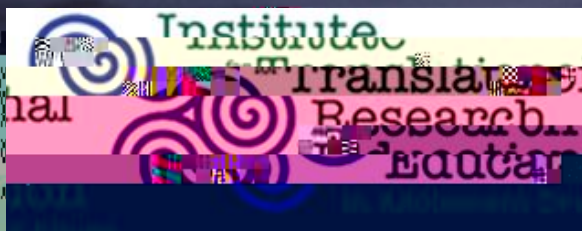
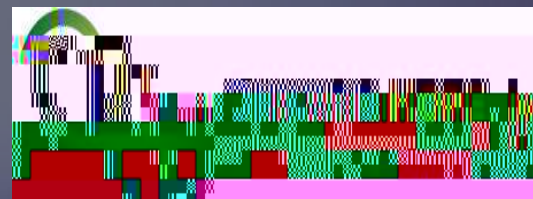
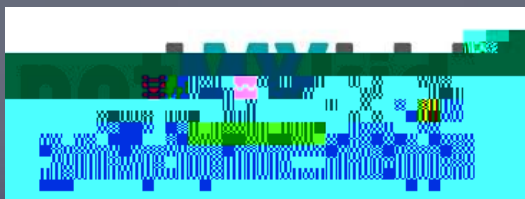


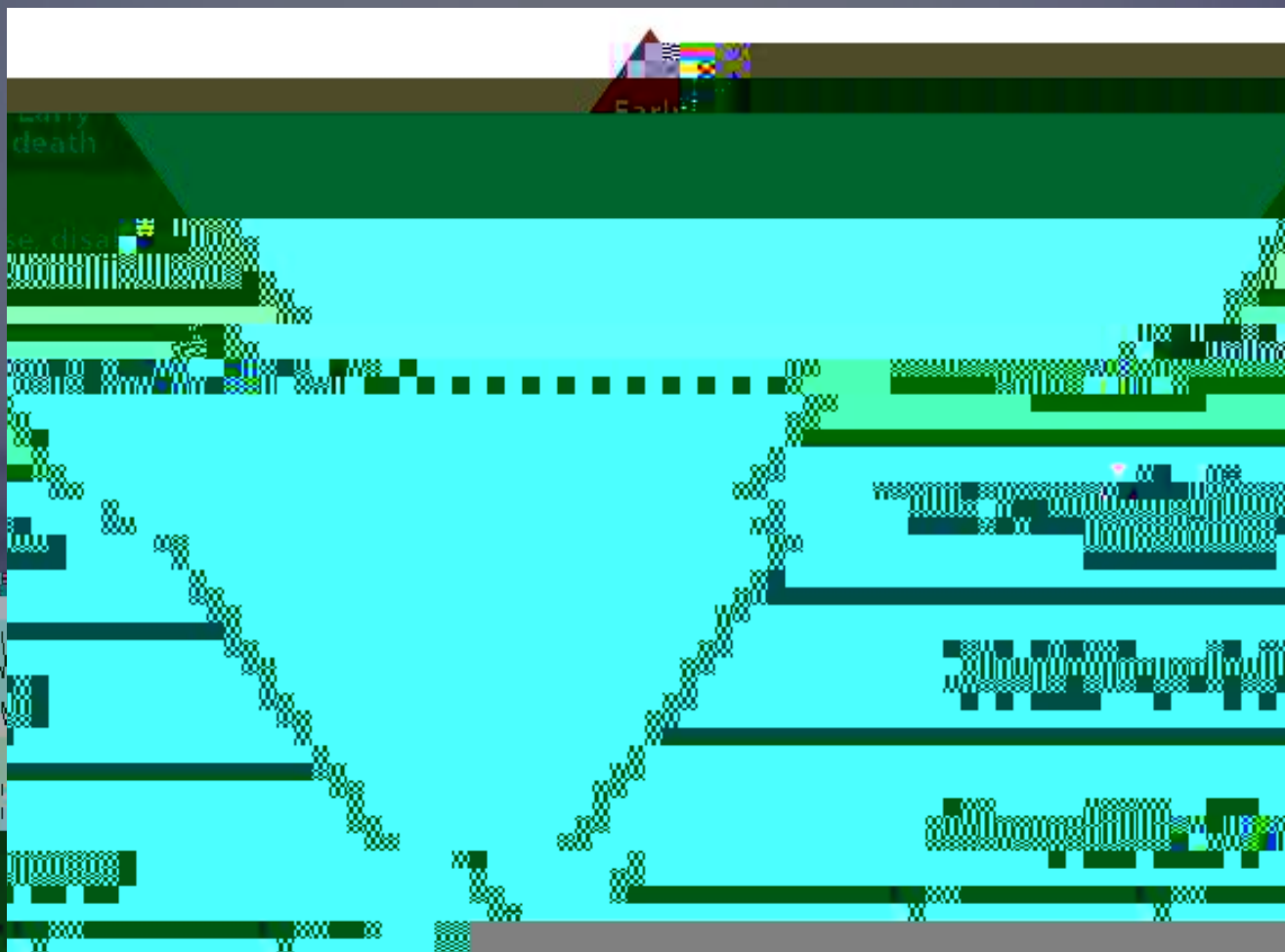


Casey Blaesing, Tessa Burt,  
Amy Armstrong-Heimsoth, Shevaun Sullivan



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Special thanks to Roy St Laurent, Emily Farber & Hallie Jo Simkins.



**Two-thirds** of all children in foster placements have mental or behavioral health concerns and **up to 60%** have developmental disorders.<sup>2</sup>

Foster youth are **five times** more likely to receive a drug dependence diagnosis.<sup>2</sup>

Former foster youth are **twice as likely** as U.S. war veterans to experience PTSD in adulthood.<sup>3</sup>

**67%** of those involved in child welfare system had experienced 4+ traumatic events.<sup>4</sup>

**93%** have been exposed to a recurring traumatic event.<sup>4</sup>

“The burden of truth is get to know this kid, wrap or create this collaboration around this kid and then we all work together to move towards the finish line, whatever that looks like.”

- Agency 2

Epigenetics - the effect the environment has on gene expression<sup>5</sup>

Community resilience - "the empowerment of communities to come together, share responsibility for alleviating crisis, improve services, and build healthy environments"<sup>6(p.326)</sup>

16 youth ages 18- 20

semi-structured interviews, support mapping & resiliency measurements

gather experiences of transition from foster care

(A) initial transition supports (B) didn't receive/delayed receiving transition supports

unknown service providers & service availability

agencies were providing similar services and there were gaps in service delivery



"The study of the methods and strategies to promote the uptake of interventions that have proven effective into routine practice, with the aim of improving population health"<sup>7(para 1)</sup>

Lack supportive evidence & insufficient implementation of evidence-based practices (EBPs)

Limited funding & budget cuts EBP's<sup>8</sup>

Lack of specialized training & knowledge to effectively implement & sustain EBPs

Deficient understanding of implementation science

Provides:

Information on program outcomes<sup>8</sup>

Interpretation of what influences those outcomes<sup>8</sup>

Feedback for continuous quality improvement<sup>8</sup>

Information on specific adaptations

Data on a program is successful or fails<sup>8</sup>

An increase in funding opportunities

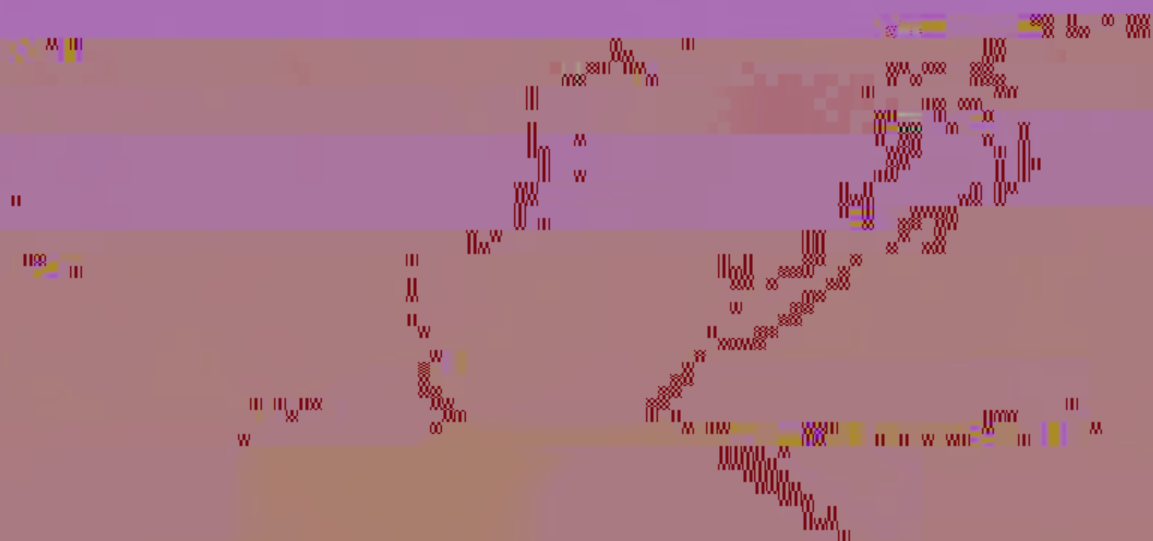
# Program measurement

no program measurement tools  
established & inaccurate measurement













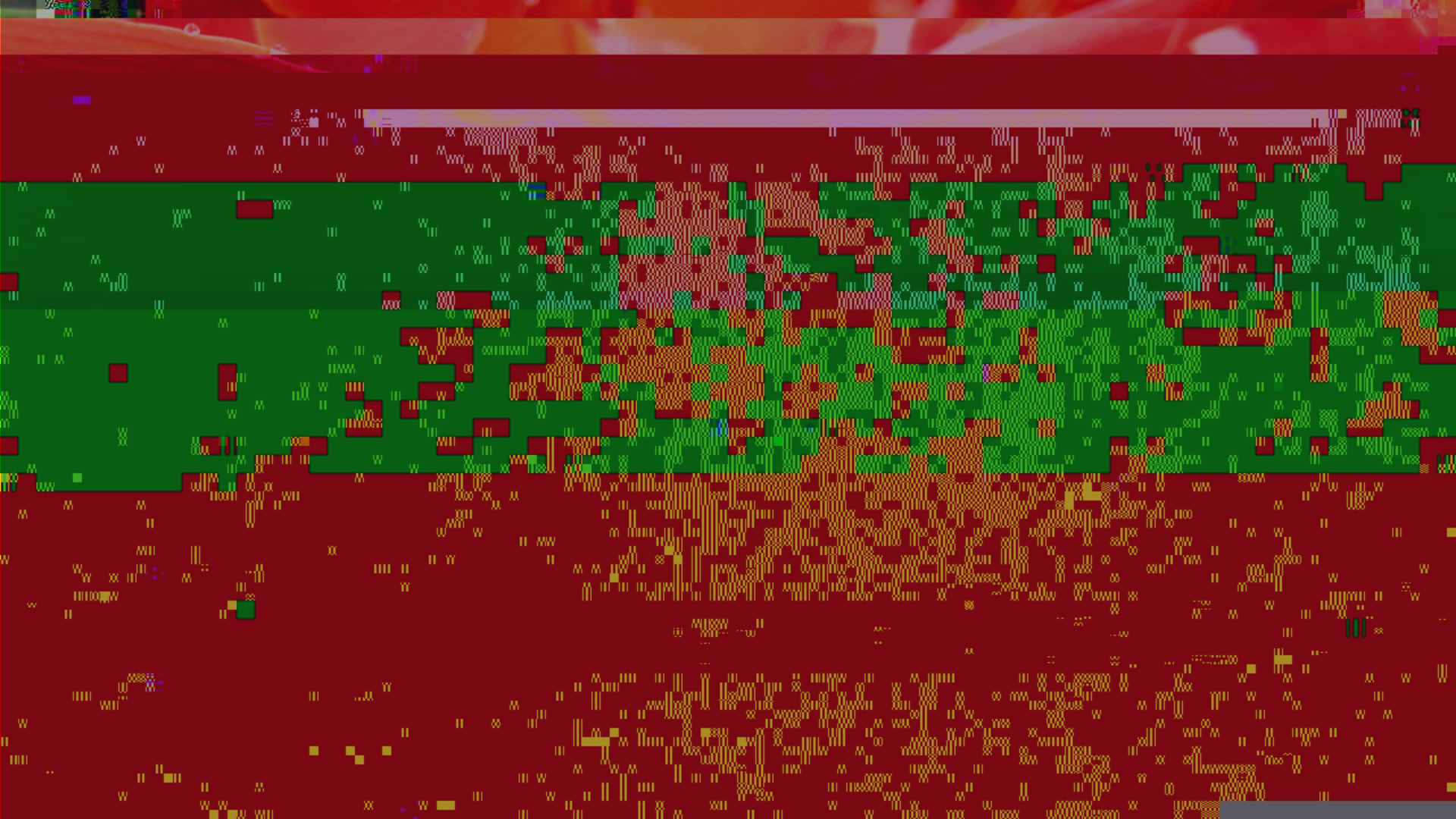
4. Identify components of program and brainstorm ways to

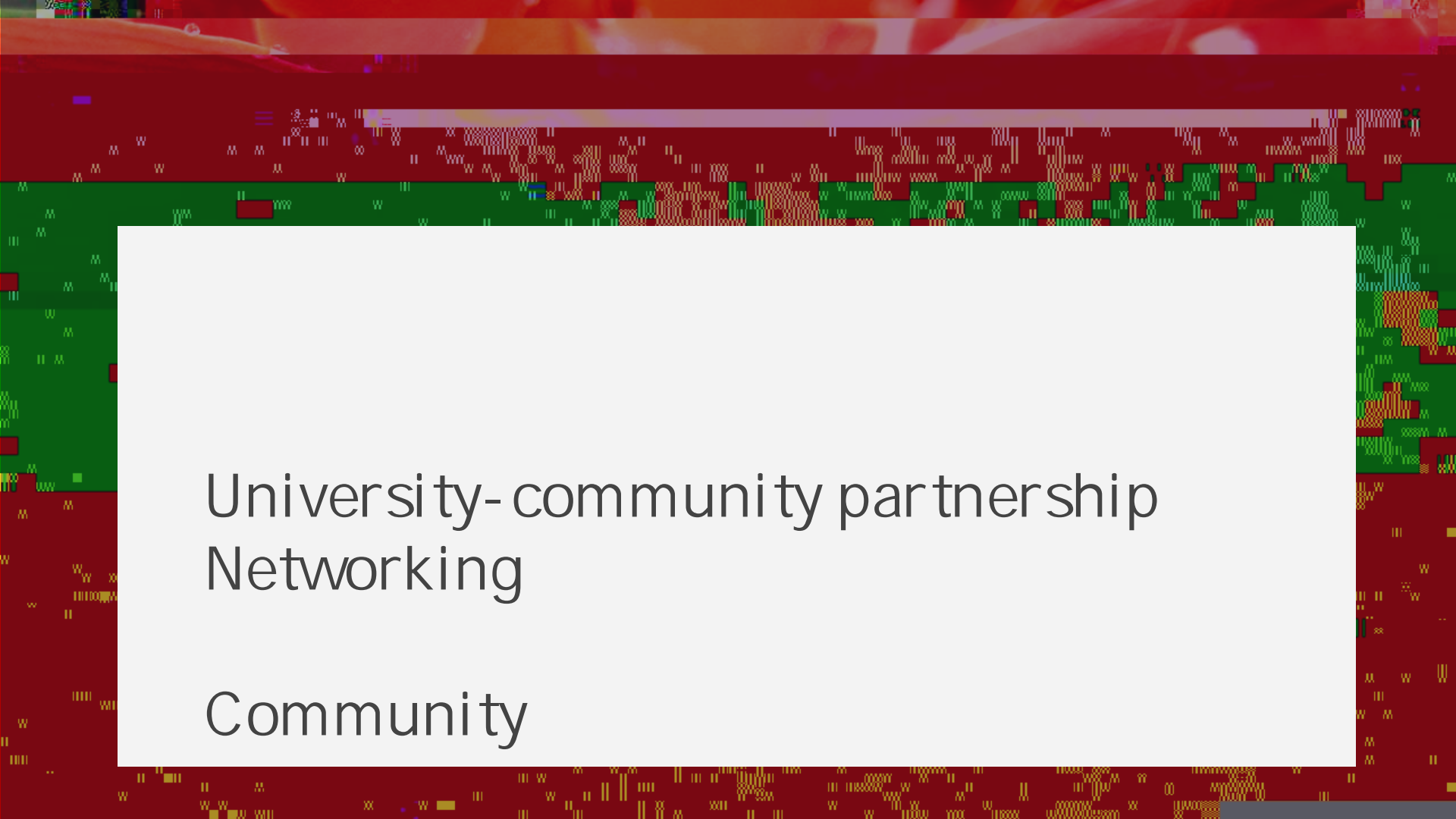
Modifiable

Non-modifiable Components









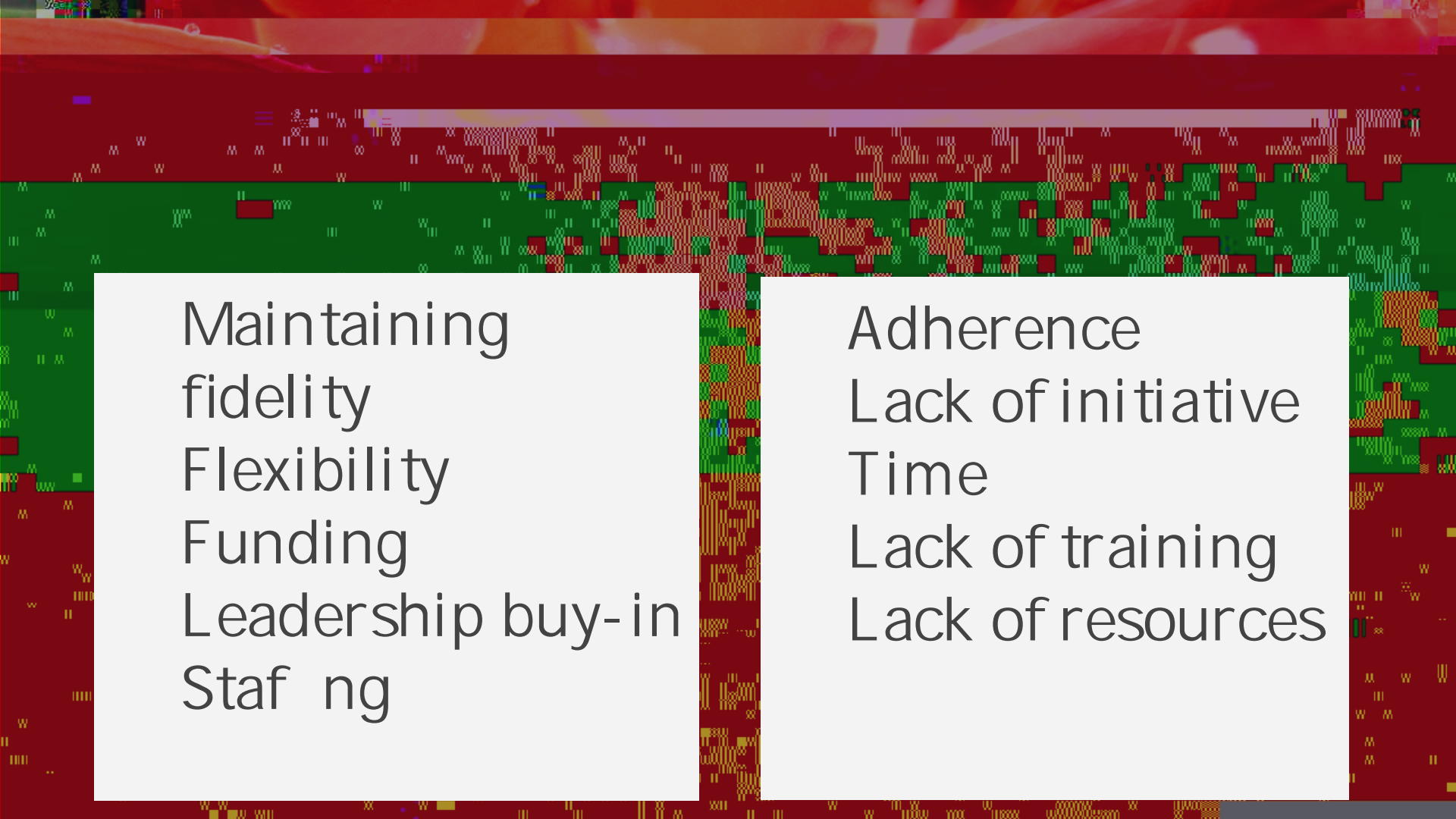
University- community partnership  
Networking

Community

“We all want to do a good job at helping and making an impact and really using our resources wisely... I think that the information that was given... really allowed us to feel empowered with understanding a little bit more on how we can track things to be better stewards of the resources.”

- Agency 3





Maintaining  
fidelity  
Flexibility  
Funding  
Leadership buy-in  
Staffing

Adherence  
Lack of initiative  
Time  
Lack of training  
Lack of resources

Desire to develop &  
change  
Willingness to learn  
Openness to new  
perspectives

Goals  
Dissemination  
  
Reflection  
Follow-up  
Concrete references  
  
Trial and error

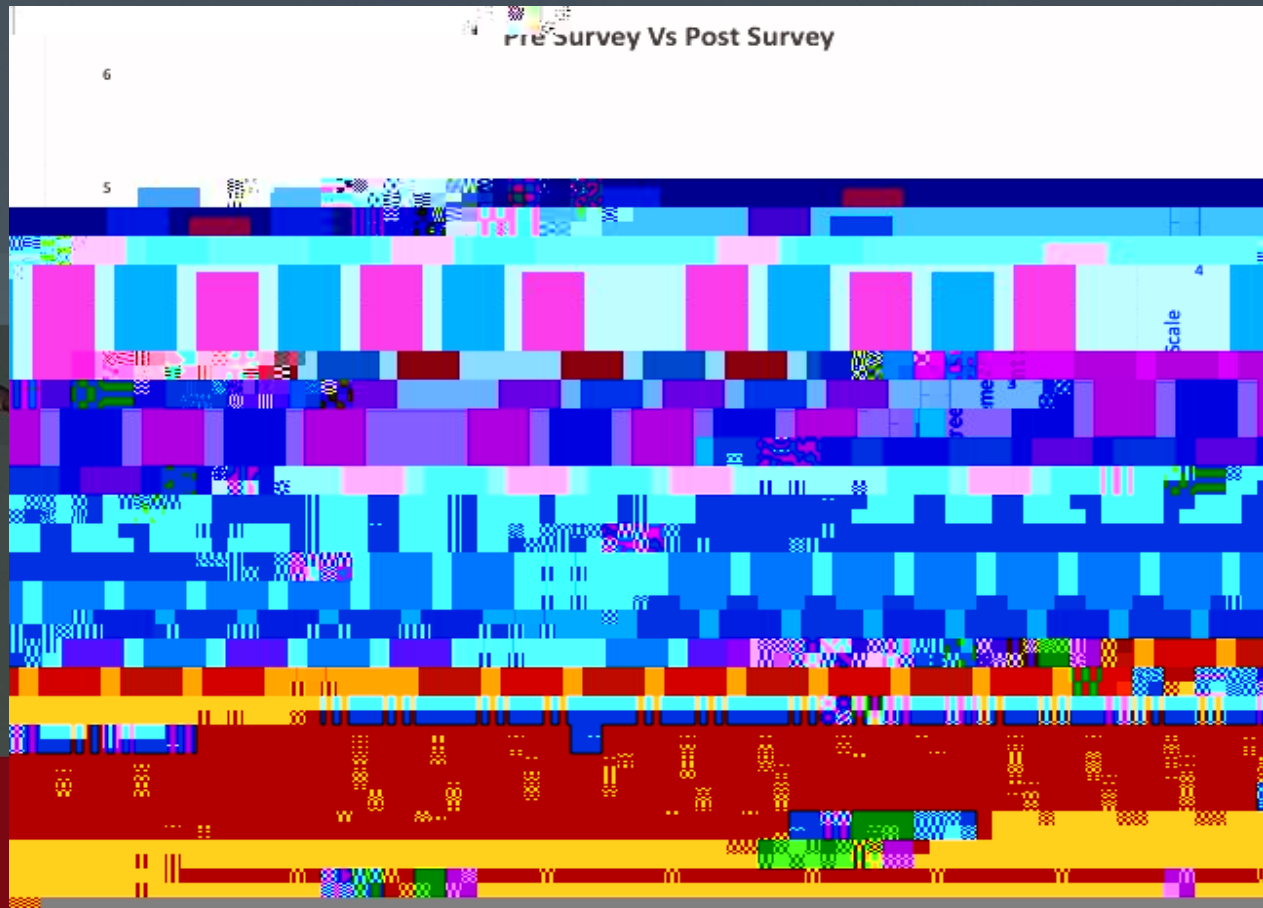


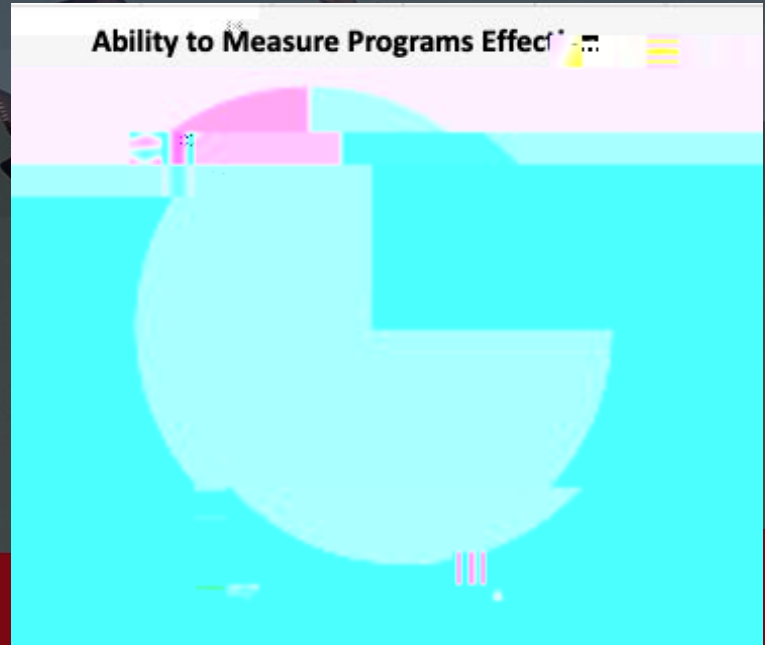


Pre-Survey



Post-Survey





Small sample size (n=4)

Participants in different stages of program implementation

Strong relationship between participants and research investigators

Timing of semi-structured interviews

Homework

Member checking

The population!!!

“So, we have to totally shift our thinking when working with this population of kids so that we can see them become resilient, see them be successful.”

- Agency 1

Improved supports provided to foster youth  
enhance the environment improved  
epigenetic outcomes

Decrease ACE scores by developing an  
integrated service delivery system<sup>6</sup>

Correlatio ve ope b



community capacity =



health/safety problems =



ACE scores



# Next Steps...

- Implement program measurement tool
- Training sessions with entire organization
- Advocating for policy change
- Coalition amongst agencies



