

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Docket: CDC-2026-1091

Reporting of the Essentials for Childhood (EfC): Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences through Data to Action Program

Comment On: CDC-2026-1091-0001

Reporting of the Essentials for Childhood (EfC): Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences through Data to Action Program 2026-12275

Document: CDC-2026-1091-0002

Comment from Hong, Audrey

Submitter Information

Name: Audrey Hong

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General Comment

As a current family nurse practitioner student, I am writing in full support of continuing information collection for the CDC's Essentials for Childhood (EfC) program, as such data is crucial to further expanding efforts to reduce adverse childhood experiences (ACE). This program is critical in that a history of ACEs – such as household dysfunction, neglect, and abuse – has been overwhelmingly associated with a multitude of risk factors for many leading causes of death in adults (Felitti et al., 1998). These are not limited to but include cancer and heart disease. Furthermore, those who have reported a minimum of four ACEs face a significantly higher risk of various poor health outcomes compared to those without any; the strongest association being tied to self-directed violence and problematic drug use (Hughes et al., 2017). As a future primary care provider, screening children and families for these influential ACEs is not only within my scope of practice, but is also widely supported by various guidelines and frameworks – with perhaps the most notable being the American Academy of Pediatrics's Bright Future Guidelines (2024). When needed, I will be referring them to community resources; the utility of these referrals will depend directly on the quality of the prevention infrastructure behind it (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2026). I therefore

strongly believe in the importance behind sustained data collection; this is essentially how the CDC evaluates the effectiveness of the prevention infrastructure it funds, with these evaluations holding the power to shape future funding opportunities (CDC, 2026). Furthermore, to circumvent situations where frontline clinicians end up relying on questionably effective referral pathways lacking real evidence behind them, I ask that a portion of the collected evaluation and performance data circle back to the primary care providers conducting the ACE screens themselves. This would help ensure that the referrals made lead to a resource that has been shown to actually work, rather than just exist on paper.

References:

American Academy of Pediatrics. (2024, February 26). Bright Futures Toolkit: Links to commonly used screening instruments and tools. <https://publications.aap.org/toolkits/resources/15625/Bright-Futures-Toolkit-Links-to-Commonly-Used?autologincheck=redirected>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2026, June 18). Reporting of the Essentials for Childhood (EfC): Preventing adverse childhood experiences through data to action program (Docket No. CDC-2026-1091). Federal Register, 91(117), 36838–36839. <https://www.regulations.gov/document/CDC-2026-1091-0001>

Felitti, V. J., Anda, R. F., Nordenberg, D., Williamson, D. F., Spitz, A. M., Edwards, V., Koss, M. P., & Marks, J. S. (1998). Relationship of childhood abuse and household dysfunction to many of the leading causes of death in adults. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 14(4), 245–258. [https://doi.org/10.1016/s0749-3797\(98\)00017-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0749-3797(98)00017-8)

Hughes, K., Bellis, M. A., Hardcastle, K. A., Sethi, D., Butchart, A., Mikton, C., Jones, L., & Dunne, M. P. (2017). The effect of multiple adverse childhood experiences on health: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *The Lancet Public Health*, 2(8), E356–E366. [https://doi.org/10.1016/s2468-2667\(17\)30118-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/s2468-2667(17)30118-4)

Halstead, Mary (CDC/NCIPC/OD)

From: NCIPC OMB (CDC) <ncipcomb@cdc.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2026 12:28 PM
To: audrey.hong@emory.edu
Subject: Docket: CDC-2026-1091 - Reporting of the Essentials for Childhood (EfC): Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences through Data to Action Programs

Dear Ms. Hong,

Thank you for sharing your feedback and expressing your interest in our proposed information collection. As part of our commitment to transparency and public engagement, and in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), which helps ensure that federal agencies minimize the paperwork burden on the public, I wanted to reach out to respond to your comment.

We appreciate your input and will take your comment into consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Best regards,

OMB/PRA Office

Office of Science

National Center for Injury Prevention and Control
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Department of Health and Human Services

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Reporting of the Essentials for Childhood (EfC): Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences through Data to Action Program

Comment On: CDC-2026-1091-0001

Reporting of the Essentials for Childhood (EfC): Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences through Data to Action Program 2026-12275

Document: CDC-2026-1091-0003

Comment from Jeffries, Jacob

Submitter Information

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General Comment

I think it is very important to prevent adverse childhood experiences for every child. I am in support of the concept of collecting information about preventable negative childhood experiences, but I would like the notice to explain more about how this information is collected, whom the individuals are who furnish the data to the CDC, and what the key indicators are for categorizing these adverse childhood experiences. I think it would also be helpful if there was a window into the type of data that is collected i.e. recorded testimonials, written descriptions, court records for any domestic, civil, or criminal encounters. The notice does not give much in the way describing the data collection process or the analysis. As I said previously, I'm in full support of making lives better for children, but I also want to know more about how the methods in this notice will be implemented.

Halstead, Mary (CDC/NCIPC/OD)

From: NCIPC OMB (CDC) <ncipcomb@cdc.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2026 12:26 PM
To: jacob.r.jeffries@gmail.com
Subject: Docket: CDC-2026-1091 - Reporting of the Essentials for Childhood (EfC): Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences through Data to Action Programs

Dear Mr. Jeffries,

Thank you for sharing your feedback and expressing your interest in our proposed information collection. As part of our commitment to transparency and public engagement, and in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), which helps ensure that federal agencies minimize the paperwork burden on the public, I wanted to reach out to respond to your comment.

We appreciate your input and will take your comment into consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Best regards,

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