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**State of New Jersey Offers New Tool to Help Organizations Assess Trauma Responsiveness**

***The TRUST assessment tool is now available at no cost to users***

**Trenton, NJ,** *[DATE]* **— New Jersey’s work to create an equity-focused and trauma-informed state advances through a partnership** with Coordinated Care Services, Inc. (CCSI) to make the Trauma Responsive Understanding Self-Assessment Tool (TRUST 2.0) available to organizations across the state. TRUST 2.0 identifies practical ways for organizations to promote inclusive, healing-centered practices in the workplace through improved physical spaces, staff training, internal communications, and customer relations.

“About 70% of adults in the United States have experienced trauma, 7 in 10 people,” said **Dr. Rebecca Bryan**, the Department of Children and Families’ (DCF) Executive Director of the Office of Resilience, which is leading the state’s work in raising awareness of trauma and forming community partnerships to lessen the negative impacts. “When we know the prevalence, we better understand the urgency in being trauma-informed so that we can increase empathy responses and build resilience.”

The Office of Resilience was created in 2019, spurred by a public/private partnership of agencies focused on mitigating Adverse Childhood Experiences, also called ACEs or trauma. Unaddressed or unresolved trauma can lead to poor physical, emotional, employment and social outcomes. Since its inception, the Office’s focus has evolved beyond ACEs to highlight the importance of Positive Childhood Experiences, or PCEs, which can soften the effects of trauma.

“Trauma-informed approaches in the workplace utilize the best evidence to prevent harm, reduce burnout and turnover by promoting healthy engagement and empowerment,” added Dr. Bryan. “The first step to becoming trauma-informed is assessment, and now any NJ organization is able to take this step, for free, both initially and over time to monitor progress.”

TRUST is one of an array of supports offered by the Office of Resilience along with coaching, training, and other resources.

“By enabling widespread use of TRUST 2.0, the State of New Jersey is helping organizations build more meaningful connections and support in the workplace and to those they serve,” said

Dr. Elizabeth Meeker, Vice President of Consulting and Technical Assistance at CCSI.

**About Coordinated Care Services, Inc. (CCSI)**

CCSI is a nonprofit management services organization with 30 years of experience dedicated to inspiring innovation in practice by providing essential business services in partnership with organizations that improve lives and strengthen communities.