



# IMPACT REPORT 2016-2026

## NOTES ON 2025

This year has been challenging, to say the least. Many norms and structures built to provide support have been dismantled or disregarded, creating instability and uncertainty. We experienced this both in our efforts to find meaningful ways to support our network and in the work we had been developing momentum around, which was at least temporarily disrupted.

We were still on Capitol Hill, we still had network calls, and we still produced and shared resources to support the movement. But this time also became a moment of preparation for transition. At the end of this year, CTIPP will turn 10. We looked back on our first decade to identify our strengths, mistakes, and the foundation for the coming decade and beyond.

This “annual report” is not a typical one, as we not only share highlights from 2025 but also reflect on 2015-2025. We hope this document creates a shared understanding of where we have been so that we can more closely align on where we will go. Though we would never have supported systems being dismantled as thoughtlessly as they were, we were not advocates of systems transformation because those systems were perfect.

There is a growing need and a massive opportunity to create a paradigm shift that embeds humanity within human-serving systems. This does not diminish the pain we have experienced and continue to experience, but it does highlight the opportunities ahead for us and our work.

## THE STORY OF CTIPP'S FIRST DECADE

In December 2015, a group of leaders from across the country convened at Van Ness Feldman, a DC-based law firm where Dan Press was a partner, to discuss the need for advocacy to support the growth of the trauma-informed movement and for a convener to facilitate implementation across sectors. By the end of that meeting, it was decided that an organization dedicated to that mission was needed. Over its first decade since that meeting, CTIPP has grown and, in partnership with a strong network, has generated meaningful, lasting change.

It was not long after CTIPP formed that it began working with members of Congress on integrating a trauma-informed lens into the SUPPORT Act, which was a large bill meant to address the opioid epidemic. CTIPP found success developing a report highlighting trauma-informed approaches to address the opioid epidemic and advocating/educating on that work. In addition to Dan's advocacy, he formed a Community Advocacy Network (CTIPP CAN) to support others in advocating. Monthly calls with updates supported the network's growth.

Following the passage of the SUPPORT Act in 2018, CTIPP's activity on the hill increased. The House Trauma-Informed Care Caucus was launched in 2018. In 2019, the RISE from Trauma Act was introduced for the first time, and the House Oversight and Reform Committee held a powerful hearing on the impacts of childhood trauma.

At the request of then-Committee Chairman Elijah Cummings and other members of Congress, following that hearing and in light of the power of the testimony heard that day, we worked with partners to launch a national campaign to uplift voices across the country and pursue policy change.

As all of this was going on, CTIPP was an all-volunteer organization. Led by Dan's pro bono support and several board members' dedication to the organization, CTIPP had sufficient funds to establish a website and a Zoom account. This put tremendous stress on the board; financial strain was an organizational trauma, given the resource demands of CTIPP's growing work. While the campaign was being developed, the board, with the support of social work interns, was creating policies and practices to transition the organization from a start-up to an established organization.

The campaign launched in February of 2020 to great success, as we saw thousands of advocates from all around the country join in the first few weeks and begin outreach to their elected officials. Then an unforeseen event fundamentally changed the nature of our work.

When COVID hit, Congress was not interested in joining a caucus or passing legislation that was not directly connected to the pandemic. The campaign's efforts quickly shifted to advocating for stimulus funding for trauma-informed initiatives and to supporting communities and states in leveraging relevant funding streams.

At the same time this outreach was underway, increased interest in trauma-informed policy and practice to address the stresses of COVID-19 helped CTIPP receive its first major contributions from several foundations.

As capacity was being built to develop infrastructure, though there was insufficient funding to hire staff, I was appointed CTIPP's Executive Director on loan, given my role in both fundraising and advocacy with the organization over the prior several years.

This role had a nice title but, in reality, was more to serve as Dan's right-hand on the programmatic side, to support our strong but interrupted relationship through my full-time job, and to support the administrative functions of a growing organization. But four months into this role, Dan was diagnosed with cancer and given a year to live. With this news, Dan, with his family's support, made a one-time gift of about \$300,000, increasing our capacity by about 600% and providing the financial wherewithal to hire and pay our first staff.

In Dan's final year of life, we hired and onboarded staff, organized and sponsored a nine-part workshop series in partnership with other organizations totaling about 30 hours of content that was attended by over 3,000 individuals, developed a curriculum to support trauma-informed advocacy, raised new funding from a variety of sources, and articulated a clearer vision for where CTIPP's work was going, which we named PressOn in Dan's honor.

In addition to the personal toll it had on so many, Dan's passing was a massive organizational trauma. While finding our way forward has not been a linear process, post-traumatic growth has been on full display. The team developed targeted reports to support policy (e.g., the Trauma-Informed Schools Report) and subsequent webinar with the Department of Education, as well as practice (e.g., Trauma-Informed Workplaces Toolkit). We also launched our most popular sign-on letter to members of Congress, "Take On Trauma," which garnered over 1,000 signatures.

Our grants from funders as time progressed turned from mostly general operating support to mostly program-specific, which led to concentrated efforts over the last few years in our efforts to build population-level resilience to the impacts of climate-related disasters and our focus on promoting trauma-informed approaches to advocacy, inclusive of young people and different abilities. While more concentrated, this work demonstrates the impact that focused work aligned with our mission can have as we continue to grow.

In the first five years of the organization, we raised approximately \$10,000. Over the last five years, we raised \$1.5 million and successfully passed all three audits we've undergone over the last three years.

CTIPP's first decade has created many high-quality resources and educational opportunities, all made freely available to all interested parties. We have an expansive network spanning all 50 states and other countries. We have engaged community coalitions and Congressional committees on the importance of trauma-informed approaches and on supporting their implementation.

As the trauma-informed movement and need for trauma-informed care have grown beyond what was imagined in that boardroom at Van Ness Feldman 10 years ago, we are proud of what has been accomplished and grateful for the partnership and support we have received from many over the years.

Entering our second decade, CTIPP is in an exciting time of transition. For over a year, the board and I have been working together to hire a full-time Executive Director for the first time in the organization's history, which will build much-needed capacity to scale the movement. We appreciate the generosity of our funding partners, who have made building the capacity for this transition possible.

Our work is not slowing down during this transition; we are continuing to pursue the work we have been developing and will hold our first-ever Hill Day, a dream of Dan's, in DC this spring. We are confident in CTIPP's ability to grow through and beyond this transition.

## PERSONAL NOTE FROM JESSE

I want to thank CTIPP's entire network. At the Mobilizing Action for Resilient Communities (MARC) Conference in Philadelphia, I got involved with CTIPP on my 24th birthday.

I could never have imagined where the eight years that followed would have taken me, but I remember how excited I was to become an intern, and how that excitement only grew the following year when I was made a board member to lead fundraising efforts after becoming Director of Development at a community center in Philadelphia.

As I became more involved, the healing opportunities advocacy made possible increased my volunteerism. I was drawn to a platform that helped me make sense of my experiences growing up and what I was learning professionally, and to work to make a positive difference in the world around me.

To have the opportunity to lead an organization and advance a cause I am so passionate about at any age, let alone 27, is an incredible privilege. And the opportunity to serve this mission and meet so many individuals and organizations doing amazing work has truly been a pleasure.

I will remain involved in the movement going forward. To serve on loan to CTIPP, I had to start another nonprofit organization, which is growing and also requires full attention. I just cannot run either (let alone both) organizations half-time. I have deep respect for CTIPP and know this move is necessary for it to achieve what I have always believed it would.

My work is taking me into a specific policy agenda I have created and a political movement to achieve broad implementation and impact, incorporating so much of what I have learned in this role, which I am truly excited about. CTIPP was created to support the trauma-informed movement broadly, not just one part of it, and so now, with the resources we have, it is a perfect time to take this step.

I would not be where I am today without CTIPP. I would not be who I am without the love and support I have received from so many people along the way. I have high hopes for where CTIPP will go over the next decade and beyond, and I am enthusiastic about being part of its network for the long haul.

There is no shortage of work to be done. Trauma-informed care has long been needed and, sadly, seems to be becoming increasingly necessary. Thank you to all of you who do the work in the many ways it must be done to make the world a better place.

I know things are tough for so many right now, yet I have hope for what we can create as a movement because of all of you I have met and the work I have seen taking place in communities and organizations all over, and the policies I have seen passed and supported across parties at all levels.

CTIPP will always hold a special place in my heart. I look forward to continuing to be part of this movement as we drive the paradigm shift and the healing our society needs. We can do this together. CTIPP has played such a critical role in bringing us together and mobilizing over the last decade. Let's continue to build this movement together.

Press On!



Jesse Kohler

# 10 YEARS of ADVOCACY

*Building the trauma-informed movement*

**2015**

Convened our first meeting

**2016**

Drafted a concept paper to advocate for policies aligned with an understanding of the impact of violence and trauma as a major public health problem facing the country

Formed Board of Directors and Advisory Board to reflect the diverse interests, voices, and concerns around the issues of trauma, adversity, and resilience

Released: Building a Trauma-Informed Society

# 2018

Supported Congressional resolution for the development of a Trauma-Informed Care Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives

# 2019

Received the Distinguished Service Award of the American Psychiatric Association, given for meritorious service to the field of psychiatry

Proposed Beyond ACEs: A Public Will-Building Campaign to Catalyze Social Transformation

Released Information Bulletin: Community Advocacy Network (CTIPP-CAN)

Released Legislative Vision for Reducing the Causes and Effects of Childhood Trauma

Released CTIPP Position on Evidence-Supported Practices and Policies

Released Information Bulletin: Campaign for Trauma-Informed Policy and Practice

Released Working for Healthy, Just and Resilient Communities

# 2020

Launched quarterly coordination meetings with stakeholders in partnership with PACES Connection

Launched National Trauma Campaign with Child Trauma and ACEs Policy (CTAP) and recruited advocates from all fifty states

Developed COVID-19 and House Caucus Ask toolkits

Developed and distributed a Biden-Harris 100 Days' Priorities letter

# 2021

Hired first executive director on loan

Awarded first grants from the Winer Family Foundation and the Burke Foundation to support operations and organizational growth

Reached out to Congressional offices and the Biden-Harris Administration on a Trauma-Informed Agenda for the First 100 Days memo, Trauma-Informed Approach to Vaccine Fear piece, and suggestions for the RISE from Trauma Act

Advocated for and supported states and localities to access trauma-informed provisions in CARES Act

Coordinated statewide regional coordinator meetings, coalitions for trauma-informed first spouses and state legislators, an eight-part workshop series, a podcast, and an early education workshop and toolkit

# 2022

Co-hosted the workshop series, “Building a National Movement to Prevent Trauma and Foster Resilience”

Onboarded first full-time staff

Launched a new website, advocacy modules, and the monthly newsletter “Transform Trauma”

# 2023

First financial audit

Led national campaign urging the 118th Congress to support trauma-informed policies, resulting in 1,059 signers and 776 comments from 46 states

## 2023 (cont.)

Released CTIPP's vision statement, with 16 dimensions critical to preventing and mitigating trauma

Partnered with ITRC to advance community-based, culturally responsive mental wellness initiatives to disasters through a public health approach

Hosted two Congressional briefings supporting the Community Mental Wellness and Resilience Act

## 2025

Conducted landscape analysis

Launched Youth Advocacy series

Launched campaign to support advocate-led legislative advocacy

Began hiring process for first full-time executive director

Mobilized support to reinvigorate Trauma-Informed Care Caucus

## 2024

Collaborated with the U.N. Race to Resilience, ITRC, and Trauma Informed Oregon to build a commissioning program for Transformational Resilience Coordinating Networks

Developed a Youth Advocacy Curriculum with Columbia University, in partnership with the NCTSN, to help youth have a voice in decisions that impact their lives

Launched CTIPP CAN series to support trauma-informed approaches to advocacy, developing an agenda about what they are most passionate about, sharing stories, and creating a plan for 2025