

Devereux

COMMUNITY BASED CARE OF OKEECHOBEE & THE TREASURE COAST

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News & Media

Community invited to a Resilience screening - licensing credit available to caregivers who attend

Vero Beach - The child may forget, but the body remembers.

That's the message behind the new documentary, Resilience.

The Exchange Club of the Treasure Coast will screen the documentary for free at 6 p.m., May 25, at the First Presbyterian Church of Vero Beach as part of its mission to prevent child abuse.

Research has uncovered a dangerous biological syndrome caused by abuse and neglect during childhood. As the film Resilience reveals, toxic stress can trigger hormones that wreak havoc on the brains and bodies of children, putting them at a greater risk for disease, homelessness, prison time, and early death.

While the broader impacts of poverty worsen the risk, no segment of society is immune.

"Adverse Childhood Experiences (known as ACEs) effects all of us, and not just emotionally," said Beth Dingee, club member and event co-coordinator. "The greater the number of ACEs, the higher the link to physical health concerns, such as cancer, diabetes, pulmonary concerns and suicide."

And children involved with the child-welfare system typically experience a high ACEs score.

"I think the public thinks of these children only as abuse survivors," said Cindy Jewett, co-coordinator for the event. "But the damage does not stop when the abuse stops - the long-term effects of abuse need to be recognized."

Fortunately, it's not just doom and gloom, she said.

Trailblazers in pediatrics, education, and social welfare are using cutting-edge science and field-tested therapies to protect children from the insidious effects of toxic stress.

Resilience is an award-winning follow up film to the 2015 Paper Tigers documentary that chronicled the impact of childhood trauma on schools and children's capacity to learn.

The screening of Resilience is open to the community, but foster parents who attend will receive credit toward relicensing. Dinner will be served, and babysitting is available upon request. Call (772) 321-4005 to register.

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Resilience is a follow up to the 2015 film, Paper Tigers, which chronicled the impact of childhood trauma on schools.

[Archived](#)

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