



# A Community-Based Needs Assessment of Resettled Middle Eastern Refugee Children and Families

## WHAT?



A community-based needs assessment using semi-structured interviews

## WHY?



To understand refugee children's and families' needs, challenges, and strengths, and those of the services provided to them during and beyond COVID-19

## WHO?



10 refugee mothers

17 service providers



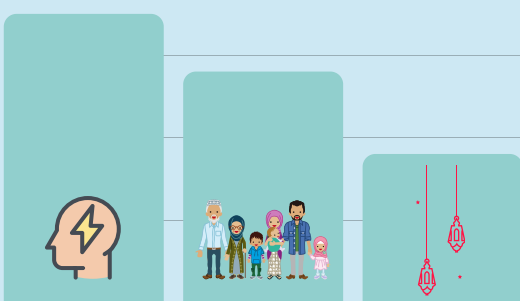
## WHERE?



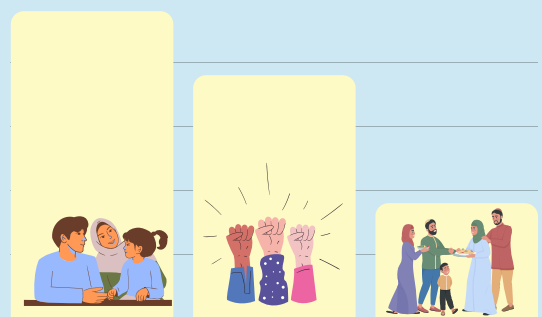
In Hamilton, Ontario and Calgary, Alberta

## REFUGEES

### NEEDS

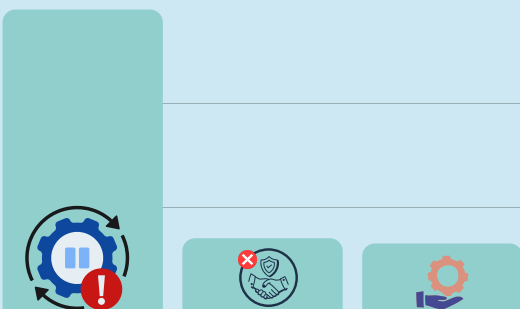


### STRENGTHS

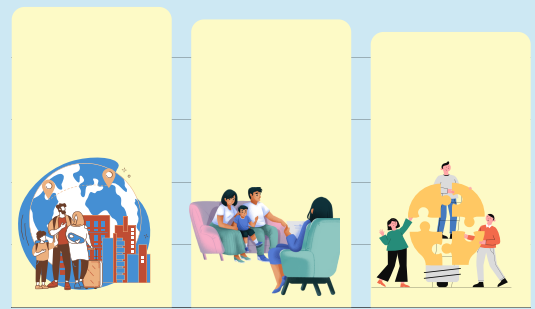


## SERVICES

### NEEDS



### STRENGTHS



## COVID-19 IMPACTS



Double trauma for refugees as limited mobility and lockdown orders of COVID-19 reminded them of pre-migration adversities and challenges



Increased social isolation for children negatively impacted their fledgling friendships



Virtual mental health sessions made it more difficult for service providers to maintain privacy and establish trust with refugee children and caregivers

## RECOMMENDATIONS



### INTENSIFY

strategic coordination and collaboration of refugee service providers to identify redundant or complementary services



### INCREASE

funding for long-term employees to meet ongoing demand and reduce staff turnover that exposes refugees to repeatedly recounting traumas



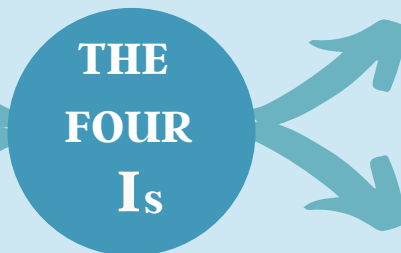
### INCLUDE

members of the refugee community in service settings to foster cultural safety and implement culturally appropriate solutions



### IMPLEMENT

mentoring programs between well-established refugees and newly resettled refugees to foster trust, build community, and preserve refugees' personal and cultural identities



- This data was collected as part of the Supporting Prosociality and Resilience in Newcomer Transitions (SPRINT) project.
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