

All Children Thrive-California

Technical Assistance Plan



All Children Thrive
California

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I. Introduction

All Children Thrive-California (ACT) is a community-driven movement where youth, community members, community partners, and city officials work side-by-side as a “Design Team” to transform cities into places and spaces where all children thrive. Through the Design Team, cities select one or more Community Action Areas to improve child well-being, identify resources within their communities, and develop a plan to re-imagine cities for all children to thrive.

For Design Teams, at least one Community Action Area will be identified through a community-driven process. The Community Action Areas that are supported by the ACT program include the following:

1. Promoting Healthy Childhood Development
2. Creating Protective Environments
3. Youth Development and Civic Engagement
4. Strengthening Economic Supports for Children and Families
5. Access to Safe and Stable Housing
6. Mental Health & Wellness

Community members will select the Community Action Area(s) most important to them and the ACT coaches will offer technical assistance (TA) in building capacities around engaging communities and city leadership to develop and implement policies to address the selected Community Action Area. Additionally, the ACT Learning Community will also support cities through the creation, strengthening, and facilitation of relationships between ACT cities.



II. ACT City Transformation and Stages

The overarching goals for the ACT city transformation process are the following:

- Create a power shift in the city that prioritizes the voices of youth living in impacted communities to promote health and wellness, as well as healthy environments.
- Actively engage various systems that impact children’s well-being to solidify their dedication to creating healthy environments for all children.
- Enact policy and funding decisions that are centered around children, with an emphasis on underfunded communities.
- Develop and maintain a diverse community coalition that holds the city accountable to sustainable change.

The Transformation Process for cities participating in ACT is divided into 3 stages: (A) engage, (B) grow, and (C) accelerate, and is outlined in **section III**.

Cities that participate can receive varied levels of technical assistance (TA) in their journey to transform their cities from the ACT coaches - inclusive of content experts from Public Health Advocates, the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families, and Communities, and the California Department of Public Health. Cities may join ACT as an affiliate to participate in group learning and support. Cities may also join ACT as a Pilot City to receive individualized coaching, technical assistance and funding. Cities who are further along in the transformation journey may join as a Vanguard City and receive the same support as Pilot Cities while also serving as mentors to the other cities within the Learning Community.

The following are the city stages, technical assistance levels offered, and requirements for participation and engagement.

Table I. Technical Assistance Offered to ACT Cities

ACT City Engagement Level		Affiliate City No Limit	Pilot City Up to 20 Cities	Vanguard City
ACT Support & Technical Assistance Offerings	Access to ACT Toolkit with model policies and strategies	X	X	X
	Access to Learning Community and online TA on Community Action Area implementation	X	X	X
	Community mapping, data collection, analysis, and sense-making workshops	X	X	X
	System Mapping workshops	X	X	X
	Ongoing, direct coaching from ACT		X	X
	Advocacy and Equity Training for Design Team and Stakeholders		X	X
	Facilitation of Youth Innovation Idea Labs to gather youth input in transformation process		X	X
	Direct grants to support ACT initiatives		X	X
	Grant support for MHSA and MHSOAC, Prop 68, Prop 64, other funding		X	X

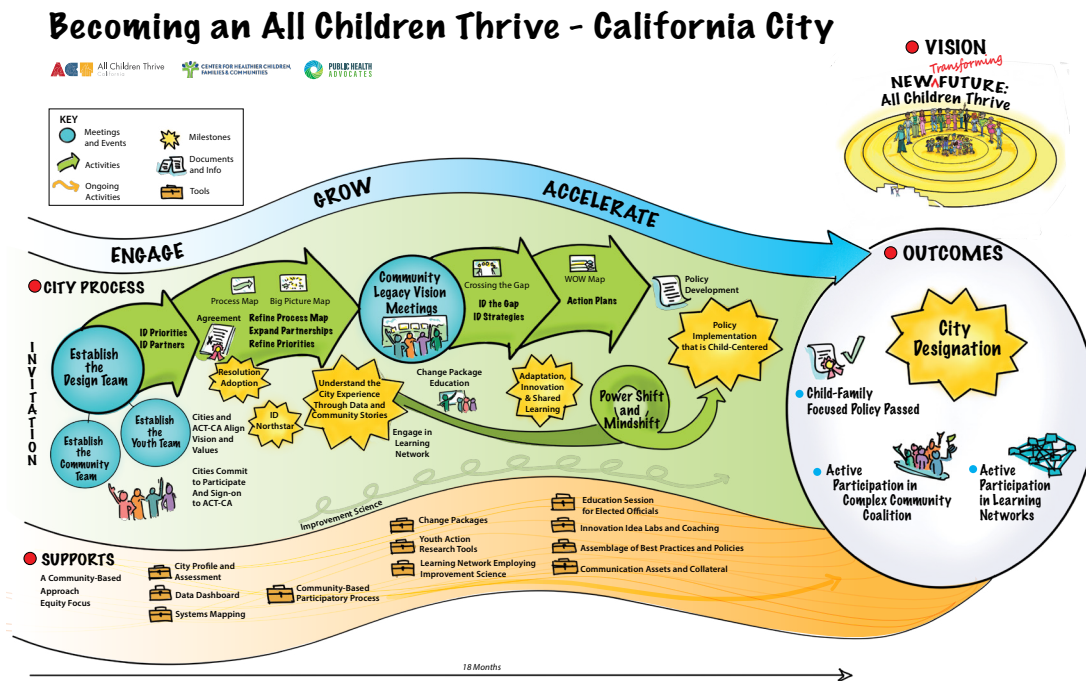
Table II. ACT City Participation Requirements

ACT City Stage		Affiliate City No Limit	Pilot City Up to 20 cities	Vanguard City Up to 8 cities
ACT City Requirements for Participation & Engagement	Assemble a Design Team with Adult and Youth Sub-groups and sign <u>Letter of Agreement</u>		X	*
	Pass resolution/MOU in city that commits to ACT	X	X	X
	Host a community listening session to assess available resources, needs and priorities.	X	X	*
	Conduct a data collection and analysis plan (completed by ACT)		X	*
	Host Youth Innovation Idea Lab to elicit youth voices		X	*
	Develop History Map and Community Systems Map		optional	*
	Select and refine Community Action Area (s) through community input		X	X
	Engage and Participate in Learning Community (e.g. data sharing, contribution)	X	X	X
	Implement Community Action Areas, inclusive of new and refining of existing child/family policies		X	X
	Develop a sustainability plan and identify other funding		X	X

* Vanguard Cities may have already completed some steps prior to ACT participation

III. Transformation Process for Cities

As mentioned earlier, the Transformation Process for cities participating in ACT is divided into 3 stages: (A) Engage, (B) Grow, and (C) Accelerate. The following section outlines the more in-depth goals and activities for each stage.



A. Engage

Shared vision and purpose, joint leadership, and community-led assessment

1. The Invitation Process consists of seven steps:
 - a. A city completes an online portal application to self-nominate or ACT staff members make an initial point of contact with the city.
 - b. The city then attends an ACT informational session to discuss how to get involved with the initiative and how to start to build a team for their own city.
 - c. A follow up email is sent to the city with next steps, including a request to create a Core Team, information on ACT coach assignment and request to participate in a learning community.
 - d. City's eligibility criteria for TA is reviewed and the City is designated a classification of Affiliate City, Pilot City, or Vanguard City.
 - e. An ACT Coach is assigned.
 - f. City's initial contacts are introduced to the Learning Community by the Coach.
 - g. Initial city contacts identify a Core Team. The Core Team consists of 2 City staff/officials, 2 representatives from a Community Based Organization and 2 resident leaders.

2. All interested cities move into an Onboarding Process subsequently described: The Core Team identifies and assembles a *Design Team* in **Pilot Cities**. The Design Team will consist of:
 - a. Youth community members and adult community members
 - b. Community-based organizations
 - c. Youth-based organization(s)
 - d. City staff and city elected officials
 - e. Institutions such as the county's MHSA partner, school districts, local health departments, foundations and funders, public and private hospital systems, and more.

The Design Team will have two community subgroups: (a) Youth Design Team and (b) Adult Design Team. Each subgroup will have representatives on the larger Design Team. The Youth and Adult Design Teams will be composed of youth and adult community members with lived experiences facing the inequities in their communities, and who are critical to each phase and supporting the solutions they would like to see implemented. The Youth and Adult Design Teams will be supported by ACT coaches, a community-based organization(s), and a youth-based organization(s).

3. The Design Team will sign the agreement which outlines the purpose of ACT and defines their responsibilities. The Design Team will work to pass a resolution within the city that outlines the framework of ACT and a commitment to the process. Design Teams in Pilot Cities are eligible for funding support for ACT activities.



4. The Design Team in Pilot Cities will conduct information gathering within the city to identify which Community Action Area they would like to address. Teams are encouraged to select at least one Community Action Area to focus on but are welcome to engage in multiple areas depending on their bandwidth and capacity. To identify Community Action Areas, Design Teams will engage in:
- Preliminary data collection and analysis supported by ACT (required for Pilot Cities)
 - If needed, hosting Listening Sessions with community members to gather insights on what challenges their communities are facing, what is important for children and families, and how they would envision improving their communities. The audience of the Listening Sessions would include parents/guardians, youth, faith leaders, community groups, and community leaders.
 - The Design Team in Pilot Cities can participate in the following activities to visually illustrate their community's experiences, stories, interconnected systems, data, and transformative vision. These interactive activities will be facilitated by ACT coaches:
 - Development of a **Community Legacy Vision Map** where community members share their long-term vision for sustained collaboration and partnership. This map will guide and inspire people and maintain clarity about the ACT process and work.
 - Development of a **History Map** and **Community System Map** for their city, visually illustrating their community's experiences, stories, and the interconnected systems and data that surround them to further map their transformative vision.
 - Development of a **Crossing the Gap Map** to provide a clear framework for illustrating the current situation, the desired future, and the agreed upon strategies to align everyone's work.



B. Grow

Cross-sector learning, advocacy support, and Community Action Areas

1. ACT will develop a Learning Community on which Affiliate, Pilot, and Vanguard Cities will engage and actively participate to share ideas, resources, and approaches around policy and systems change, and develop plans for action to address chosen priorities.
2. Through process-improvement supported by ACT coaches, Pilot and Vanguard Cities will refine the activities and strategies in their Community Action Areas to best meet their needs.

C. Accelerate

Learning Community, data dashboard, and sustainability practices.

1. The Pilot and Vanguard Cities will execute Community Action Areas, which may include advocacy and policy development, systems change, and sustainable collaboration plans.
2. An evaluation process informed by community voices will be implemented to encourage adaptation, innovation, and shared learning.
3. A sustainability plan will be developed by Pilot Cities and Vanguard Cities, which will include identifying and securing other financial resources to support the ACT transformation journey.
4. The capacity of the Design Teams in cities will be strengthened to enhance collaboration efforts and orient them towards a culture of innovation and sustainability.
5. Pilot and Vanguard Cities will pass and implement child and family-oriented policies. This may include revisions to existing city policies, programs, and practices to become child centered and child/youth/family informed.



IV. Technical Assistance Support Provided

The following is the list of technical assistance provided to cities in their various stages of engagement, also outlined in **Table I** above.

1. ACT will provide grant opportunities to Pilot and Vanguard Cities to support their ACT initiative.
2. ACT will enhance city staff, Design Team members and other stakeholders' ability to conduct community engagement practices with an equity focus.
3. ACT will assist cities in the collection and compilation of data that helps them measure progress towards the well-being of their communities. This approach is an equity-focused, community-led, and capacity building initiative broken into 7 phases.
 - a. Phase 1: Capacity Building for Data and Spatial Literacy
 - b. Phase 2: Community Mapping and Neighborhood Focus Selection
 - c. Phase 3: Data Collection, Aggregation, and Preliminary Analysis
 - d. Phase 4: Data Sharing with Community-Driven Interpretation and Sensemaking
 - e. Phase 5: Additional Data Collection, Aggregation, and Analysis
 - f. Phase 6: Developing Data Storytelling and Community Narratives
 - g. Phase 7: Collective Data-Driven Planning and Action

*Please refer to [Data City Recommendations](#) document for more information.
4. ACT will assist Pilot and Vanguard Cities with visually mapping out community supports, policies, and systems that influence child and family well-being.
5. ACT will support Pilot and Vanguard Cities to secure larger funding opportunities through MHSA and MHSOAC, Prop 68, Prop 64, and other funding streams.



6. Trainings, webinars, and workshops on the following:
 - a. Community Action Area technical assistance to Design Team and city/county officials
 - b. Quarterly statewide webinar series for mayors, city council members, city managers, local health department directors, and county Mental Health/Behavioral Health directors
 - c. Advocacy training workshops for Design Team and stakeholders at each of the sites. The training sessions will consist of 1) knowing who to contact in your local government, 2) Spokesperson training and training on advocacy and issue framing, 3) building consensus and advocacy, and 4) equity training
 - d. Educational seminars for stakeholders
7. Youth Innovation Idea Labs will be facilitated for Pilot and Vanguard Cities. Youth Innovation Idea Labs provides an entry point for youth in cities and elevates their voices in co-creating solutions with tribal government, city, county, and school district leaders to improve child well-being as part of their city's commitment to ACT.
8. ACT will disseminate the Toolkit—which includes model policies and public health strategies for preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences in communities—to Affiliate, Pilot and Vanguard Cities and to communities at large.

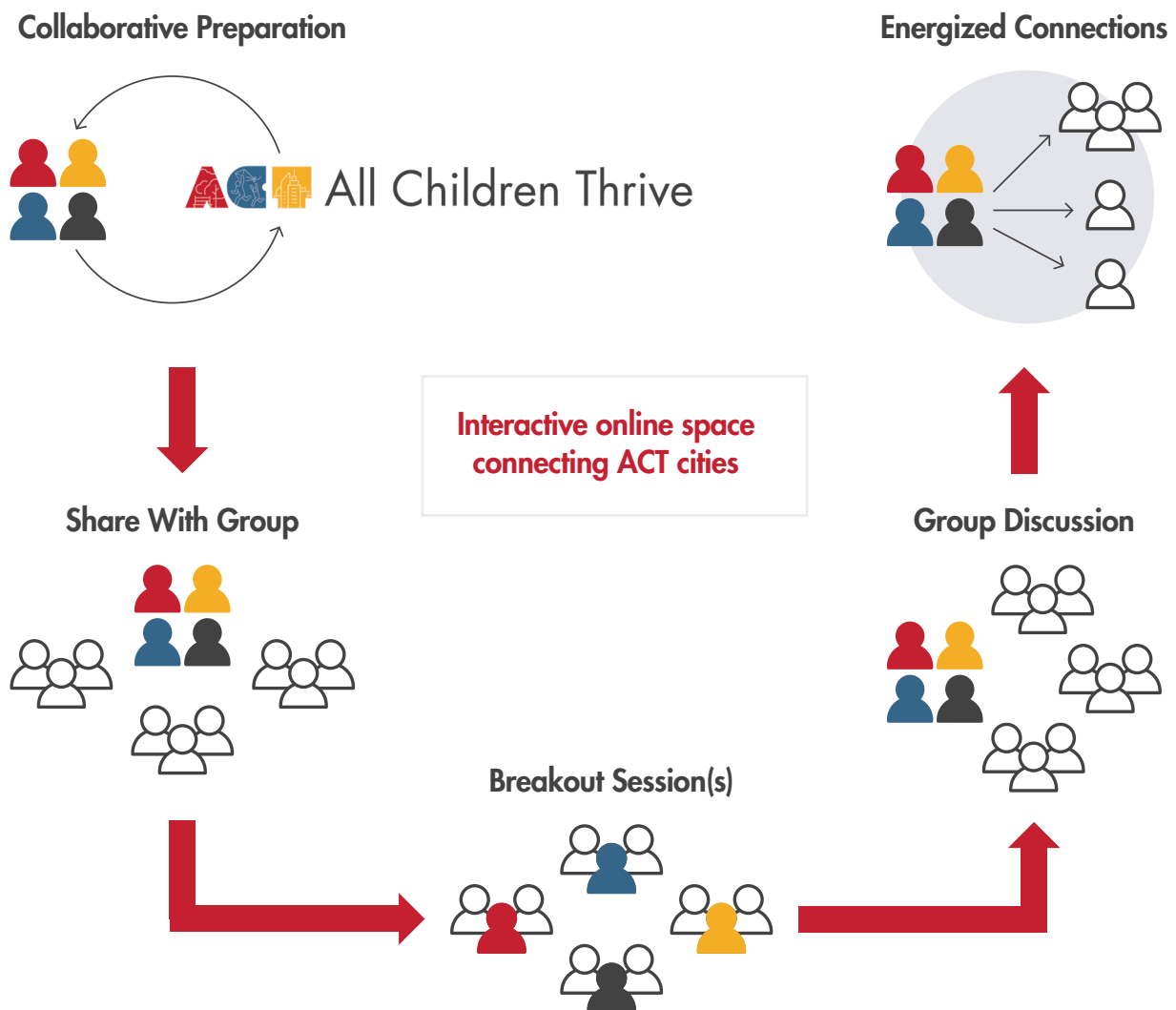


V. ACT Learning Community

The ACT Learning Community is an interactive online space connecting ACT cities—in all stages of engagement—to each other in their Transformation Process. As cities engage in this community, they will be able to choose Community Action Areas they wish to learn from each other.

The ACT Learning Community consists of collaborative tools such as a discussion forum, calendar of events, data sharing, and analysis resources such as data dashboards. With these tools, community members, community organizations, policymakers, researchers, clinicians, and others can come together to share information, align on goals, and share their progress and lessons learned—ultimately creating a collaborative network that strengthens, facilitates, and activates relationships between participating ACT cities and their work on Community Action Areas. As usage in the Learning Community grows and more data among cities are collected and shared, larger and more collaborative goals towards child and youth well-being will emerge.

Image: ACT Learning Community and Collaborative



VI. Glossary of ACT Terms

Coach: An All Children Thrive-California team member who will engage cities and support their efforts with tools, policies and practices that will enable cities to address child poverty and related adversities, promote flourishing families, and ensure all children succeed. The Coach and Design Team will co-facilitate the transformation process for the city.

Community Action Area: A set of programs, policies, and strategies that support achievement of specific goals around improving and optimizing child well-being within the scope and potential role of cities. These include Promoting Healthy Childhood Development, Creating Protective Environments, Youth Development and Civic Engagement, Strengthening Economic Supports for Children and Families, Access to Safe and Stable Housing, Mental Health and Wellness.

Community Legacy Vision Map: The Community Legacy Vision Map creates a shared long-term vision for collaboration and partnership to guide and inspire people and prevent misconceptions about the work.

Community Systems Map: The Community Systems Map illustrates the levels of partnership, key players, trends, key data, and desired impact to see collaborations and the interconnected system as a whole.

Crossing the Gap Map: The Crossing the Gap Map provides a clear framework for illustrating the current situation, the desired future and the agreed upon strategies to align everyone's work.

Core Team: City staff or officials who initially contact ACT identify and assemble a Core Team. The Core Team consists of two city staff/officials, a youth-serving community-based organization, an adult-serving community based-organization, and two resident leaders. Each core team will identify and assemble a Design Team that will include additional partners within the city. The Design Team may be an existing coalition or a newly formed entity.

Design Team: Youth, community members, community partners, city officials and their staff work as a "Design Team" side-by-side to transform cities into place. The Design Team will sign the agreement which outlines the purpose of ACT and defines their responsibilities. The Design Team will work to pass a resolution within the city that outlines the framework of ACT and a commitment to the process.

History Map: A history map is about people's experiences and storytelling and is used to orient people.

Toolkit: Model policies and public health strategies for preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences in communities.

Youth Innovation Idea Labs: The Youth Innovation Idea Labs are a unique offering facilitated by the ACT coaches and provided specifically to ACT Pilot and Vanguard Cities. These Idea Labs are opportunities to elevate and prioritize youth voices in determining strategies and plans of action for their communities.