

Wakǵáŋyeža:

Working with communities to solve suicide

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Established partnership with Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes in 2010 during Historical and Contemporary Trauma-Related Factors Study

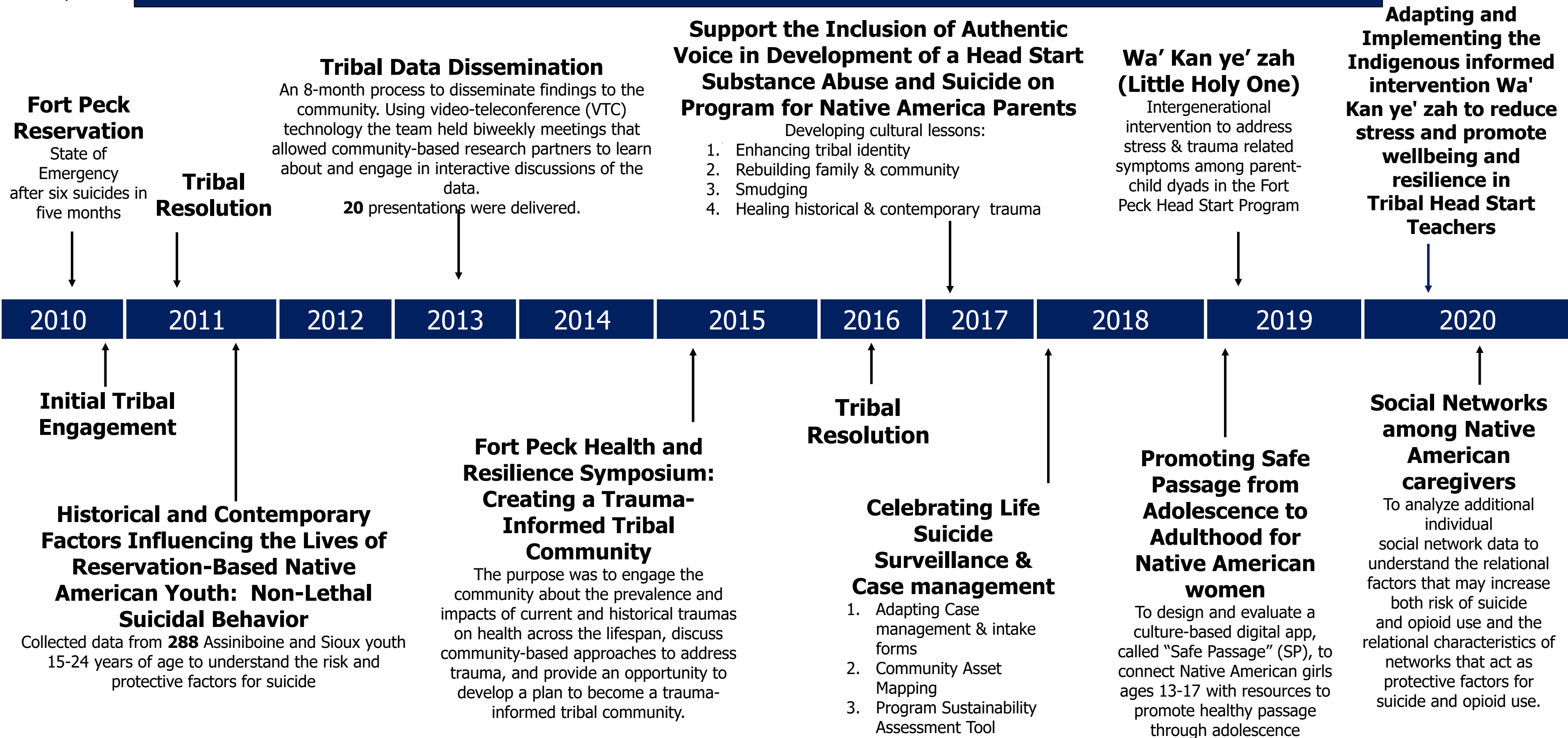
Tribal Advisory Board and key stakeholders were consulted in development of a logic model to address stress and trauma symptoms

All project phases have employed community-based participatory research approach

Collaborative Partnership



Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes Timeline of Collaborative Activities



Background:

Historical and Contemporary Trauma-Related Factors Study



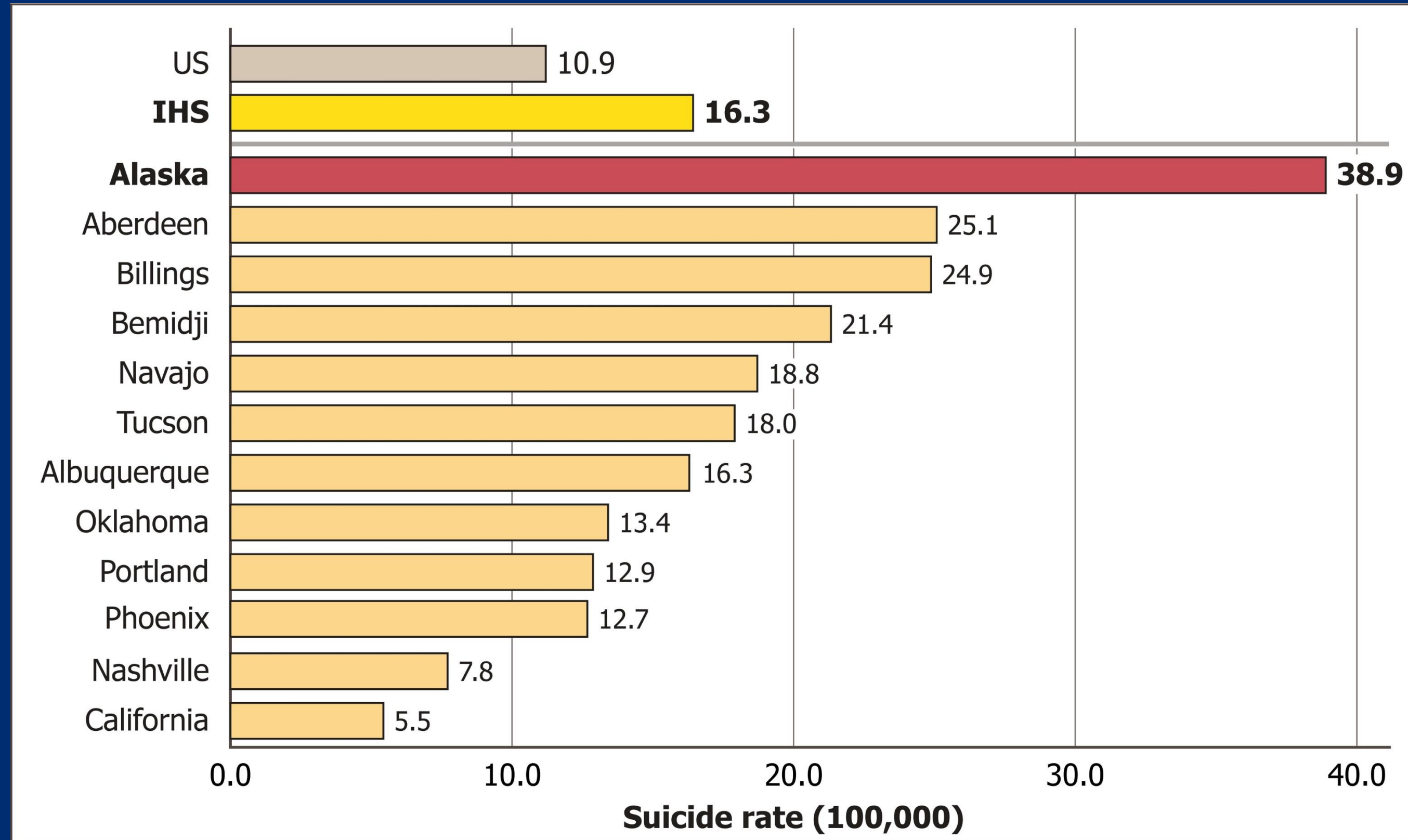
Previous study of N=288 adolescents and young adults:

- Historical trauma associated with suicidal ideation & attempts
- Communal mastery, tribal identity, and attachment to education was protective against substance use/suicide risk.



Community members were consulted to determine next steps in addressing issues of substance use and suicide

Suicide Rate per 100,000 by IHS Area



Wakǰáŋyeža: Little Holy One



Participating Communities: Fort Peck Indian Reservation



Target Population

- Children 3 to 5 years old and their primary caregiver
- 120 caregiver/child pairs will be enrolled in the study
- Sioux and Assiniboine Tribes



Study Goal



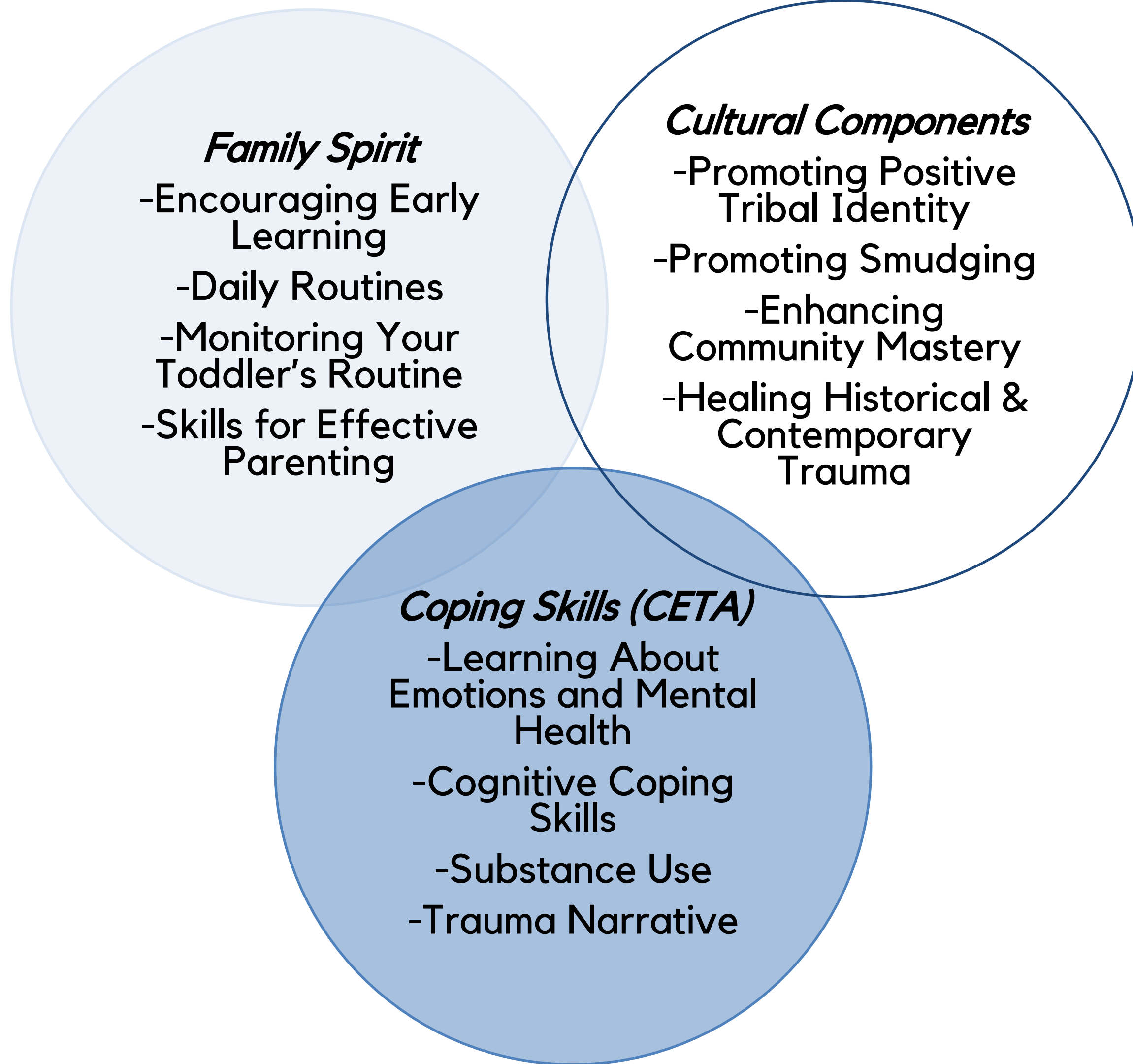
To increase protective factors and decrease risk factors related to youth suicide and substance abuse, starting in early life

This goal will be addressed through 3 components:

- Coping/Trauma prevention using Common Elements Treatment Approach (CETA): Sessions to help parents and caregivers address their own stress or trauma (4 lessons)
- Family Spirit lessons on parenting skills (4 lessons)
- Cultural components (4 new lessons)

Innovative Intervention Development

- Tribal Advisory Board provided direction on lesson topics and content
- Cultural lessons were developed specifically for Fort Peck Tribes community
- Evidence based lessons from Family Spirit and CETA were adapted for the Fort Peck Tribes community
- Tribal Advisory Board reviewed each lesson and provided feedback
- Pilot was conducted with participants – participants and interventionists provided feedback on lessons



Four Cultural Components

Tribal Identity

Traditional naming connects one to the Creator and responsibility to live a good life by understanding and walking on spiritual path

Promoting Smudging

Therapeutic healing practice, used to resolve unsettling thoughts and feelings, used in ceremony and daily prayer and meditation

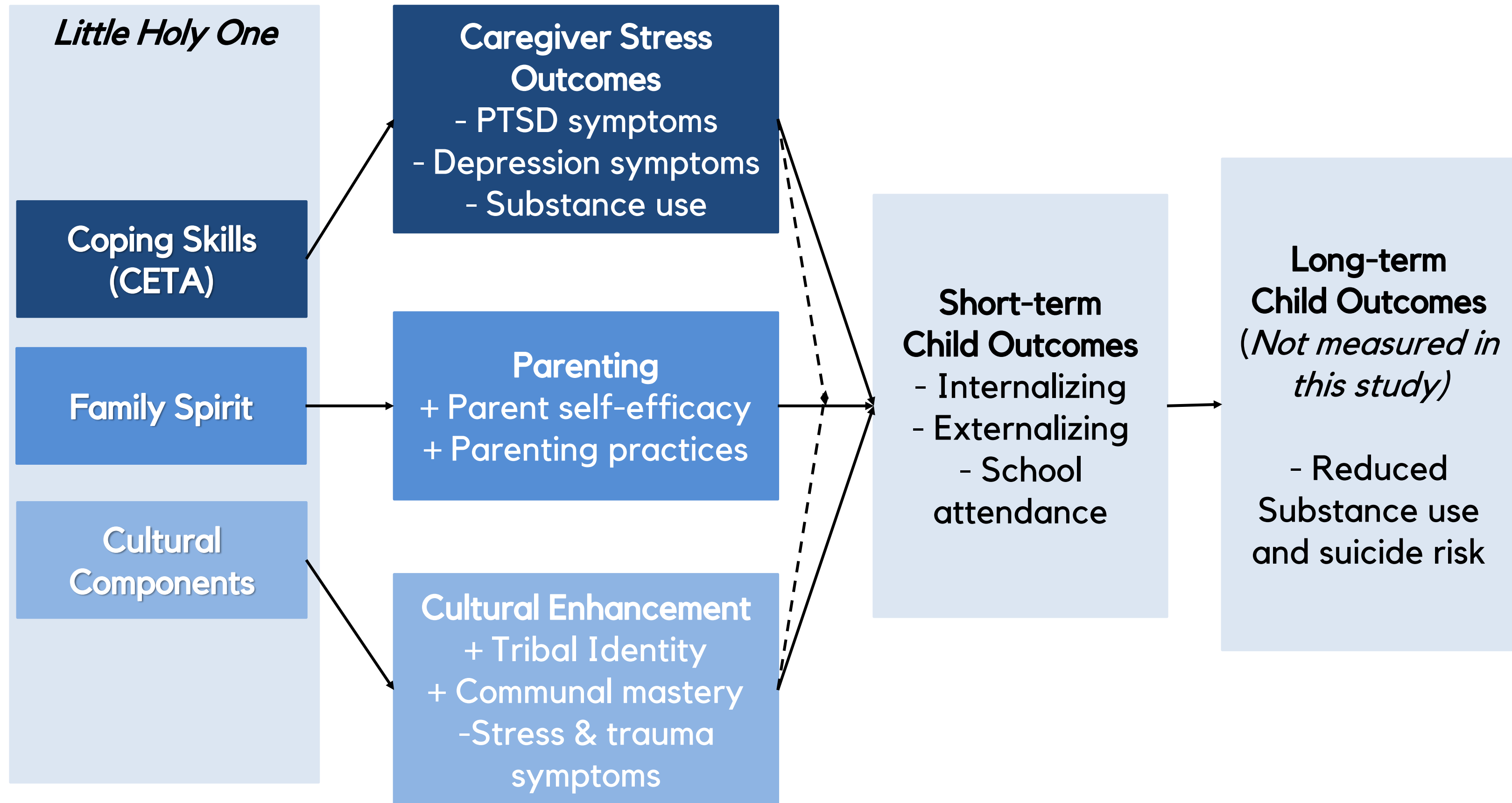
Communal Mastery

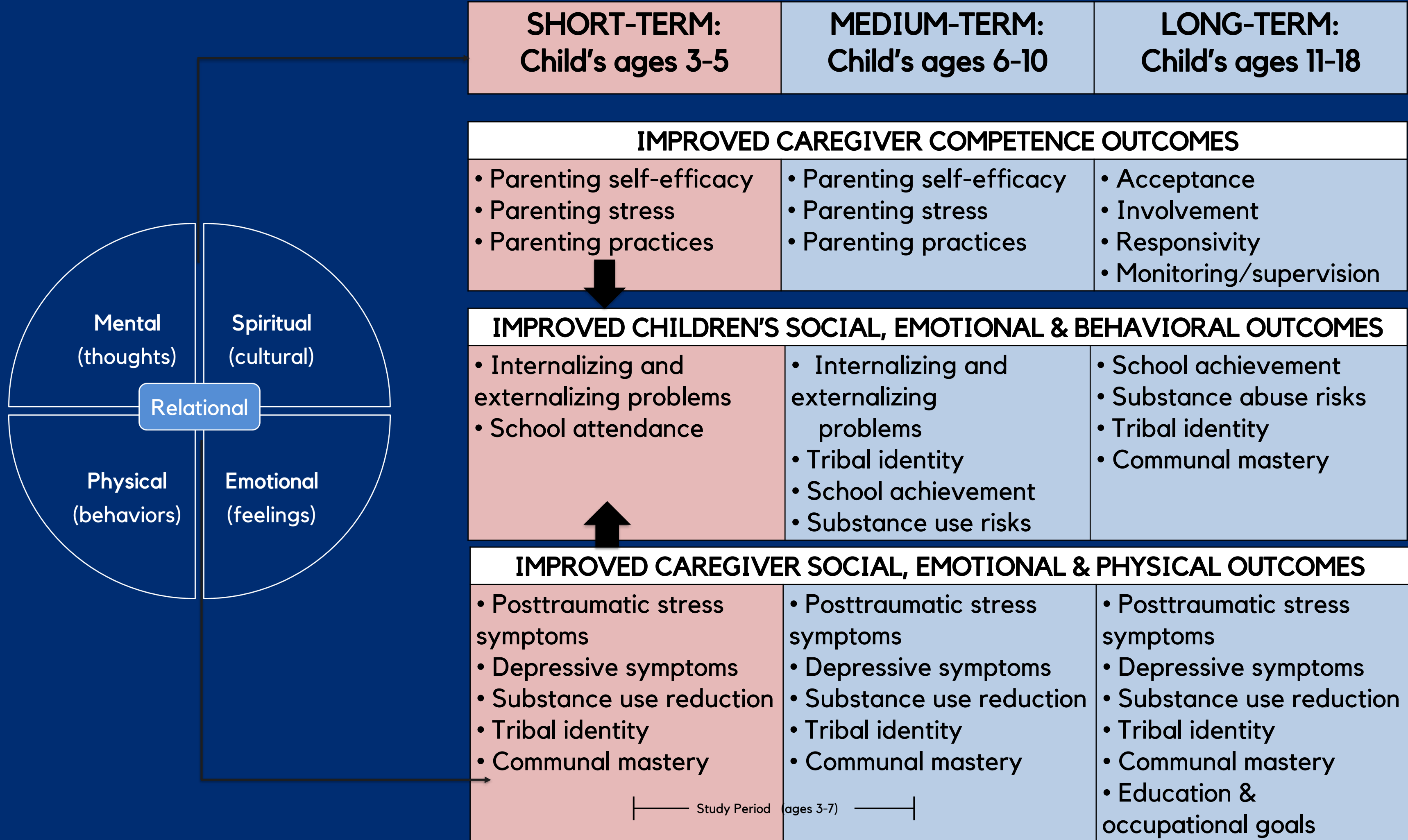
“Making of relatives” and “moccasin telegraph” activities will help participants understand their sacred relationships to others—their roles, responsibilities, and the therapeutic value of connectedness

Healing Historical Trauma

Wiping of Tears ceremony and story-telling narrative for healing will be used to address historical and contemporary traumas

Expected Outcomes



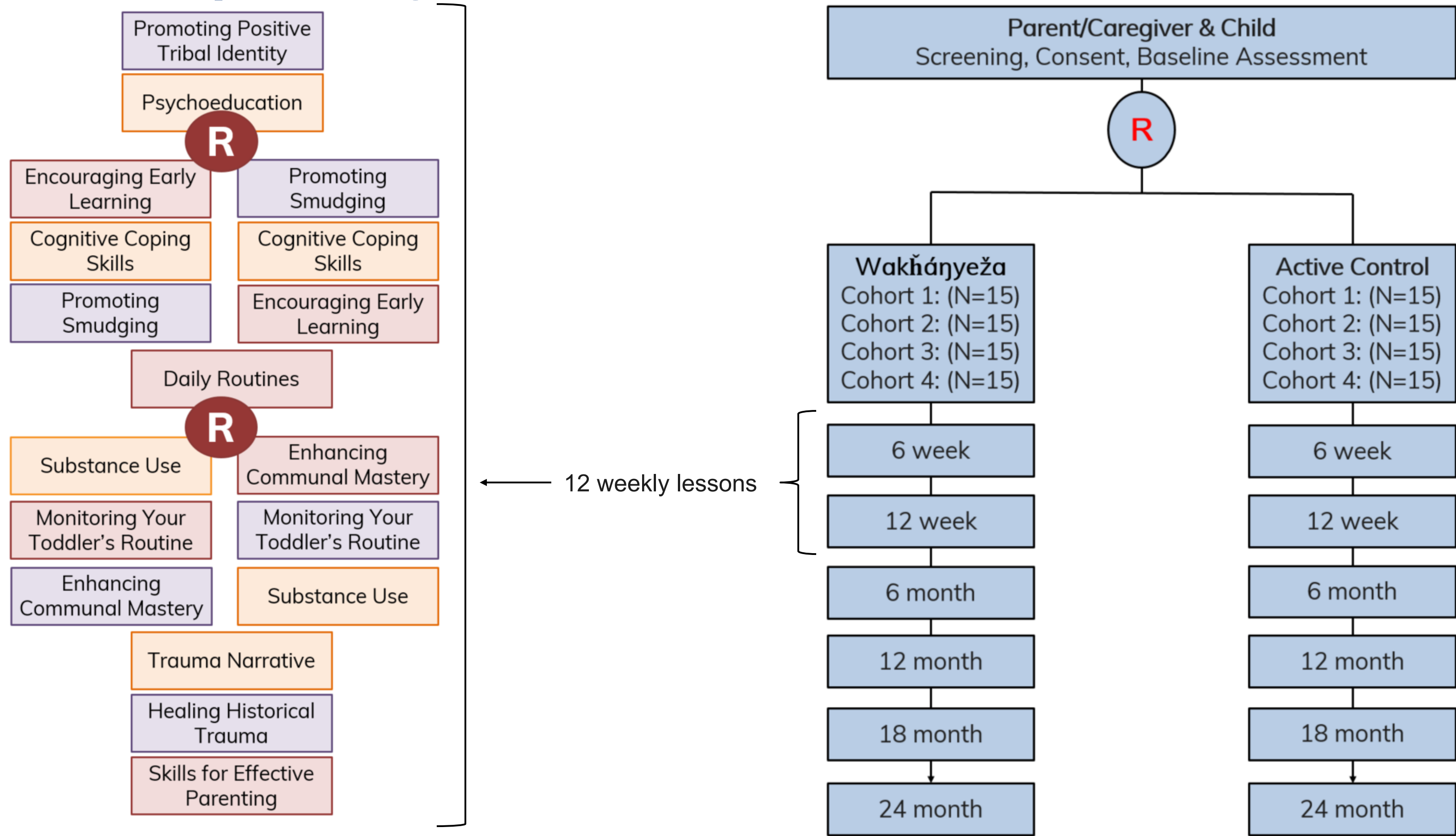


Study Design

**Randomized Control Trial (RCT)
with
Embedded Single-Case Experimental Design (SCED)**

Conducting an RCT with an embedded SCED will determine whether and how the prevention program works to improve outcomes, and what is the immediate impact of cultural components on caregiver functioning.

Study Design: Randomization & Assessment



Control Group

Control participants will receive an optional 30-60 minute nutrition session every other week for 12 weeks

Sessions will be attended by children and their parent/caregiver

Two modules from Healthy Youth Control curriculum will be adapted to create the 6 sessions:

- Everyday Eating – Nutrition Basics
- Energy to Win – Energy to Play

Potential for future innovation

If Little Holy One is found to be effective it will be implemented at all Head Start sites in Fort Peck

Little Holy One has potential for implementation in additional spaces that provide services to children (daycares, clinics, WIC programs)

Potential for Little Holy One scaling in other Native/Tribal settings

Little Holy One is a starting point for future intervention in Fort Peck



Thank you!

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