

**From Hurricane Katrina to Paradise Wildfires, Exploring Themes in Disaster
Human Services – A Workshop**

Workshop 1: Children and Youth in Disasters

Key Issues for Parents & Guardians: Housing + Mental Health

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Disaster Landscape



Emerging Infectious Disease



Extreme Weather Events



Technological & Man-Made Disasters

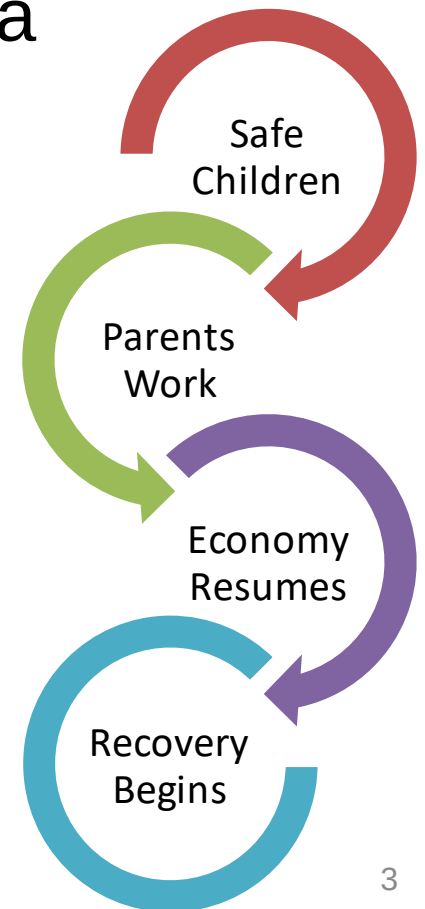


Information Overload

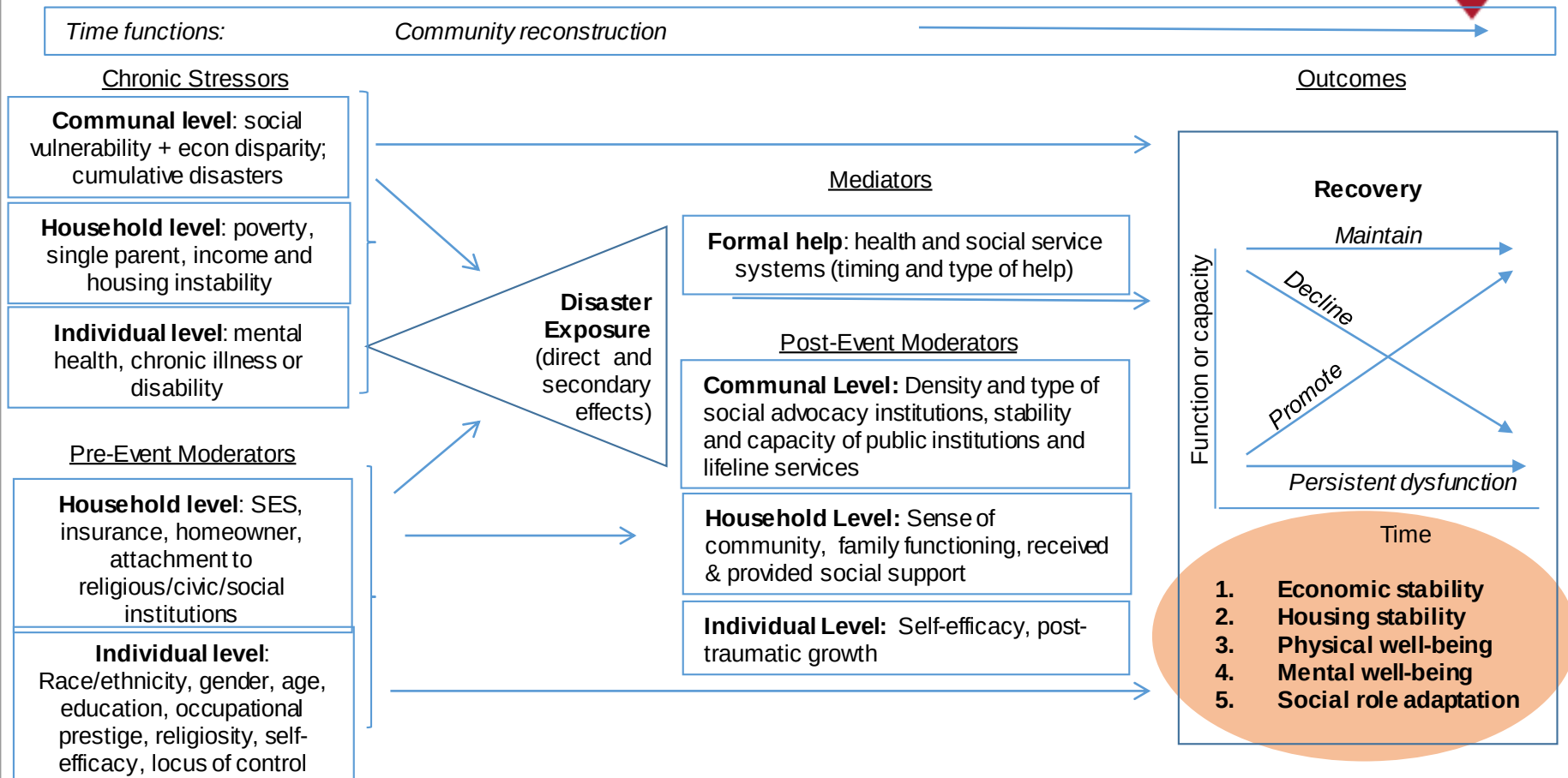


Observed Themes

- Hurricane Katrina, Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Florence, Hurricane Maria
 - Pre-existing housing crises
 - High risk housing
 - Poor mitigation
 - Slow reconstruction/rebuilding
 - Mental health
 - Parent/Guardian influence on child
 - Trust in child-serving institutions



Socio-ecological Model of Recovery



Adapted from Abramson, DM, Stehling-Ariza, T., Park, Y.S., Walsh, L. and Culp, D (2010). "Measuring Individual Disaster Recovery: A Socio-ecological Framework" *Disaster Med and Public Health Prep* 4: S46-S54.

5 predictors of post-disaster recovery

- Housing stability*
- Stable economic resources
- Good mental health*
- Good physical health
- Positive social role adaptation

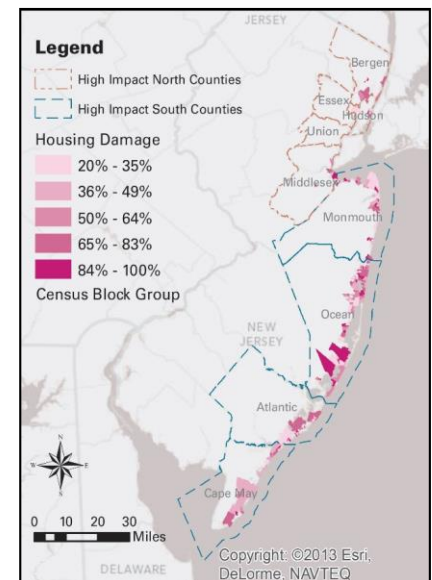
examples from the field

superstorm sandy

sandy child and family health study (s-cafh)

S-CAFH: Financial Stressors

- Residents that had major structural damage are 2.5 times as likely to have trouble paying rent/bills/mortgage/food/transportation, regardless of income.
- Residents living in poverty, with household incomes below \$20,000 per year, were 6.7 times as likely to experience trouble paying bills, the extent to which their homes were damaged.



S-CAFH: PTSD & Housing Damage

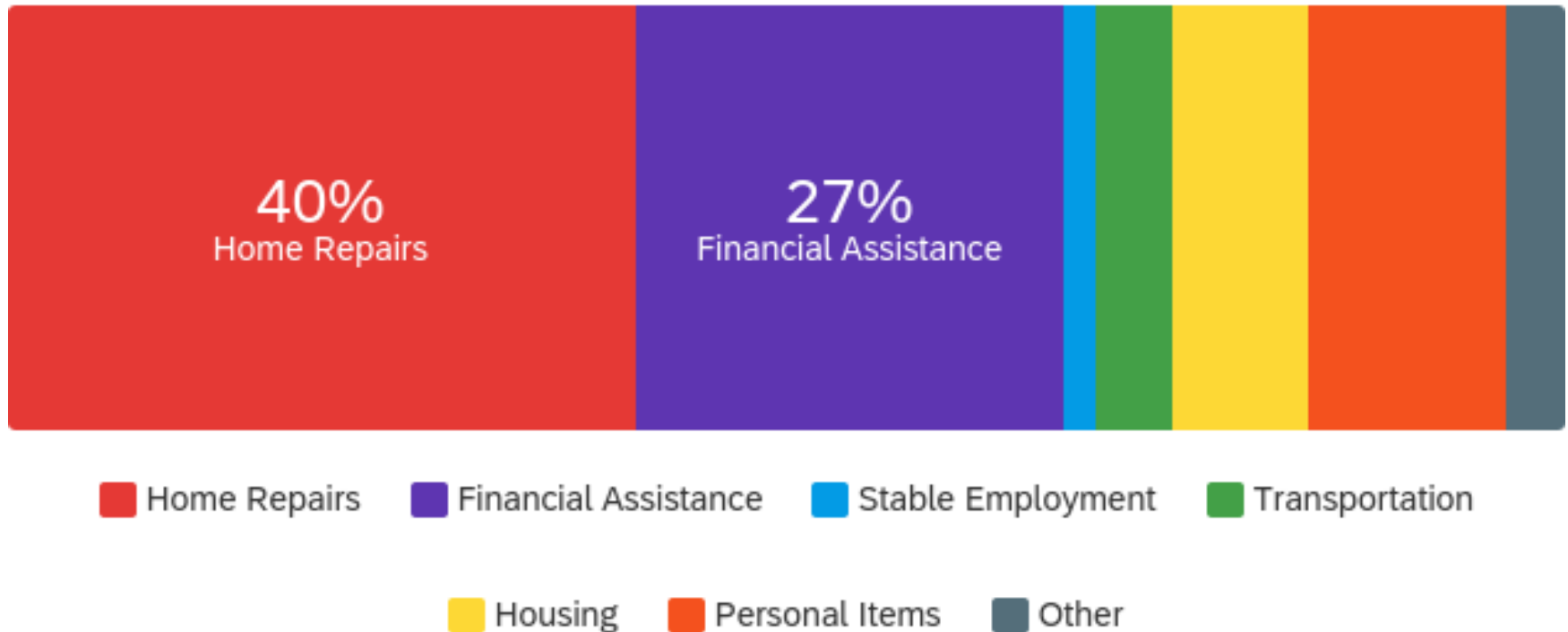
ODDS OF HAVING PTSD AFTER HURRICANE SANDY	
Home experienced minor damage, versus no damage	2.67
Home experienced major damage, versus no damage	3.70
Living in household earning <\$20,000, versus all others	1.55
Respondent was clinically diagnosed with depression prior to Hurricane Sandy	2.97
Black, versus white residents	1.59
Hispanic, versus white residents	3.49
Men versus women	0.66
Residents ages 19-35, versus those who are 36-64	0.29
Residents ages 65 and over, versus those who are 36-64	0.81

- Positive predictors of PTSD include: housing damage, prior history of depression, and identifying as Hispanic.

hurricane harvey

convenience sample

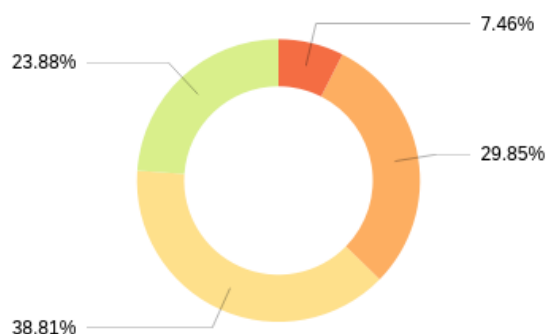
Current Need for Normalcy



*unpublished data

Self-assessed Recovery

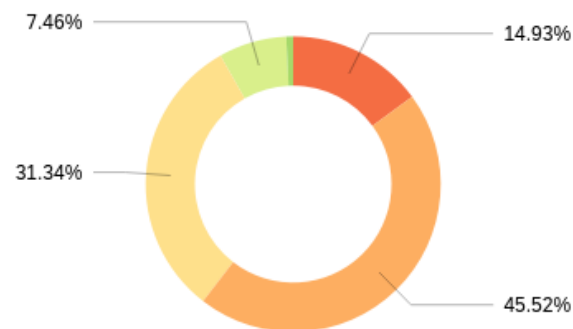
Personal



still very disrupted? still somewhat disrupted, almost back to normal,
largely back to normal,

~37% disrupted

Household



not recovered at all, somewhat recovered, mostly recovered, completely recovered,
was not affected?

~60.45% not recovered

*unpublished data

hurricane katrina

gulf coast child and family health study (g-cafh)

G-CAFH: Housing Stability

- Unstably housed are...
 - 2.3 times as likely to report mental health disability
 - **1.9 times as likely to report a child with emotional problem**
 - 3.1 times as likely to have a poor sense of community
 - **1.8 times as likely to have a child whose academic performance was worse after the hurricane**
 - 1.9 times as likely to not have adequate social support

Takeaways & Recommendations

- Build the capacity of parents/guardians to serve as resilience buffers for their children
 - Support programming to create trauma-informed communities
 - Pro-actively address/plan for long-term mental health impacts
- Create a **formal** integration with local emergency management, licensing, and social services for child-focused preparedness issues: ie staff and funding
- Invest in long-term financial support to community-based organizations to offer housing repair and/or extend the duration of housing assistance programs
- Unite preparedness planning guidance and technical/financial assistance for child care centers, particularly in Puerto Rico
- Foster families require technical assistance to develop their own household disaster plans
- Shift all-hazards planning approach to all-hazards-at-once to accommodate compounding crises
- Connect with and continue to listen to the needs of affected communities beyond the funding-defined recovery phase to that of the *experienced* recovery phase

Thank You

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