

Addressing systemic oppression  
on vulnerable newcomer youth  
with alternate approaches



**Empowering newcomers to fully participate in Canadian society**



# MOSAIC ON THE MAP WITH 50 CLIENT-ACCESSIBLE LOCATIONS

Since 1976, MOSAIC has worked to strengthen communities by supporting newcomers in building their new lives in Canada.

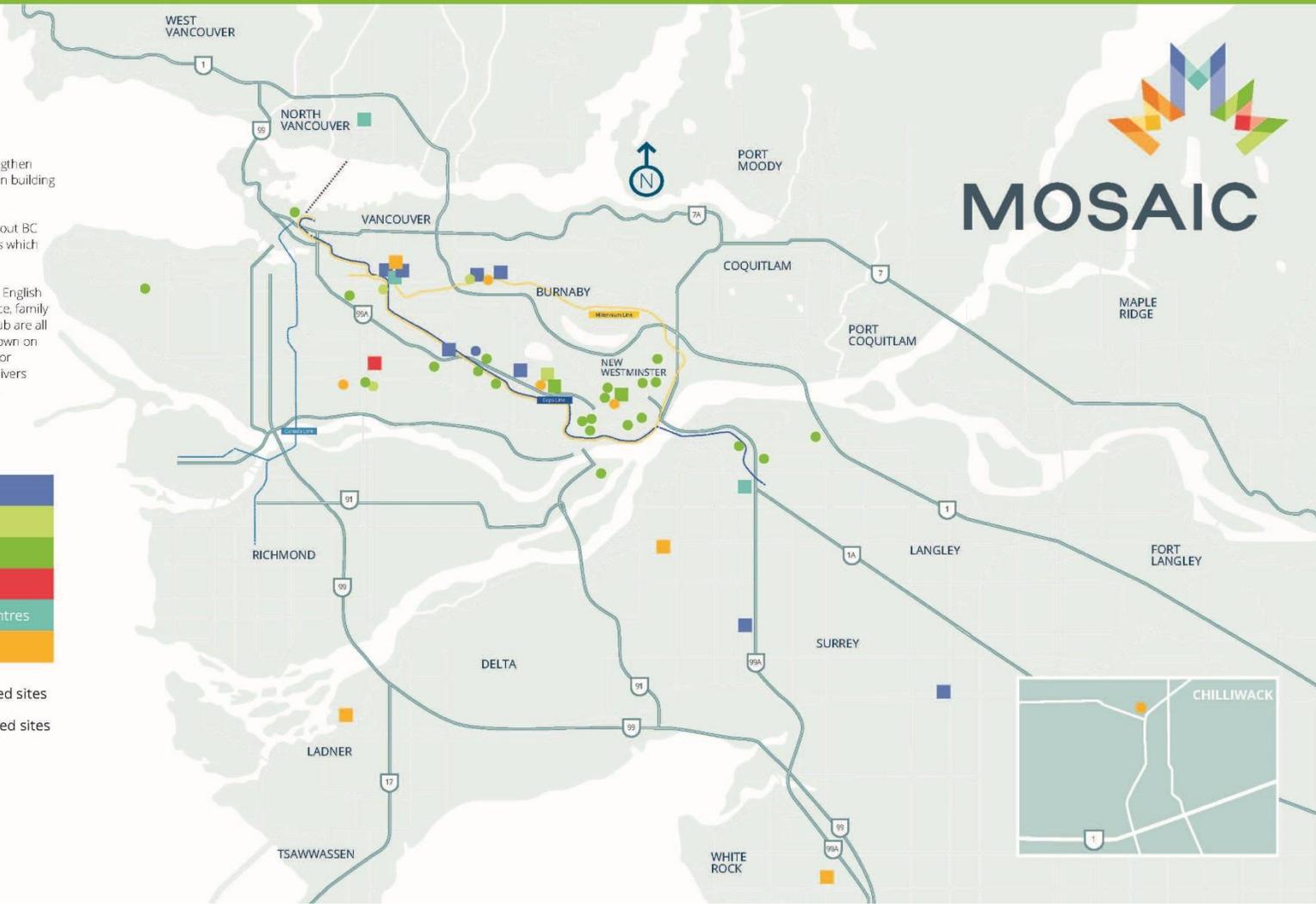
Today, our services are available throughout BC and overseas as well, thanks to programs which are delivered online.

In Metro Vancouver, settlement support, English language learning, employment assistance, family and youth programs, and our Seniors Club are all accessible at a variety of locations, as shown on the map. Sites are operated by MOSAIC, or partner organizations where MOSAIC delivers services for newcomers and immigrants.

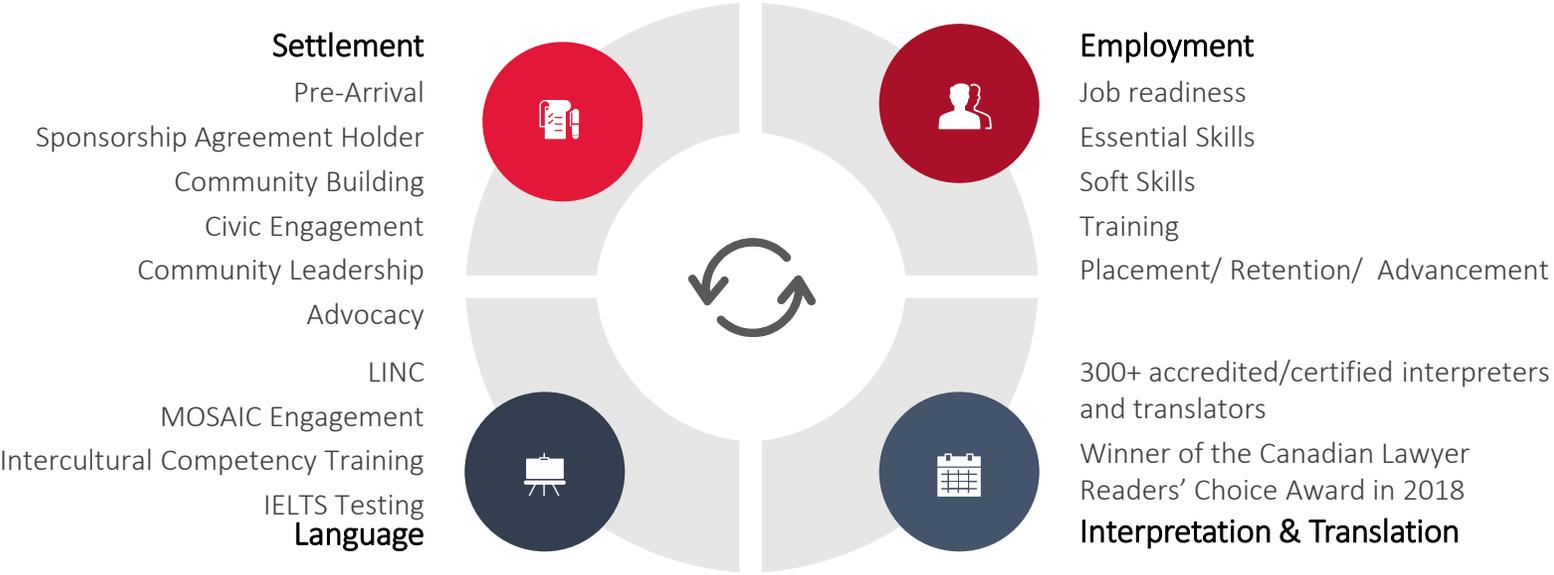
## LEGEND

	Multiple services
	Family and Children services
	Settlement services
	Youth services
	Language and Childminding Centres
	Employment services

-  Partner-operated sites
-  MOSAIC-operated sites



# Integrated Service Approach





- Uses a methodology of 'Theatre of the Oppressed' created by Augusto Boal (1931-2009)

- Uses theatre as a tool for social change

- Image- using own and other's bodies as "clay", participants create "sculptures" - frozen images to express their experiences, ideas, oppressions and hope.

- Forum- presentation of scenes of oppression, audience is invited to stop the play and replace the character who is struggling, and improvise alternative solutions

*Source:*

<http://www.mandalaforchange.com/site/applied-theatre/theatre-of-the-oppressed/>

- Innovative, engaging, empowering and experiential

- Proven to be successful to engage and empower Immigrant and refugee youth with language barriers

- Self-reflection, Team Building, Peer support

- Aims to create a social change

## NUYU Popular Theatre Program





MOSAIC NUYU facilitator Training  
September 2019, Vancouver, B.C.





**Thank  
you!**



# Options Community Services Society



**Vision:** Inspire hope and belonging for all

**Mission:** United in the purpose of helping people to help themselves and promoting safe, healthy and vibrant communities

**B.C. Service Regions:** Surrey, White Rock, Delta, Langley

# Moving Ahead Program (MAP)



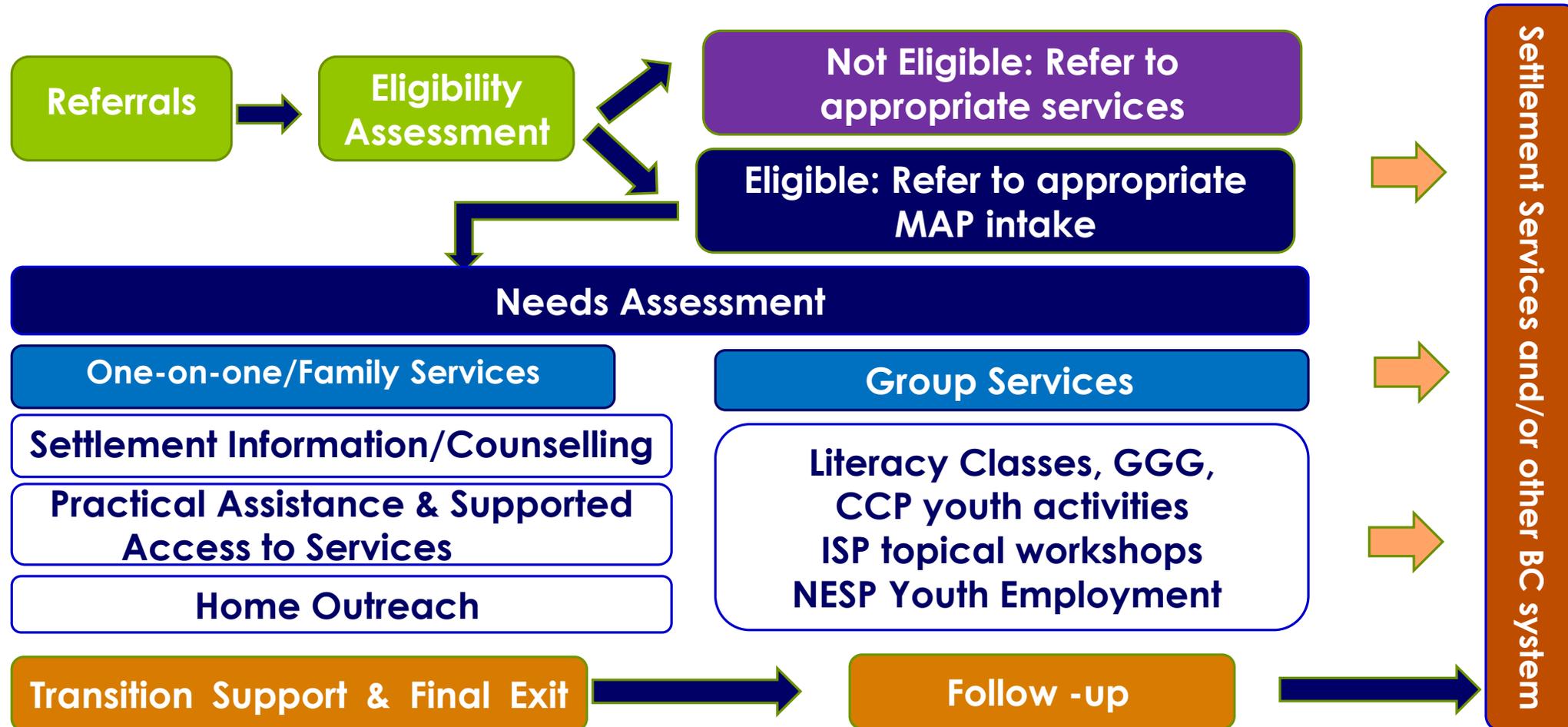
**The Moving Ahead program** provides individualized support to vulnerable immigrant and refugee newcomers through an integrated, holistic and client-centred approach

# MAP: Program Objectives



- The **primary objective** of the program is to help clients gain the capacity to cope with their issues and associated barriers and to acquire sufficient skills to participate in Settlement or community services and programs.
- **Another objective** is to provide a coordinated support system across service sectors in communities with a critical mass of vulnerable immigrant populations.

# MAP: Client Flowchart & Services





# MAP: Services to Youth

- Intake and In-Home Assessment
- Case management of Individual Client Files
- Settlement Information and Counselling
- Practical Assistance & Supported Access to Services
- Life Skills
- Referral to Other Services
  - Social and Emotional Support Groups (CCP)
  - Newcomer Support and Employment Services
  - Literacy Class

# MAP: Services to Youth

- **1 Part-time Youth Case Worker** :Arabic and English
- **12 Clients on caseload:**
  - Age range from 14 to 24 years old
  - 4 females and 8 males
  - Mostly from single parent family or with disabilities
  - Eldest in the family with the stress
- **Collaborative work:** working together with internal/external services/programs to meet client needs



# MAP: Client Needs & Challenges

- **Housing:** lack of housing options and adequate space for larger families
- **Education:** interrupted education, difficulty navigating education system, unsure of what steps to take
- **Employment** – needs to work to support their families
- **Family Responsibility:** responsible to support single parent or parents/siblings with disabilities



# MAP: Client Needs & Challenges

- **Dental & Primary Healthcare:** limited coverage
- **Mental Health:** coping with stress, PTSD
- **Cultural norms, social isolation, sense of hopelessness**
- **Bullying & peer pressure**

# MAP: Success



- Collaborative work with MAP Case Workers (Adult), SWIS workers and other professionals
- Providing support to Youth and their parents
- With perseverance, patience and flexibility of interactions, youth worker has created the bond/trust with refugee youth

# OCS: Moving Ahead Program



Thank  
you

A watercolor illustration of a branch with small, light blue leaves, positioned to the right of the "Thank you" text.

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# Oppression: The System of Advantaged and Disadvantaged Youth

**Sandra Almeida**  
Program Manager  
ACT Program





Bridging people to S.U.C.C.E.S.S.

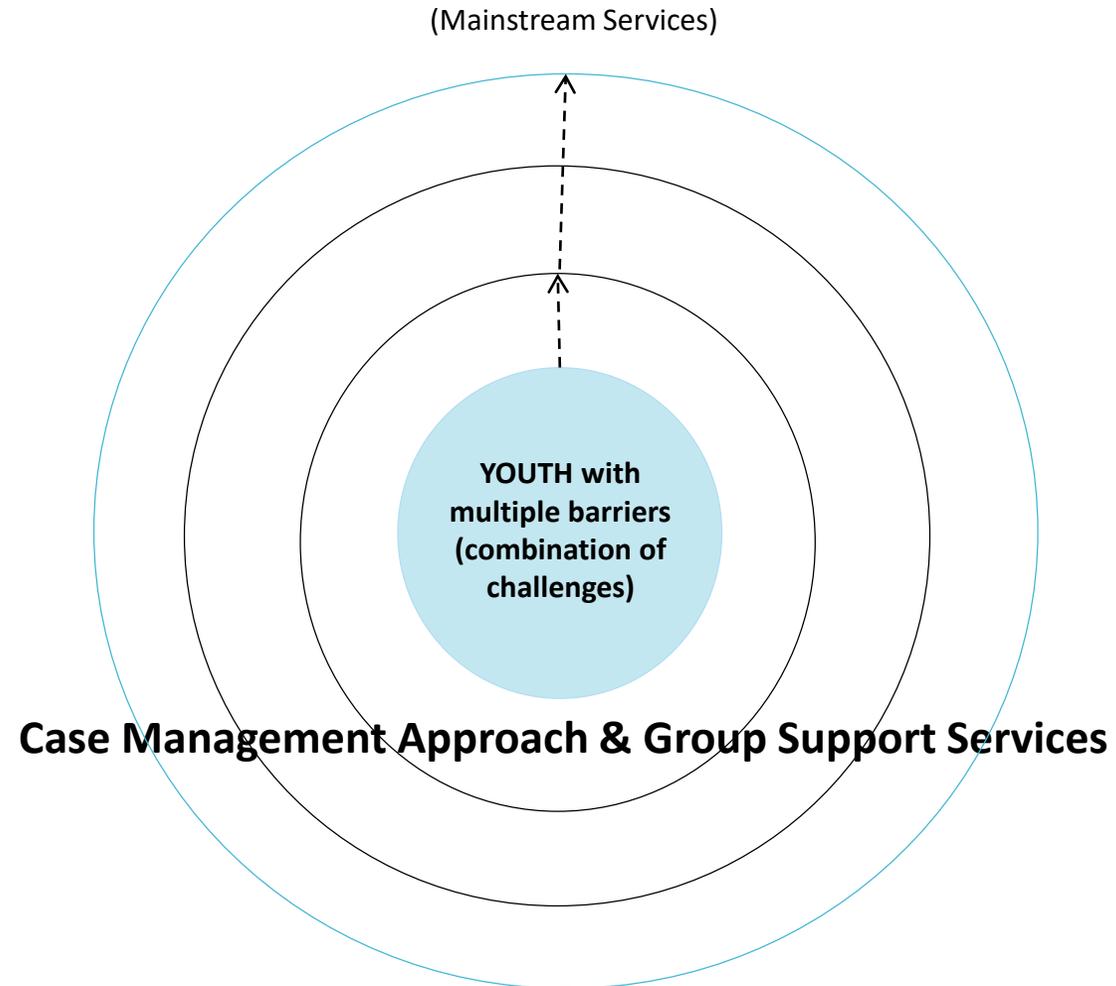
## Outline

- ACT Program: Case Management & Life Skills Support Group
- System of Advantaged Youth
- System of Disadvantaged Youth
- Internalized Oppression
- Service Delivered
- Recommendations



Bridging people to **S.U.C.C.E.S.S.**

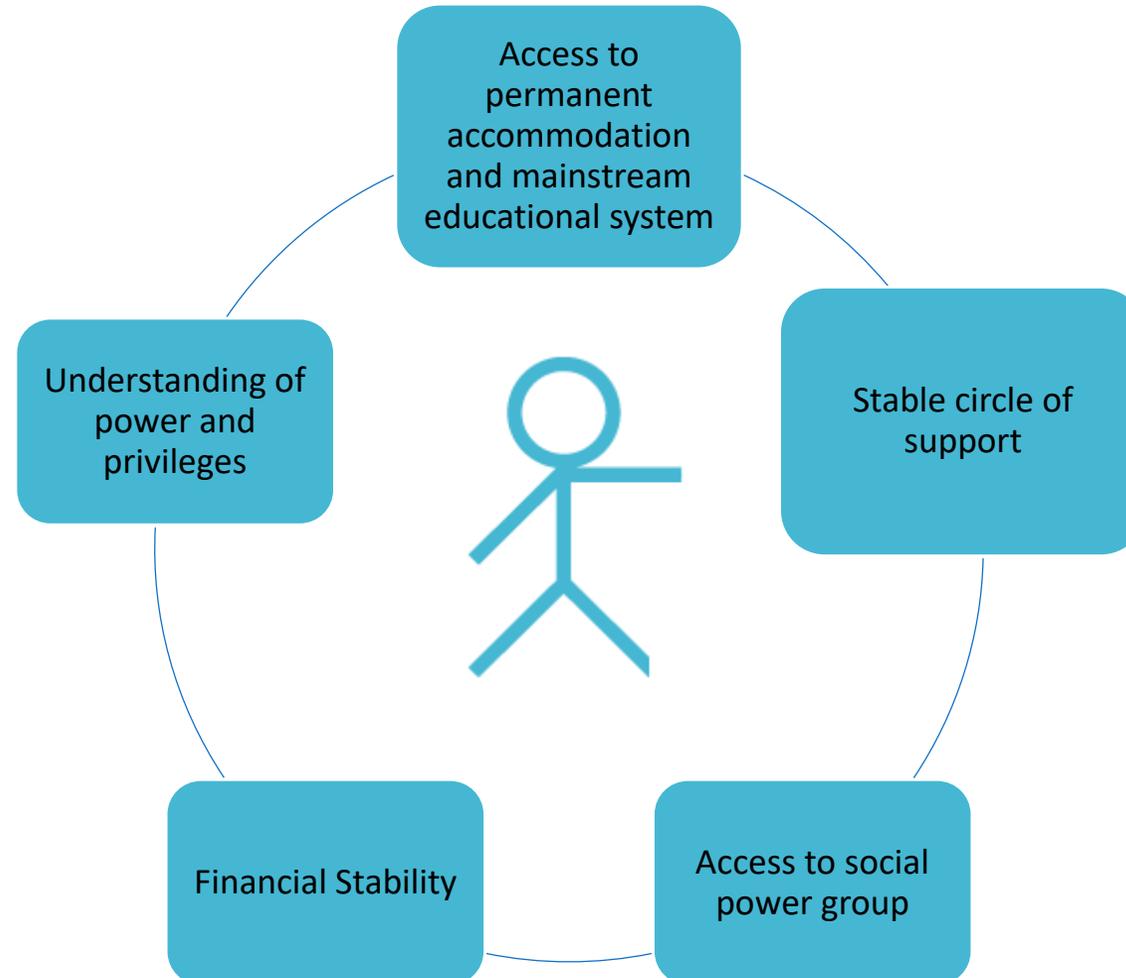
## ACT – Action Commitment Transformation Program





Bridging people to **S.U.C.C.E.S.S.**

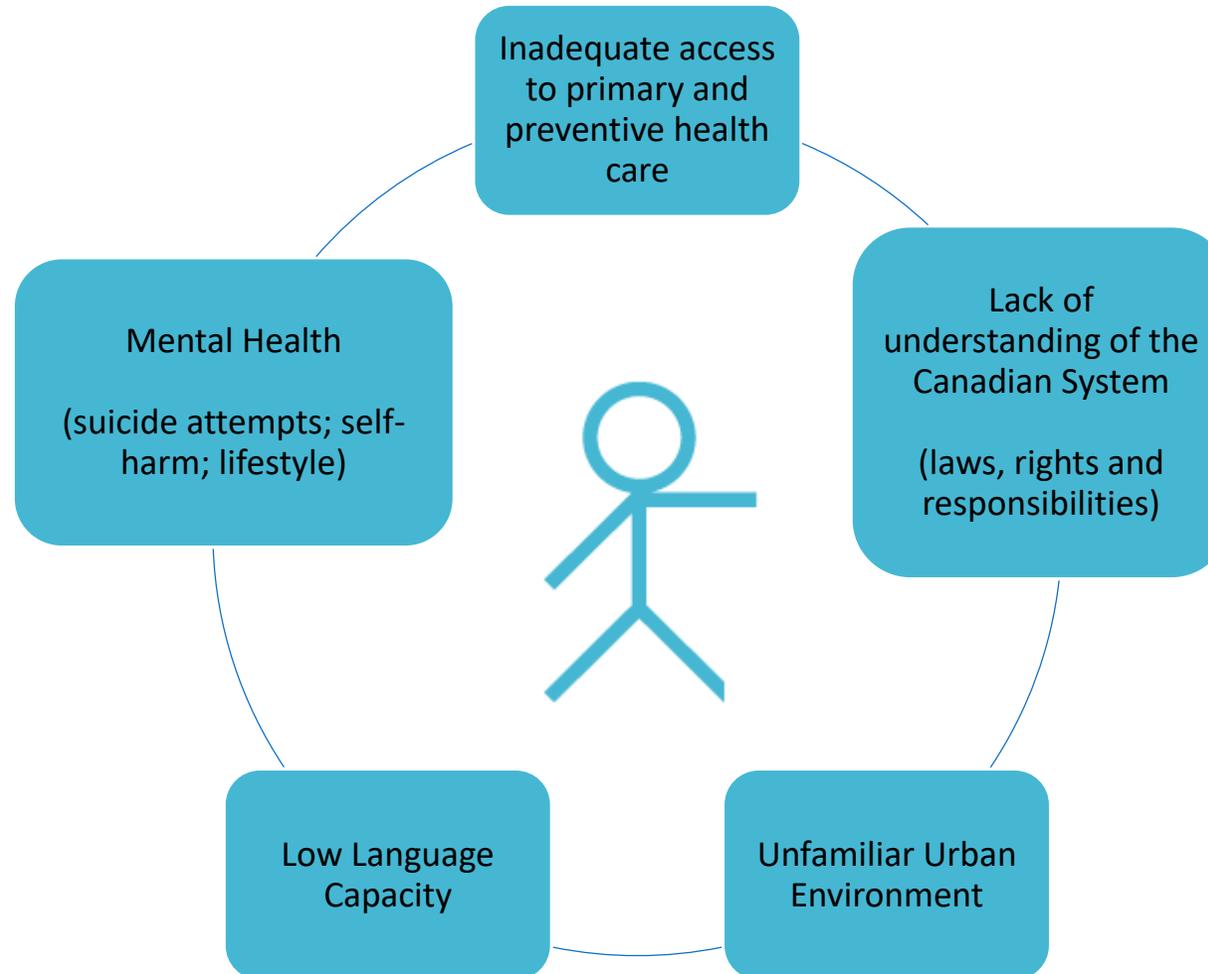
## System of Advantaged Youth





Bridging people to **S.U.C.C.E.S.S.**

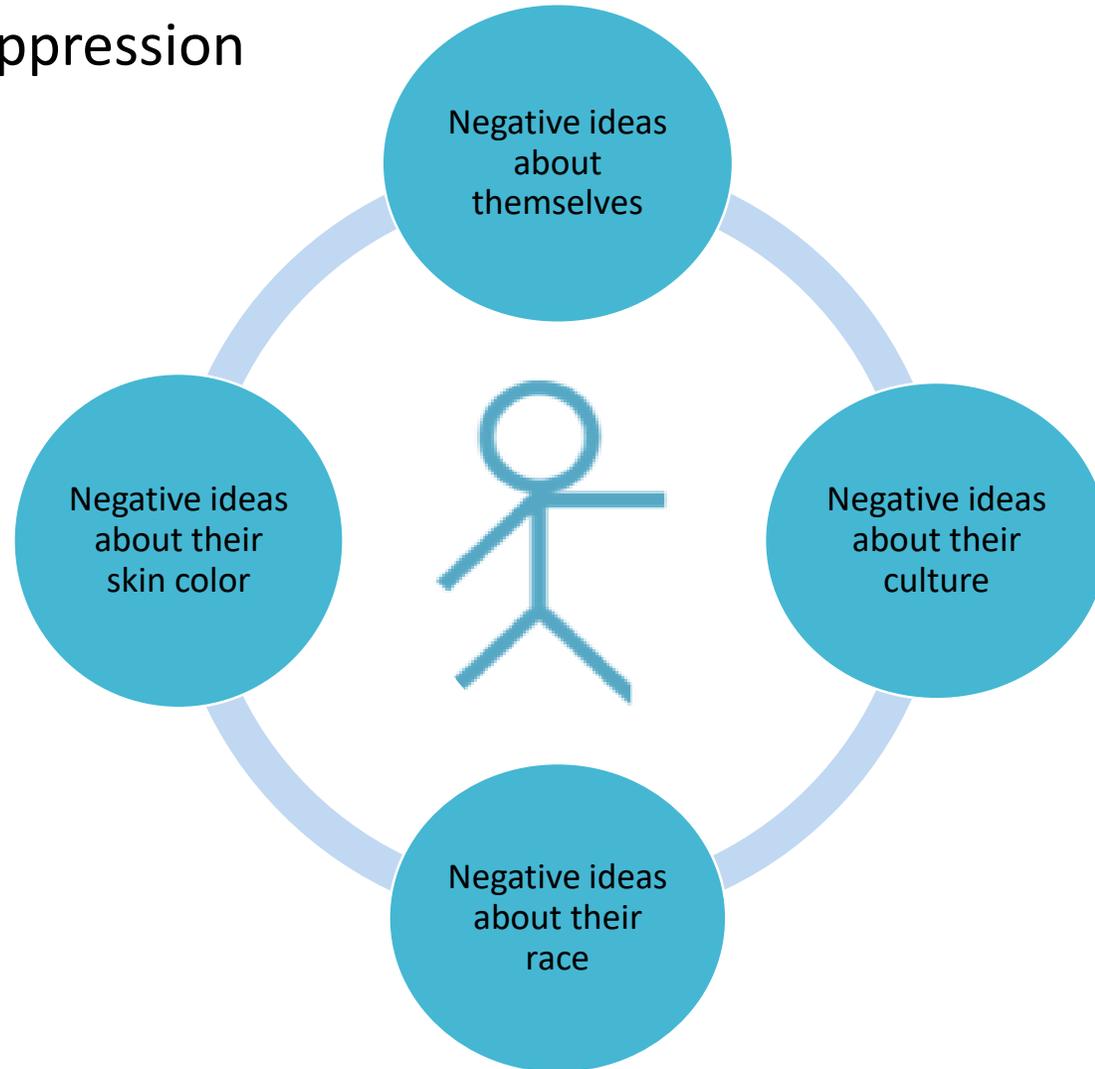
## System of Disadvantaged Youth





Bridging people to **S.U.C.C.E.S.S.**

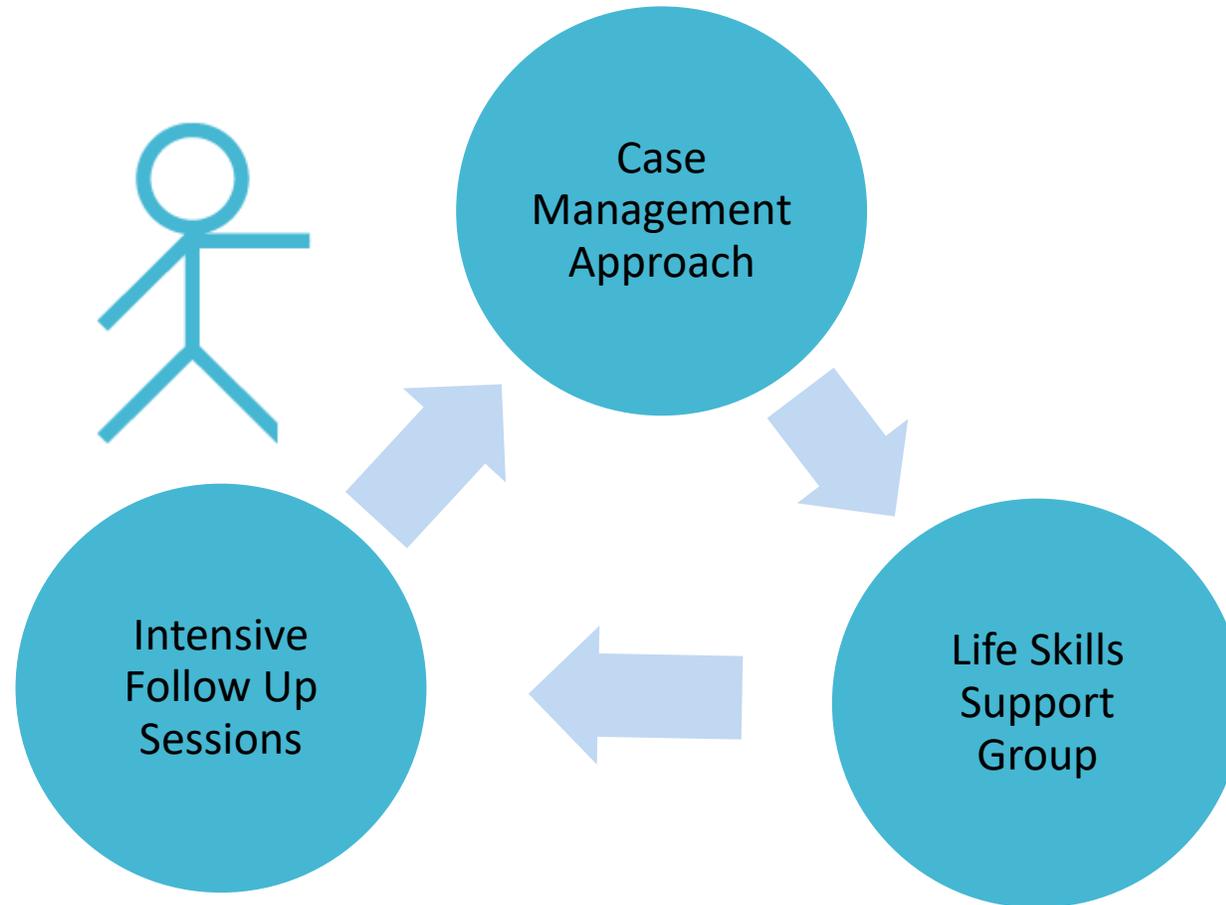
## Internalized Oppression





Bridging people to **S.U.C.C.E.S.S.**

## Service Delivered

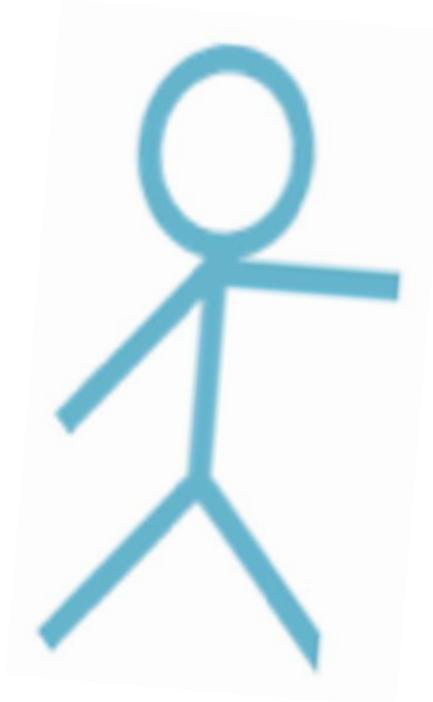




Bridging people to **S.U.C.C.E.S.S.**

## Recommendations

- Facilitate dialogue about oppression: Individual, Institution, and Cultural
- Addressing emerging issues
  - Discuss open the impact of oppression on everyday life experience
  - Sharing perspective
  - Brainstorming actions and available support system





**S.U.C.C.E.S.S.**

**THANK YOU!**

**Sandra Almeida**

Program Manager

ACT Program

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