

SESSION ONE:
10:00-11:10

Inequality and rights of children in the city

Convener: Philip Harrison

RSVP to
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CHILDREN AS URBAN CITIZENS

12 October 2020

Topic	Speaker
Introduction and purpose of event	Professor Philip Harrison (<i>Research Chair: Spatial Analysis and City Planning</i>)
Access to services by migrant and other vulnerable children in a pandemic/emergency setting	Patiance Zhou (<i>Children on the Move Senior Project officer: Save the Children South Africa</i>)
Inter-generational trauma: the impact on children in times of crisis	Nomfundo Mogapi (<i>Director of Centre for the Study of Violence & Reconciliation</i>)
Discussions and recommendations	Led by Nomfundo Mogapi
Response	Nomfundo Mogapi



the trinity session





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**Access to Services by
migrant children and
other vulnerable Children
in an emergency setting**

Overview



Children as citizens in the city and the state's constitutional obligations to all children in the RSA



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Key issues of note



- Ability to practice social distancing and observe other regulations to reduce the spread of the virus
- The most poor could not observe these regulations effectively and children most affected
- Isolation and movement restrictions and trauma-violence in the home

What we learnt in the Lockdown relating to Children's rights and access to the city

- Access to services was largely affected by the restrictions, leading to loss of income- about 60% of migrant families lost half of their family income
- Increased violence in the home – social services were not easily accessible
- The approach of the government in the beginning was largely exclusionary- “citizens”
- Access to health services especially for those on chronic medication became a big challenge as also focus shifted – attitudes increasingly becoming negative towards migrants/undocumented
- Access to Education and the changing face of schooling – girls education
- Evictions increased during the lockdown
- Growth in detention and deportations also affected normal/Case management were migrant children are concerned
- Limited movement brought secondary trauma to children from war-torn countries



Recommendations

- Ensure that social service practitioners are well resourced to identify vulnerable and at risk children and ensure their protection and well-being.
- Ensure access to documentation for unaccompanied and separated migrant, refugee, asylum seeker and stateless children, and any child who may be undocumented.
- Ensure the proper placement of children facing harm to places of safety, particularly undocumented children as they face increased risks of trafficking, exploitation and abuse.
- Ensure improved resourcing of schools, for children who have returned to school and academic support for children who are learning from home. Invest in education now so that every child can return to school
- Involve local government and community structures in child protection work and discussions

Contact Details:

For any child safeguarding concerns kindly email:

childsafeguarding@savethechildren.co.za

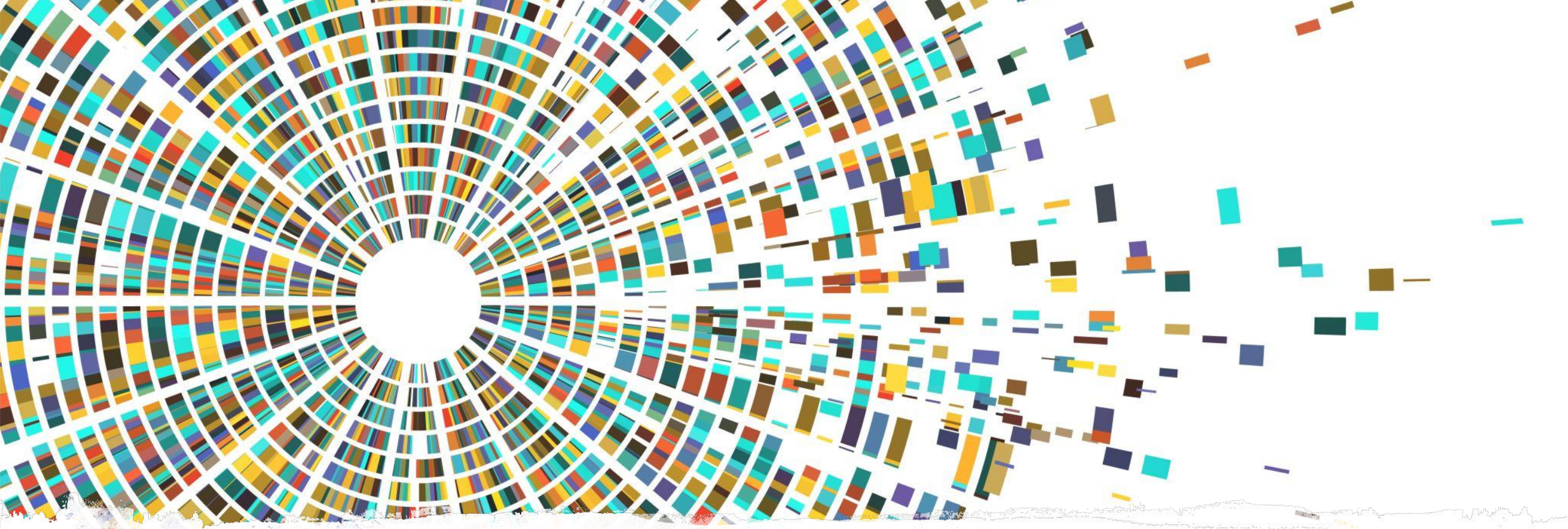
Technical support on cases of migrant and undocumented Children:

Pzhou@savethechildren.org.za

THANK YOU



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INEQUALITY AND THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN IN THE CITY: Why mental wellness matters

- Nomfundo Mogapi
- Children as Urban Citizens
- 12 October 2020

PRE-COVID19 CONTEXT AND CHILDREN VULNERABILITY

ECONOMIC:

- INEQUALITY, UNEMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY

FAMILY:

- GBV, CHILD NEGLECT, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, CHILD ABUSE, CHILDHEADED

INSTITUTIONAL:

- EDUCATION, SOCIAL WORK, POLICE

CITIZENSHIP:

- MIGRANTS, REFUGEES

PRE-COVID19 WOUNDED CONTEXT AND CHILDREN VULNERABILITY



Wounded/wounding
institutions



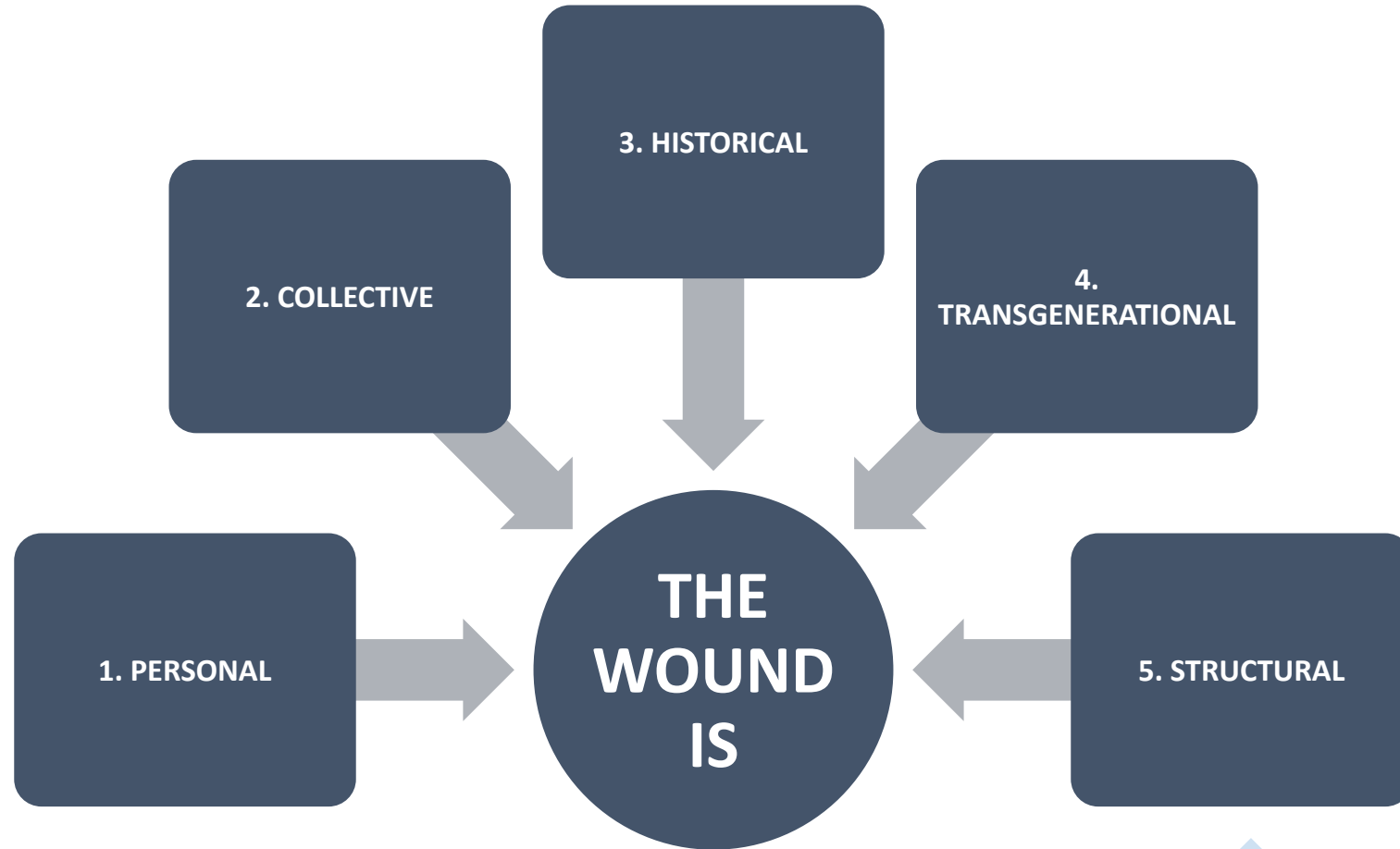
Wounded
societies and
communities



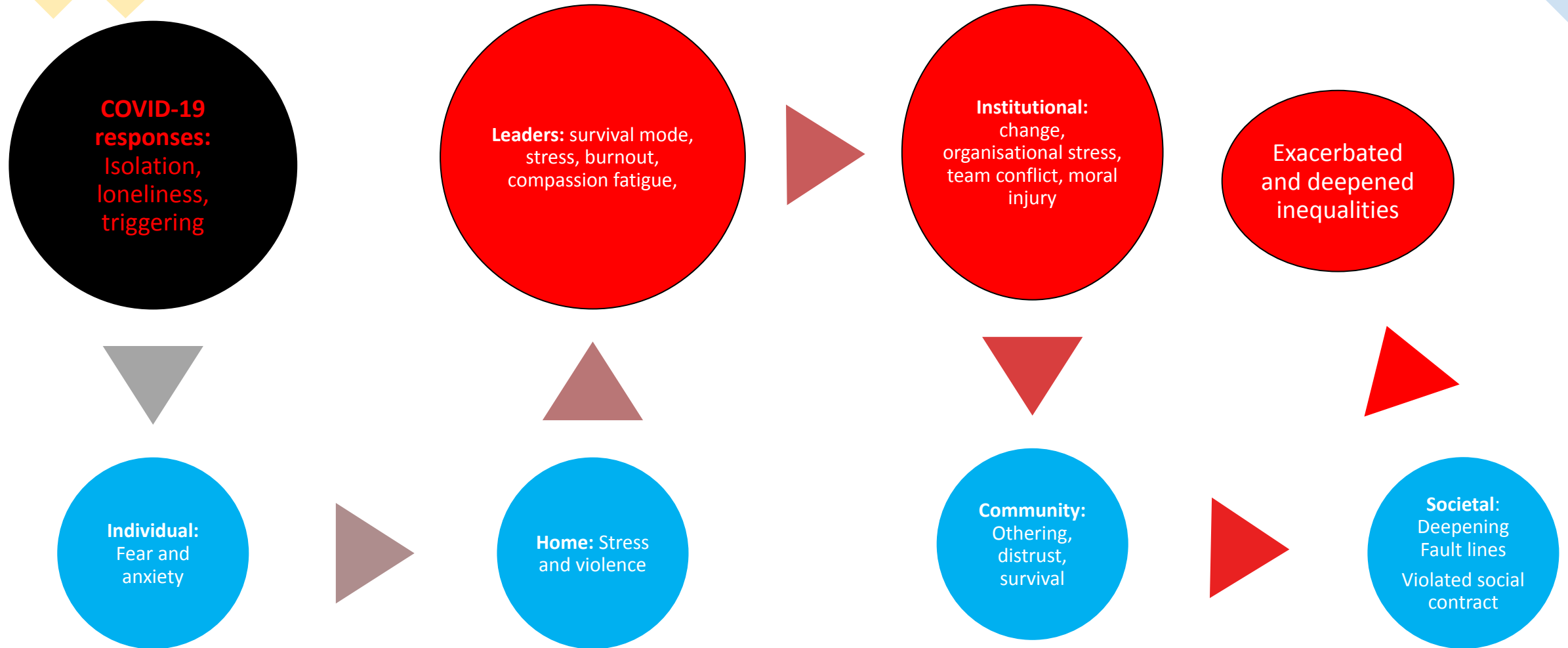
Wounded
& wounding
leaders



UNDERSTANDING THE CONTEXT: Pre-COVID-19- Multiple Wounding



DURING COVID-19: Exacerbated context



COVID19 RESPONSES: AVOIDING THE “INTEGENERATIONAL CRISIS”

Anne-field, England’s child commissioner

Child Centered
COVID19
responses

Family
Centered
interventions

Institutional

Community

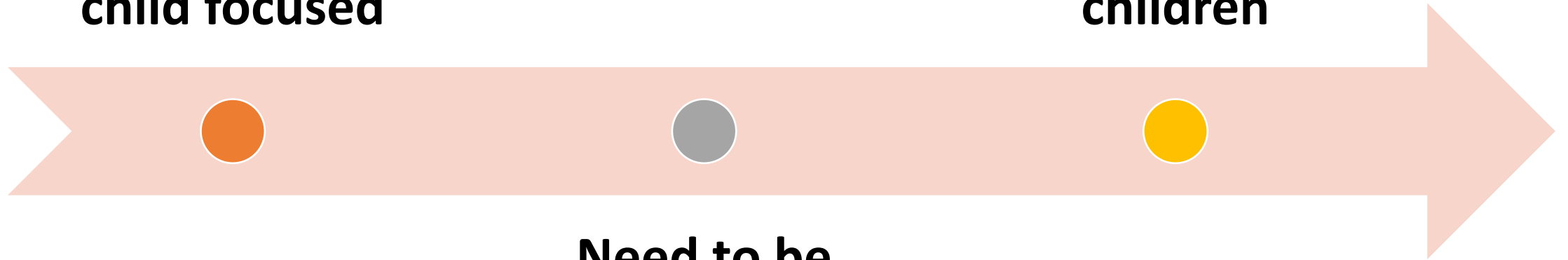
Citizenship:
Migrants and
Refugees

SOCIETAL
LEVEL

BRING BACK BETTER: PREVENT INTEGENERATIONAL CRISIS

**Needs to be
child focused**

**Needs to focus
on migrant
children**



**Need to be
mental wellness
focused**

CONCLUSION

- INVEST IN FUTURE GENERATION, INVEST IN MENTAL WELLNESS
- HOW DO WE REBUILD AND RECOVER AND PREVENT INTEGENERATIONAL CRISIS WHEN:
 - THE INSTITUTIONS
 - THE FAMILY
 - THE COMMUNITY
 - THE SOCIETY

ARE WOUNDING RATHER THAN SUPPORTING

CAN WE AFFORD TO NEGLECT MENTAL WELLNESS IN ENSURING ACCESS TO RIGHTS IN THE CITY FOR CHILDREN