

Trauma-Informed Care for the Children of Texas

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“Our intellectual models
are inadequate and our
waiting lists are too long.”
Commission on Children at Risk



Recognize Optimal Models of Care

- Global harm caused by trauma
- Limitations of traditional medical model
- Limitations in cognitive model capacities
- Need for holistic environment
- Need for informed environments
- Importance of caregiver training



DSM V Proposed Diagnosis: Complex Developmental Trauma

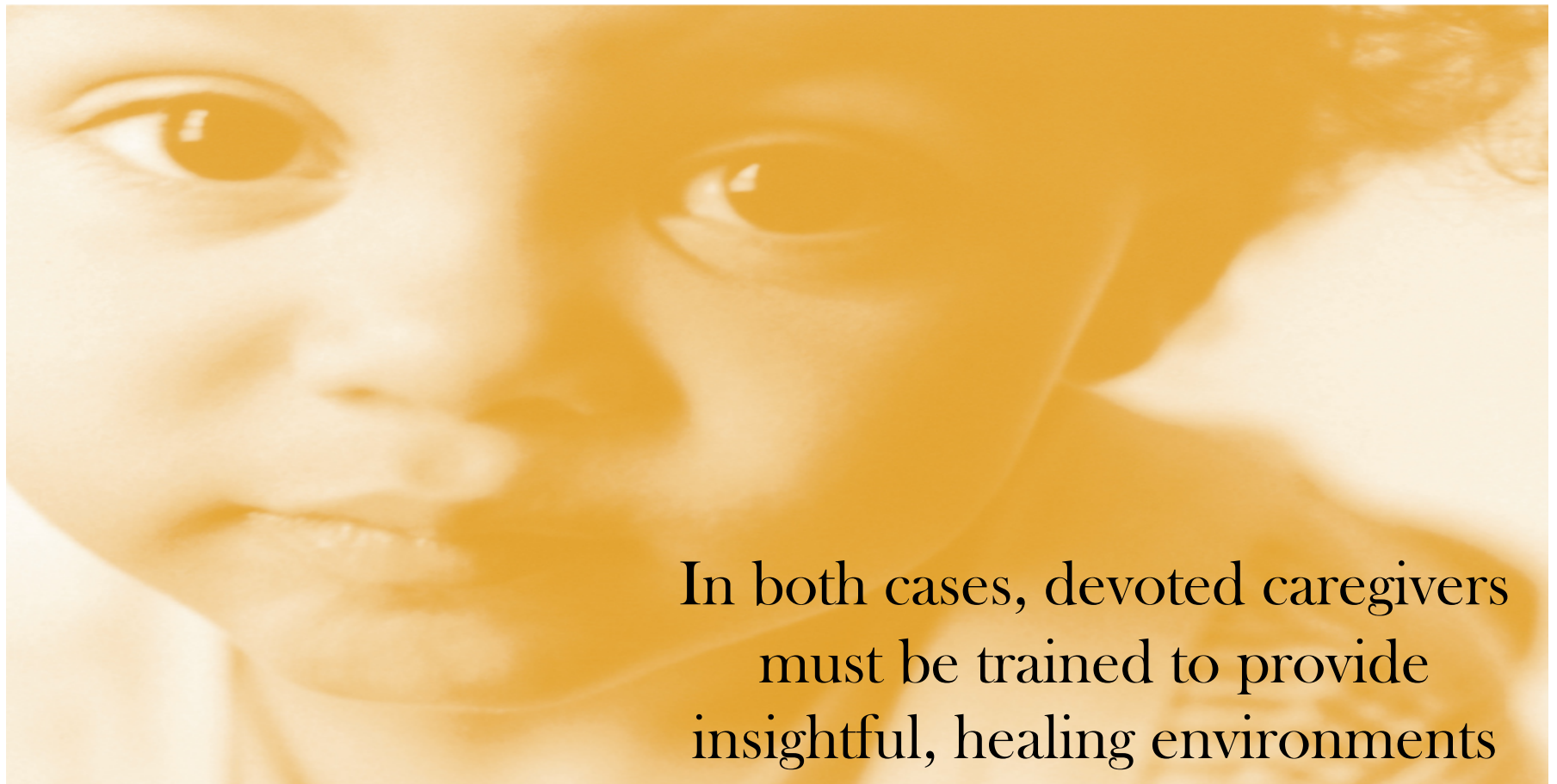


Trauma Dramatically Impacts Biological Systems



- Genetic Expression
- Sensory Processing
- Insulin Receptors
- Neurotransmitter Systems
- Serotonin Transporter
- Dopamine Systems
- Brain Development

Trauma Can Occur Prenatally and/or Postnatally



In both cases, devoted caregivers
must be trained to provide
insightful, healing environments

Both Single-Event and Chronic Trauma Dramatically Impact Global Developmental Systems



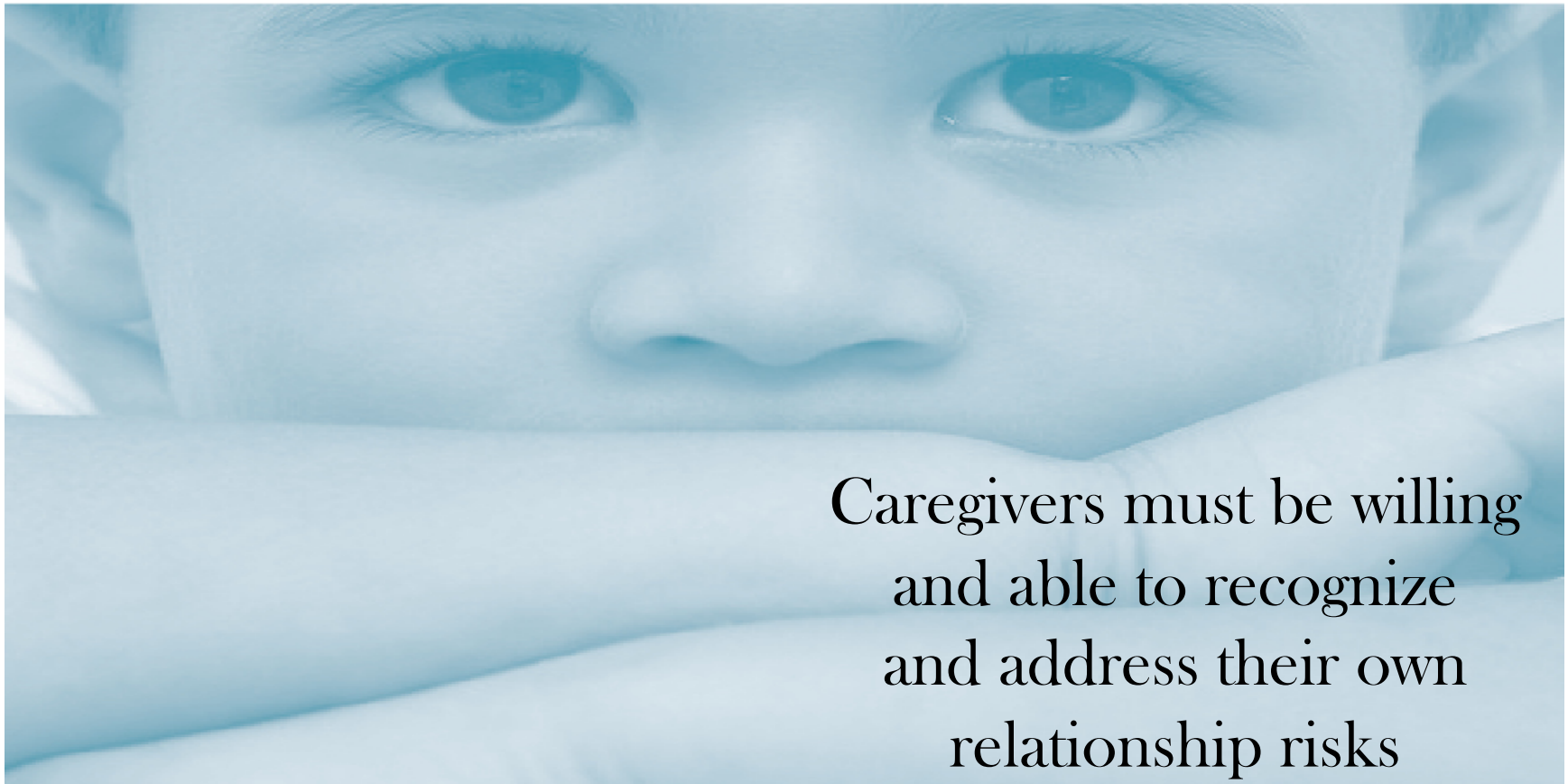
Systems of care (schools, churches, coaches, etc.)
must become partners in creating healing environments ⁷

Most Trauma is Relationship-Induced

- Healing will come through relationship-based interventions
- Caregivers must be selected and trained to offer healing relationships
- Caregivers must understand their own attachment/relationship risks and be willing to address them



Trauma Frequently Induces Disordered Attachment & Reinforces the Cycle of Abuse



Caregivers must be willing
and able to recognize
and address their own
relationship risks

Trauma Increases Risk for Emotional, Behavioral and Mental Disorders



- Caregivers must be trained to recognize **FEAR RESPONSES**
- Caregivers must be trained to recognize **SADNESS**
- Caregivers must be trained to give **BEHAVIORAL CORRECTION** that are trauma-informed

Traumatized Children will Require Sustained Intervention



A child's brain is designed
for three years of nurturing &
mentoring by a loving adult

Improving Outcomes for Traumatized Children will Require ...

- Interventions that are relationally-based
- Interventions that are respectful of global cognitive & developmental impairments
- Interventions that select & train caregivers as partners in healing



Improving Outcomes for Traumatized Children will Require ...



- Creating environments of “felt-safety”
- Creating environments that “give voice”
- Developing partnerships that select & train caregivers
- Creating models that “process” rather than “fix”

Three Pillars of
Trauma-Informed Care
SAFETY
CONNECTIONS
MANAGING EMOTIONS





RESOURCES

www.child.tcu.edu

www.empoweredtoconnect.org

Judicial Summit sponsored by TCJ & CJAT

Saddleback Training Series

Healing Families DVD

Foster-Training for Faith-Based Organizations