

HOW HARM REDUCTION EFFORTS EMPOWER COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES



Identify a few key principles of harm reduction.

Why does harm reduction get such a bad rep?

Community resilience and risk / protective factors.

How do PACES counter the impact of ACES and boost community resilience?

Bringing it all together.

Turning ideas into action and addressing barriers.

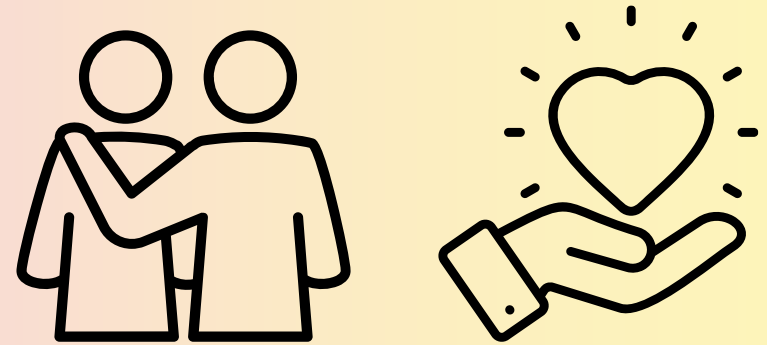
WHAT IS HARM REDUCTION?

Harm reduction is the act of reducing harm associated with drug use through a variety of different interventions. The main goal of harm reduction is to save lives while protecting the health and well-being of people who use drugs (PWUD) and their communities.



A FEW KEY PRINCIPLES

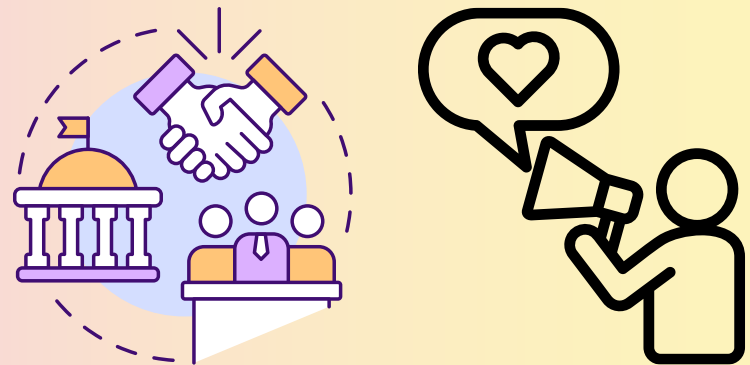
- 01.** Harm reduction uses a nonjudgmental approach that doesn't view drug use as a moral failure.



- 02.** Harm reduction is grounded in social justice, and recognizes that substance use and addiction affect marginalized communities disproportionately.



- 03.** Harm reduction isn't limited to direct service community work!



WHY DOES HARM REDUCTION GET SUCH A BAD REP?



Argument:

You're just enabling substance use and making excuses!

Argument:

People who use drugs are bad, and deserve to be punished!



Counter:

Harm reduction acknowledges that substance use will happen regardless of whether resources are available.

Counter:

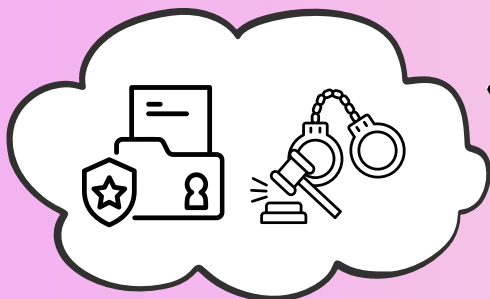
Harm reduction recognizes that using drugs is not a moral failing.

WHY DOES HARM REDUCTION GET SUCH A BAD REP?



Argument:

I want people to get help, but can't they get it somewhere else? It's going to make crime rates skyrocket! (NIMBY)

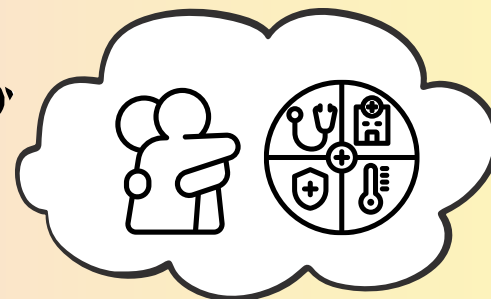


'Ooo'



Counter:

There is no empirical evidence that suggests this is a definitive outcome.



'ooo'





COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND PROTECTIVE FACTORS

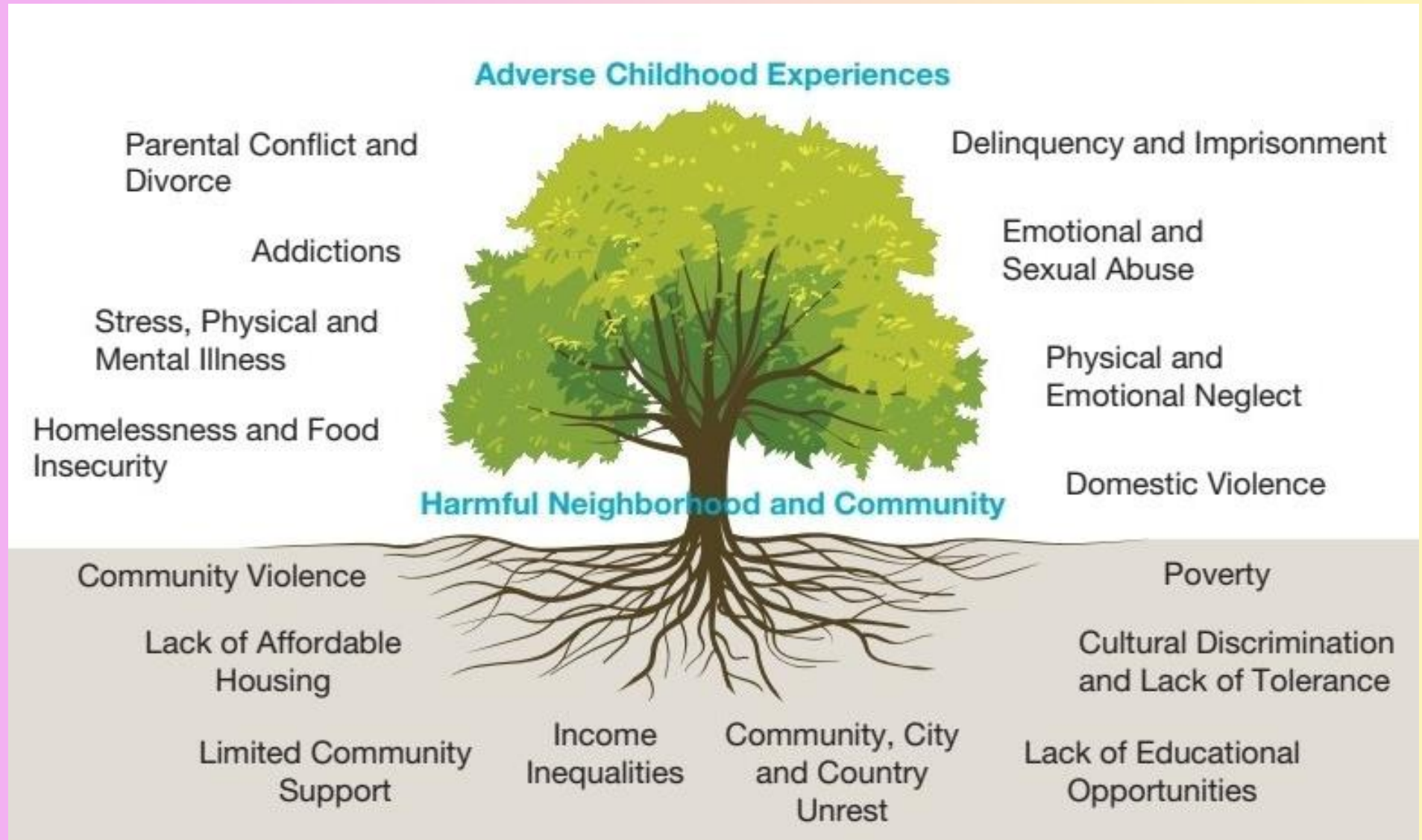


COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

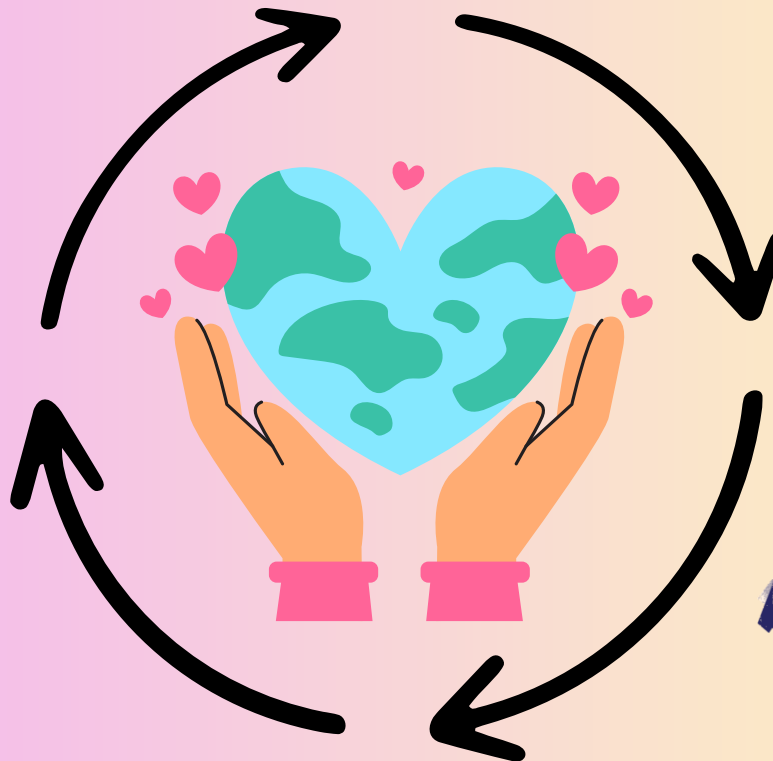
The collective capacity of a community to respond to, withstand, and recover from adverse situations



ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES (ACES)

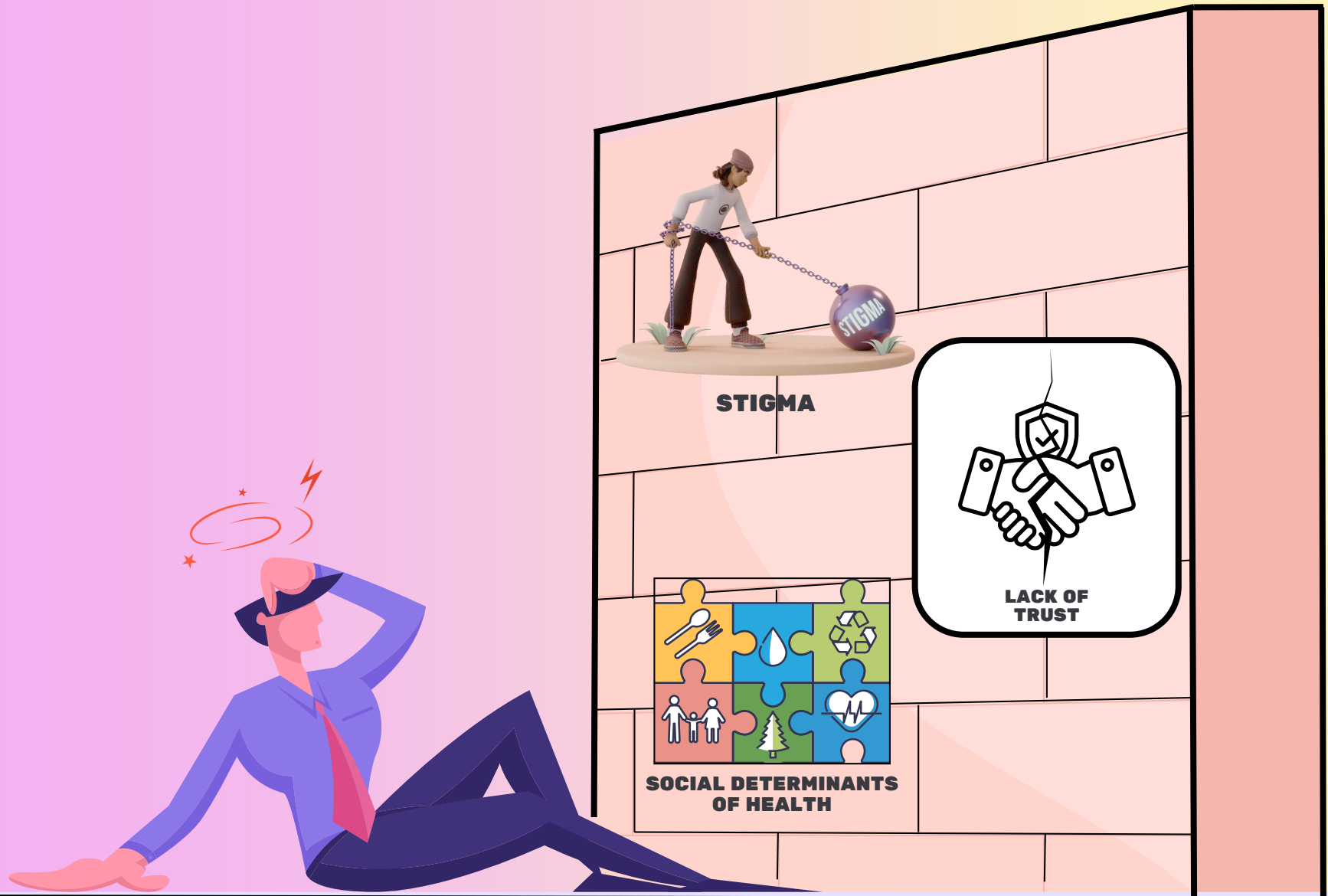


POSITIVE / PROTECTIVE AND COMPENSATORY EXPERIENCES (PACES)



BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER

PUTTING IT INTO ACTION - ADDRESSING BARRIERS

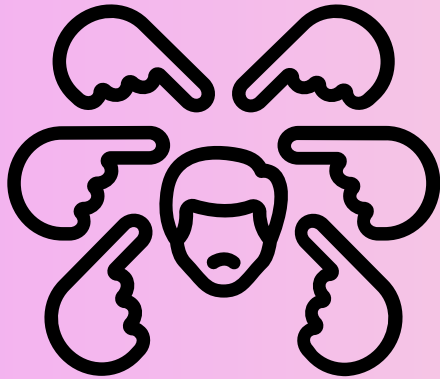


BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER

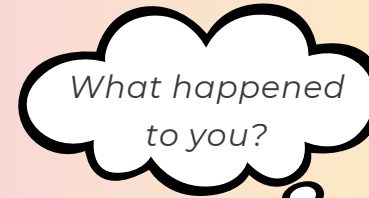
PUTTING IT INTO ACTION - REDUCING STIGMA



REDUCING STIGMA



Nonjudgmental approach



Develop a trauma-informed lens



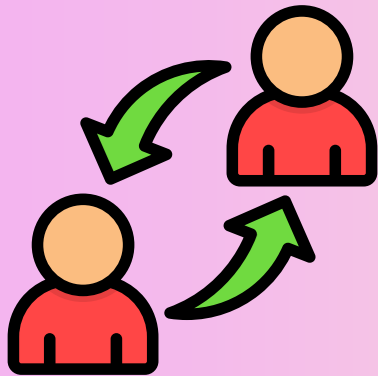
Shifting language from
overdose to *poisonings*



Utilize outreach efforts as
educational opportunities

BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER

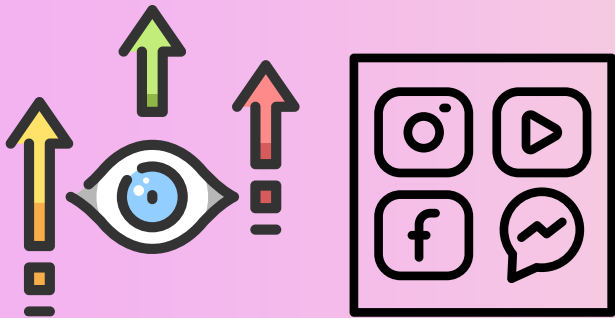
PUTTING IT INTO ACTION - BUILDING TRUST



Peer Engagement



Transparency and people-first
language



Increase visibility out in
the community



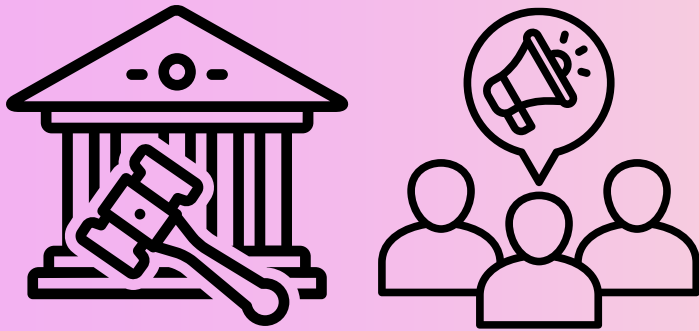
Distribute harm reduction supplies

BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER

PUTTING IT INTO ACTION - ADDRESSING SDOH



**SOCIAL DETERMINANTS
OF HEALTH**



Advocate for positive change



Create opportunities for
community to gather



Connections to appropriate resources

CONCLUSION



THANK YOU!



**QUESTIONS, THOUGHTS,
OR COMMENTS?**

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