

Displacement as an ACE

**Developmental Impacts
&
Building Resilience**



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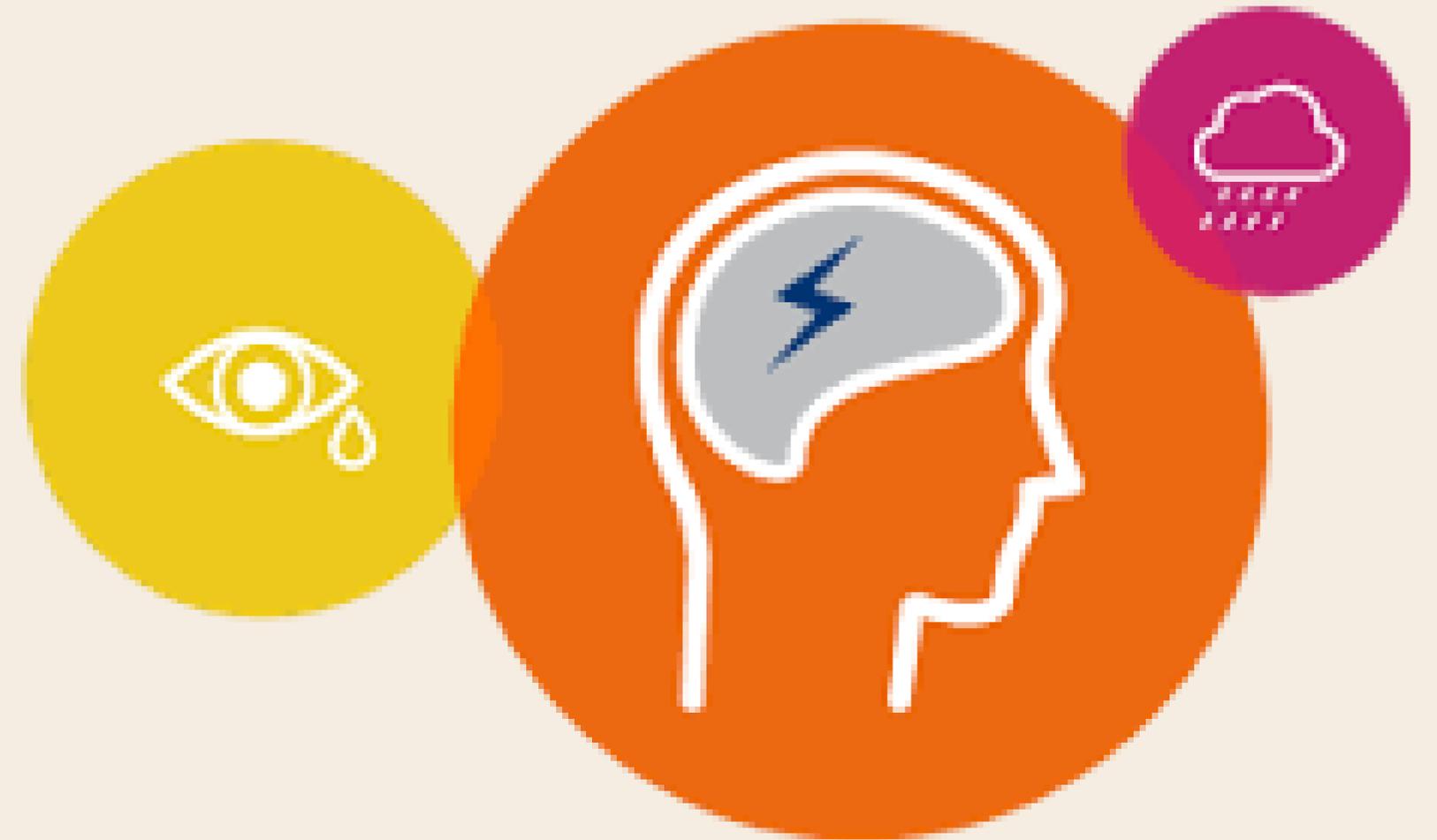
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→ **Displacement as an ACE**

→ **Developmental Impacts**

→ **Building Resilience**

→ **Resources**



Agenda

Displacement

05



Displacement as an ACE refers to a situation where a child is forcibly removed or uprooted from their home, community, or country.



The how...

- **Loss of safety and stability**
- **Exposure to trauma**
- **Psychosocial impacts**
- **Developmental impacts**
- **Increased risk of additional ACEs**

(Bernhardt et al., 2024; Ertanir et al., 2023; Thabet et al., 2023; Wood et al., 2020)

ACEs related to Displacement



→ Exposure to poverty

→ Witnessing Violence

→ Death/separation from family

→ Living in unsafe conditions

Cognitive Development



- Interrupted education
- Reduced cognitive stimulation
- Difficulty concentrating
- Language delays or loss



Physical Health & Development



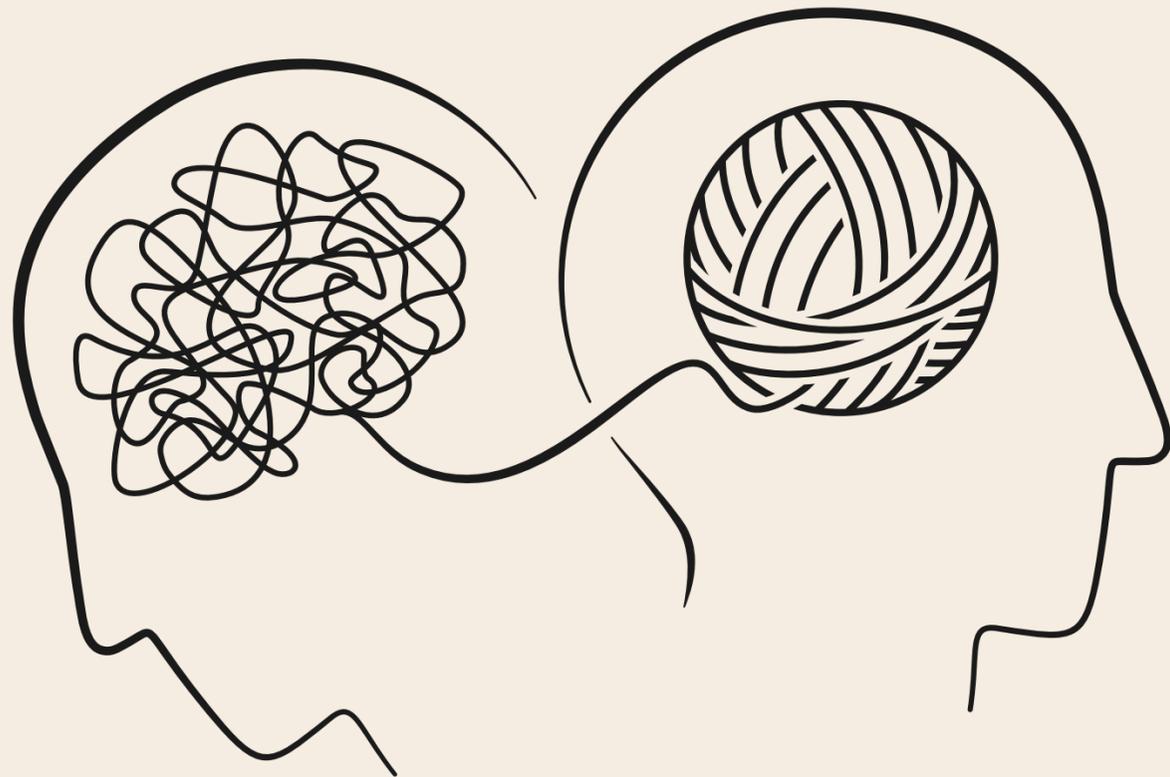
→ **Malnutrition or stunting**

→ **Inadequate healthcare**

→ **Poor sleep and fatigue**

→ **Increased exposure to violence or exploitation**

Emotional & Psychological Development



→ **Anxiety and fear**

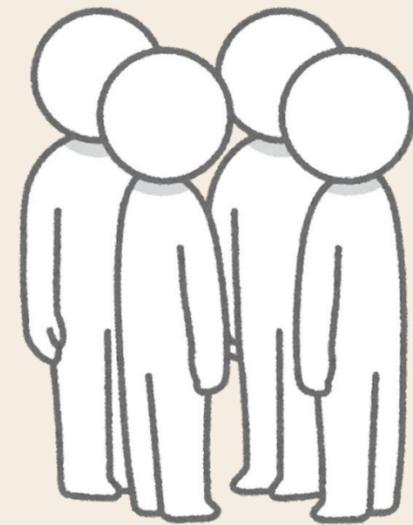
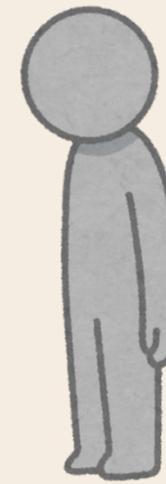
→ **Depression or withdrawal**

→ **Attachment disruption**

→ **PTSD symptoms**



Social Development & Behavioral Responses



→ Difficulty forming friendships

→ Loss of social norms

→ Role reversal or parentification

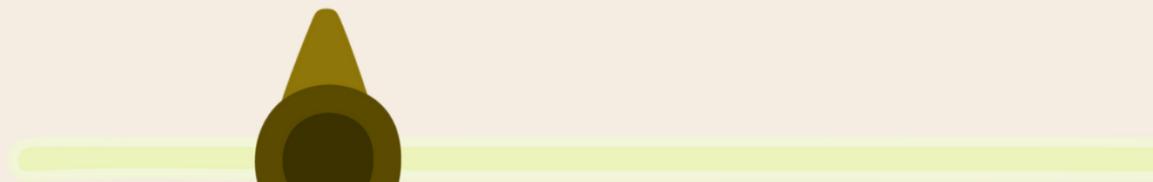
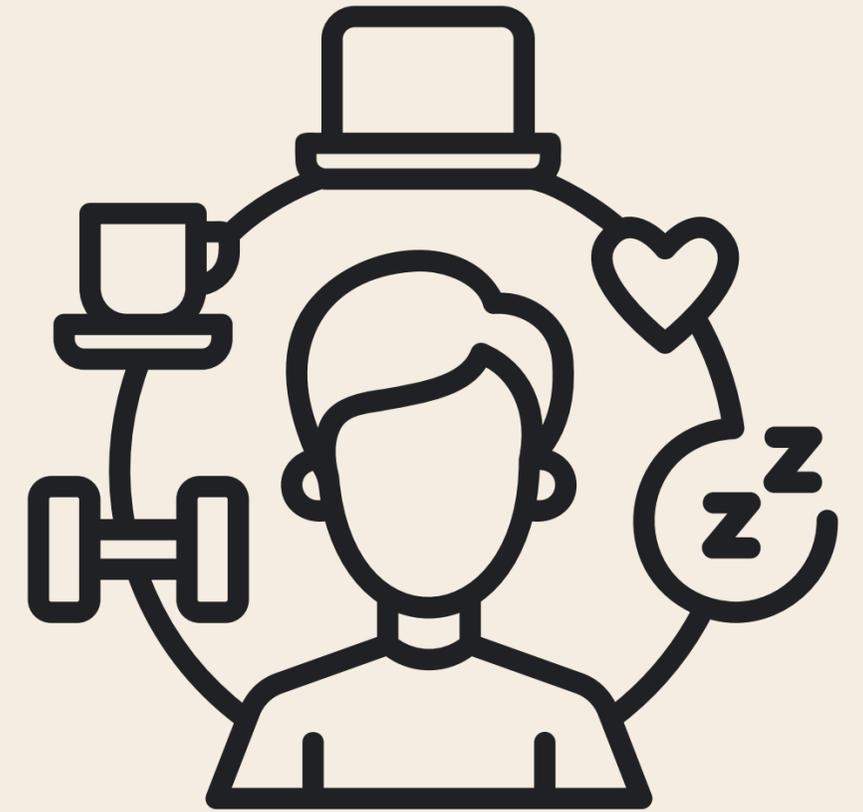
→ Regression in behavior

→ Aggression or irritability

→ Risk-taking or withdrawal

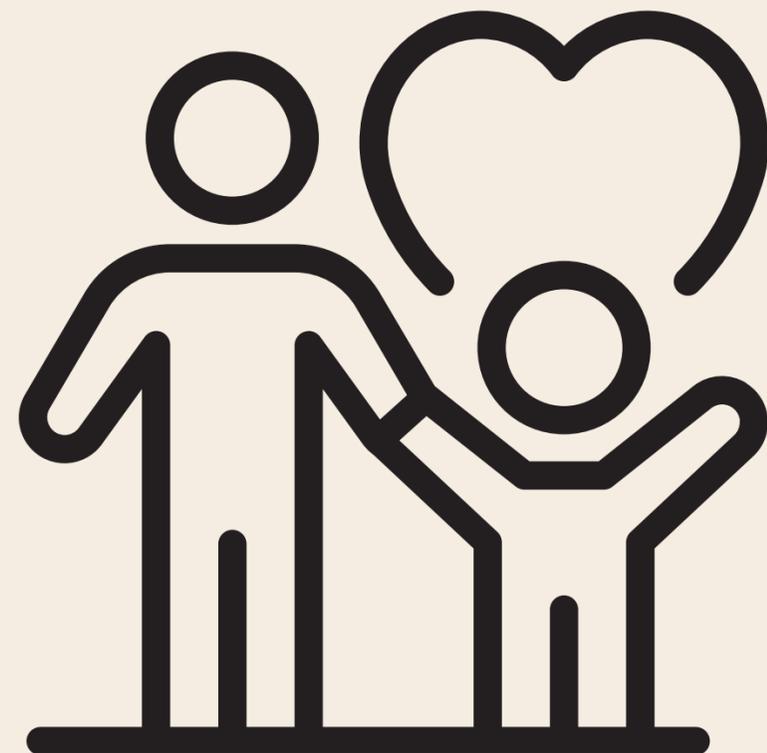
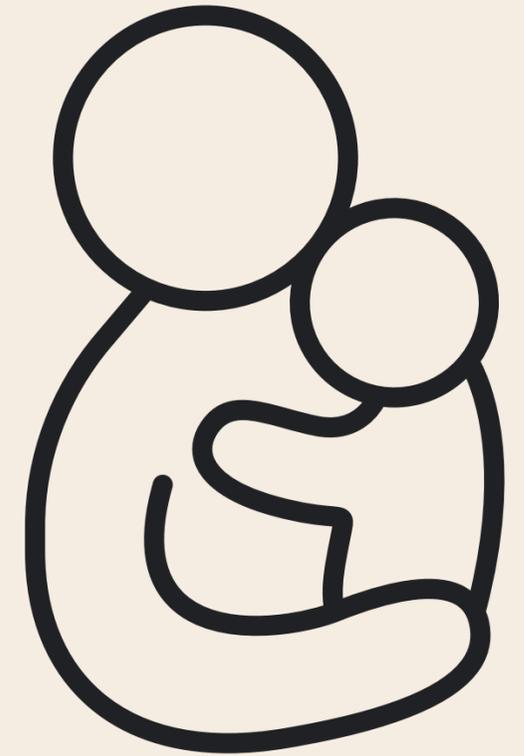
3 R's of Resilience

- **Relationships**
- **Routines**
- **Regulation**



Engage Caregivers

- Help parents/caregivers/guardians heal and build resilience
- Their well-being directly affects the child
 - parent support groups
 - access to basic needs, social services, mental health care
 - trauma-informed parenting workshops



Building Resilience

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- **Establish safety and stability**
- **Strengthen supportive relationships**
- **Foster emotional regulation**
- **Sense of identity and belonging**
- **Focus on strengths**
- **Mental Health Support**



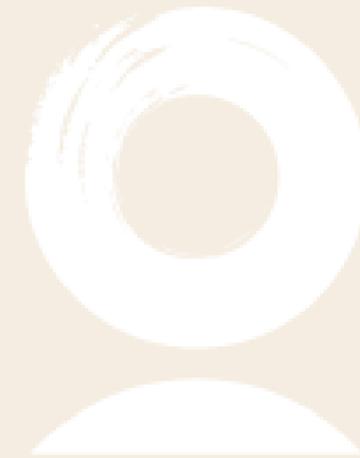
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Building Resilience

(Thabet, et al., 2023; Wood et al., 2020)

NCTSN

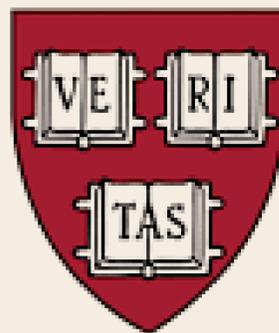
The National Child
Traumatic Stress Network



Science of
Learning &
Development
Alliance



**Head
Start**



Center on the Developing Child
HARVARD UNIVERSITY



U.S. CENTERS FOR DISEASE
CONTROL AND PREVENTION

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[md/#:~:text=At%20Turnaround%20for%20Children%2C%20we,gratitude%2C%20another%20immune%20system%20booster](https://soldalliance.org/uncategorized/the-3rs-relationships-routines-resilience-a-conversation-with-pamela-cantor/#:~:text=At%20Turnaround%20for%20Children%2C%20we,gratitude%2C%20another%20immune%20system%20booster)