide risk.

ACEs and The Pandemic

Unfortunately, the reality of the pandemic will be felt for many years, especially for children already facing adversity and trauma. The call to act has never been more critical. There has been an upsurge in teenagers reporting mental health challenges, with about 40% saying they feel anxious, depressed, and/or stressed.

Building Resilient Children and Trauma-Informed Communities

Children thrive when they have regular interactions with responsive, caring adults. Yet neglect is the most commonly reported form of child maltreatment, resulting in long-term effects on children's health and development. Child neglect is more likely in families that are experiencing an overload of stress. The weight of poverty, especially, can overload parents' abilities to provide the supportive relationships children need. Depression or other mental health challenges can also slow down parents' responses to children's needs. When adults in our neighborhoods, schools, healthcare, and community centers are ACEs and trauma aware, they can buffer the adversity children experience at home, preventing further harm.

Center for Child Counseling's innovative approach is changing how we fight ACEs in Palm Beach County. As the foremost ACEs training and treatment center of the Southeast, Center for Child Counseling developed a cutting-edge model based on the latest neuroscience to tackle this issue at the child, family, and community levels.

Learn more at the official Lead the Fight site:
www.centerforchildcounseling.org/leadthefight

As a society, we simply can't afford to wait for children to fall apart before we do something. Your partnership powers ACEs prevention and healing efforts.

Lead the Fight Partnership

As a community corporate leader, whether you care about business, healthcare, education, or kids—if you care about our future—you need to care about ACEs.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) cause many of the crises our community faces today. Gun violence, domestic abuse, child abuse, addiction, chronic disease, depression, and anxiety are often the adult results of early childhood trauma.

The pandemic has added another layer of trauma for children already experiencing insurmountable odds.

We can prevent many of the critical issues we are desperately working to fix. **Now is the time to ACT.**

Every child is filled with promise, and as a community we have a shared obligation to foster their potential. As a corporate partner, supporting Center for Child Counseling is a win-win. You change the lives of children in Palm Beach County impacted by trauma while receiving recognition in the fight.

As a Lead the Fight Partner, you are active in breaking the chain of abuse and violence harming our most vulnerable children.

Partnering with Center for Child Counseling makes good business sense. Studies show an 11:1 Return on Investment in prevention and early intervention programs. Kids receive help before it's too late, saving our community millions each year in services and care, while raising up strong children and future leaders. Together we give everyone the chance for a healthier, happier future.

You can trust us with your business reputation. Center for Child Counseling is led by talented, passionate, and dedicated staff, with local and state awards to showcase our work. We are recognized as a Great Nonprofit and Nonprofit of the Year in Palm Beach County, reflecting our commitment to excellence and transparency.

So many children's voices are lost to trauma. You can give them back.

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Helping Children Find Their Voice Again

When children are in crisis, Center for Child Counseling's trusted experts are the first to be called. We find many children suffering unspeakable pain and sorrow to the point that they have withdrawn completely.

But with your help, they build healing and coping skills for a healthy and happy life ahead. These are the children you are giving voice to this year:

12-year-old Steffie, survivor of multiple sexual abuse incidents by a friend's step-father, suffered extreme anxiety and was very reserved until writing her trauma narrative freed her. Writing a letter to her abuser, Steffie stood up for herself and others, overcoming great discomfort and adversity with a voice full of expression and bravery.

Alexa, five, showed great fear, anxiety, and avoidance in addressing her trauma, stating "I'm just a little kid. I don't know. I don't remember." Recently she shared that she remembers a lot of her abuse and thinks of it often — she is nervous to talk about it but knows she is strong enough. With this remarkable step forward, Alexa is helping to charge her legal father for the sexual abuse crimes against her.

Timmy is a 3-year-old boy living in foster care. During sessions, Timmy was nonverbal and often sat in silence unwilling to make eye contact. Through trust building, Timmy is now speaking and looks forward to his weekly time with us.

Hannah, age 9, has endured unthinkable trauma from an early age at the hands of a family member. While in foster care, her father worked tirelessly to reunite with her and rebuild their relationship and family. Hannah and her father attended family therapy for two years to reach healing. Hannah now expresses her feelings instead of acting them out. She uses positive skills to cope, communicate, and participate in school and life.

Because you care, children are healing and thriving despite their unspeakable trauma. Because you give, we are building a trauma-informed community where every member plays a role in supporting children in crisis.

Learn more at the official Lead the Fight site:
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Discover the meaningful rewards and benefits of CFCC Corporate Partnership.
Please contact Audrey Schofield at 561-244-9499 ext. 15 or audrey@CenterforChildCounseling.org.

Lead the Fight

ACEs Webinar and Resource Series

An exclusive series for business, philanthropic, and civic leaders to learn strategies to combat the effects of childhood trauma and adversity on families and communities through education, discourse, and action.

In 2022, we will once again host important conversations and gatherings of national and international leaders, addressing the overwhelming need in the wake of the pandemic. **Thank you for leading the fight.**

Champion: \$5,000

Company highlighted on Center for Child Counseling's website, social media, event materials, and e-mail blasts that reach over 15,000 people. Logo on invitations and marketing materials; a full-page feature in the program; and promoted video on social media. Special recognition at the event, including 1-2 minute speech or video.

Ally: \$3,000

Company highlighted on Center for Child Counseling's website, event materials, and e-mail blasts that reach over 15,000 people. Logo on invitations and marketing materials; a full-page feature in the program; and promoted video on social media. Special recognition at the event.

Advocate: \$2,500

Company highlighted on Center for Child Counseling's website, all series materials, and e-mail blasts that reach over 10,000 people. Logo on all invitations and marketing materials; a half-page feature in the program; and promoted video on social media.

Mentor: \$1,000

Company highlighted on Center for Child Counseling's website, all series materials, and e-mail blasts that reach over 10,000 people. Logo on all invitations and marketing materials; and a half-page feature in the program.

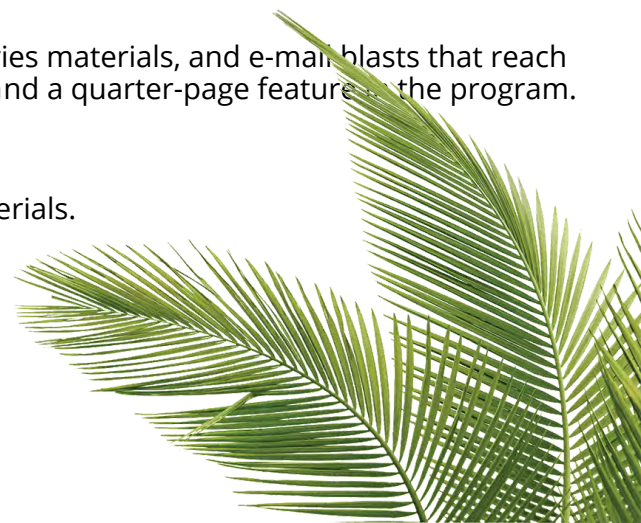
Coach: \$500

Company highlighted on Center for Child Counseling's website, all series materials, and e-mail blasts that reach over 10,000 people. Logo on all invitations and marketing materials; and a quarter-page feature in the program.

Friend: \$250

Show your support and lend your name to the fight in marketing materials.

Lead the Fight is a LPBC Civic Engagement Project



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Coming February 22, 2022

Juleus Ghunta, Author & ACEs Advocate

Juleus Ghunta is a Chevening Scholar, children's writer, a member of Jamaica's National Task Force on Character Education, and an advocate in the Caribbean's adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) movement.

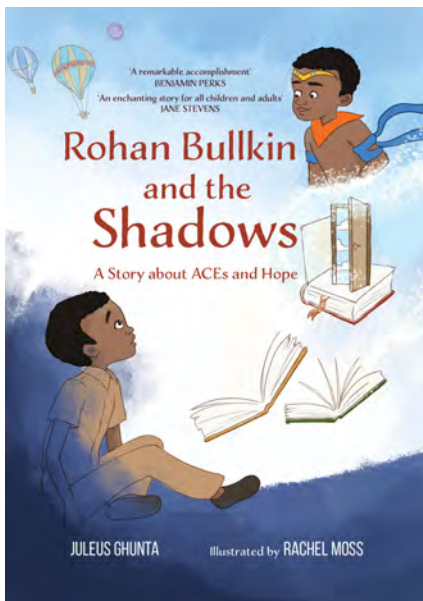
Juleus holds a BA in Media from The University of the West Indies, Mona, and an MA in Peace Studies from the University of Bradford. His work explores the links between toxic stress and academic underachievement, and the varied effects of false positivity and emotional invalidation on the choices and hopes of survivors of complex trauma.

Juleus' poems and essays on ACEs have appeared in 30+ journals across 16 countries. His picture book *Tata and the Big Bad Bull* was published by CaribbeanReads in 2018 and he is the co-editor of the December 2019 and March 2020 issues of *Interviewing the Caribbean* (The UWI Press), which are focused on children's literature and ACEs in the Caribbean. He is also the co-editor of a special issue of *PREE* magazine on ACEs and storytelling (forthcoming Dec. 2021). His new book *Rohan Bullkin and the Shadows* will be published by CaribbeanReads on December 31, 2021. His *Notebook of Words and Ideas*, which features prominently in *Rohan Bullkin and the Shadows*, will be published by CaribbeanReads in 2022.



Live, Virtual Event

Exclusive Book Reading and Discussion!



"Rohan Bullkin hates reading. Everyone knows this. His teachers, classmates, everyone – including the Shadows." So begins *Rohan Bullkin and the Shadows*, a provocative new picture book by Jamaican poet and Chevening Scholar Juleus Ghunta. Rohan's reluctance to read is fuelled by Shadows – manifestations of his adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and toxic stress. The book follows his journey from reluctant to enthusiastic reader, a change brought about by the guidance he receives from a magical book and from members of his community who help him to understand the impact of his past experiences.

Rohan Bullkin and the Shadows highlights the need for us to find transformative ways of engaging with perpetrators of ACEs, and the role families and communities can play in helping survivors develop resilience and hope.

Center for Child Counseling will host an international book reading and discussion with Juleus about his new book, which is based on his own early experiences.

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www.centerforchildcounseling.org

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Let's Collaborate.

Chat with the CEO to explore more ways your business can be a stand-out partner for children. Please contact our CEO, Renée Layman at 561-244-9499 ext. 1 or renee@centerforchildcounseling.org.

LEAD THE FIGHT 2022 - CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP CONFIRMATION

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Thank you for your support!

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