

Grandparent Caregivers: A Strength-based Model

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Motivation

- How do grandparent caregivers (GCs) define resilience?
- What individual and system factors contribute to resilience?
- How do service providers help GC develop resilience?

Project Description

- Survey 100 GCs who participate in local agency programs
- Conduct focus groups among 30 GCs
- Conduct focus groups among 20 service providers

Context

- Challenges and adversities faced by GCs raising grandchildren
- GCs' strengths: resilience, positive caregiving appraisal, adaptive coping strategies, self-help and help-seeking skills
- Lack of interventions simultaneously targeting the grandparent and service providers

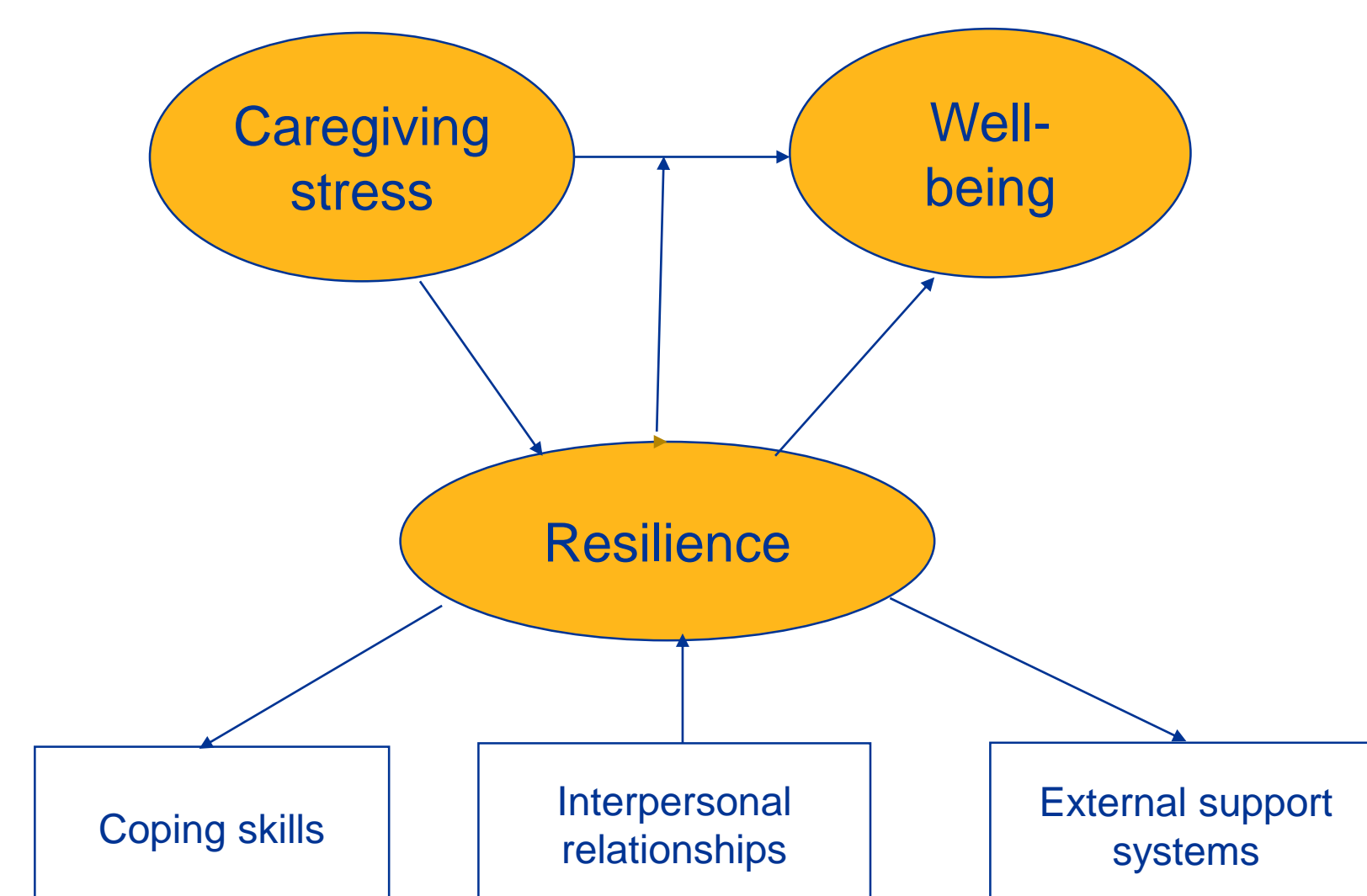


Figure: Conceptual model

Individual coping skills, interpersonal relationships, and external support systems contribute to resilience and well-being among grandparents raising grandchildren.

Project Deliverables

- Mid-term 'exam'
 - We will find out how GCs understand their strengths and challenges in raising grandchildren
- Final 'exam'
 - We will find out how service providers perceive GCs' strengths and challenges
- Outputs by the end
 - We will design a strength-based model of interventions improving GCs' capacity of using external support systems and enhancing resilience
- Within 1-2 years after the project
 - Disseminate research findings to academic and community audiences
 - Seek for funding to test the model and interventions

Potential Impact

- To enhance custodial grandparents' resilience and well-being
- To improve the contexts of family and community where grandparents raising grandchildren
- Advance external support systems for GCs and their families
- Develop interventions that tailor to the needs of GCs in reliance on both individual and system resources

References

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