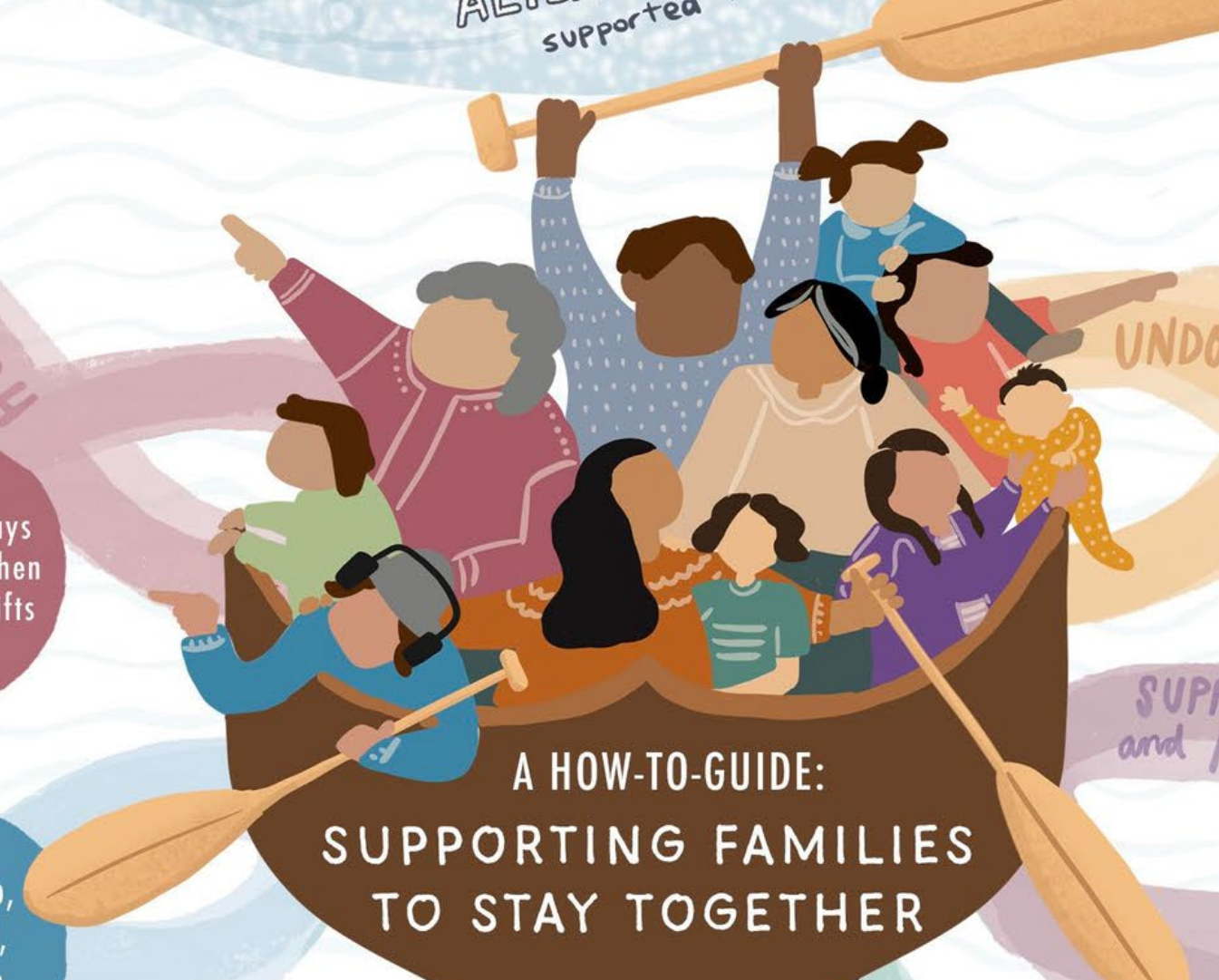


This TWO YEAR project supported building and strengthening **COMMUNITY CAPACITY** to address **SYSTEMIC VIOLENCE** in the child welfare system

This project **ENGAGED** with mothers, fathers, young parents, grandparents and youth as well as community organizations that support these families to **IDENTIFY HARM REDUCTION ALTERNATIVES** for families to be supported to **STAY TOGETHER**

This project took place in Vancouver's **DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE** which is on the **UNCEDED STOLEN LANDS** of the **COAST SALISH NATIONS**... including **MUSQUEAM, SKwxwú7mesh, STÓ:LO**, and **Tseil-watuth Nations**



A HOW-TO-GUIDE: SUPPORTING FAMILIES TO STAY TOGETHER

HEAL

Culture is MEDICINE.
Providing families access to culture is essential.

BRING BACK CULTURE!

Culture connects with ancestors & supports sense of identity and belonging.

STRENGTHEN

Culture teachings on ways of being strengthen community & shifts the power.

INVEST in RELATIONSHIPS

Families are looking to care for one another.

BUILD COMMUNITY

Create relationship, build trust, strengthen community.

Work with an open heart.

TRUST

SUPPORT FAMILIES to CONNECT

Provide resources for reconnections (e.g. transportation, space and food)

Increase family members' access to each other.

PRIORITISE ACCESS

FACILITATE CONNECTIONS

Be mindful of barriers families are facing when planning visits.

RESPECT TIME

REFRAIN from **DEFINING FAMILY** and **PARENTING**

Colonial definitions of family do not apply to all families.

CHECK YOUR JUDGMENT AND DO NOT USE SHAMING LANGUAGE

Families are asking for more knowledge.

BE TRANSPARENT and CLEAR

SUPPORT and FOLLOW...

Follow family's lead to where they want to go & how they want to get there.

RESPECT

RECOGNISE AND VALUE FAMILY MEMBERS AND their ROLES

Respect family stories, values & dynamics.

FAMILY'S LEAD

Value each family member's input & include them in decision-making process.

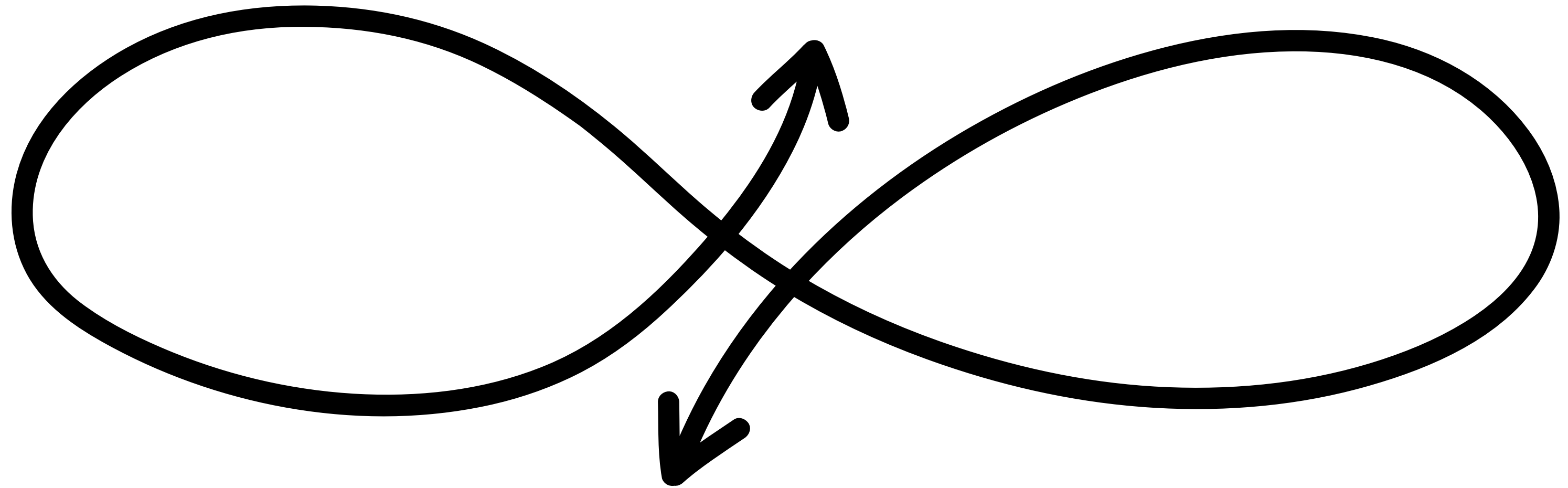
VALUE and INCLUDE



Women and Gender Equality Canada / Femmes et Égalité des genres Canada

AN INFOGRAPHIC by THEFUSELIGHT.COM

DUTY TO SUPPORT



Supporting Families to Stay
Together

TODAY 'S PURPOSE

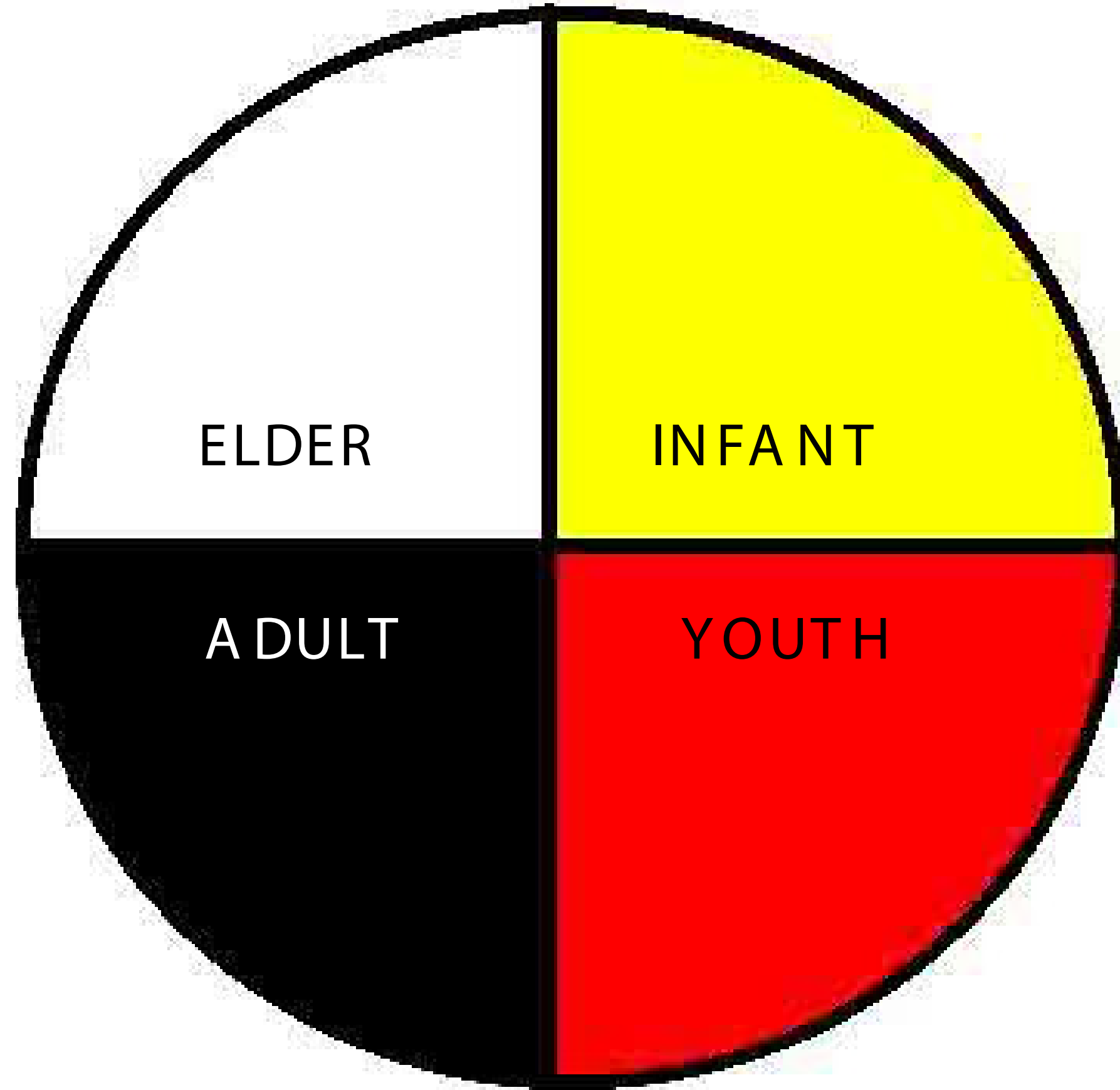
Pass on the lessons we learnt in our project on how to better support families

What does caring for families look like?

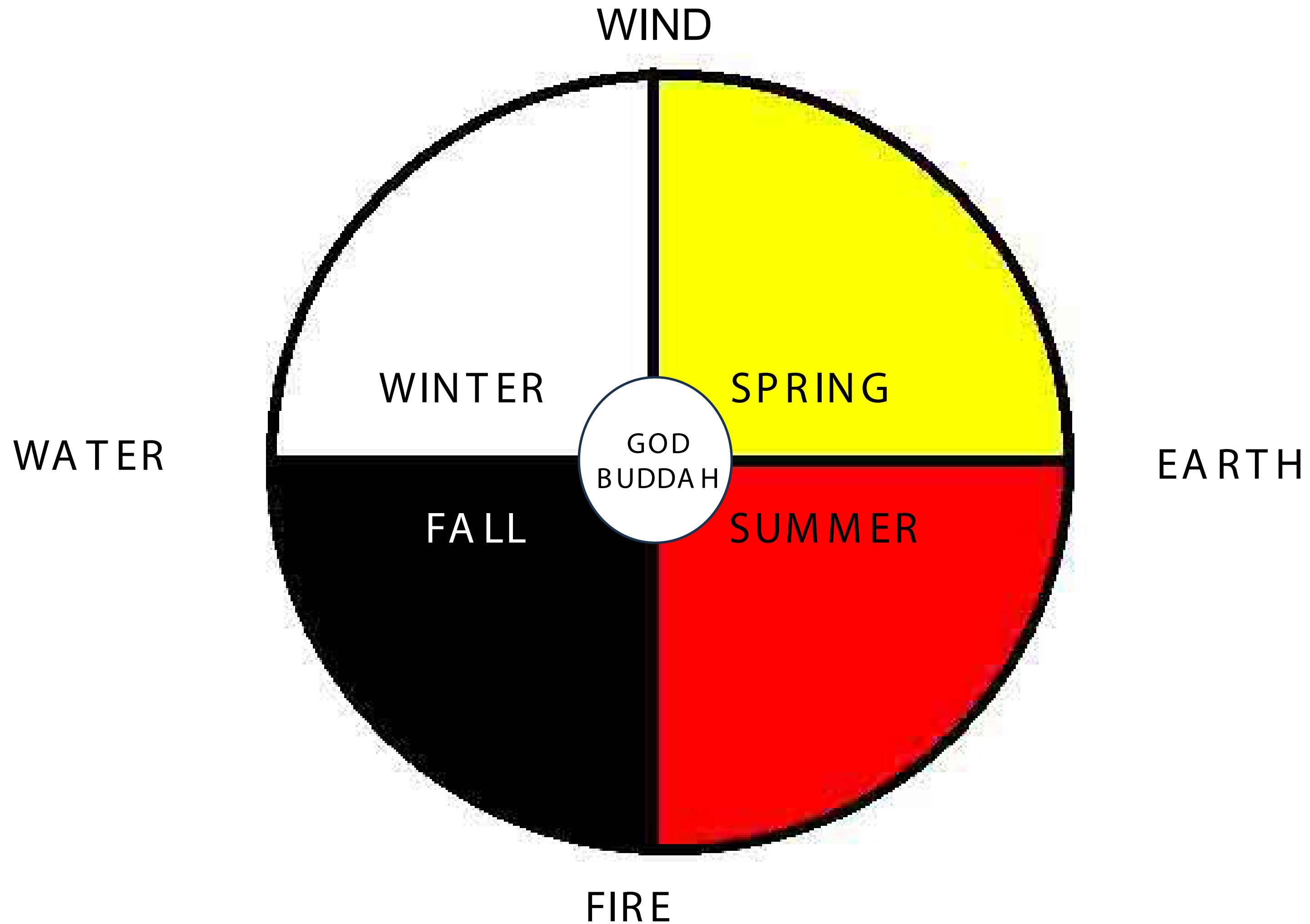
Why should we keep families together? and how do we do that?

How do we apply harm reduction and trauma-informed practices to parents and their children?

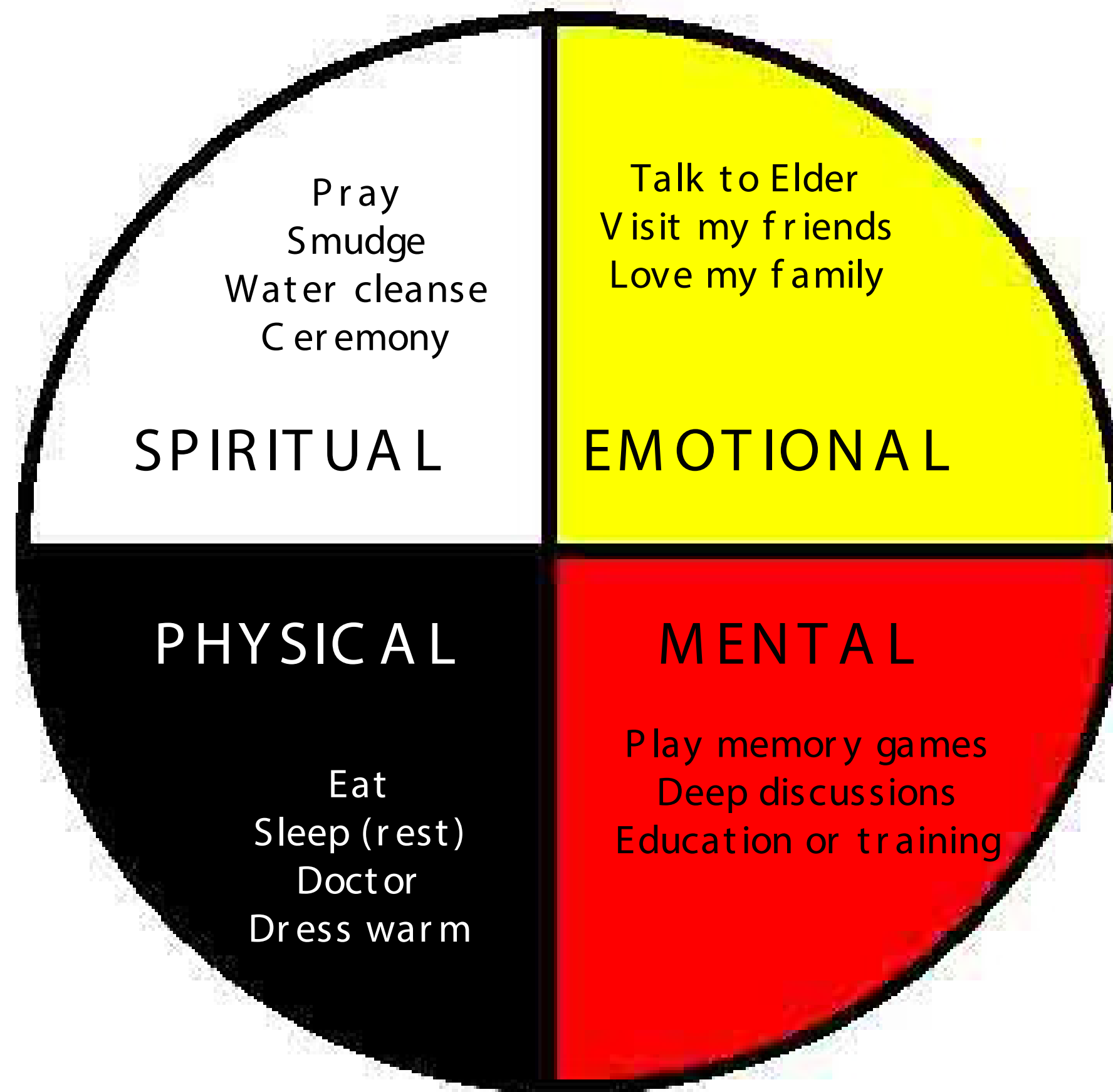
FATHER SKY

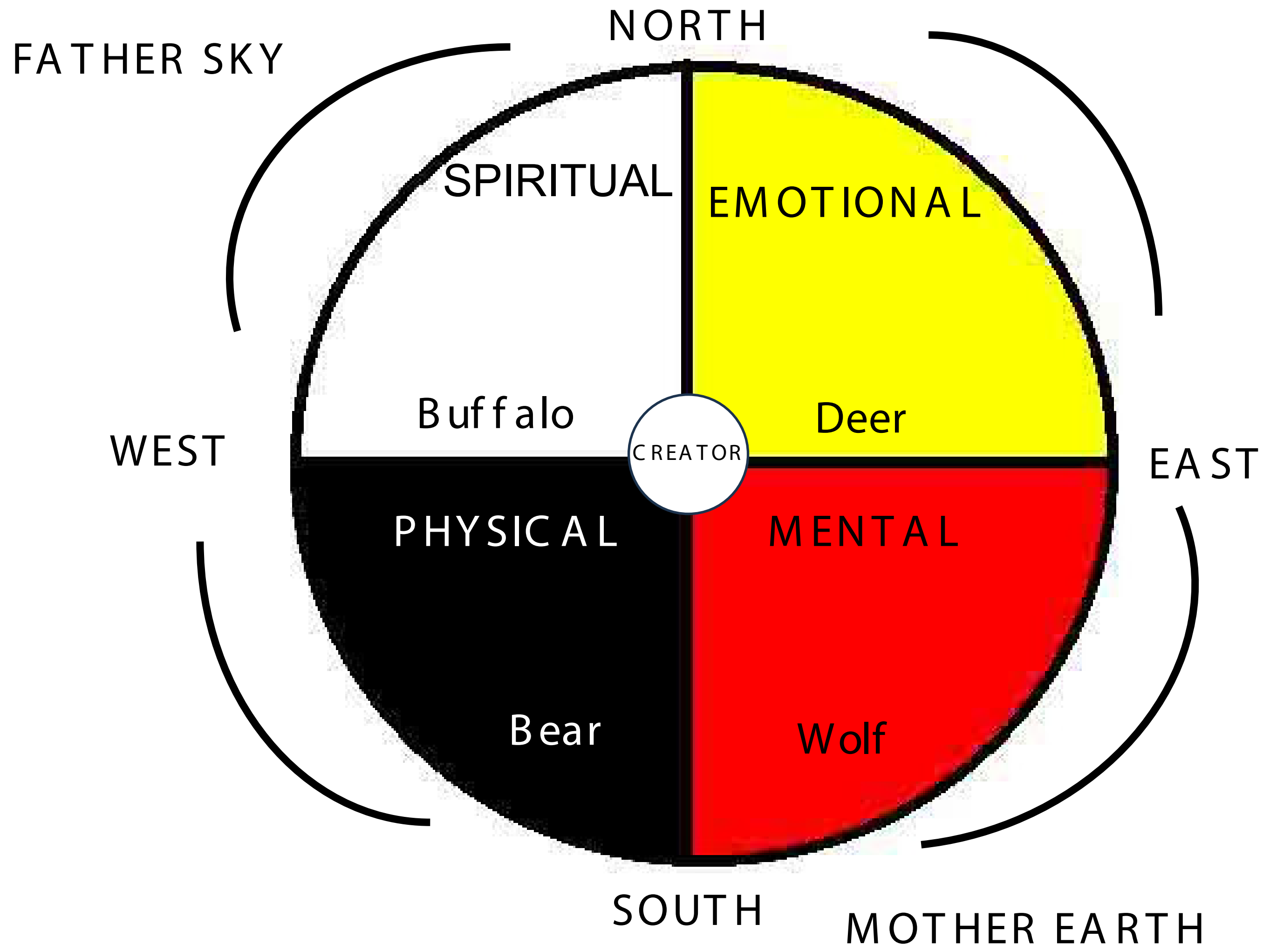


MOTHER EARTH

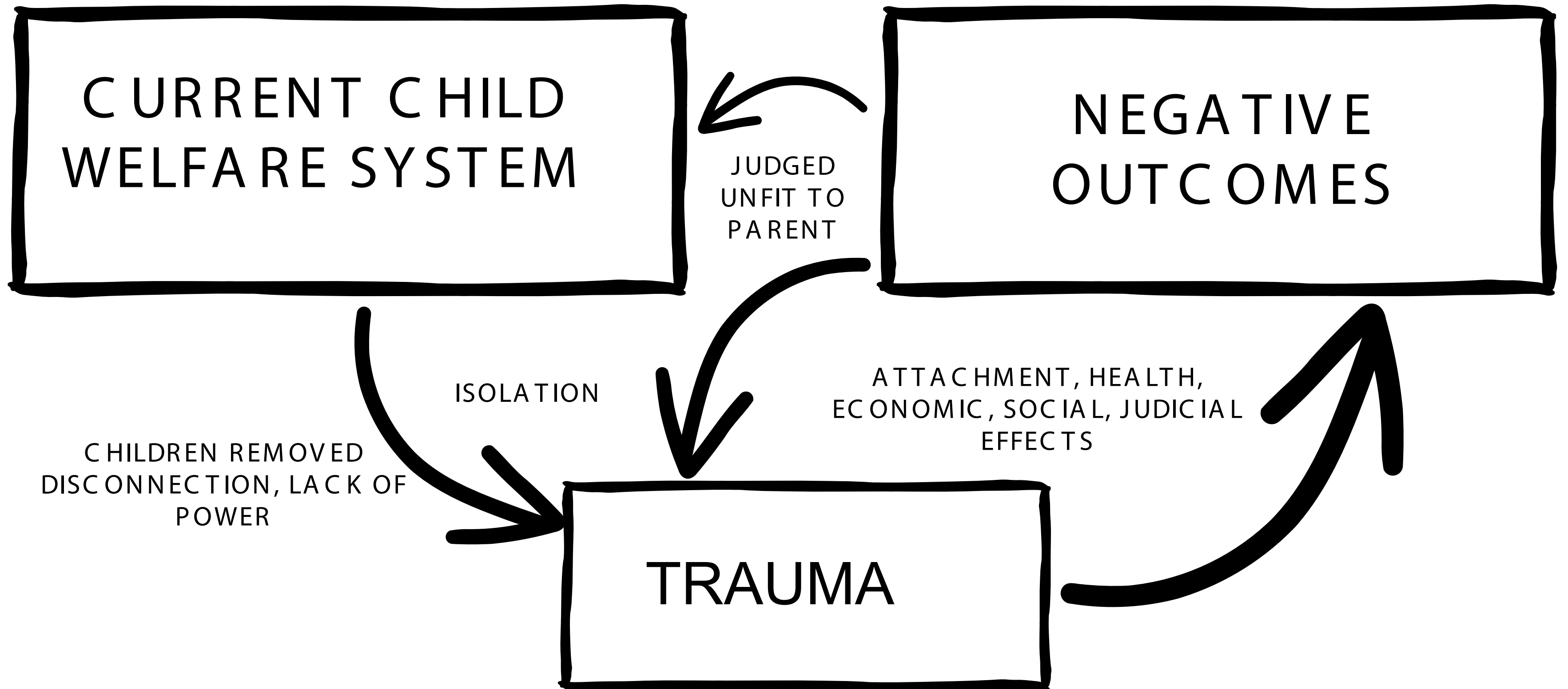


MY MEDICINE WHOLE KEEPING BALANCE





WHAT WE ARE CURRENTLY FACING



HOW DO WE BREAK THE CYCLE

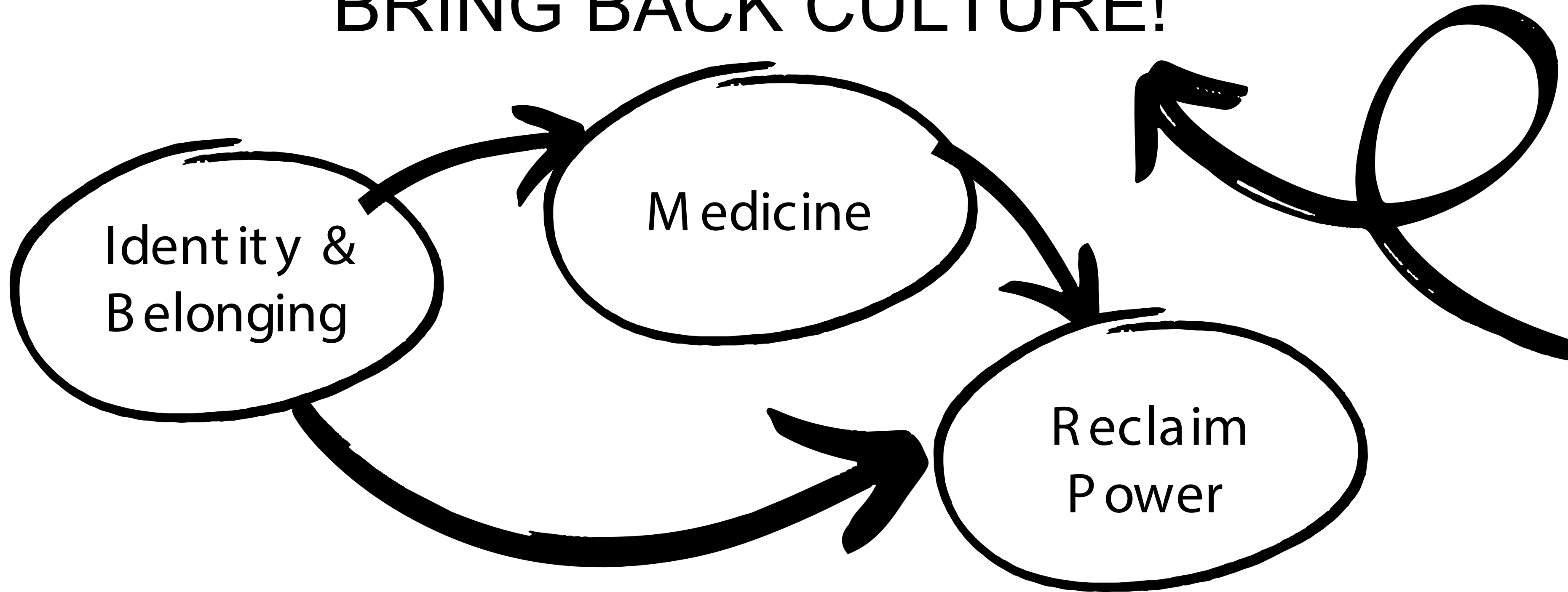
It takes a village...



To support a family

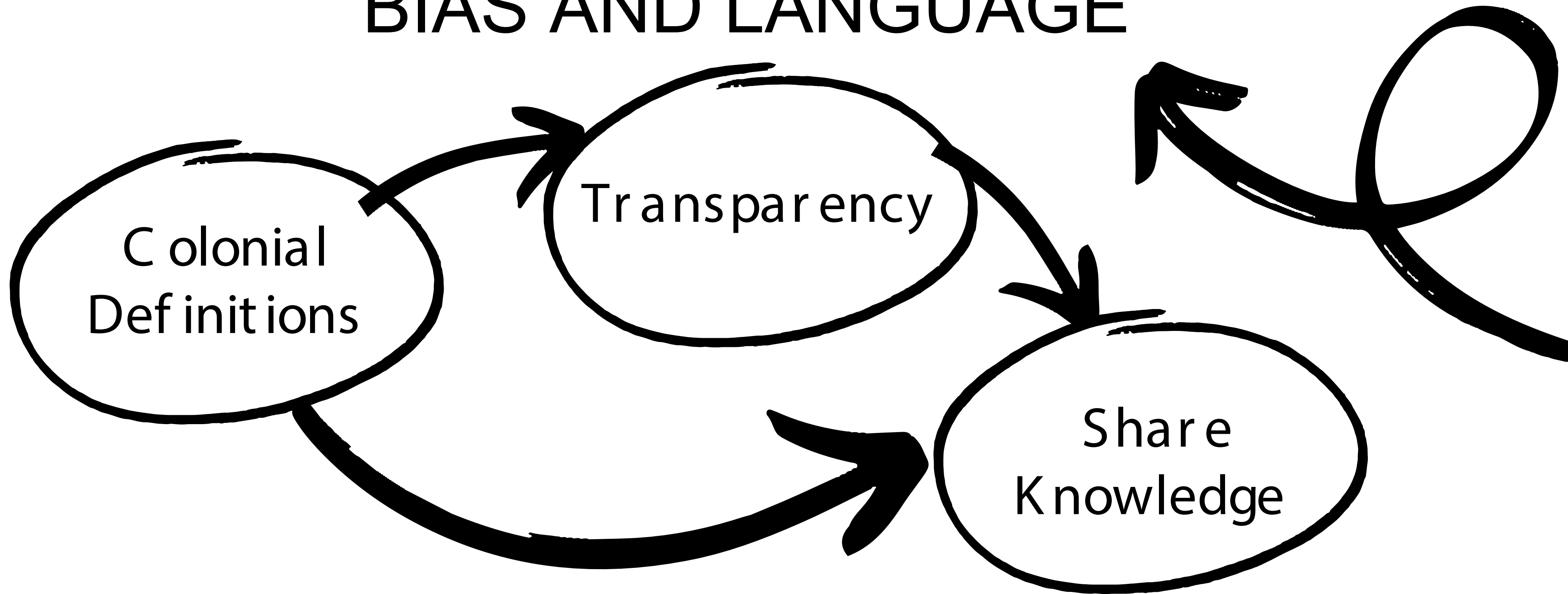
WHAT ARE FAMILIES ASKING FROM COMMUNITY

BRING BACK CULTURE!



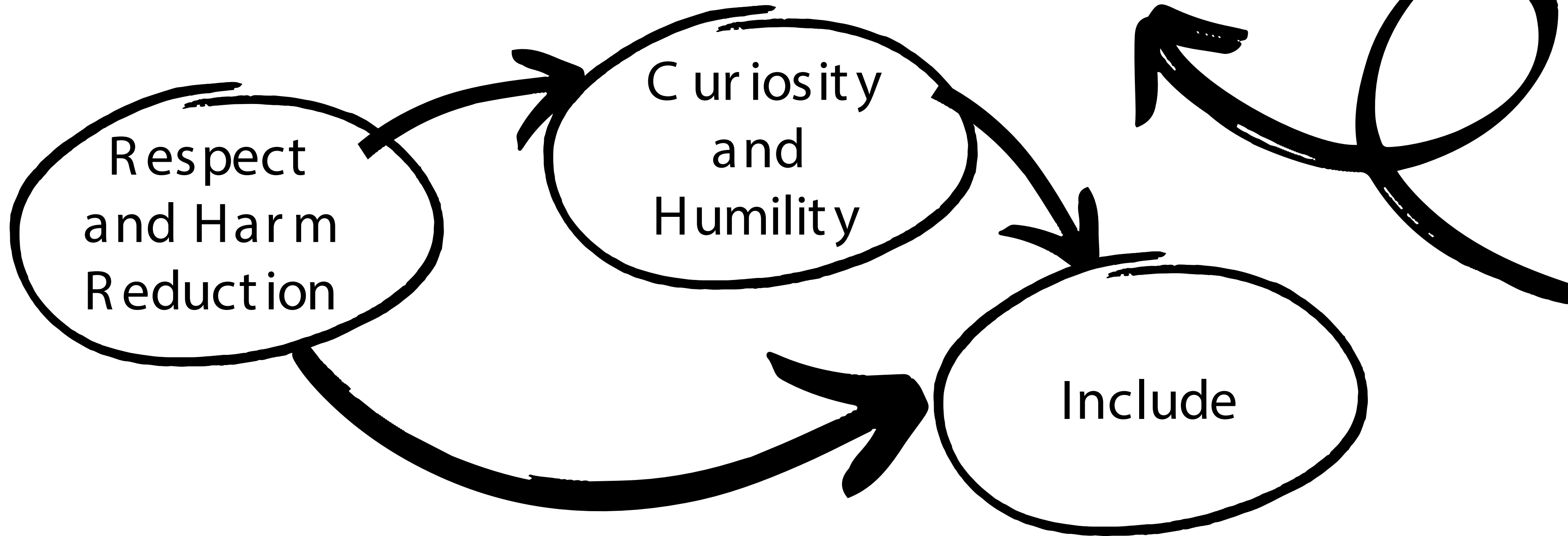
Weave culture into support for families from the foundation and throughout every form of support

BIAS AND LANGUAGE



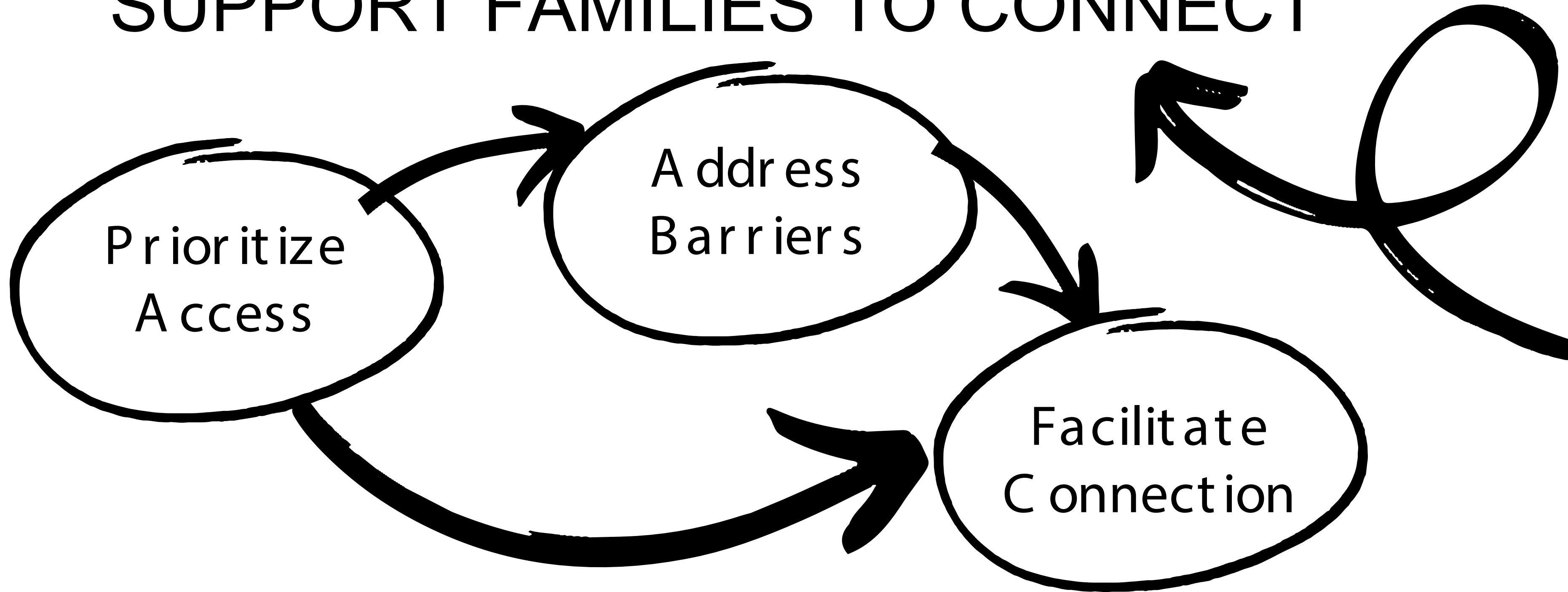
Use Language that challenges bias and is transparent and honest to support the strengthening of families

RECOGNIZE & VALUE FAMILY MEMBERS



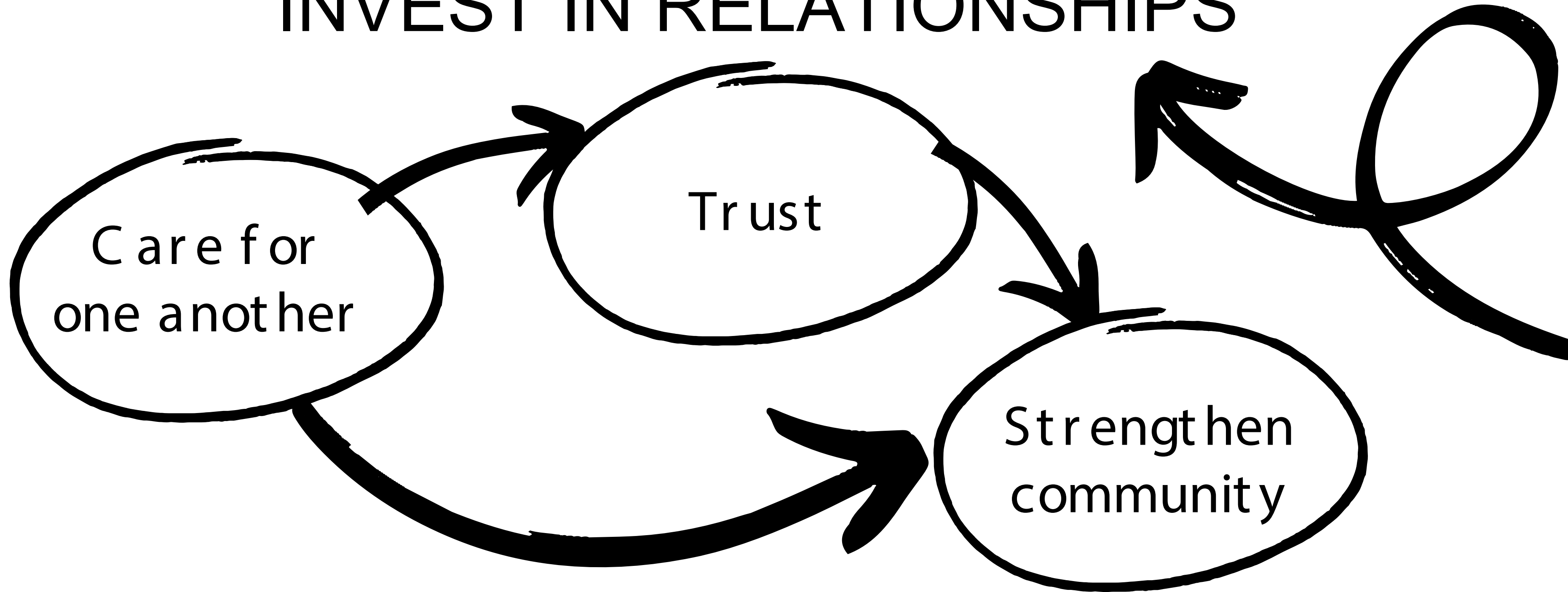
Include family member s input and follow the family' s lead to decide what supports are needed for their family

SUPPORT FAMILIES TO CONNECT



Prioritize and facilitate access and visitations between family members by providing support, transportation, and space

INVEST IN RELATIONSHIPS



Create a strong community where families can support one another

REDEFINING YOUR ROLE

From policing to supporting

- Treating the family as a whole
- expand your understanding
- share knowledge
- identify support
- create a safety plan together

SCENARIO 1:

A MOTHER COMES IN WITH HER
CHILD WHO IS IN A STROLLER.
THEY GET FOOD AND SHE ALSO
GRABS SOME CLEAN NEEDLES
FROM THE HARM REDUCTION
AREA

QUESTIONS, HIGHLIGHTS TO SHARE &
FEEDBACK

SCENARIO 2:

GRANDMOTHER TELLS YOU THAT SHE HAS NO SUPPORTS AND THAT SHE GETS OVERWHELMED HAVING TO TAKE CARE OF HER GRANDDAUGHTER WHO IS A TODDLER.

QUESTIONS, HIGHLIGHTS TO SHARE & FEEDBACK

SCENARIO 3:

MOTHER TELLS YOU SHE IS STILL FEELING SUICIDE IDEATION BUT DOES NOT WANT TO ACT ON IT BECAUSE SHE WANTS TO BE THERE FOR HER KIDS. HER KIDS ARE 2 AND 5 YEARS OLD.

QUESTIONS, HIGHLIGHTS TO SHARE & FEEDBACK

SCENARIO 4:

AN INTIMATE VIOLENCE
SITUATION OCCURS, YOU
INTERVENE, THE PERPETURATOR IS
ARRESTED. THE MOM IS
DISTRAUGHT AND THERE ARE 4
KIDS IN THE HOUSE.

QUESTIONS, HIGHLIGHTS TO SHARE &
FEEDBACK

COMMUNITY

COMMITMENTS

I COMMIT TO...

- NOT MAKING ANONYMOUS CALLS
- FOLLOW THE FAMILY'S LEAD TO THEIR CARE
- SUPPORTING AND FACILITATING CONNECTION TO FAMILY MEMBERS
- BEING CURIOUS AND HUMBLE AND WEAVING IN CULTURE AS PART OF MY SUPPORT
- INVESTING IN MY COMMUNITY BY CREATING RELATIONSHIPS AND SUPPORTING CONNECTIONS

**CLOSING &
GRATITUDE**