

Evidence of Disparities in Access to Care: Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults

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Addressing Health Disparities in Central Nervous System Disorders
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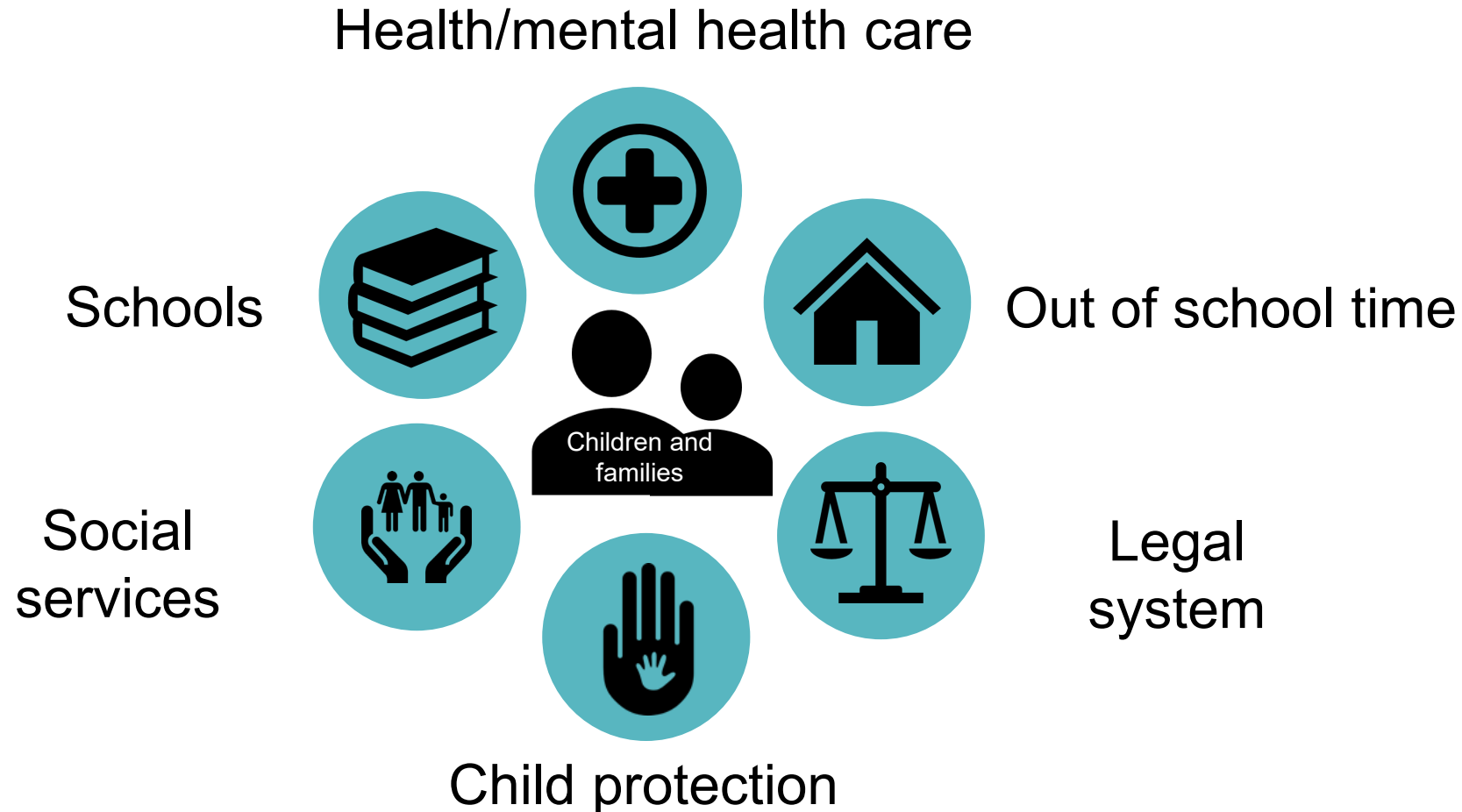
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Youth disparities in context

- **Developmental perspective** beginning with antenatal exposures through the transition to adulthood
- **Ecosystemic perspective** understanding youth in the context of families, school, neighborhoods, and societies
- **Multigenerational perspective** emphasizing the importance of addressing disparities impacting caregivers and children simultaneously
- **Racism** and **poverty** as fundamental and enduring causes of disparities

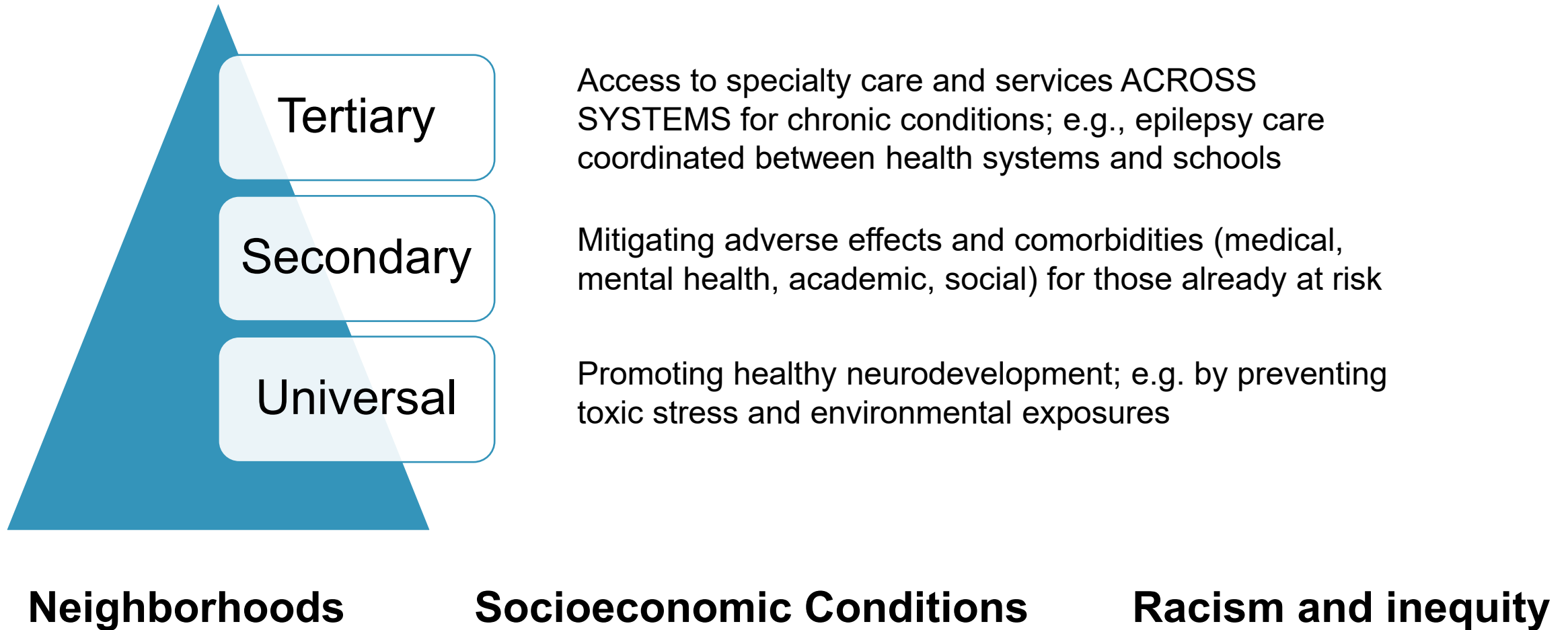
Conceptualizing care across multiple systems



Two sides of the same coin

- Youth-serving systems can be venues to **decrease disparities** by providing opportunities for population-level programs
 - E.g., school districts that require lead level testing for enrollment
- But they also **reproduce disparities** through inequitable infrastructure and practices
 - E.g., inequities in school infrastructure resulting in lead exposure
 - Only 43% of US school districts surveyed by the Government Accountability Office in 2018 had tested their water for lead, and 37% of these found elevated levels

Equity across levels of care for CNS disorders



Thank you!

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