

Building Healthy Communities and Preventing Child Neglect

A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY



PREVENTING CHILD NEGLECT will take the concerted efforts of individuals, communities and society at large. We have a shared responsibility to help ensure that all children grow up free from harm, with their needs met and with adults who care for them and about them.

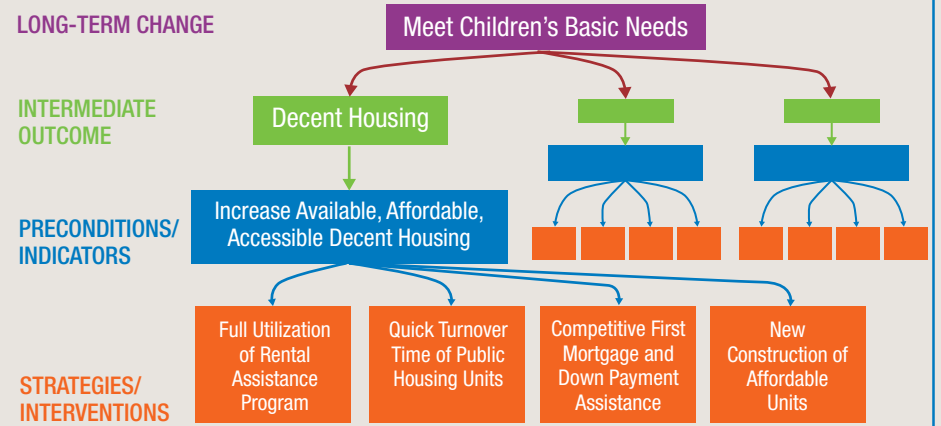
THEORY OF CHANGE to Prevent Child Neglect

Definition

A **THEORY OF CHANGE** is a tool for developing solutions to complex social problems. It articulates the **assumptions about the process** through which change will occur and specifies the ways in which all of the required early and intermediate outcomes related to achieving the **desired long-term change** will be brought about and documented as they occur.

— Andrea Anderson
Aspen Institute Roundtable on Community Change

Sample Map of Long-Term Change



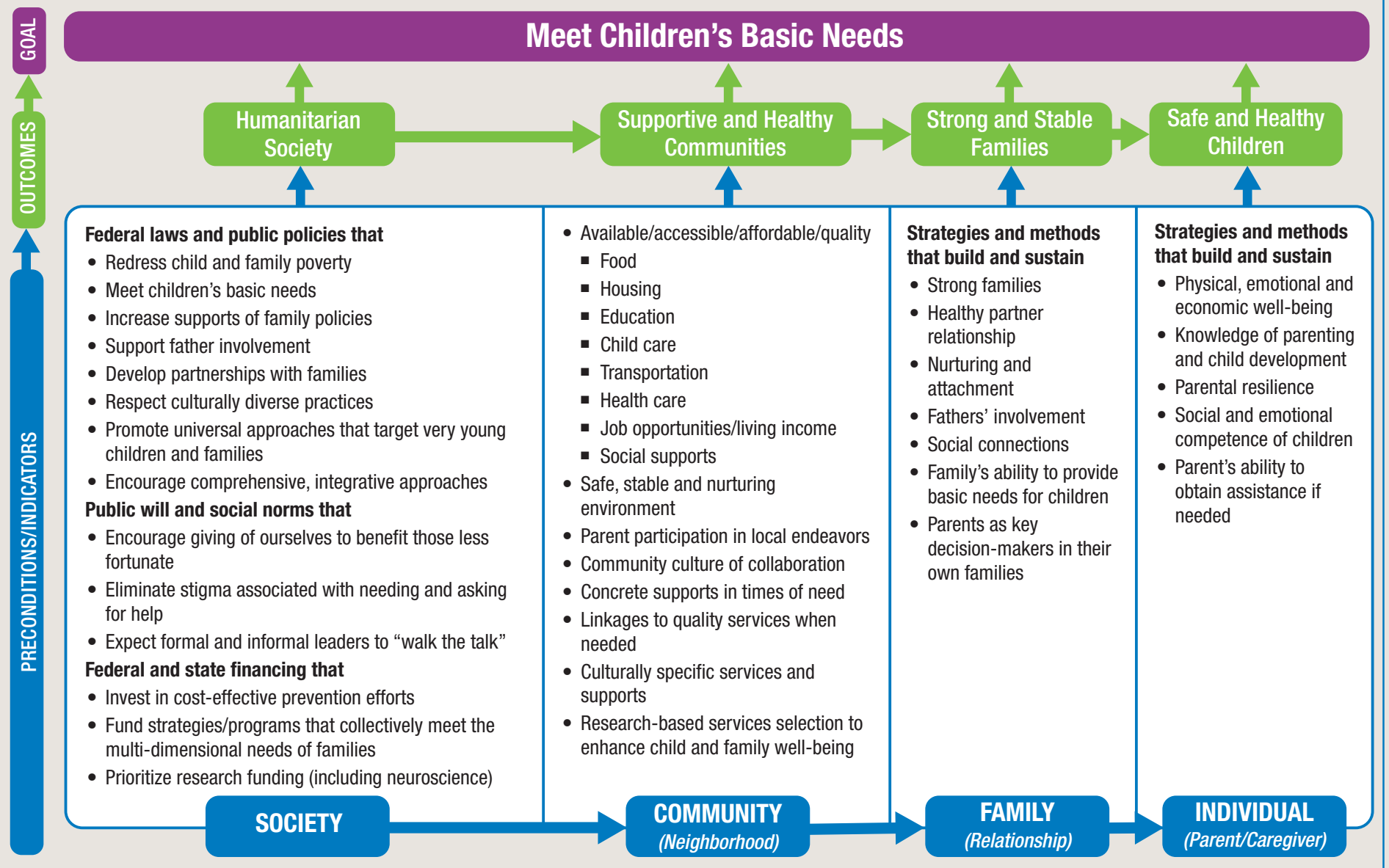
Assumptions about the Process

- Acknowledge existence of child neglect and increase public awareness
- Recognize ramifications of inaction
- Develop needed partnerships and resources to take action
- Embrace strategies to reduce incidence and prevalence of child neglect
- Intervene and effectively treat child neglect

Desired Long-Term Change

- **SOCIETY** – Political will addresses factors that directly and indirectly contribute to child neglect.
- **COMMUNITY** – Communities are safe and supportive of families in nurturing and raising healthy children.
- **FAMILY** – Parents and caregivers demonstrate knowledge and understanding of child development and nurturing behaviors.
- **CHILD** – Children thrive and their needs are met.

Affect Change within the Socio-Ecological Model



To learn more about building healthy communities, visit ctfalliance.org/building-healthy-communities and preventing child neglect, visit ctfalliance.org/preventing-child-neglect

