



COMMUNITY-ENGAGED MEASURE
DEVELOPMENT FOR FRAMING QUESTIONS
ABOUT CULTURE IN INTERVENTIONS:
QUESTIONS ABOUT
CULTURE

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Questions about culture

- What is “culture”?
 - Who defines it?
 - What aspects of it are important – for what outcomes?
- Why do we include culture in interventions?
 - What “culture” do we include?
 - Why do we think culture will matter in interventions, what will it change, and what are the mechanisms of impact?
 - How do we measure what we are doing in incorporating culture?
- How do we think about outcomes that are culturally relevant and valid?
 - How do we identify the right outcomes to measure?
 - How do we measure outcomes in a culturally valid way?



What IS culture?

In the mind of the researcher? In the minds of community members?
Psychological? Social? Behavioral?

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Each facet of culture is complex

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cultural identity

Self-identification
AI? Ojibwe? Lakota? Multiethnic?

Stages of identity development
(unexamined, exploration, achievement; Erikson, Phinney)
(cultural socialization)

Racial identity models
(salience, centrality, ideology, regard; Sellers)

Cultural identity models
(engagement with culture – traditional, contemporary)

Bicultural models
(Oetting & Beauvais)

Internalized stereotype



Culture is not static – in communities or in individuals

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□ Community level

□ Example:

Social media and reservation culture (**Thiwáhe Gluwáš'akapi**)

□ Individual level

□ Example:

Cultural identity from a developmental perspective

□ Adults – achieved identity?

□ Adolescents – active identity discovery

□ Young children – pre-identity (concrete identity)

□ What is identity before self-reflection is possible?

□ What sets the stage for healthy cultural identity development?



Why do we include culture in interventions?

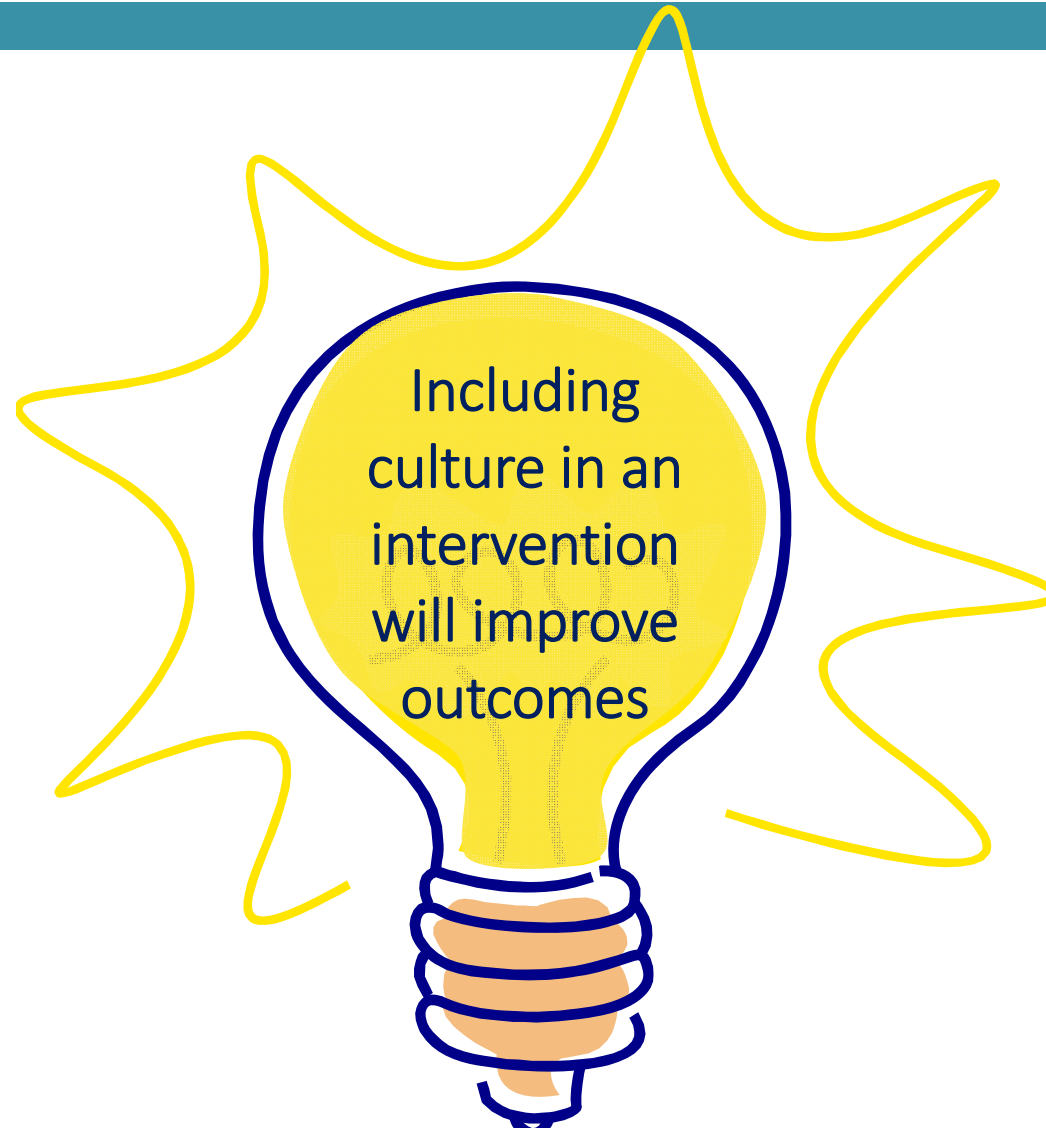
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- ❑ What “culture” do we include?
 - ❑ previous slides
- ❑ Why do we think culture will matter in interventions, what will it change, and what are the mechanisms of impact?
- ❑ How do we measure what we are doing in incorporating culture?



The general theory of change that drives cultural interventions is this idea:

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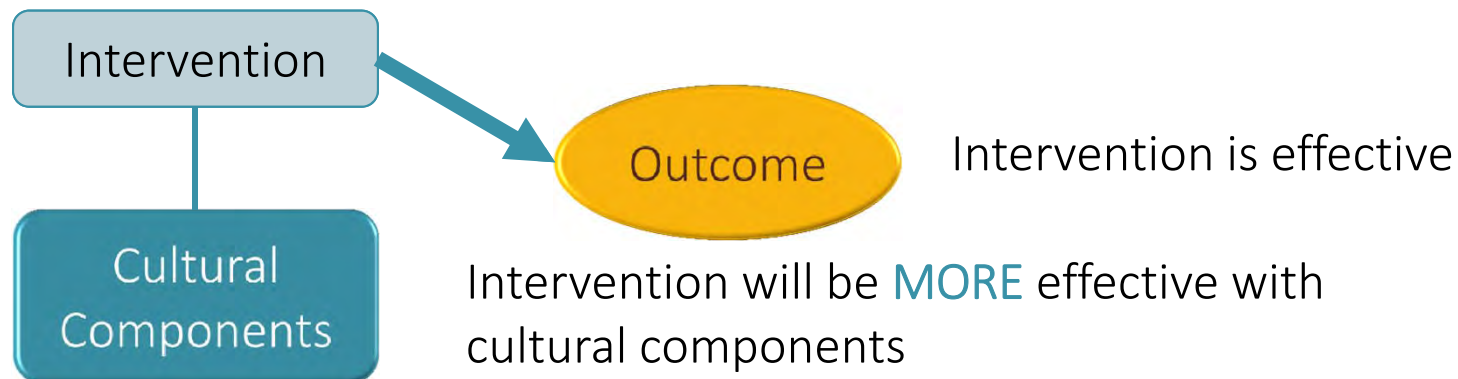
What does “improve” mean?

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Improve = Enhance

Additive Model



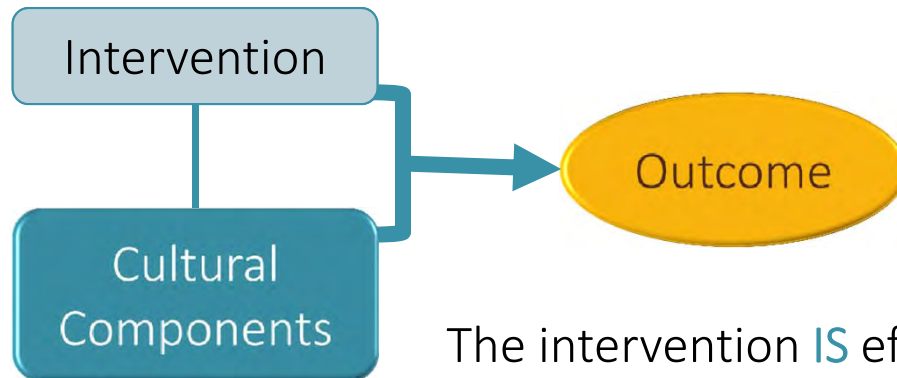
OR

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Improve = Activate

Interactive model



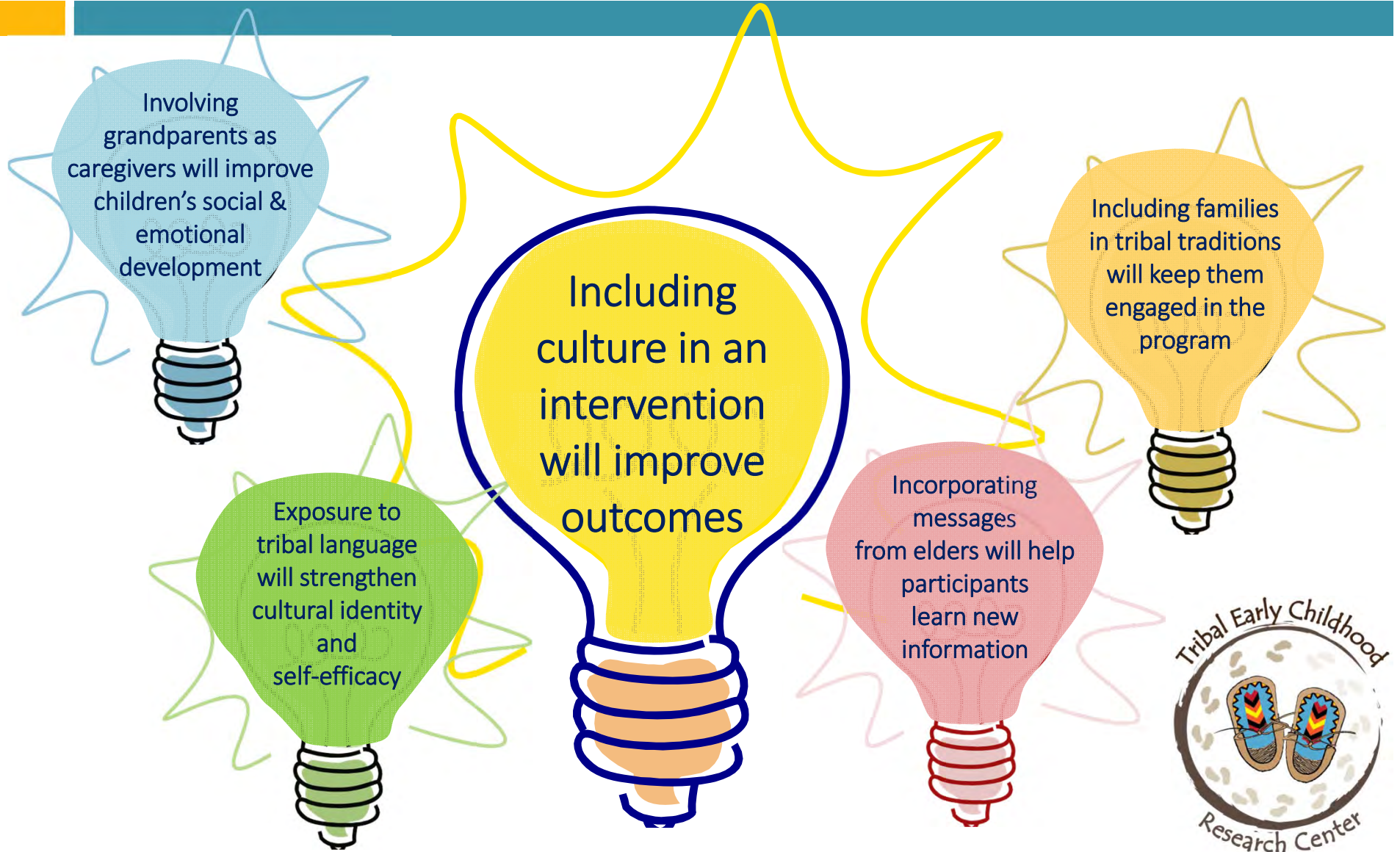
Intervention is **NOT** effective without cultural adaptation.

The intervention **IS** effective with cultural adaptation.

- Engagement/retention?
- Relevance?

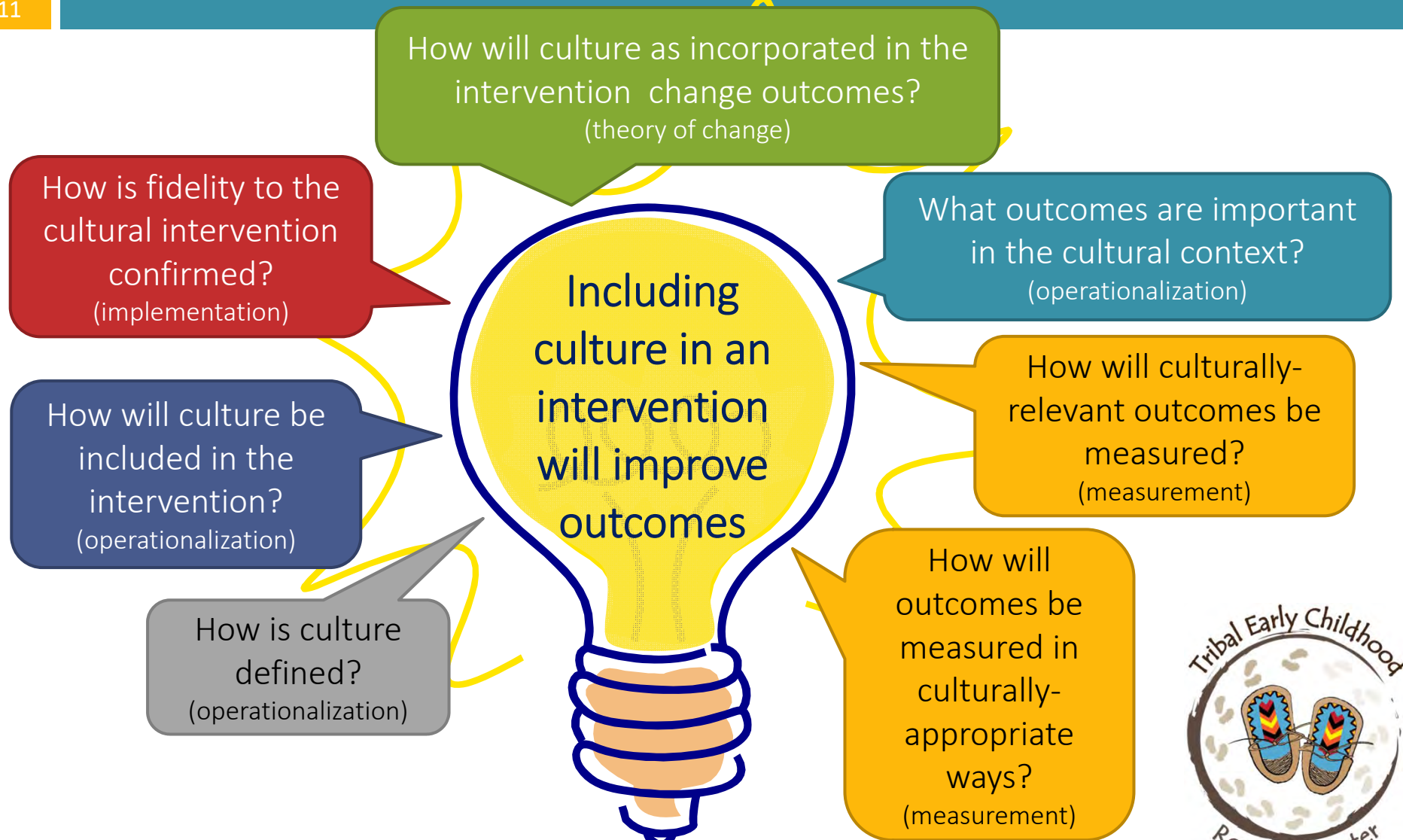


This theory is incredibly broad & could include a lot of specific theories.



A lot of questions need to be answered to articulate the general theory.

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How do we think about outcomes that are culturally relevant and valid?

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- Engage communities to identify the right outcomes to measure.
- Engage communities to design measures that assess outcomes in a culturally-valid ways.

- If the outcomes that matter are the same as in other contexts:
 - ▣ Ensure culturally-appropriate measurement

- If important outcomes reflect specific cultural ways:
 - ▣ Operationalize important outcomes
 - ▣ Identify or create appropriate measures for these outcomes

Stay tuned for Jim Allen . . .



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