

MHPSS in Education: lessons from emergency responses

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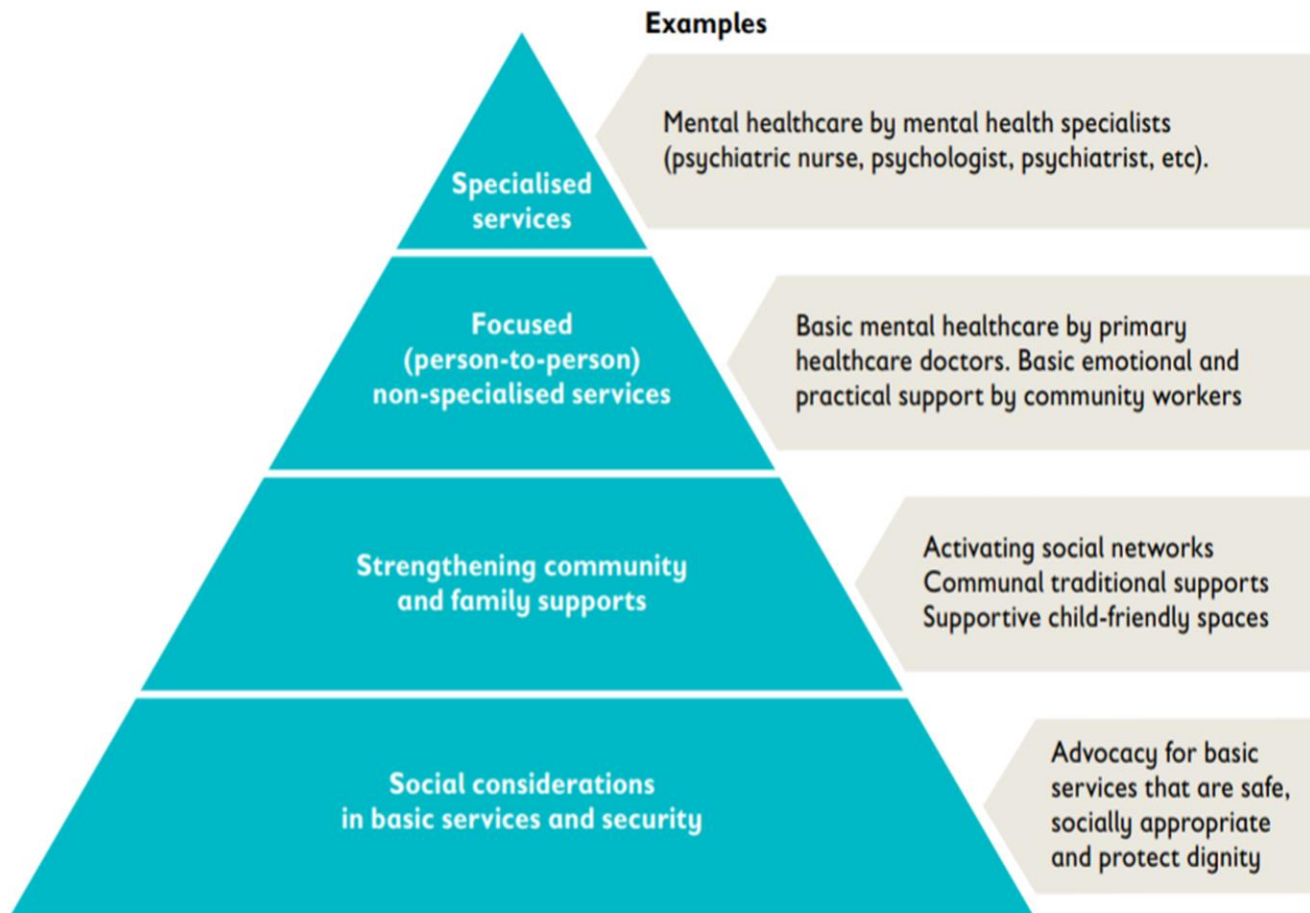
Senior Education Officer - Emergencies

Education in Emergencies

- Natural disasters or conflict-related emergencies (forced displacement)
- Education systems have undergone significant shock
- Support a return to learning within 3 months of displacement



THE INTERVENTION PYRAMID FOR MHPSS IN EMERGENCY SETTINGS²⁹



Examples of MPHSS programmes and support

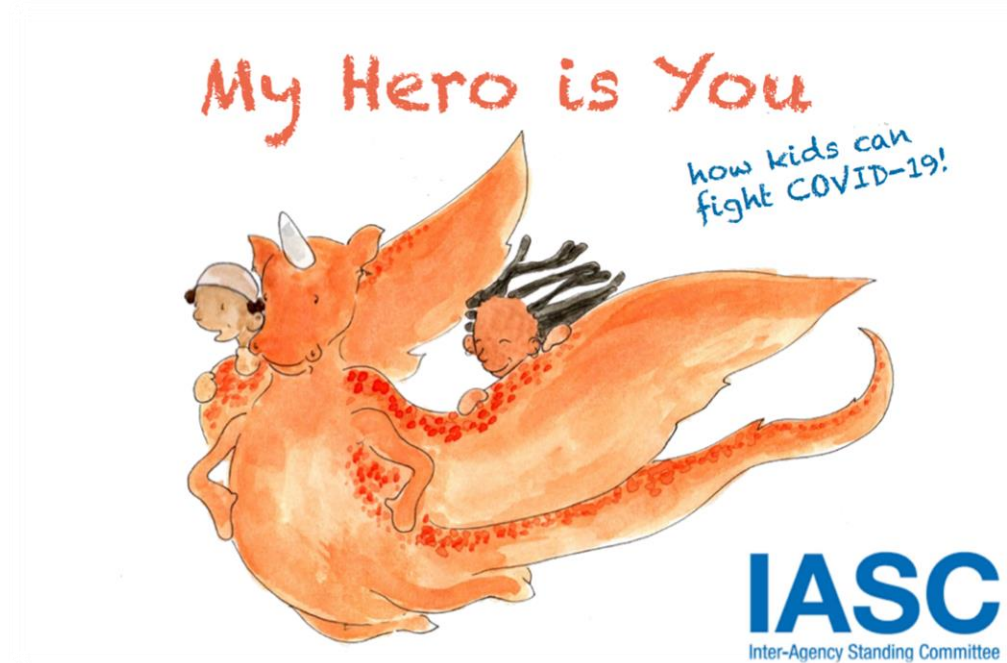
Mentoring – adolescent girls (Jordan)

Play and sport (Liberia – post-Ebola response)

House visits (Chad) – COVID-19



Using stories to address PSS issues



Lessons learnt

- Useful to focus on **group** – rather than individual - activities
- Do no harm – avoid offering lay counselling and instead focus on generalised skills
- Have knowledge of more specialised services and referral pathways
- Reserve time in the educational programme for PSS/ SEL

Lessons learnt (2)

- Teacher understanding of emotional **impact on learner behaviour** - need for compassion; shorter concentration periods.
- Helping children feel **safe** in schools – clear communication; physical safety; increased awareness of bullying
- Promoting **acceptance and non-stigmatisation** of those who have been ill/ had ill family members
- Being aware of the **specific barriers/** difficulties that some groups may face (inclusivity)

Hope and resilience

Fatima – a Syrian refugee - graduated with an engineering degree with a double major after experiencing personal tragedy



Useful resources:

- Inter-agency Network For Education in Emergencies (www.inee.org)
 - Webinar recordings
 - Guidance Note on psycho-social support/ Social and Emotional Learning
- MHPSS Collective <https://mhpsscollaborative.org>
- IASC guidelines on MPHSS and on education