



Building Resilient and Protective Factors through Health and Family Life Education

CARICOM Secretariat

11/14/2006 Presented by: Beverly Reynolds 1



VISION

Empowered, Healthy and Free Young People in a United and Safe Caribbean

11/14/2006 CARICOM Secretariat 2

Risk Factors

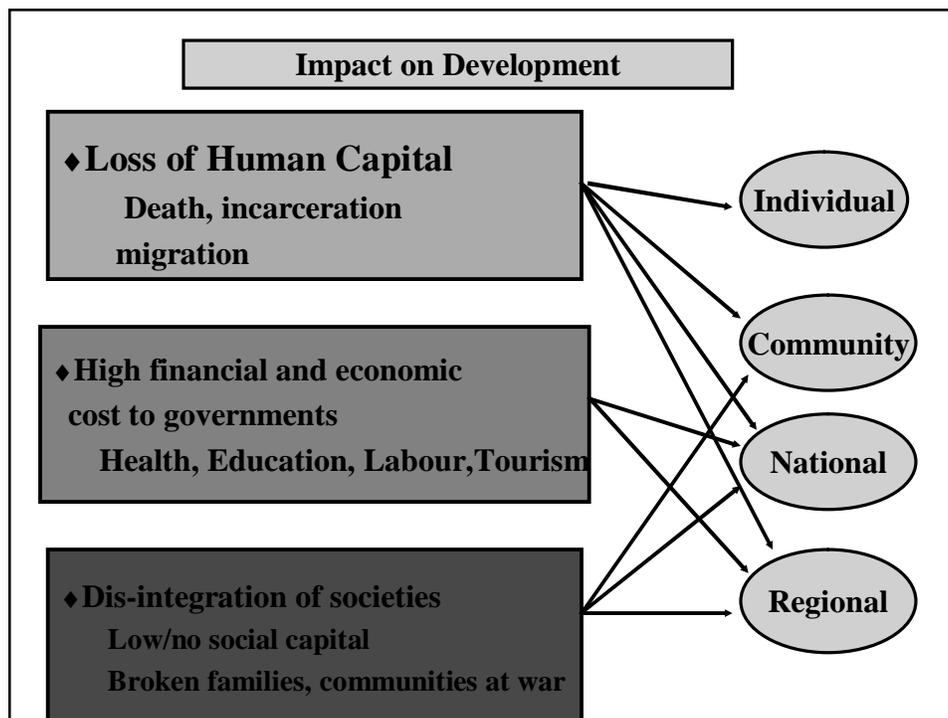


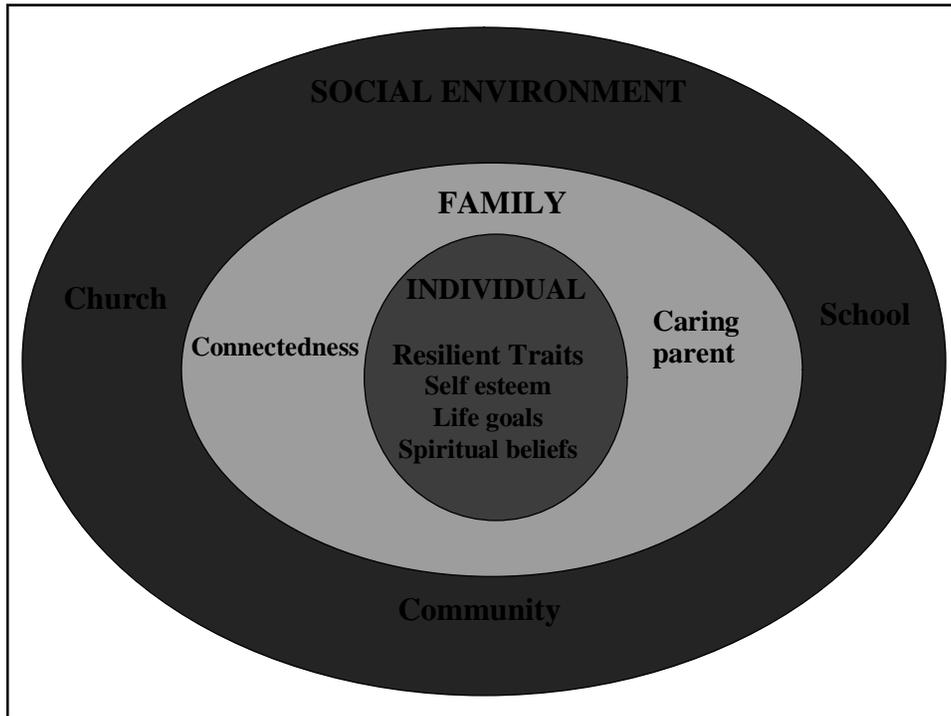
- ◆ Early Sexual Initiation
- ◆ High and growing rate of HIV/AIDS infection among adolescents/youth
- ◆ Growing incidence of substance use, abuse among adolescent/youth population
- ◆ Cultural practices that endorse/facilitate social acceptance of physical and sexual abuse
- ◆ High incidence of rage/aggression/antisocial/crime/violence among adolescents and youth
- ◆ High rates of unemployment and poverty among adolescent/youth population

11/14/2006

CARICOM Secretariat

3





Life Skills Approach

- ◆ An approach that seeks to develop skills in adolescents to build needed competencies for healthy development and positive behaviours to deal with the challenges of life
 - Social and Interpersonal Skills
 - Cognitive Skills
 - Emotional Coping Skills

11/14/2006 CARICOM Secretariat 6



Background and Process for Securing Political Support

- ◆ 1994 - Resolution passed by CARICOM Standing Committee of Ministers of Education
- ◆ Support solicited and received from UN Agencies
- ◆ Establishment of CARICOM Multi-Agency HFLE Project
- ◆ 1996 - CARICOM Standing Committee of Ministers of Health and Education reaffirmed commitment to HFLE
- ◆ Sixth meeting of COHSOD in April 2003 endorsed need for urgent strengthening of the HFLE programme

11/14/2006 CARICOM Secretariat 7



Goals of the HFLE Programme

- ◆ Empower children and young people with the knowledge, life skills, attitudes and values that would enable them to meet the health challenges which confront them;
- ◆ Develop their capacities to the fullest so that they can live, learn and work in dignity, participate in development, and improve the quality of their lives.
- ◆ Train teachers so that they can be adequately prepared to effectively deliver the Life-skills-based HFLE Curriculum;
- ◆ Enable parents/guardians/community members to provide nurturing and supportive home/community environments for children and young people

11/14/2006 CARICOM Secretariat 8



Objectives of the CARICOM HFLE Initiative

- ◆ To develop policy, including advocacy and funding, for the overall strengthening of HFLE in and out of schools
- ◆ To strengthen the capacity of teachers to deliver HFLE programmes
- ◆ Equip parents/guardians with knowledge and skills to effect good parenting practices
- ◆ To develop comprehensive life-skills based teaching/parenting materials
- ◆ To improve coordination among all the agencies at the regional and national levels in the area of HFLE

11/14/2006 CARICOM Secretariat 9



Strategies for Implementing the HFLE Model

- ◆ Capacity Building
- ◆ Curriculum Development
- ◆ Supportive Environment
- ◆ Community Initiatives

11/14/2006 CARICOM Secretariat 10



Challenges

- ◆ Cultural Practices/Religious Beliefs
- ◆ Support Systems/Community Resources
- ◆ Coordination of HFLE Programmes

11/14/2006 CARICOM Secretariat 11



Next Steps

- ◆ Piloting of HFLE Parenting Project in 3 CARICOM Member States
- ◆ Mobilizing Resources for Regional Drug Demand Reduction Strategy
 - Proposal for Education and Prevention developed
- ◆ Review and Revise HFLE Core Curriculum being used in Teachers' Training Colleges
- ◆ Review and revise Training Manual for Teachers' College
- ◆ Develop/revise National Curriculum using Regional Curriculum Framework

11/14/2006 CARICOM Secretariat 12