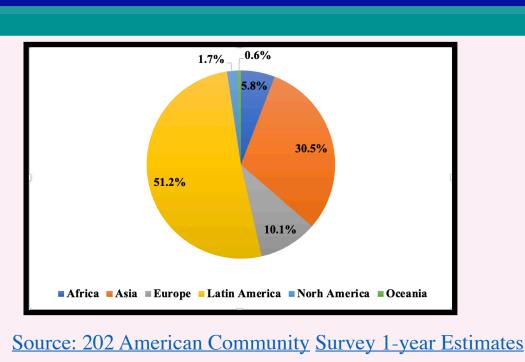
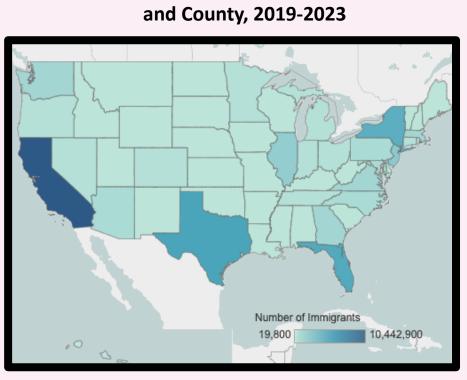
BRIDGING BARRIERS: ADVOCATING FOR INCLUSIVE DISASTER MANAGEMENT FOR IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES

Poster Showcase #IAEM25

Overview of Immigrants



Subpopulations of Immigrants in the US for the periods 2023 – 2024 Temporary Migrants (non-permanent visa holders) (3.6 million in 2024)²





https://www.cnn.com/2023/12/30/us/asylum-seekers-texas-city-mayor

- Anyone who is not a U.S. citizen at birth.
- Approximately 15% of US population as of January, 2025.
- 87.5% of the total foreignborn population from historically marginalized
- Since 2021, temporary migrants constituted the largest portion of immigrant categories
- More likely to live and work in disaster-prone areas and structures
- Influx of immigrants & busing of immigrants from southern border to Democratic cities
- Resource strain and operational chaos in receiving cities
 - Political pressure and humanitarian challenges posed by the migrant busing program.

Methods

- Employs a Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA).
- Search terms: Immigrants; Refugees; Disasters; **United States**

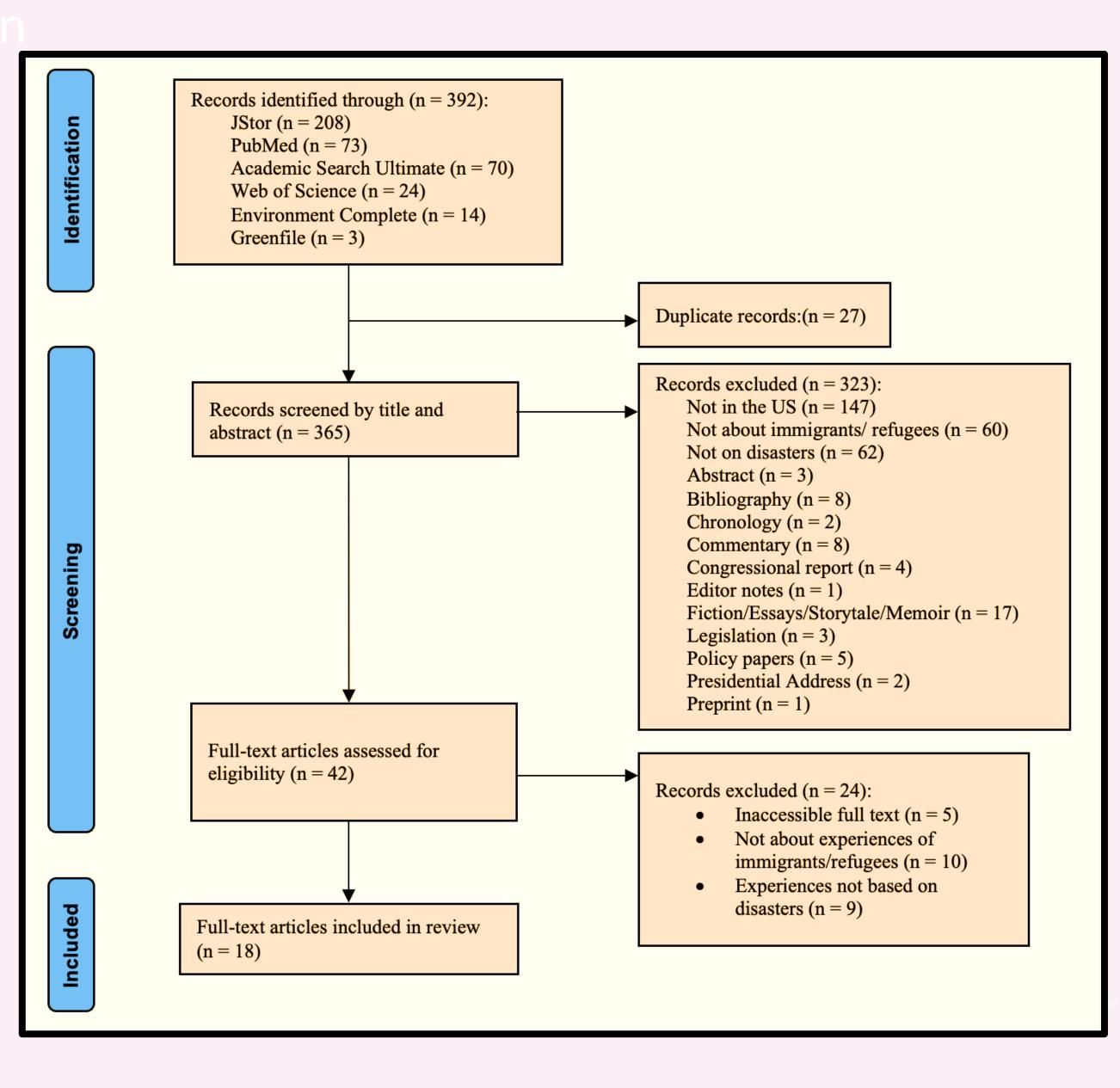
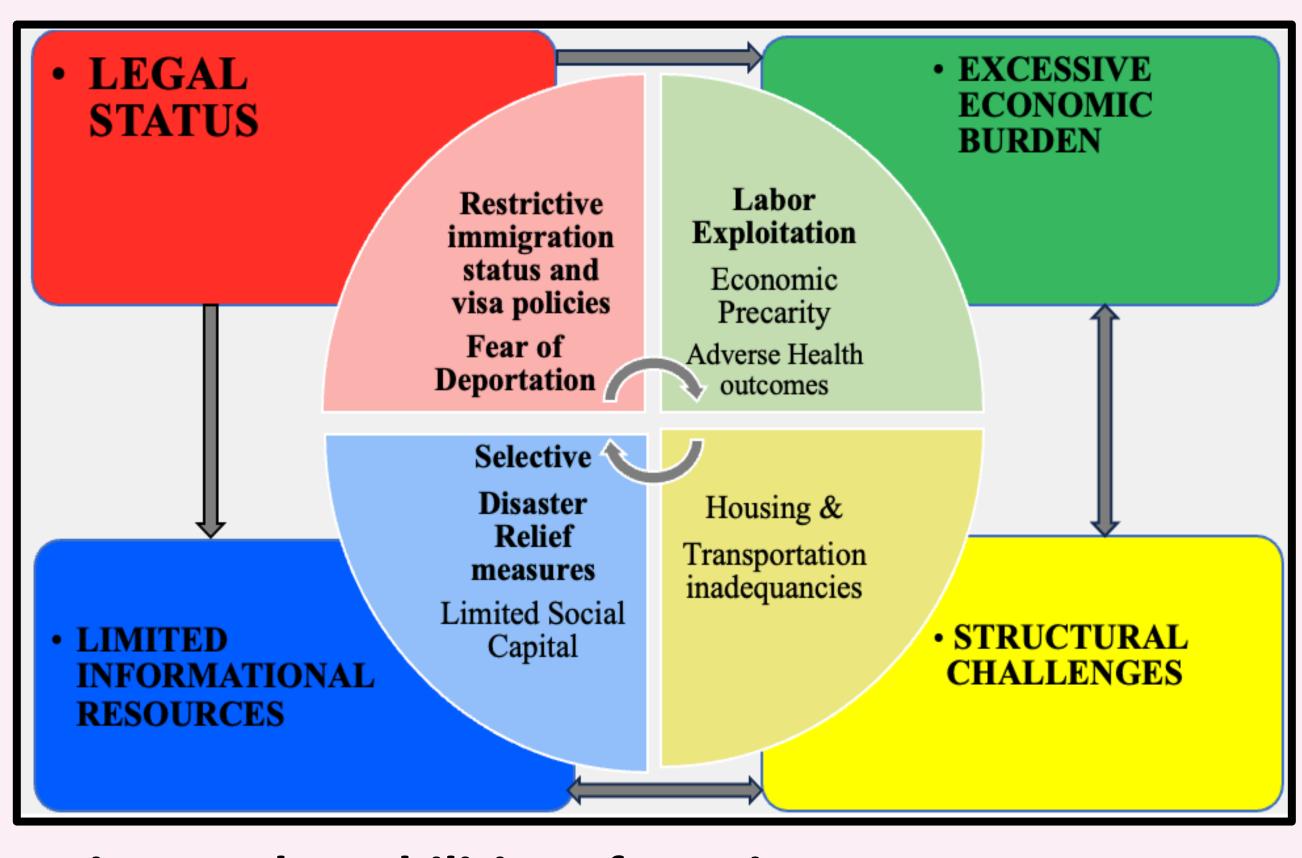


Fig.1: Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) systematic literature review

Hypothesis

• Immigrant communities face unique challenges and experience disproportionate impacts from climate change, requiring targeted adaptation strategies that address their unique needs.

Interconnected Vulnerability Dimensions



Unique Vulnerabilities of Immigrants:

- Fear of deportation
- Restrictive immigration status and visa policies
- Excessive economic exploitation
- Limited social capital
- Selective disaster relief measures

Immigration Complexity in EM

Yvonne Appiah Dadson

Undocumented immigrants: Highest barriers due to deportation fears

Competitive Division - Graduate Student

- Humanitarian migrants: Federal support but cultural integration challenges and uncertain legal status
- Temporary visa holders: Uncertain service eligibility and legal protections
- Lawful permanent residents: Public charge concerns and cultural barriers
- Naturalized citizens: Cultural and linguistic barriers may persist

Language beyond translation:

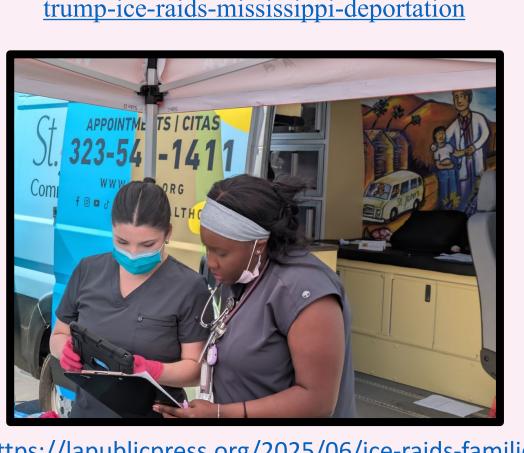
Immigration status variations:

- Emergency communications require cultural adaptation, not just translation
- Different languages need different approaches to emergency authority
- Community languages may not align with available translation services

Cultural Factors affecting emergency response:

- Family decision-making structures influence emergency choices
- Cultural concepts of authority and government service vary
- Previous disaster experiences in origin countries shape current behavior
 - Religious and cultural practices affect evacuation and sheltering decisions

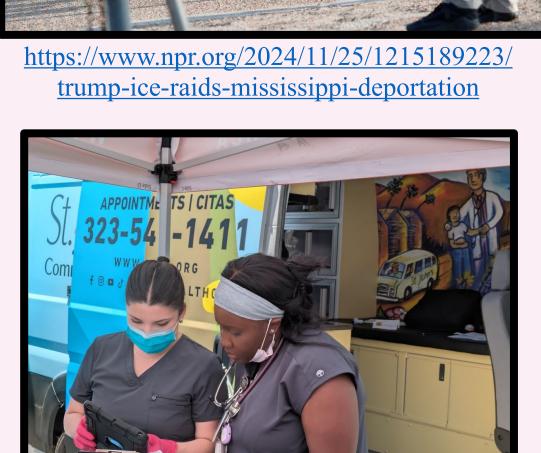




https://lapublicpress.org/2025/06/ice-raids-families

- Mass deportation operations and increased ICE activity create fear across immigrant communities, with sanctuary policies under federal threat
- Fear-driven avoidance of emergency services by immigrants
- **Emergency managers** navigate federal enforcement vs. community safety conflicts

Amplified Vulnerabilities

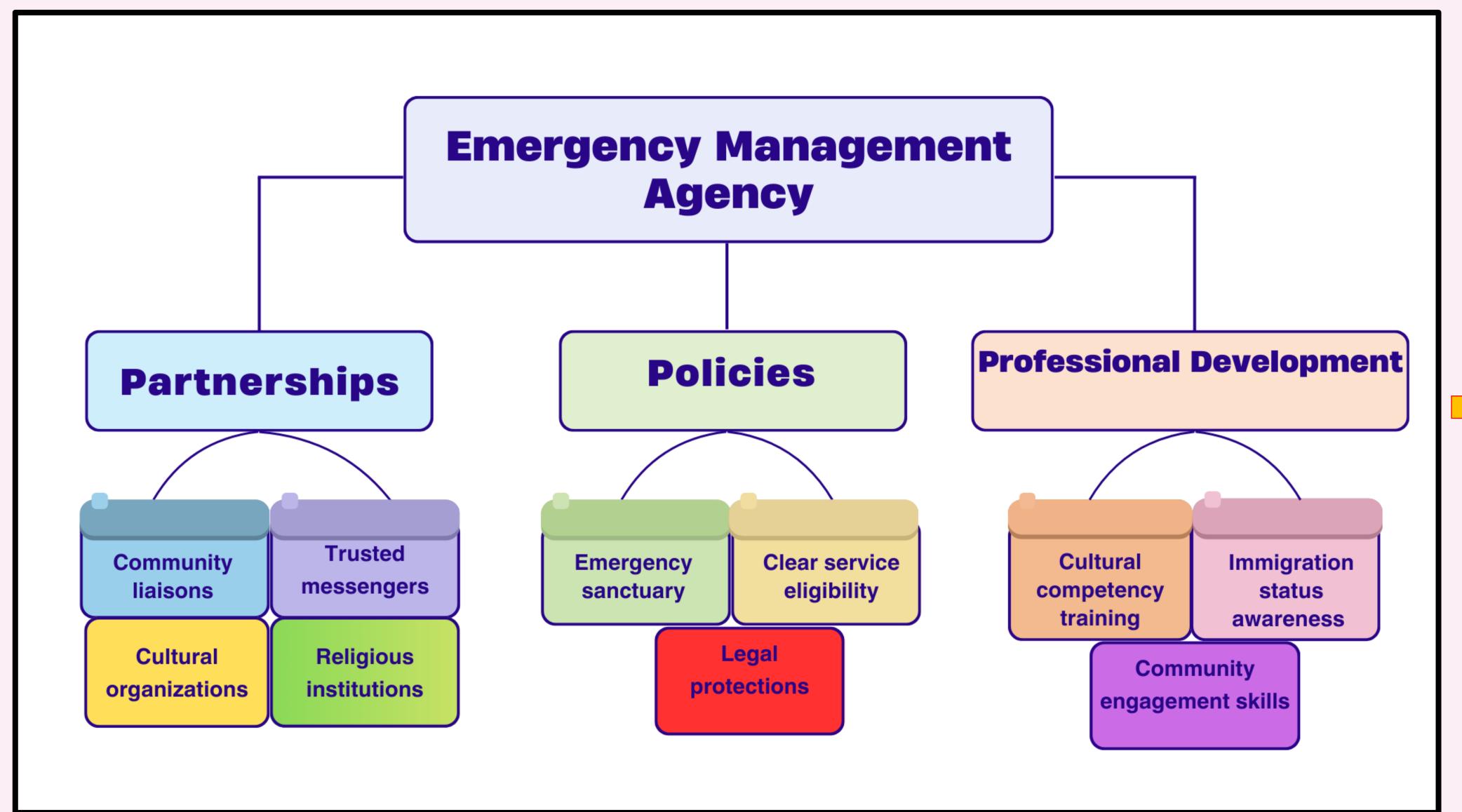


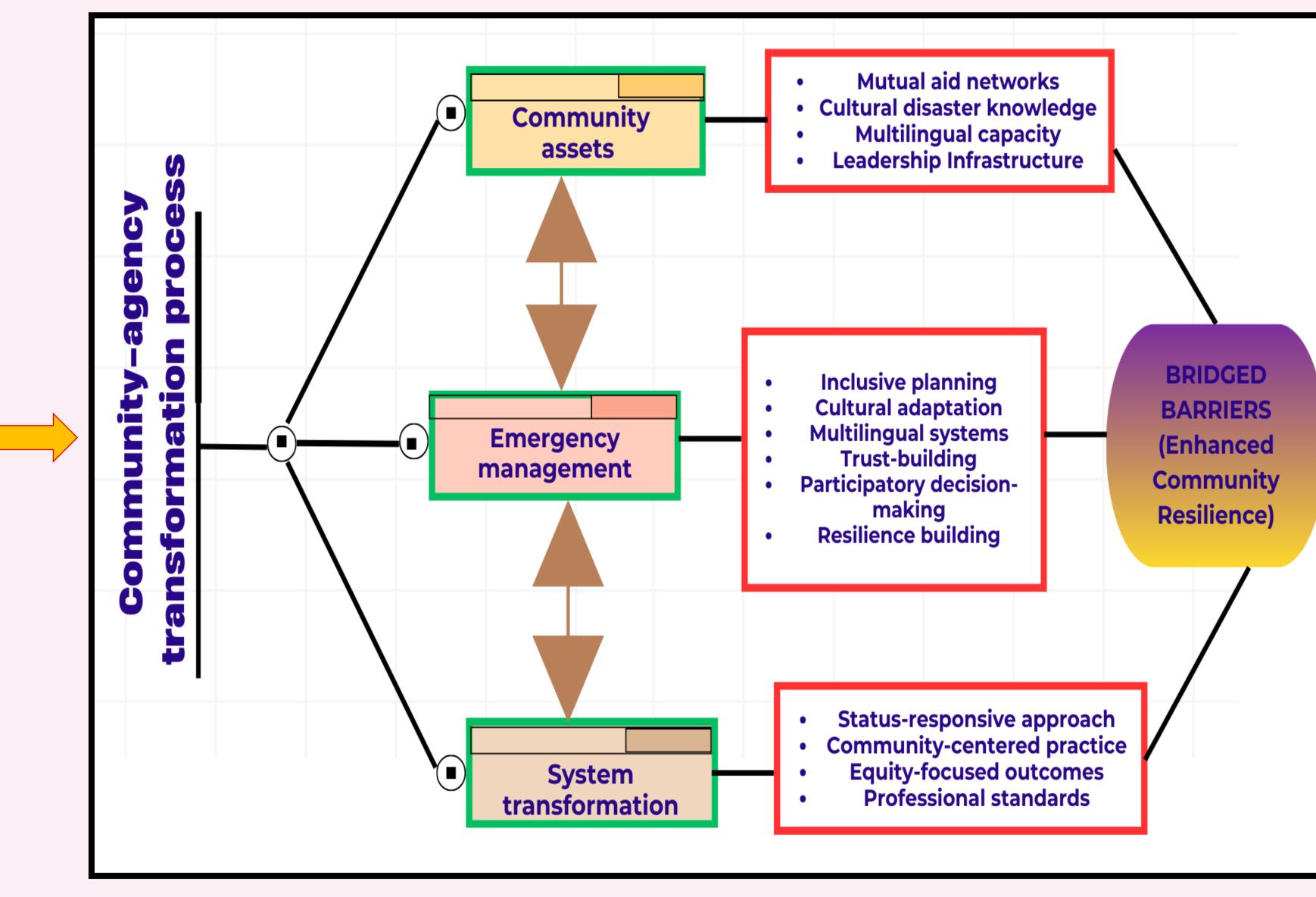
too-scared-to-go-to-docto

Objectives

- Reveal multifaceted vulnerabilities of immigrants
 - What are the unique concerns among immigrants during disasters?
- Provide evidence-based recommendations for inclusive emergency management.

Integrated Framework for Inclusive Emergency Management Practice





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