RESILIENCE IN CIVIL SOCIETY:

ACHIEVING STRUCTURAL CHANGE THROUGH SYSTEM, COMMUNITY AND INDIVIDUAL INTERVENTION

Chris Hessian, RSW

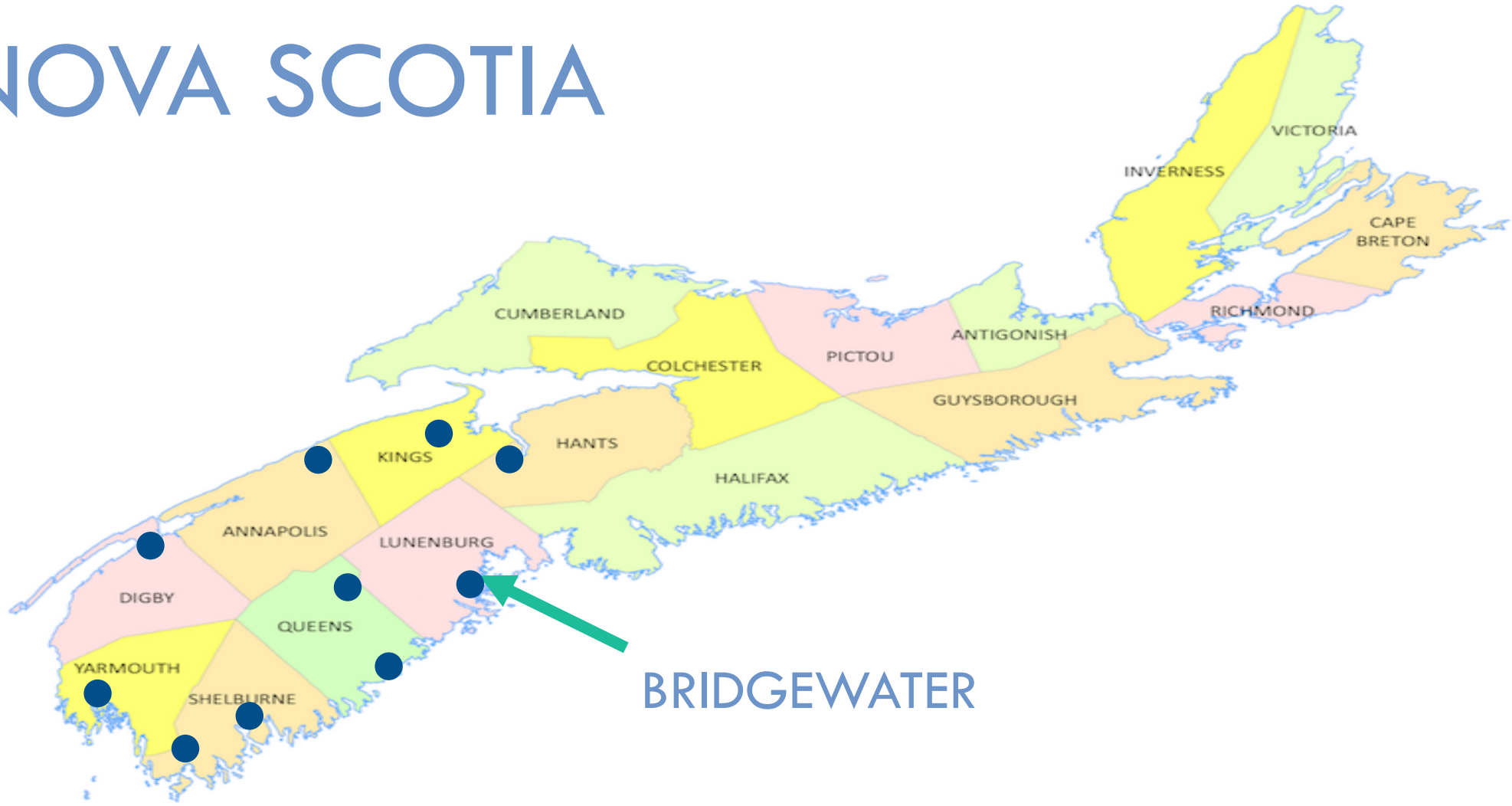
Art Fisher

Family Service of Western NS

ARCTIC OCEAN
ARCTIC OCEAN
ARCTIC OCEAN
Greenland
(DENMARK)
UNITED STATES
CANADA
UNITED STATES
MEXICO
NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN
NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN
NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN
SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN
BRAZIL
PERU
BOLIVIA
CHILE
ARGENTINA
SOUTH ATLANTIC OCEAN
RUSSIA
KAZAKHSTAN
MONGOLIA
CHINA
TURKEY
IRAN
IRAQ
INDIA
ALGERIA
LIBYA
EGYPT
MALI
NIGER
CHAD
SUDAN
NIGERIA
ETHIOPIA
KENYA
INDIAN OCEAN
AUSTRALIA
SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN
SOUTHERN OCEAN
SOUTHERN OCEAN
SOUTHERN OCEAN
ANTARCTICA

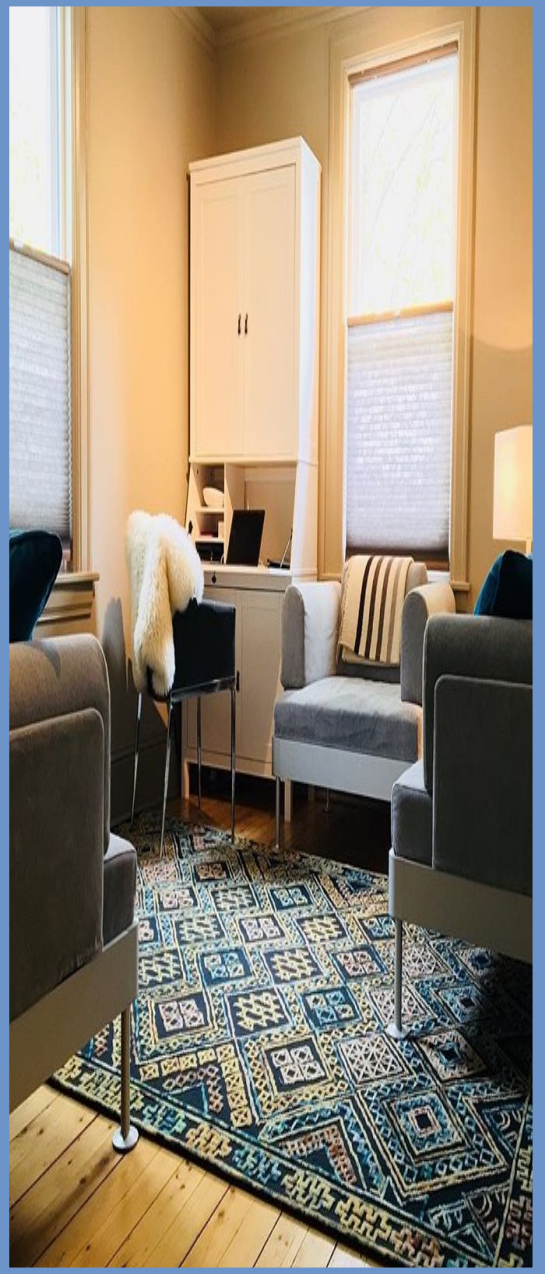
CANADA
UNITED STATES

NOVA SCOTIA


VICTORIA
INVERNESS
CAPE BRETON
CUMBERLAND
RICHMOND
ANTIGONISH
COLCHESTER
PICTOU
GUYSBOROUGH
HANTS
KINGS
HALIFAX
ANNAPOLIS
LUNENBURG
DIGBY
QUEENS
YARMOUTH
SHELBURNE
BRIDGEWATER

FAMILY SERVICE OF WESTERN NOVA SCOTIA

FREEMAN HOUSE
BRIDGEWATER, NS



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Explore civil society's abdication of responsibility for structural violence
- Transform individual therapeutic intervention and challenge the concept of ethical accountability
- Engage the informal end of the restorative continuum to prevent violence at the individual, community and system level through community collaboration
- Explore methods for achieving Collaborative Coordinated Access that fosters accountability and restores relationships
- Outline strategies that will address barriers to achieving collective impact through community collaboration

"The concept of personhood that figures most prominently in contemporary Western ethical and political theory is that of the independent, rational, self-aware, self-reliant, self-interested individual thoroughly (if not obsessively) engaged in the autonomous pursuit of his interests"

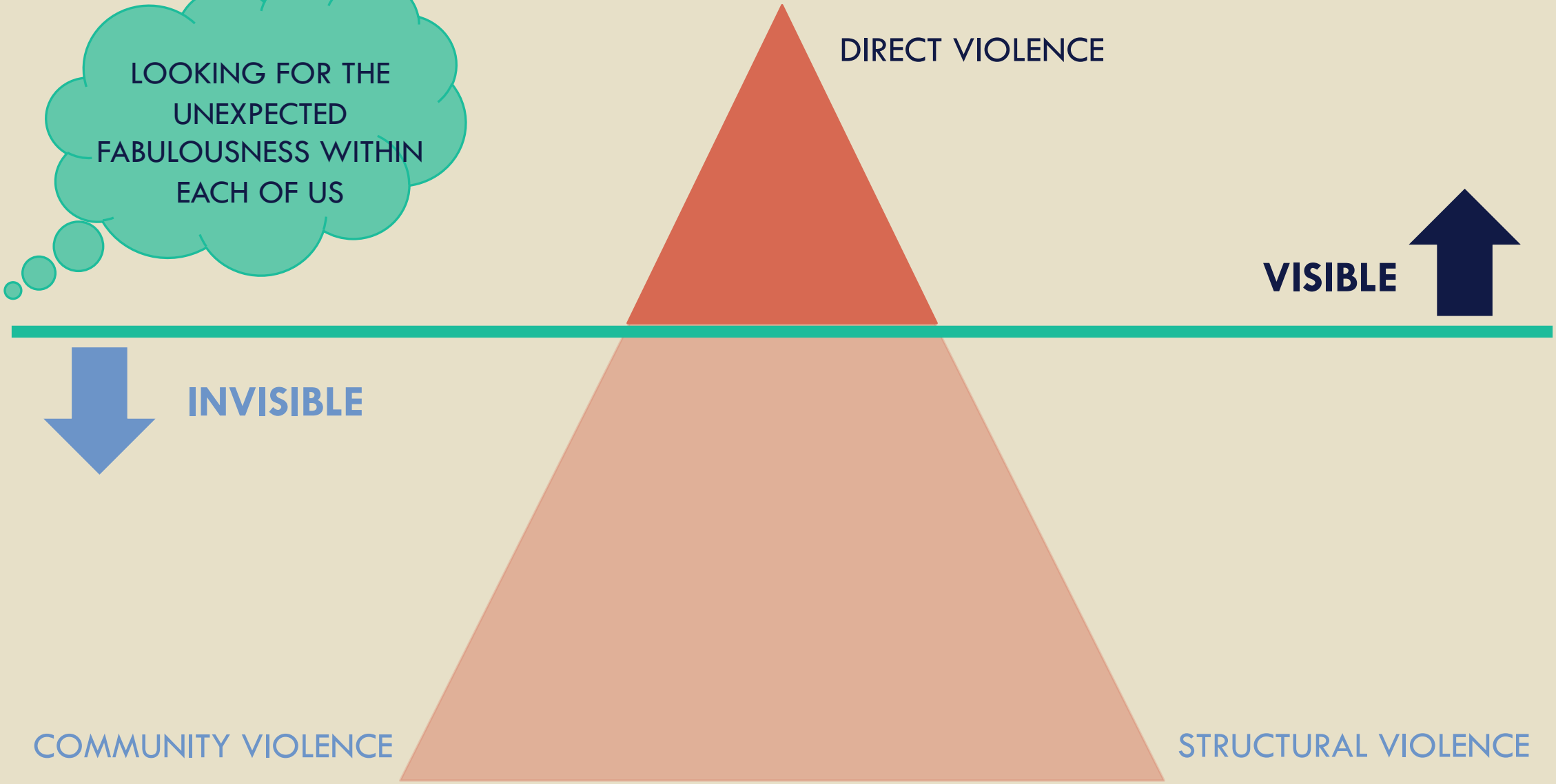
(Baylis, 2012, p. 112)

RELATIONAL THEORY

“No one is fully independent… the view of individuals as isolated social units is not only false but impoverished: much of who we are and what we value is rooted in our relationships and affinities with others… all persons are, to a significant degree, socially constructed… their identities, values, concepts, and perceptions are, in large measure, products of their social environment”

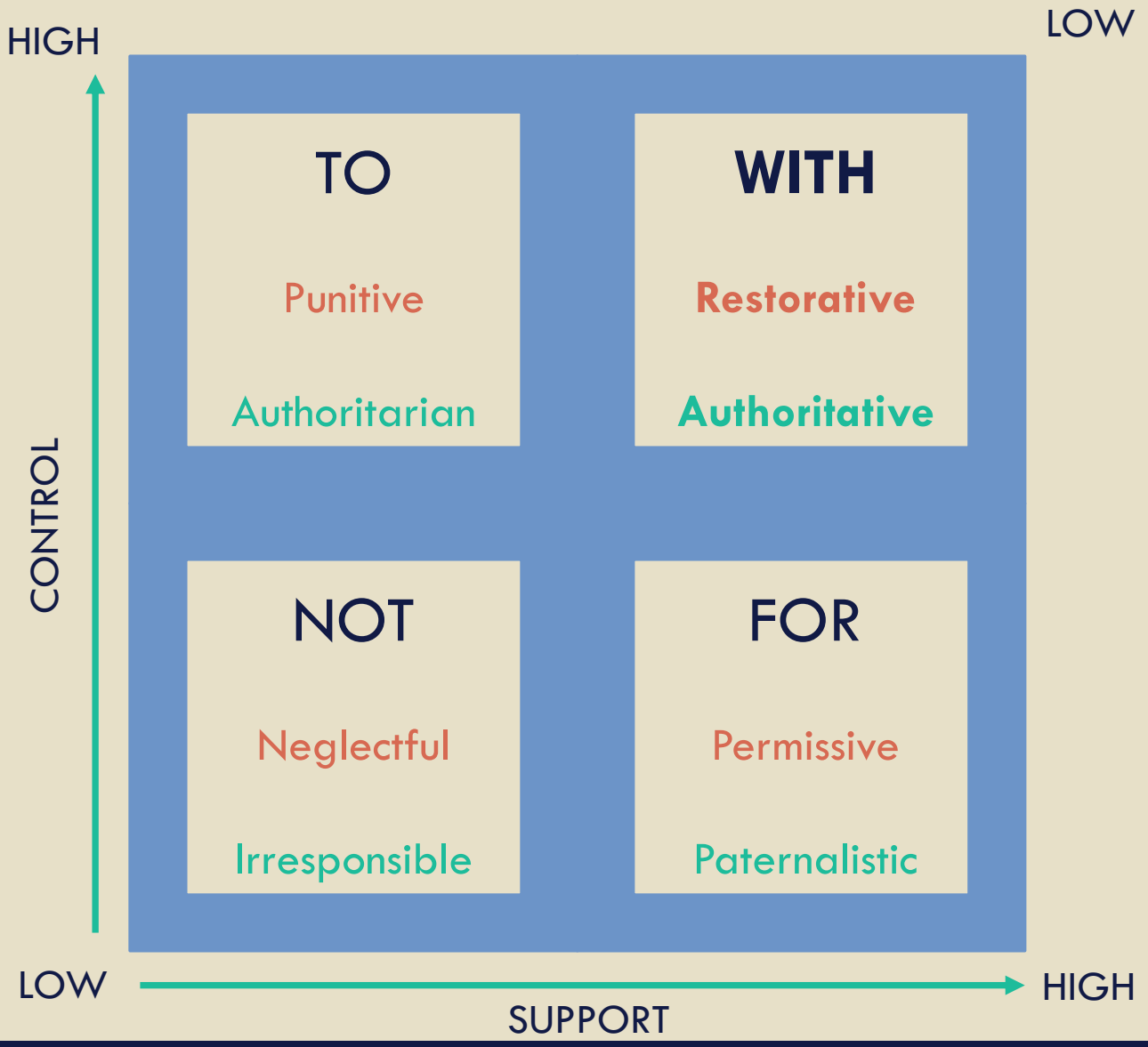
(Sherwin, 1998, p. 34)

LOOKING FOR THE UNEXPECTED FABULOUSNESS WITHIN EACH OF US



(Galtung, 1990)

FAIR + EXPLICIT PRACTICE

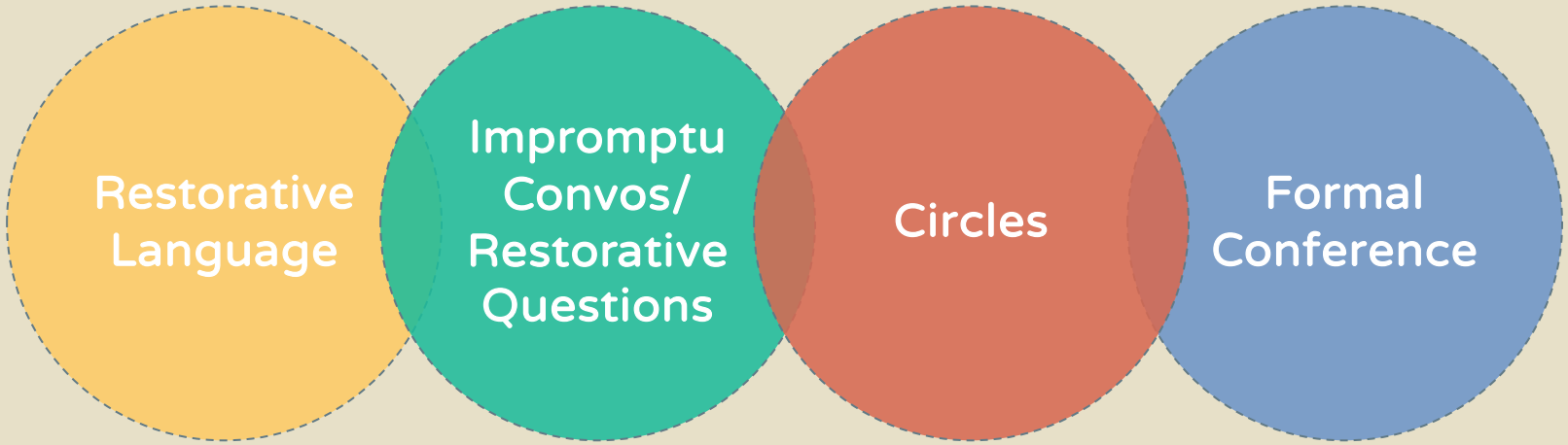


(Wachtel, 2016, p. 3)

Restorative Continuum

Informal

Formal



Making, Developing and Maintaining Relationships

Repairing Harm

Proactive

Responsive

(Wachtel, 2016, p. 4)

RESTORATIVE APPROACHES

- As a community we embrace person-centered practice, meeting our clients where they are at, working *with* and supporting them as they navigate challenges and successes in their lives

- If we embrace Restorative Practices in our social structures and community based work it will allow us to:
  - Challenge ourselves to alter the way we think about relationships and community development
  - Utilize integrative ways to practice that compliment traditional approaches and practices, giving voice and encouraging accountability through reflection
  - Develop capacity in communities and institutions to achieve prevention

(Fraser & Seymour, 2017)

INDIVIDUAL LEVEL

Families
Individuals
Children

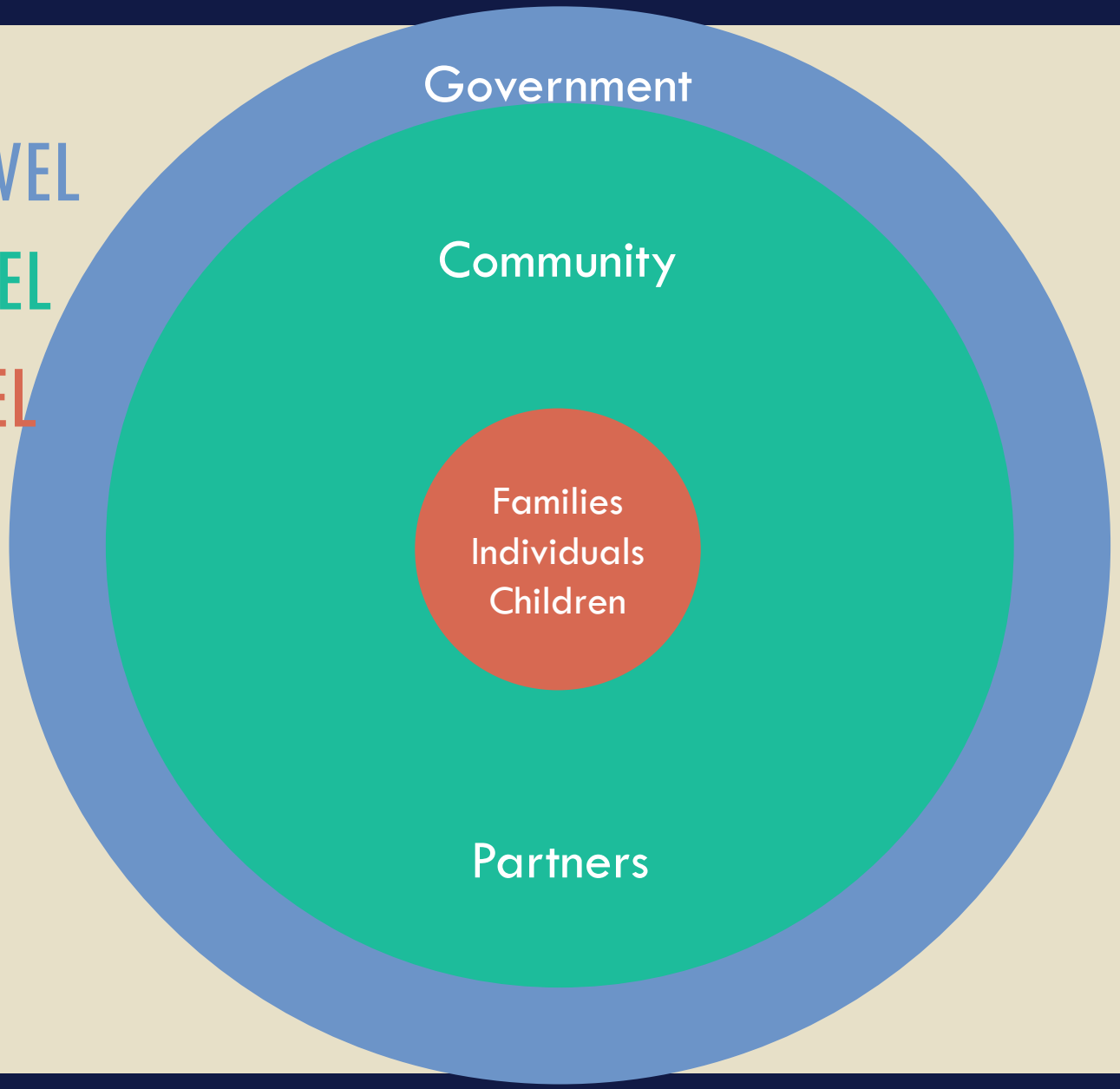
COMMUNITY LEVEL

INDIVIDUAL LEVEL

GOVERNMENT LEVEL

COMMUNITY LEVEL

INDIVIDUAL LEVEL



GOVERNMENT LEVEL

COMMUNITY LEVEL

INDIVIDUAL LEVEL

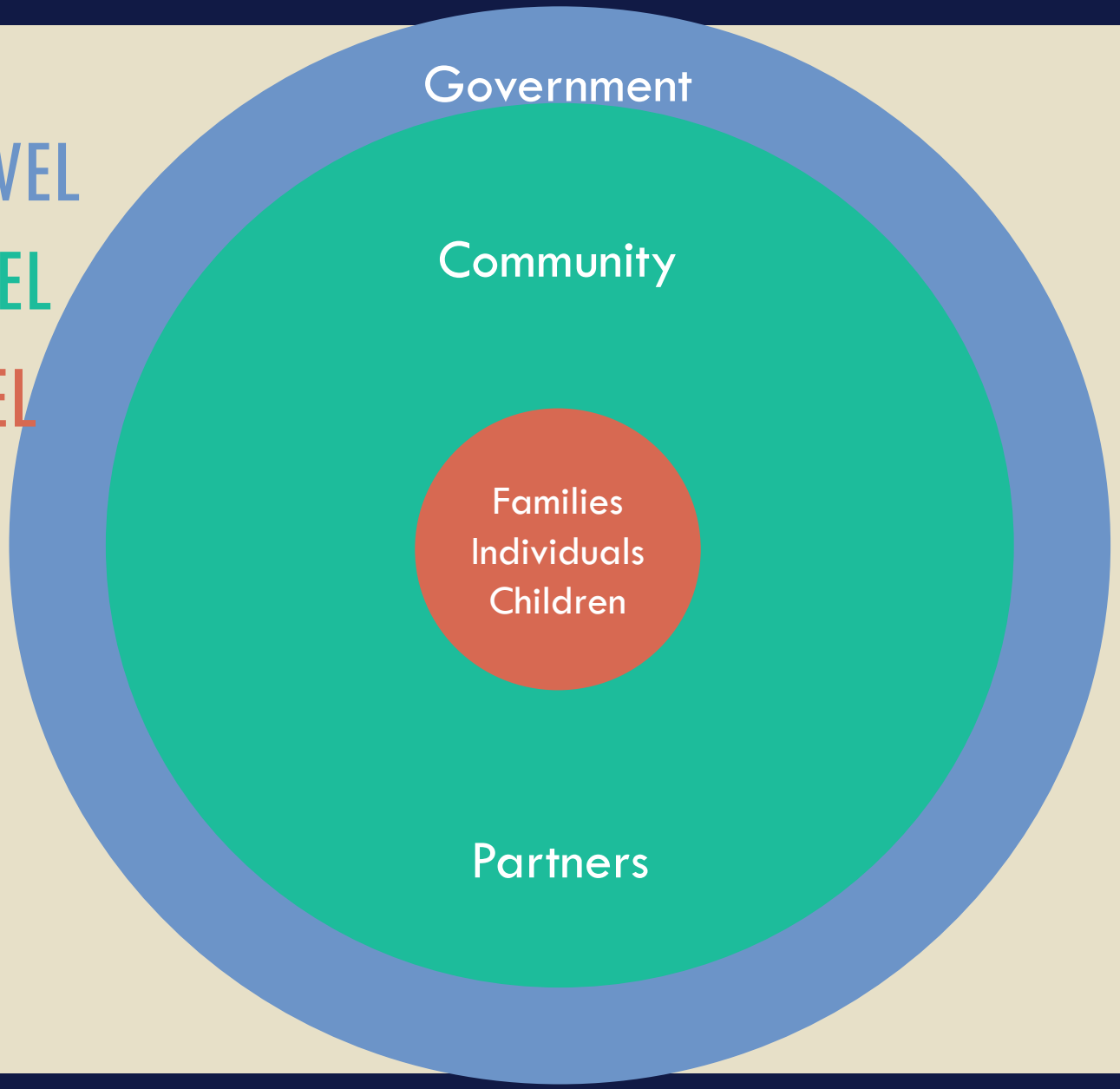
* COMMUNITY HUB

* COORDINATED ACCESS

GOVERNMENT LEVEL

COMMUNITY LEVEL

INDIVIDUAL LEVEL



Worker-Centered
Person-Centered

Input Focused
Outcome-Focused

Discipline Driven
Inquiry Driven

Complex Case
Complex Approach

Competitive
Collaborative

Turf to Defend
Turf as Community

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION
Income
Housing
Sexuality
Gender
Education & Literacy
Culture Diversity
Childhood Experiences
Employment Work Conditions
Health Behaviours
Biology/Genetic Endowment
Access to Services
Inclusion
Physical Environment
Food Security
(Gill & Theriault, 2005)

THE IMPORTANCE OF RELATIONSHIPS

- Encourages folks to have increased comfort and ownership during difficult conversations and provides the level of trust that is necessary for open and honest communication
- Hanging in there with those we have the privilege of working with, our community partners and the systems we all work within to achieve violence prevention

INTEGRATING RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

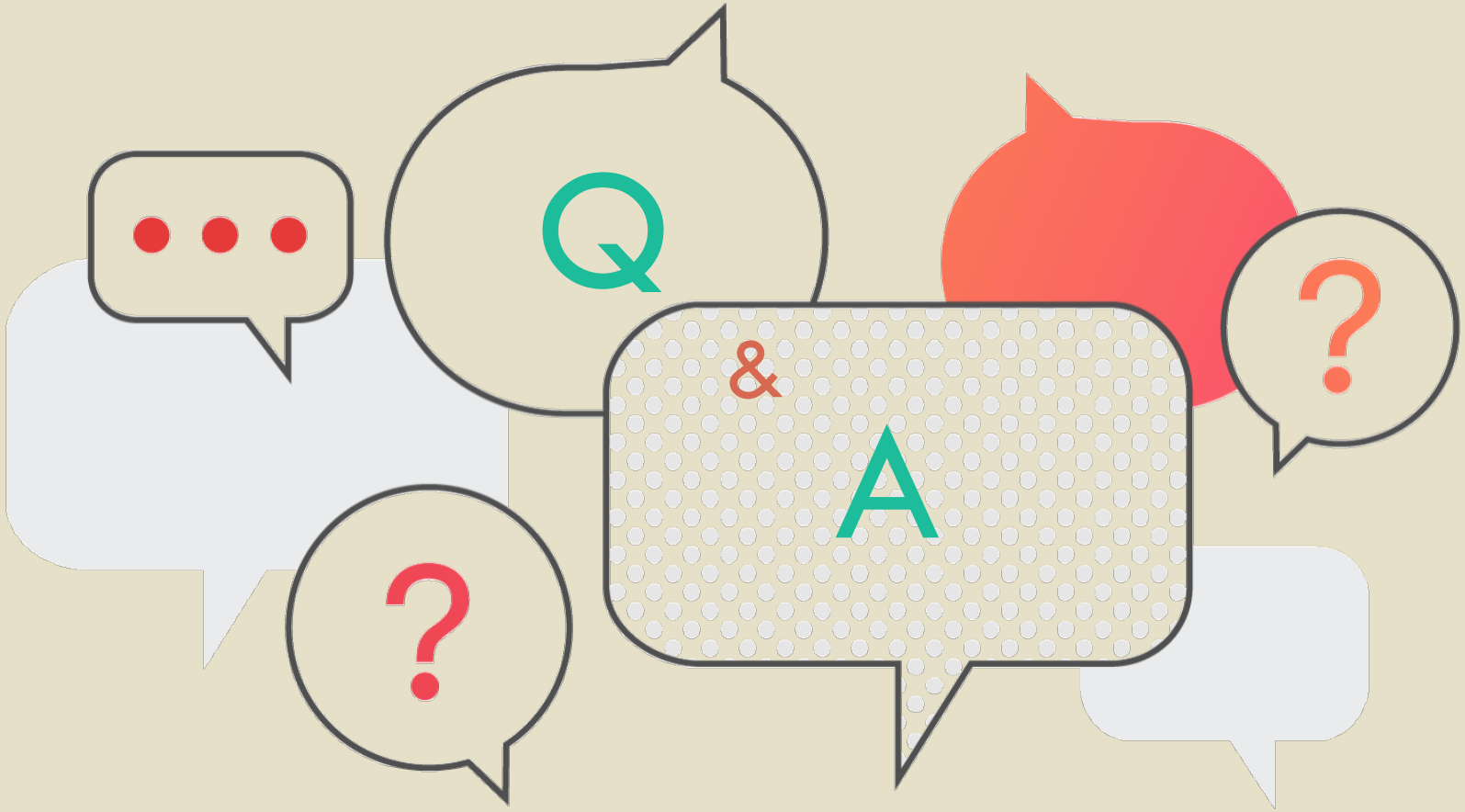
Restorative Practice Check List

- ❑ Practice is Explicit
- ❑ Practice is Fair
- ❑ Focus on Repairing Harm and Building/Restoring Relationships
- ❑ Fosters Empathy, Responsibility and Accountability
- ❑ Promotes the Likelihood of Positive Behavioural Change

(Wachtel, 1999)

ACHIEVING COLLECTIVE IMPACT: ADDRESSING BARRIERS

- What is Ultimately Required?
- Collective Critical Reflection
- Silence the Attack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