

# On community resilience

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## Resilience as an personal attribute

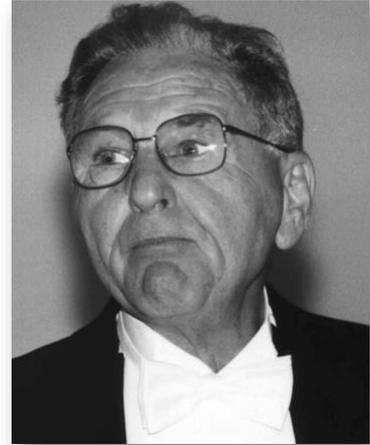
Focus is on some personal attributes such as optimism, hope, meaning-making, or gratitude



## Resilience is nurtured by the environment

“Most of the women having experienced Holocaust did significantly poorer than other women did. However, a third of them did no poorer at all! This caused Antonovsky to ask, “What was the miracle?””

Pg. 29 of of Vinje, H. F., Langeland, E., & Bull, T. (2017). Aaron Antonovsky’s development of salutogenesis, 1979 to 1994. In *The handbook of salutogenesis* (p. 25-40). Springer, Cham.



Aaron Antonovsky (1923-1994)



## A definition of resilience

“the ability to respond and reorganise ‘in ways that maintain essential function, identity, and structure, while also maintaining the capacity for adaptation, learning and transformation’”

(Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 2014  
quoted in DeMello et al 2020, p. 552-553)





## Pillar 2: The Provision of Knowledge and Skill-Building Services

Need to feed the local networks with knowledge

- shared lexicon
- shared norms
- shared perspectives

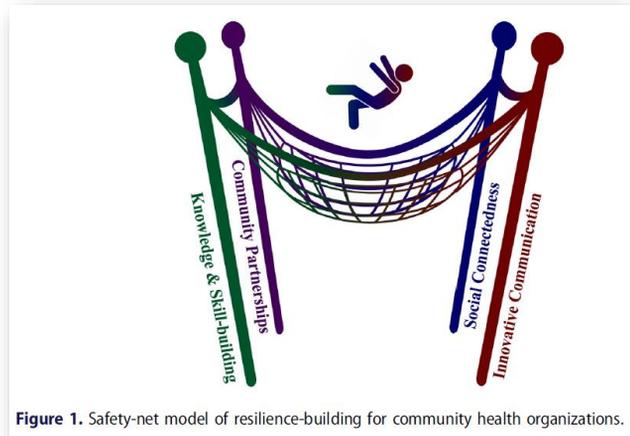


Figure 1. Safety-net model of resilience-building for community health organizations.

Source: DeMello, A., Egan, R., & Drew, J. (2020). Resilience-building by community health organizations : A guiding model for practice. *Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand*, 50(4), 552-571.



## Pillar 3: The Application of Innovative and Strategic Communication Tools

How to maintain connections?

Communication tools that are:

- widely used
- multi-purpose

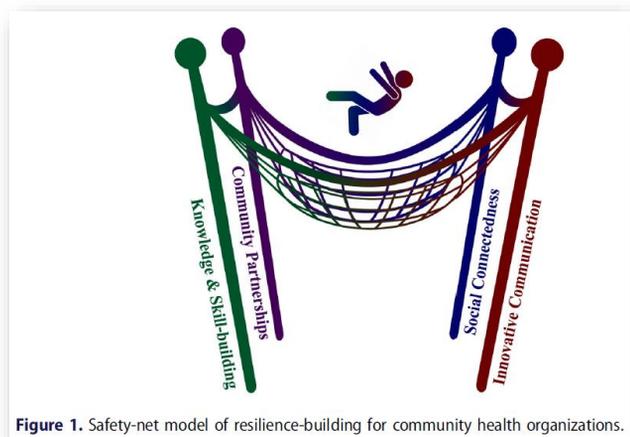


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## Pillar 4: The Prioritisation of Stakeholder Community Partnerships

The Pandemic has demonstrated that without sufficient support local mobilisations may struggle to contribute in the face of a crisis

-Resources to manage the partnership

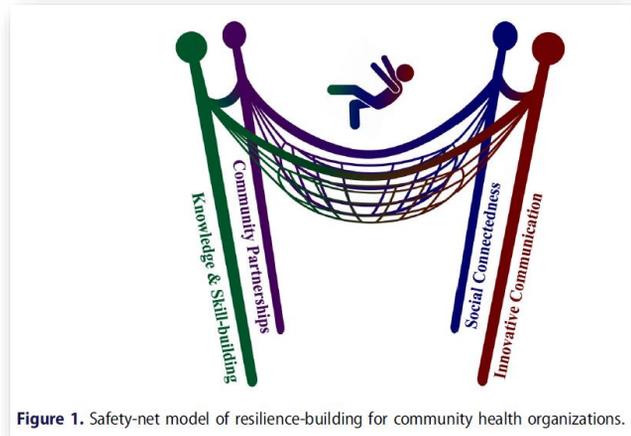


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## Community resilience should be an aim of health policies

Building and strengthening resilience of communities

The importance of community resilience, the quality of social networks, and strengthened participation in decision-making for health and well-being is increasingly recognized.

Pg. 11 of WHO Europe. (2012). *European action plan for strengthening public health capacities and services*. World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe.



## Conclusion

"These [Amerindian and Bushinenge populations of French Guyana] must not feel left out [...] we have a duty to be as close as possible to carry out direct work [...] Very often when there are actions [...] that are carried out for these populations, well, it happens at a moment in time, it doesn't last. [...] we have noticed that there is a need for continuity in these different actions."



Sylvio Van Der Pijl - Voices from the field - Global Community Health Annual Workshop 2022

Sylvio Van Der Pijl, Vice-president of the Grand Customary Council of the Amerindian and Bushinenge populations of French Guyana. Photo credit: [www.saintlaurentdumaroni.fr](http://www.saintlaurentdumaroni.fr)



## For more information...

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