



# Recognizing and Helping Students Who Have Experienced Crisis and Trauma – Part 1



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Spring Conference April 20, 2018



# Neil Diamond – Coming to America

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hc-v8CFJzu4
- HAPPY BIRTHDAY OSPA!
- Boy Going To School

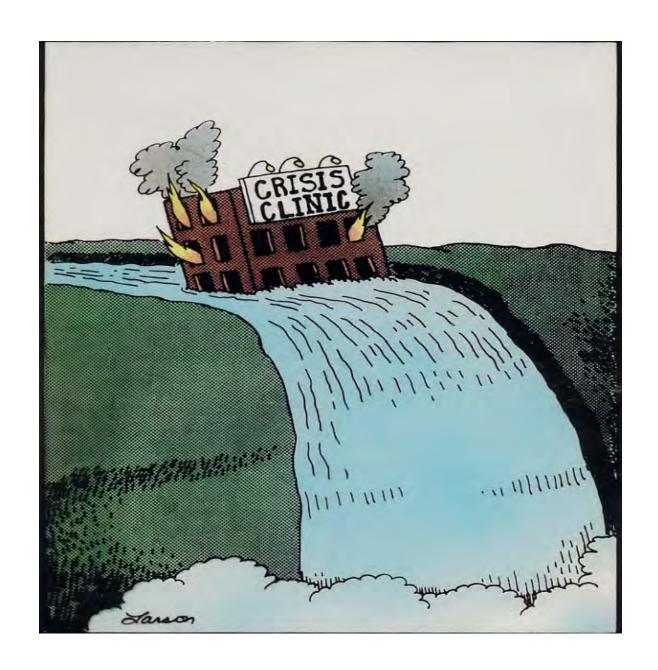
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bWVAEU6SQc

- In 1977 Maynard Reynolds (U of Minnesota) cautioned school psychologists to
- "stop making a prediction about the lives of children and start making a difference in them."

# Morning Review

- What did we learn today?
  - Old
  - New
  - Table Top Exercise #1
    - What do you have in common with refugees/immigrants? (15 minutes)
  - "Be curious, and however difficult life may seem, there is always something you can do and succeed at. What matters is that you don't just give up." —
     Stephen Hawking





# What is Their Story?



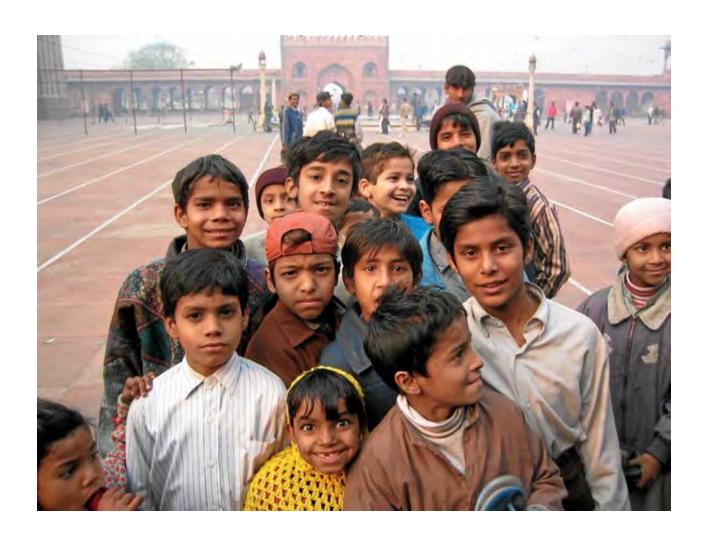














# Be a Psychologist - First

- Be careful/aware of role restriction
- Be knowledgeable
- Be helpful (advocacy)
- Respect other's viewpoints
- Know own biases
- Observe
- Communicate clearly
- Accept limitations
- Assume a *Life Long Learning* stance
- We serve "All Children."
- Which "Lens" do we use?
- What "tools" to we have to help?

### Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory

Chronosystem Changes Over Time

Macrosystem Social and Cultural Values

**Exosystem** Indirect Environment

Mesosystem

Connections

Microsystem

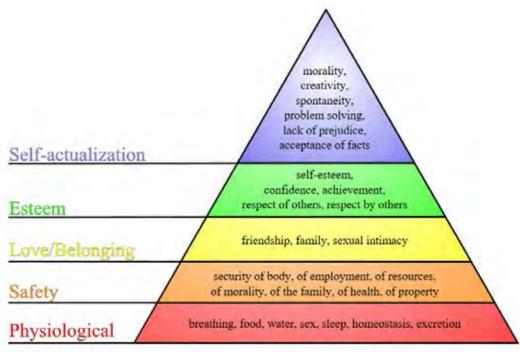
Immediate Environment

CHILD

# **Stress Response**



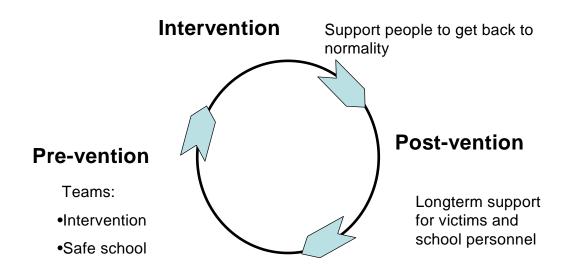
# Maslow – Hierarchy of Needs



Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

In Maslow's hierarchy of needs, higher levels of needs can only be pursued when the lower levels are fulfilled.

# Phases of Crisis Management



- Confident
- Competent
- Calm



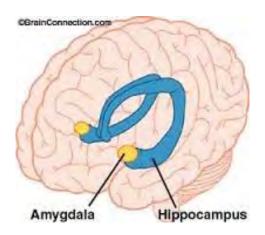
# These are emergency reactions: "prepare" for Fight, Flight or Freeze)



**F**ight



**Fl**ight





Freeze

### Stress and stress reactions

#### somatic

hyper arrousal sleeping problems digestion problems head aches

### emotional

fear, panic depression, helplessness, anger, wrath guilt feelings, shame

### cognitive

confusion, desorientation, uncoordinated thinking, concentration problems lacking problem solving techniques



#### social

aggression alcohol/drugs social withdrawal unable to cope with daily routines

### Acute stress reactions

#### **Flashbacks**

compulsive, repeated memories, bad dreams, psychic stress caused by triggers

### **Avoidance**

dissociation, avoid memories, places, activities, limited emotions, feeling of isolation and future without perspective

### **Arousal**

quick heart beat, sweating, tremble, concentration problems, jumpy, irritable, generally aggressive, sleeping disorders

# POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

### Shifted Reactions can be:

- phobia
- compulsion (as fighting fears)
- depression (social withdrawal, skip social contacts)
- eating disorders
- psychosomatic problems (often ill, head or stomach aches ...)
- suicidal ideation
- addiction

# Long Term Stress Reaction

### Positive changes:

- Redefinition of life goals
- Increased flexibility in coping strategies
- Increased tolerance of personal differences with others
- Development of new understandings of spiritual or religious issues
- Increased ability to communicate emotional responses and to express situational reactions

# Long Term Stress Reaction

### Negative changes:

- Becoming over controlling and rigid
- Permanent regression to traits or life patterns
- Faulty management of tension or stress
- Inability to retain or initiate relationships
- Avoidance or withdrawal from new challenges

# Other Long Term Stress Reactions

- Depression
- Simple or specific phobia
- Panic Attacks
- Anxiety syndromes

## Reactions to Trauma Events

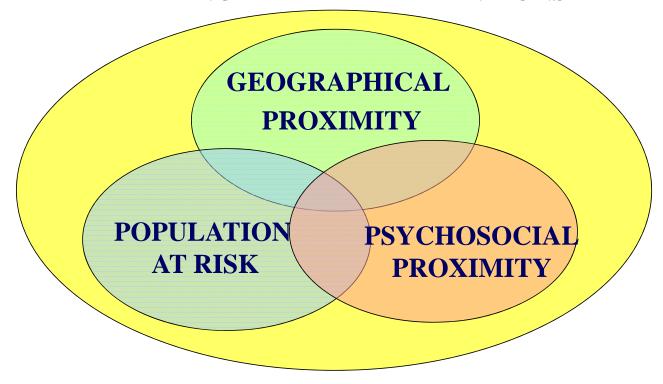
- Label them as:
- Common
- Natural
- Typical
- Six Common Reactions anger, fear, confusion, shame, guilt, and sadness
- NOT "normal"; "normalize"

### Stress Mechanism Cortex sensory integration cognitive integration absorption emotion cognition Amygdala Hipposensory Thalamus campus visual acoustic olfactory kinaesthetic gustatory Нуроthalamus emotional CRF stimulus Нуроphysis ACTH cortisol cortisol suprarenal gland CRF = corticotropin-releasing factor ACTH = adrenocorticotrope hormone

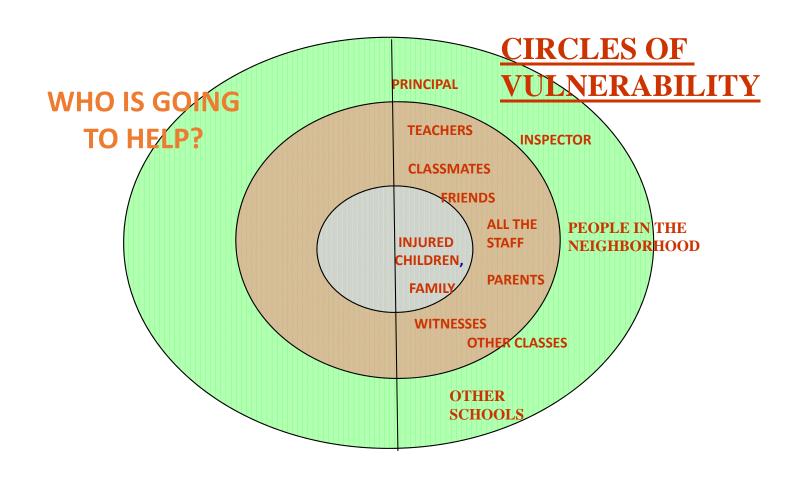
### CSPC, Tel Hai College, Kiryat Shmona

### CIRCLES OF WULNERABILITY

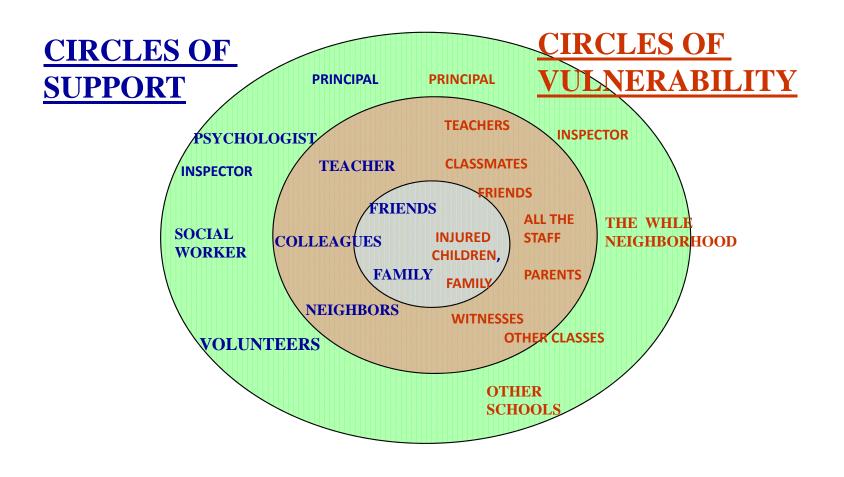
### MAPPING BY THREE DIMENTIONS



### CSPC, Tel Hai College, Kiryat Shmona



### CSPC, Tel Hai College, Kiryat Shmona



### **THE INTEGRATIVE MODEL - COPING**

B A S I C PH



### **BASIC-PH**

Basic-Ph is a multi model of coping and resilience, for assessing individual's as well as the group's coping resources. It also serves as a simple and fast tool for helping individuals and communities in stressed times.

### **Belief**



The person believes that whatever he wishes for himself or for others will come true.

He tries to find meanings.

He is optimistic, or pessimistic: "Things will be fine; we are lucky; or "I'll never be able to do it"; "the world is unfair"...

He has many "should": "They should have done it"; Faith in himself/in the group; yes, we can; "we'll overcome"....

Values like justice and liberty are important for him

#### **Affect**

An emotional approach The person's feelings are visible, clear and strong. He loves, cries, laughs, seems to be full of joy, or feels easily frustrated, moody..

It is easy to get to him through "his heart".

#### Social

The person "flourish" when he is with friends
Likes to have social tasks and responsibilities
Is helped by social support
Tends to take social tasks
Is surrounded by people, loves pets



#### **Imagination**

The person sees the world from artistic view - point Likes to tell imaginative stories
Has imaginative acquaintance
Might have fears (more than others)
Has a good sense of <a href="https://www.numer.com/humor">humor</a>
Attracted to arts

#### Cognition

The person who gathers information Curious, asks about details Good in organizing Likes games of skills Plans ahead of time Task oriented & time oriented



#### Physiology

The person is active, likes touching, hugging, working, traveling, sport activities, dancing, eating, physical games..



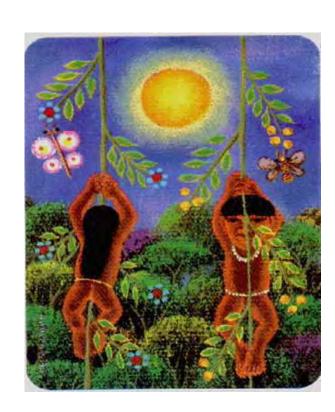
Levine, P. 2005: Body oriented treatment models that "speak the language" of the primitive parts of the brain via sensation and somatic responses are essential in trauma therapy".

## **Important**

- 1. Everyone has favorite coping channels
- Skills can be broadened
- 3. Persons whom you help might help others
- 4. During crisis better use the persons' "coping language"
- 5. When in shock **S-C-Ph** are most helpful
- 6. Ask: What do you do when you have had a "very bad day"?

When we want to reach out to all school students and staff we can:

- Develop their own core coping language
- •Expose them to other coping languages
- •Use the six channels to be sure to meet the various target groups at their strength



#### **CAUTIONS**

- Triggers may reinforce them by exposure
- Helicopters
- Police
- Uniforms e.g. ICE
- Loud noises
- Clothing
- Sirens
- Men!

## What Helps!

- All Children need a least ONE CARING Adult
- Connection to their Support Systems!
  - (Activate community & school resources)











Crisis =

Danger



Chinese Symbol

Opportunity

## Helping with Trauma

https://traumasensitiveschools.org/

https://www.nctsn.org/

www.nasponline.org

https://tfcbt2.musc.edu/

http://www.brycs.org/

Helping Traumatized Children Learn

The National Child Traumatic Stress

Network

NASP PREPare Training

Trauma-Focused CBT 2.0 (Free

Certification)

Bridging Refugee Youth and Children's

Services



## PDF Apps

PFA Mobile
Life Armor
Suicide Safe
Virtual Hope
Box
Know Bullying
Help Kids Cope
PTSD Coach





Fear!



Part II



Hope

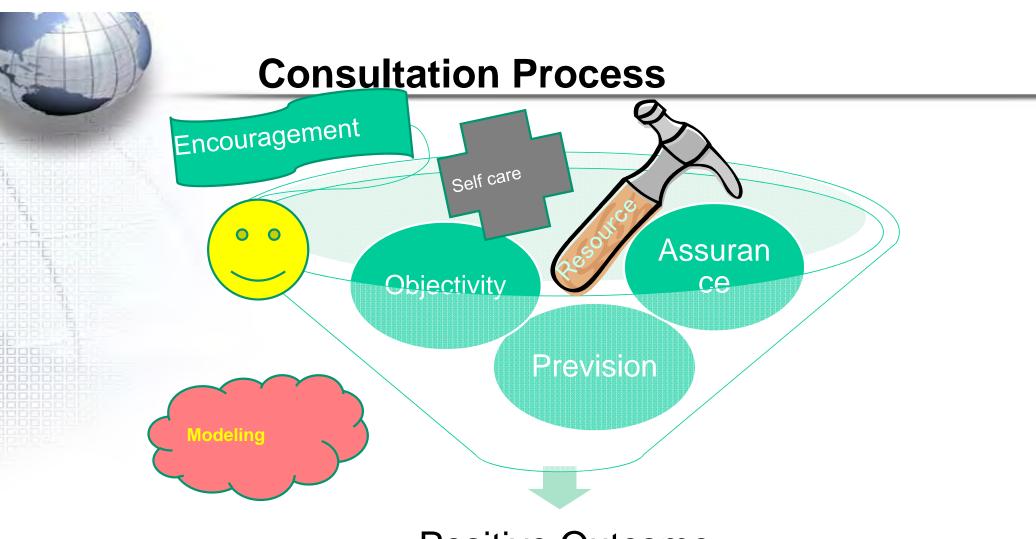


## My Personal Take

- 8 exchange students; Russian teachers; college students; Erfurt students/teachers; Japanese visitors
- Train with Israeli, Germany and Dutch teams for crisis response
- Warren County Kentucky GEO High School
- Consultation international awareness
- "Edwin" = ADHD adult; SLD "Sally" 2<sup>nd</sup> grade
- BGHS and sons/daughter (Bosnian)
- Be a clinician! What "lens" will you use?
- RTI is your friend! Real world assessment and instruction
- Mental health problems will interfere with academics
- Intervention Teams for tough cases
- Learn basic native greetings, name pronunciations, customs, etc.

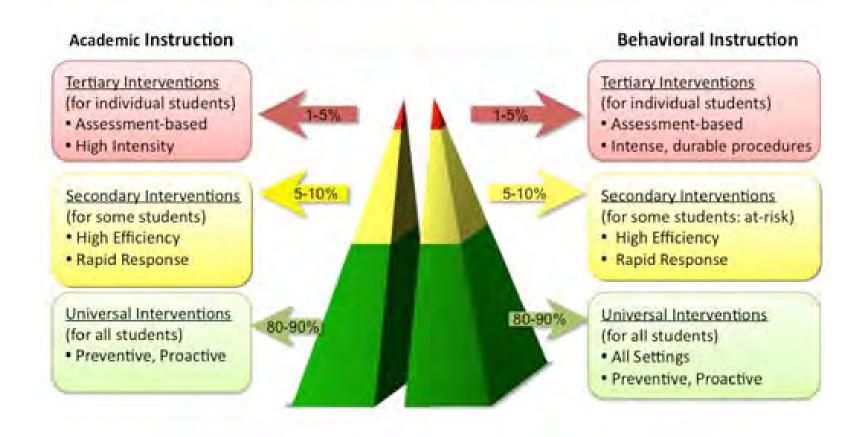
## Consultation Format: things worked in Cross Cultural consultation





Positive Outcome

#### Designing Schoolwide Systems for Student Success



## Children's Rights - UN

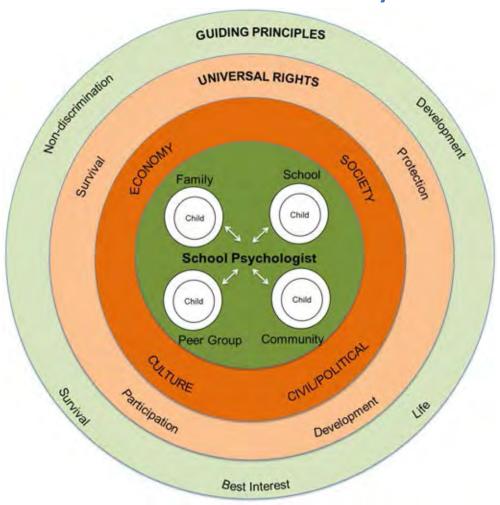
Child Needs: The prerequisites for optimal growth, development, health, psychological well-being and learning, for fulfilling one's potential.



**Child Rights:** Entitlement of all children to have their needs met, which becomes the responsibility of adults and society. These rights have been codified into the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.



## Role of the School Psychologist



#### Where to We Start?

- Teachers and School Personnel bus drivers, cafeteria, maintenance, Administration, etc.
- Parents/Caregivers
- Community/Stakeholders
- Others

## Pre-immigration

- Exposure to traumatic events
- Lack of education opportunities
- Living in refugee camps
- Immigration barriers

## Post immigration

- Loss of social support! Promote Resilience
- Alienation
- Discrimination/bullying
- Loss of family traditions
- Language/communication
- Lack of academic skills
- Significant MH issues
- Resettlement issues multiple moves
- Misperceptions and myths

#### Additional Issues

- Refugees v. immigrants are there real differences? Trauma is the same
- Legal v. illegal ICE is not just for your drinks
- Fear v. safety (Maslow)
- Victims v. survivors
- Common reactions v. pathology
- MH v. strength based services
- Unaccompanied youth

#### Additional Issues

- Acculturation. v. maintaining cultural identity
- Language acquisition v. native language instruction
- Knowing different cultures v. tolerance/acceptance
- ACE (Adverse Childhood Experiences) v. non-trauma home environment
- Refer-Test-Place v. meeting needs of the child where we find them
- Perpetrator of violence v. involved with incident

#### **Teachers & Staff**

- Education understanding, awareness, and prevention
- Coaching experienced ELL teachers with others
- Communication strategies with others, parents, families, and community
- Finding supports for student learning
- Social Support networks for ALL
- Cultures and religions
- System to integrate refugees / system to leave
- Know trauma signs
- Developing new identities
- Provide Safe environments
- Aware of personal biases, myths, and your personal awareness (e.g. lens)

## **Guiding Education Principles**

- Project Base Learning small group
- Native language anytime
  - Social language v. academic language
- Build communities interactive
- Foster resiliency

## 6 Principles for ELL Instruction – Common Core

- Instruction focuses on providing ELL with opportunities to engage in discipline-specific practices which are designed to build conceptual understanding and language competence in tandem.
- Instruction leverages ELL's home language(s), cultural assets, and prior knowledge.
- Standards-aligned instruction for ELL's is rigorous, grade level appropriate, and provide deliberate and appropriate scaffolds.
- Instruction moves ELL's forward by taking into account their English proficiency level(s) and prior school experiences.

## 6 Principles for ELL Instruction – Con't

- Instruction fosters ELLs' autonomy by equipping them with strategies necessary to comprehend and use language in a variety of academic settings.
- Diagnostic tools and formative assessment practices are employed to measure students' content knowledge, academic language competence, and participation in disciplinary practices. (e. g. RTI)

#### Assessment Issues

- Pre-CELL (handout)/Determining SLD Checklist (handout)
- Language based assessment
- Language competency examiner
- Norming does it have the correct norms?
- RTI data comprehensive
- Observations multiple
- TIME! (It does take time)
- Test biases
- Strength based assessment

#### **Parents**

- Home visits
- School visits
- Language of instruction
- Cultural expectations (e.g. police, on time, language, etc.)
- Value of education varies widely by culture
- "open door" and available; "hours of operation"?
- Many work several jobs and below education level of homeland

## Adjustment Issues

- Loss personal & cultural
- Bereavement/Grief
- "their" journey
- Bullying
- Language fluency
- Gender and culture expectations
- Tolerance modeling
- Status e.g. caste
- Pre-entry experiences
- Identity to new culture

## Community & Stakeholders

- Advocacy
- Human rights
- Radicalization
- Safety Analyses
- Bias/prejudice
- Faith-based influences
- Helpers v. barriers

## Tools/Skills

- Conflict Resolution Skills Jen Batton Cleveland
  - International Conflict Resolution Conference Case Western May 22-25, 2018.
  - https://www.cadreworks.org/events/12th-international-conference-conflict-resolution-education
- Community mediators
- List of organizations or contacts regular meetings
- Interpreters/translators reliable and accurate
- Future focused and adaptive
- Media to educate cable/internet/social media

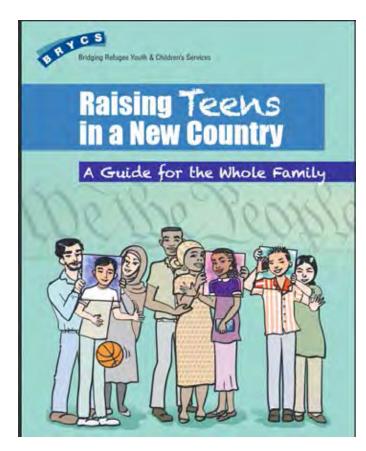
#### **Tools**

- •Food!
- Art
- Sports
- Song
- Meetings home and school
- Expositions IYO, dance, clothes, traditions, etc.
- Mindfulness (MBCT) Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy; CBIT
- BASIC Ph

#### **Tools**

- Small group meetings
- "What is helpful?" ask! "What is difficult?" ask!
- Available resources
- Mentors
- Scaffolding
- RTI academic & behavioral
- Social Emotional Learning (SEL) YouTube (Edutopia) Search SEL and refugees; also see Nashville
- PBIS

# Bridging Refugee Youth and Children's Services http://www.brycs.org



#### Internationals Network for Public Schools

- http://internationalsnps.org/
- NYC based/Mentors/Coaching
- Kentucky GEO HS Global Educational Opportunities

#### NASP Resources

- Domain 7 Family-School Collaboration Services
- Position Statement Child Rights
- Supporting Refugee Children & Youth: tips for Educators
- Welcoming Refugee Families to School: Strategies for Educators
- Facilitating Success for Refugee Students and their Families
- Presenters in Focus: Supporting Refugee Youth and Families in the School Setting

## What Can I do Monday Morning?

• Table Top Exercise #2