

Igniting Self-Healing Communities



At the Coconino Coalition for Children & Youth, we're igniting collective action that creates better lives for children and families in our communities. Together, we'll eliminate childhood trauma and inequity by building an inclusive movement of people dedicated to transforming and healing our communities.



The Spark Grant

In August of 2021, the Coconino Coalition for Children & Youth received the Spark Grant from **Vitalyst Health Foundation** — allowing us to engage community members about the root causes of health concerns, and explore the **Self-Healing Communities Model**.

This was a monumental grant. Through the work it enabled, we were able to dig into the effects of historical and intergenerational trauma, identify the sources of pain, and uncover the hope that burns bright within the people of Coconino County.

The Spark Grant & The Self-Healing Communities Project

Through the **Spark Grant**, the Self-Healing Communities Project has allowed us to conduct one-to-one interviews and intimate focus groups across the county. Our process has built trust and is relationship-based rather than transactional, so we gain the most accurate and meaningful information about individual experiences.

We are learning the root causes of our county's health concerns, including:

- Difficulties with systems that break families apart, put kids in detention and punish people for seeking help.
- Lack of support for those struggling with addiction
- Youth feeling ostracized by adults when they share their personal problems.
- Limited therapy availability and poor access to shelter services

THEMES OF CONCERN

1. Substance use
2. Racial equity
3. Harsh systems

THEMES OF WELL-BEING

1. Time outdoors
2. Community groups (church, library, sports)
3. Community and family support

Be a Part of It!

Due to the discoveries found in this project, we are actively seeking more partners and funders to work toward a targeted system change approach. You can be a part of our mission to eliminate childhood trauma and inequity. **Send us an email at coalition@coconinokids.org** — we'd love to hear from you and find a place for you in our Coconino Coalition community. *Thank you to all of our partners on this important project — you can learn more about them at coconinokids.org/shc-partners/*

