

BLACK SATURDAY RECOVERY INSIGHTS, APPLICATIONS AND NEXT STEPS



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John Richardson, Australian Red Cross

the
power of
humanity









70c

A U S T R A L I A



Join

JOIN YOUR LOCAL BRANCH - MEMBERSHIP

Australian Red Cross

2014

100 YEARS
 PEOPLE
 HELPING
 PEOPLE
 1914-2014

the power of humanity





BeyondBushfires

community | resilience | recovery

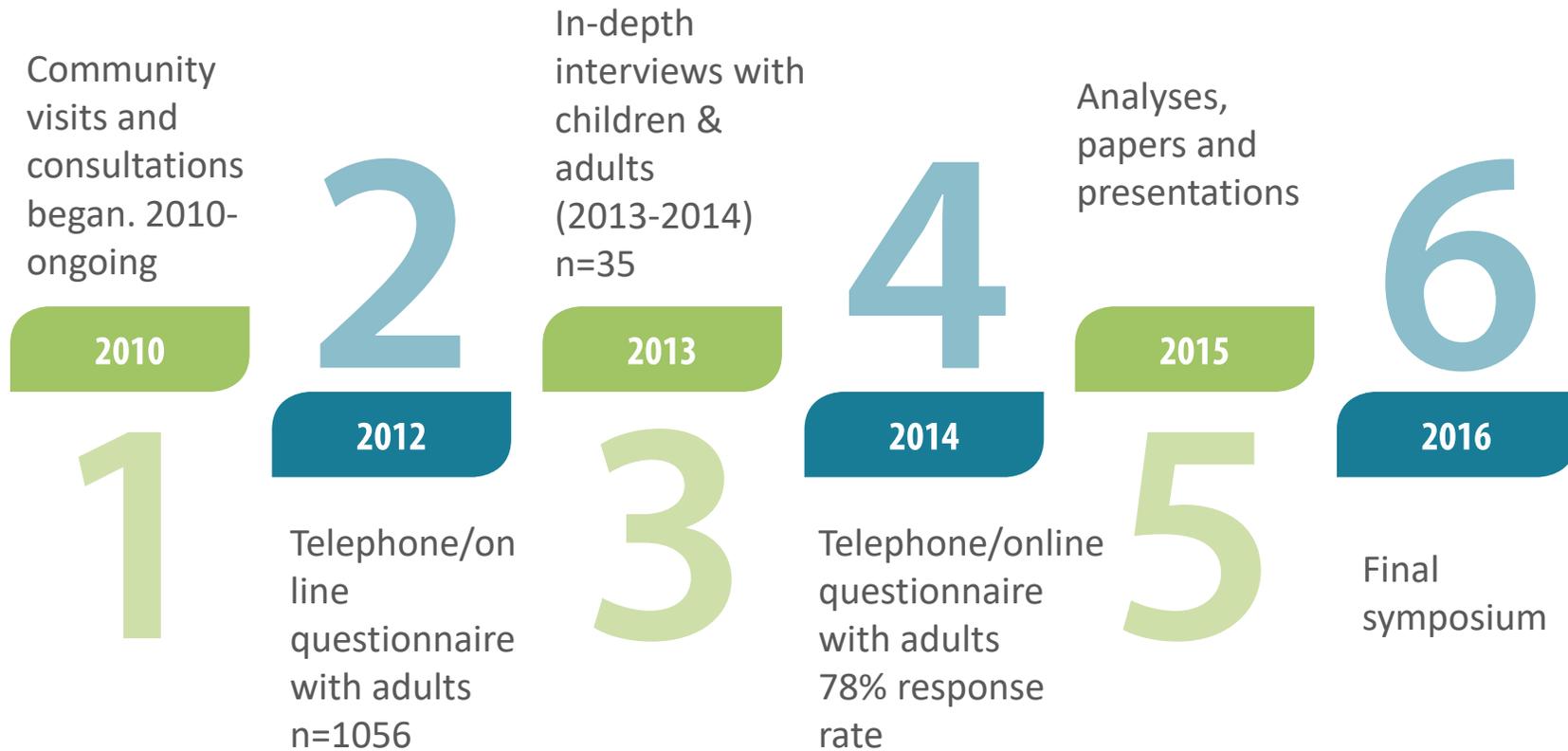
THE TEAM



PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

- ▶ A range of community organisations in regional Victoria
- ▶ Australian Red Cross
- ▶ Primary Care Partnerships from 6 regions of Victoria
- ▶ Phoenix Australia: Centre for Posttraumatic Mental Health
- ▶ Victorian Department of Health & Human Services
- ▶ Australian Rotary Health
- ▶ Federal Department of Human Services (Centrelink)
- ▶ Universities: Melbourne, NSW, Flinders, Swinburne, Sydney

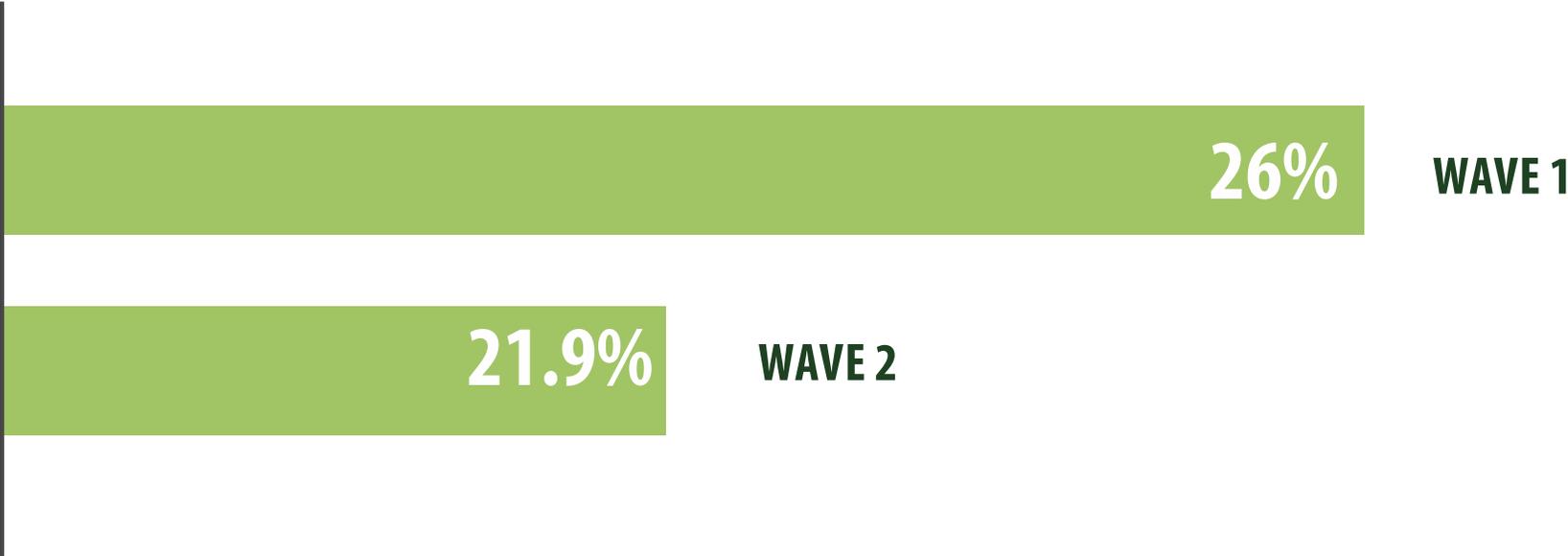
WHAT DID WE DO?



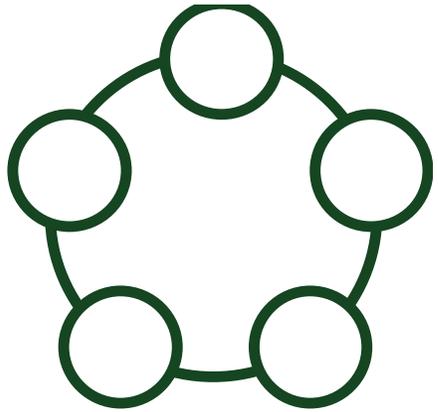
3-4 YEARS POST FIRE



CHANGES OVER TIME: ANY DISORDER



RECOMMENDATION



5 year recovery plans



Social ties matter!

**Social ties matter ...
but it's complicated**

Mental health, stressors
& high emotion

Posttraumatic growth

Separation &
reunification

Children, schools &
parenting

Social networks &
community groups

Living alone & couples

Relocation & wellbeing

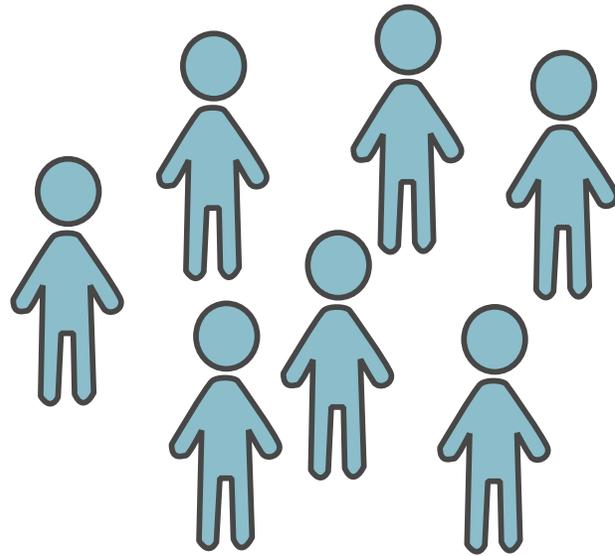
Natural environment

Gender & violence

Life satisfaction over
time



Being close to more people was generally related to better mental health and personal wellbeing



People in large social networks were more likely to report the **loss of someone close**

Living with someone else was associated with better mental health outcomes



Living with someone else was associated with better mental health outcomes

Mental health within couples was influenced by **attachment styles** and **gender roles**



Participating in
local groups
reduced the risk
of poor outcomes
for those who
lived alone





Moderate involvement in local community groups and organisations was associated with more positive outcomes in terms of mental health and wellbeing

Relocation



“We've had a couple of close friends from here now leave
... When they leave it **actually hurts.**”

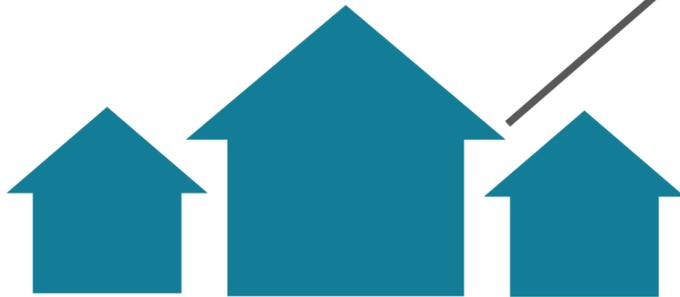
“We've had a couple of close friends from here now leave
... When they leave it **actually hurts.**”

“It'll never be the same town....it feels like a really
stressful place to be for a lot of different reasons...”

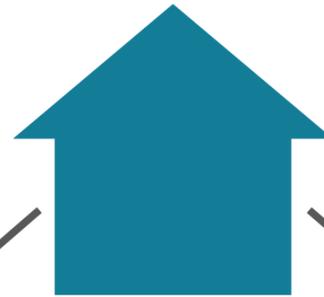
MOVING AFTER A BUSHFIRE

STAYED

Those who stayed felt a strong sense of connection which was associated with higher levels of wellbeing



DEPRESSION risk was higher for those who stayed and were connected to people who had left their community



MOVE AWAY

Those who were most affected by the bushfires were more likely to move to a new community



MAJOR LIFE STRESSORS

The impact of subsequent financial and relationship difficulties was often lessened, for those who moved away.





Different opportunities to process the disaster event

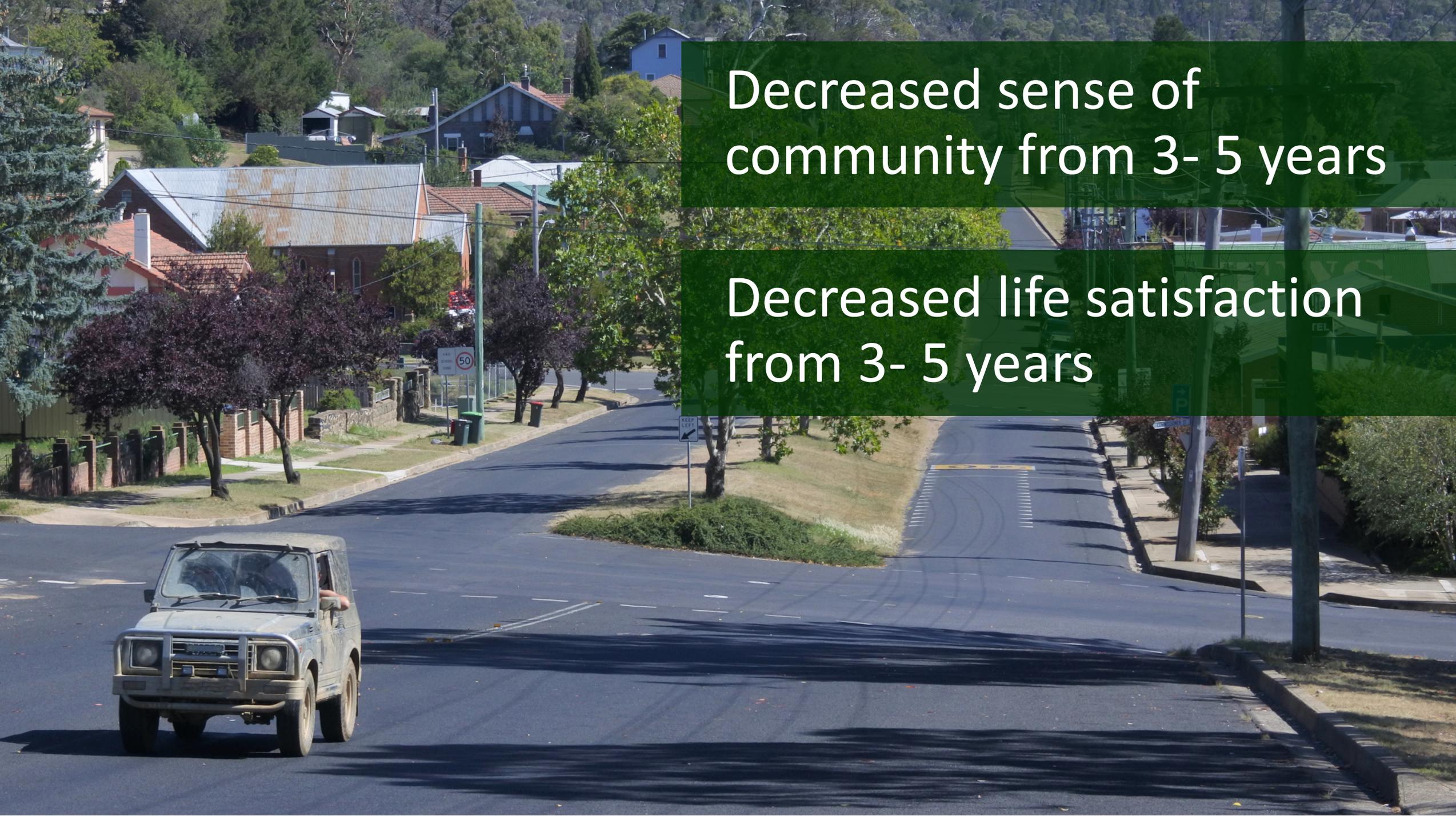
Implications



Service delivery in affected communities needs to address subsequent life stressors



Service delivery to those who relocate needs to prioritise processing of the trauma experience

A photograph of a residential street. In the foreground, a silver SUV is driving on the road. The road is paved and has a speed limit sign of 50. There are trees and houses in the background, some with corrugated metal roofs. The scene is set in a suburban area with a hillside in the background.

Decreased sense of
community from 3- 5 years

Decreased life satisfaction
from 3- 5 years

Mental health, stressors
& high emotion

Posttraumatic growth

Separation &
reunification

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Living alone & couples

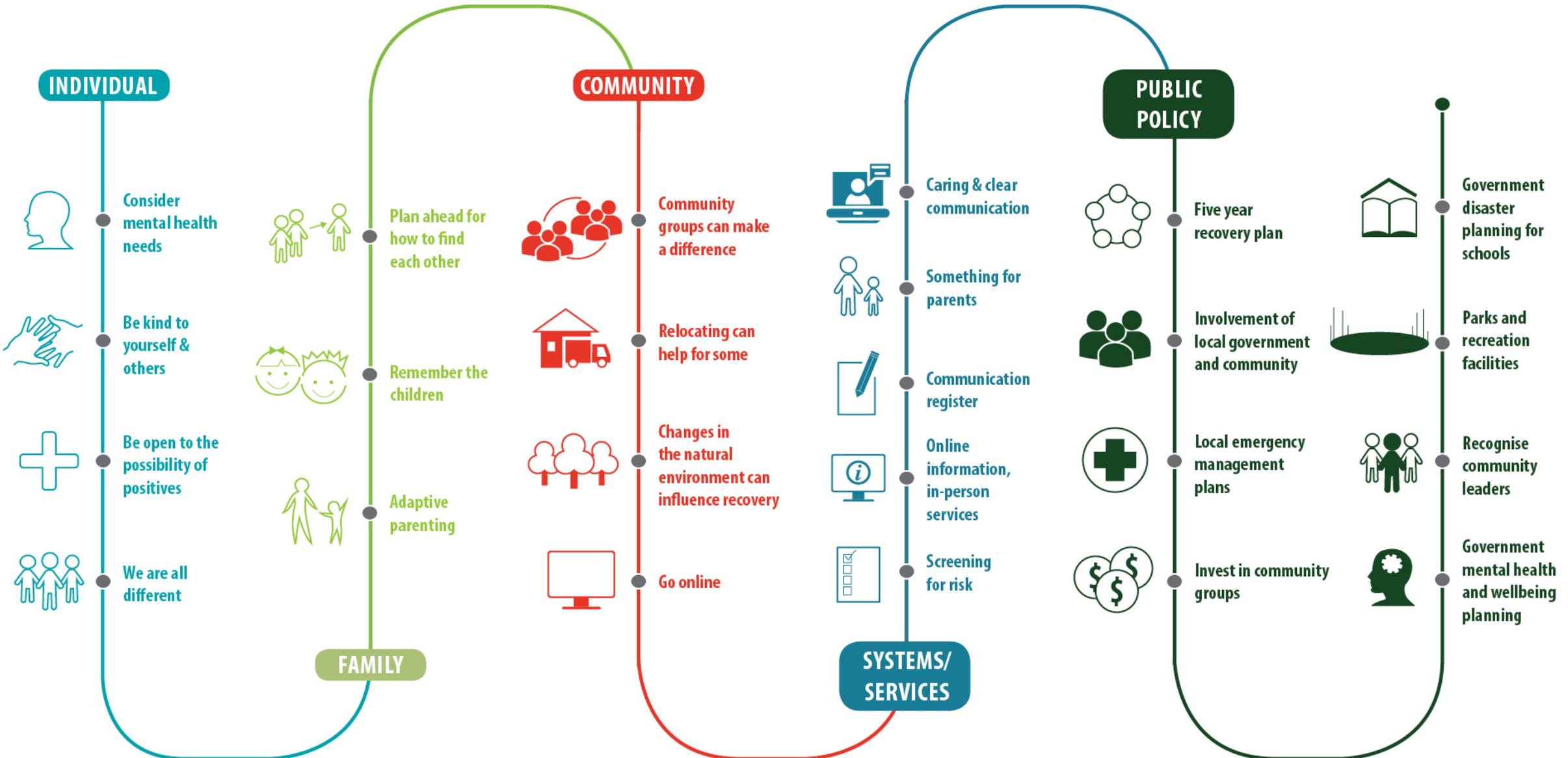
Relocation & wellbeing

Natural environment

Gender & violence

Life satisfaction over
time

RECOVERY RECOMMENDATIONS



Deloitte.
Access Economics



National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework



EMERGENCIES HAPPEN:
**PROTECT
WHAT
MATTERS
MOST**



Your Emergency
RediPlan

redcross.org.au/prepare



Planning for Community-based Disaster Resilience Worldwide Learning from Case Studies in Six Continents

Edited by Adenrele Awotona



The economic cost of the social impact of natural disasters



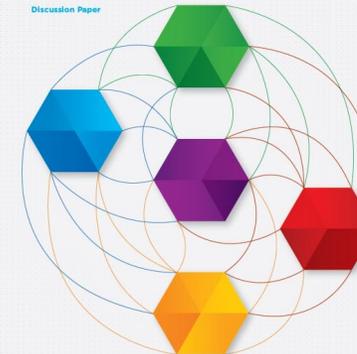
Budget 2018-19

Budget Strategy and Outlook
Budget Paper No. 1
2018-19

emv.vic.gov.au



Resilient Recovery Discussion Paper



Register. Find. Reunite.



10 YEARS
BeyondBushfires
community | resilience | recovery



Funding provided by Emergency Management Victoria, Australian Red Cross and Victorian Department of Health & Human Services



Children & schools

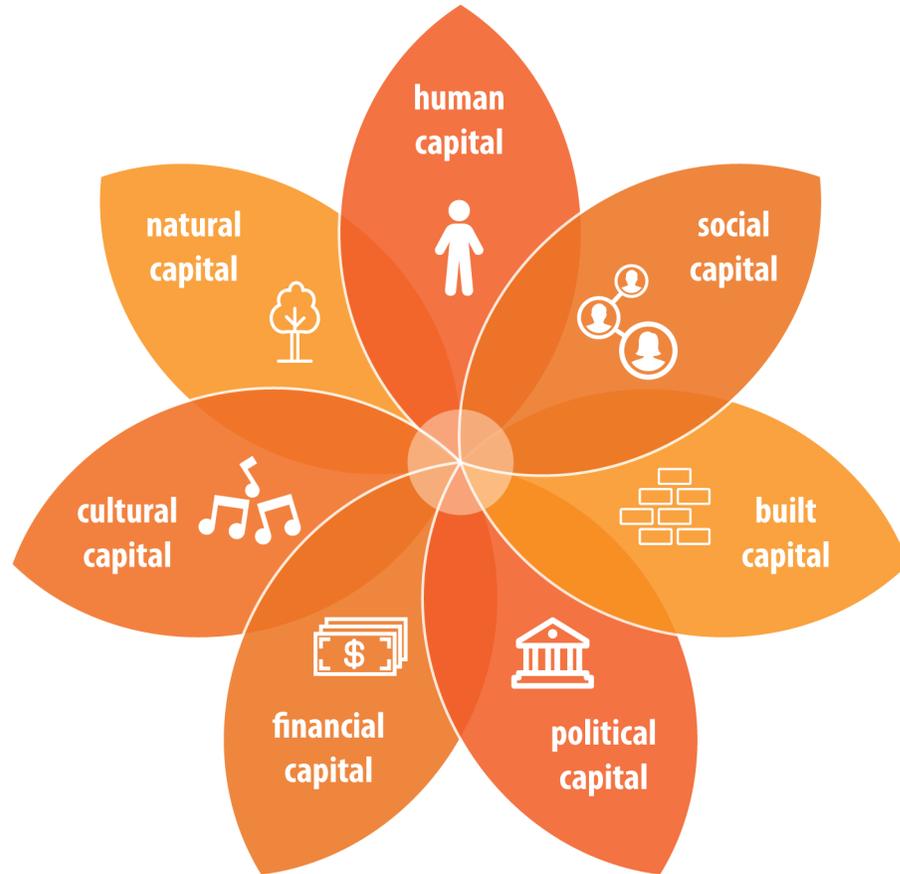
Identifying the long term academic impacts of disasters

Developing evidence based resources:

- Parenting post disaster
- Support for school staff following disasters
- Advice from young people for young people
- School entry following disasters

Recovery Capitals

Supporting wellbeing after disasters



ReCap aims to support wellbeing after disasters by aligning disaster recovery evidence with a framework of community capitals to guide development of recovery strategies adapted to community contexts.

Funding provided by



bushfire&natural
HAZARDSCRC





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