

PRESENTED BY TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

TAMEST **NATURAL HAZARDS SUMMIT**

*Responding
to and
Mitigating
the Impacts*

LUBBOCK, TEXAS

05.16.2022

#NATURALHAZARDSSUMMIT

Panel:

National Policies of Emergency Response: Trauma, Health Facilities and Case Study

MODERATOR



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John and Rebecca
Moore Professor of
Civil and Environmental
Engineering
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SPEAKERS



**MOISES
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Region 6 Deputy
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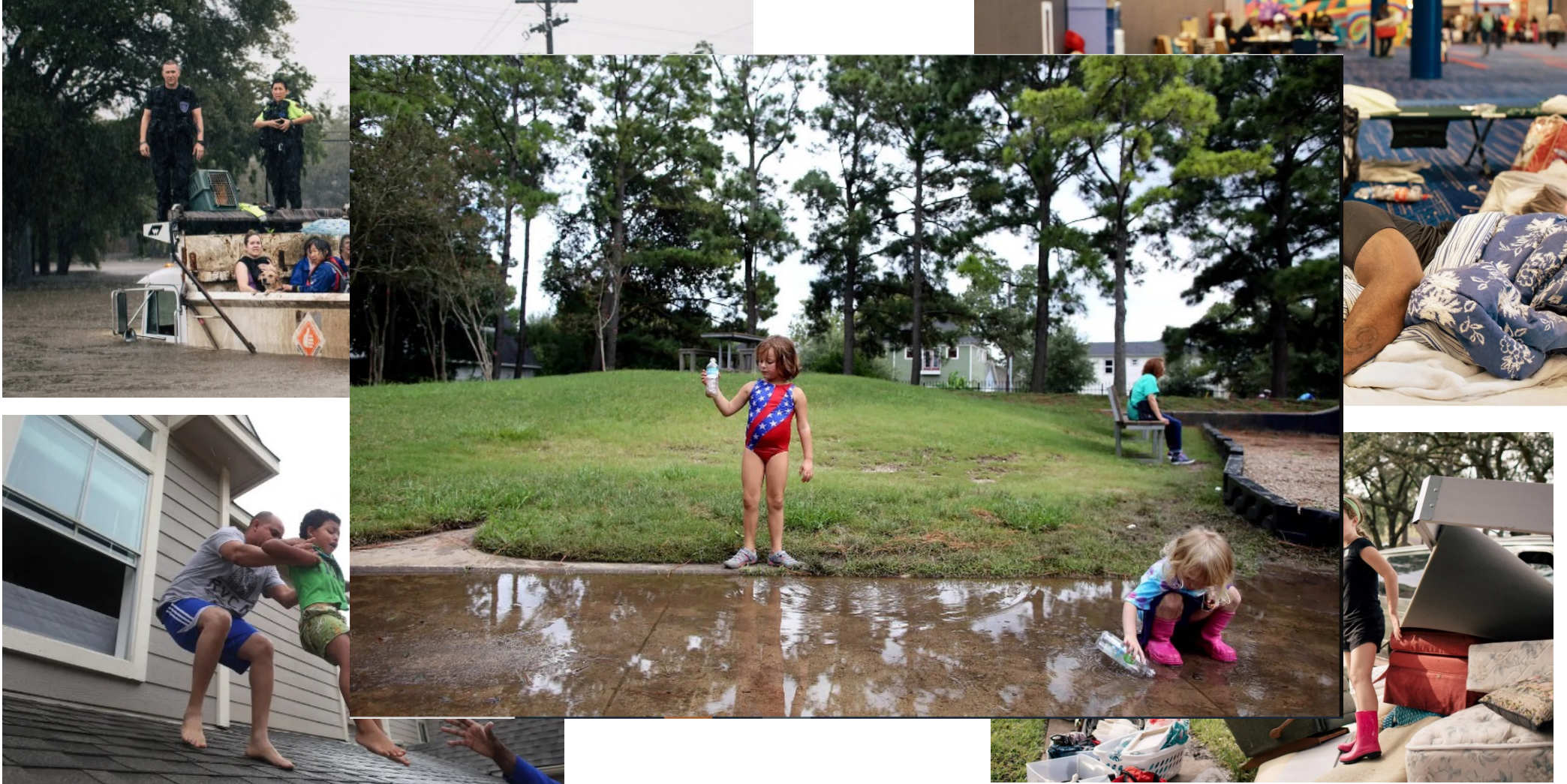
**KARIN PRICE,
PH.D.**

Chief of
Psychology
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Context



Children and Disaster



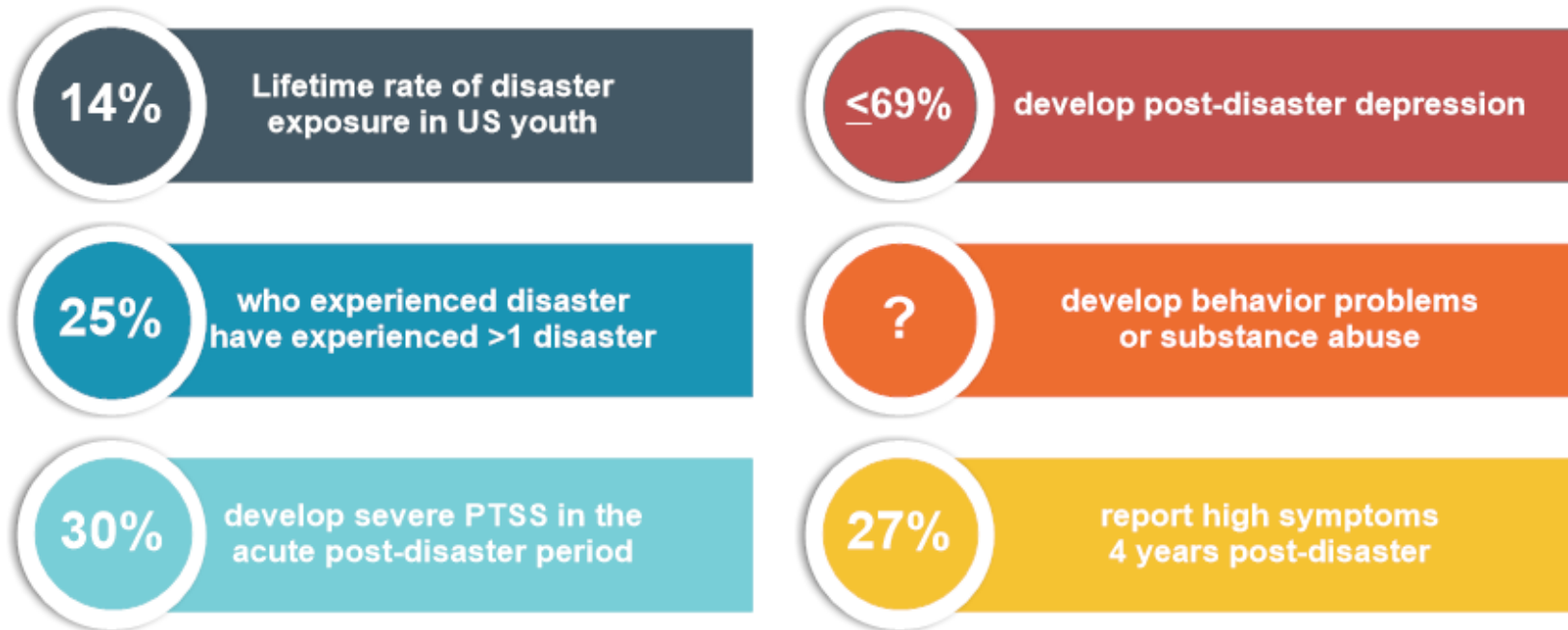
Disaster Mental Health

- Immediate Impact
 - Direct physical harm
 - Indirect harm
- Longer-Term Risks
 - Physical health problems
 - Lower school attendance and learning difficulties
 - Mental health symptoms



Illustration: Chelsea Beck

Understanding the Impacts of Natural Disasters on Children's Mental Health



Youth Symptom Trajectories

Across studies, youth demonstrate predictable patterns of symptomatology and recovery:

- (a) **Chronic** (persistent elevated PTSS over time)
- (b) **Recovery** (initial elevated PTSS, followed by a decrease in PTSS at later time points)
- (c) **Resilience** (persistent low PTSS over time)
- (d) **Stable low** (“moderate stable”)

J. Cheng, et al.

Journal of Affective Disorders 252 (2019) 421–427

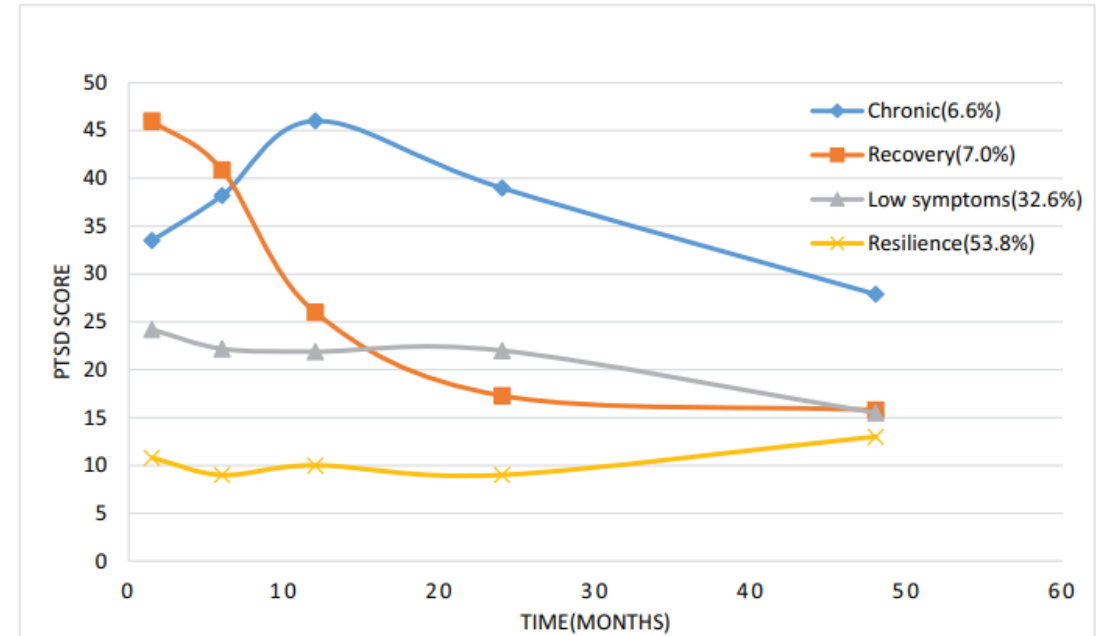
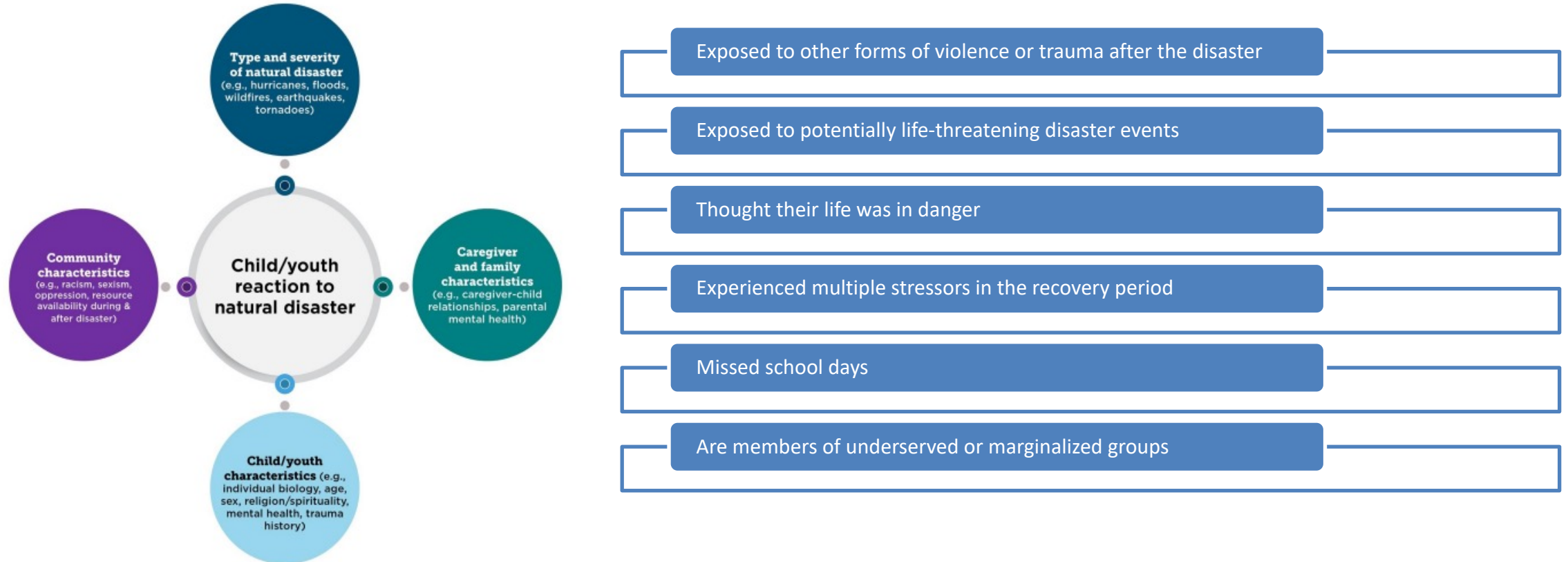


Fig. 1. Four trajectories of PTSD symptoms were found in children 4 years after the Lushan earthquake.

Which Children Are the Most Vulnerable?

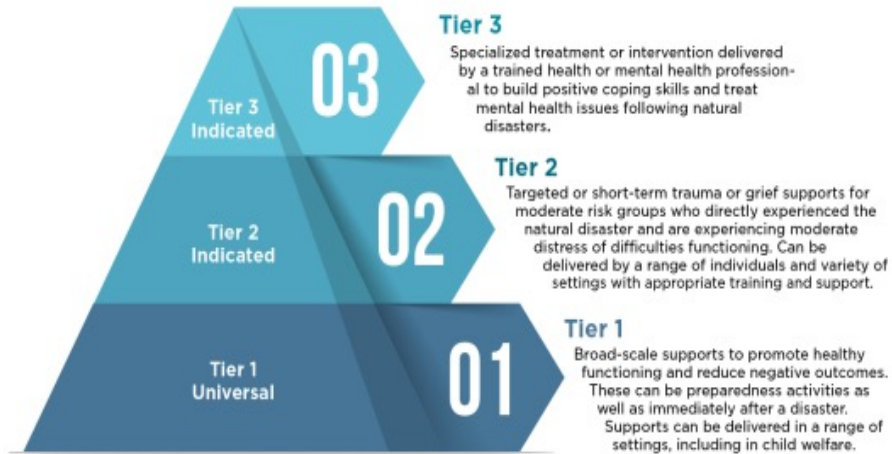
Figure 4. Factors contributing to a young person's reaction to a natural disaster



Adapted from: Lai, B. S., & La Greca, A. (2020). *Understanding the impacts of natural disasters on children*. Washington, D.C.: Society for Research in Child Development. [https://www.srccd.org/sites/default/files/resources/FINAL_SRCCDCEB-NaturalDisasters_0.pdf](https://www.srcc.org/sites/default/files/resources/FINAL_SRCCDCEB-NaturalDisasters_0.pdf)

Mitigating the Risk: Prevention & Early Intervention

Figure 9. Universal, Targeted, and Indicated Interventions



Source: The National Child Traumatic Stress Network, 2021

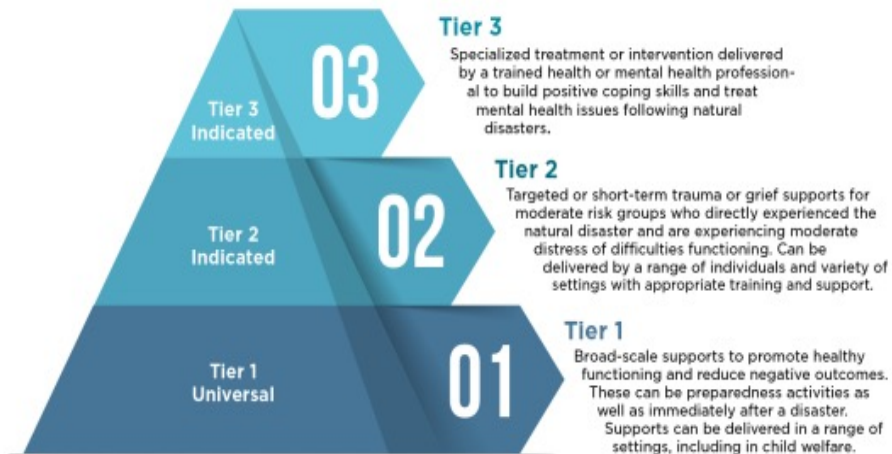
Tiers 1 and 2

Psychological First Aid: Core Actions

- Contact and Engagement
- Safety and Comfort
- Stabilization (if needed)
- Information Gathering on Current Needs and Concerns
- Practical Assistance
- Connection with Social Supports
- Information on Coping
- Linkage with Collaborative Services

Tier 3: Specialized Interventions

Figure 9. Universal, Targeted, and Indicated Interventions



Source: The National Child Traumatic Stress Network, 2021

Figure 10. Common Components of Indicated (Tier 3) Evidence- and Trauma-informed Interventions for Children and Adolescents Who Experience a Natural Disaster²²¹



Source: Adapted from Pfefferbaum, B., & North, C. S. (2016). Child disaster mental health services: A review of the system of care, assessment approaches, and evidence base for intervention. *Current Psychiatry Reports*, 18(1), 5. doi:10.1007/s11920-015-0647-0

Mitigating the Risk: Building Resilience and Promoting Recovery

