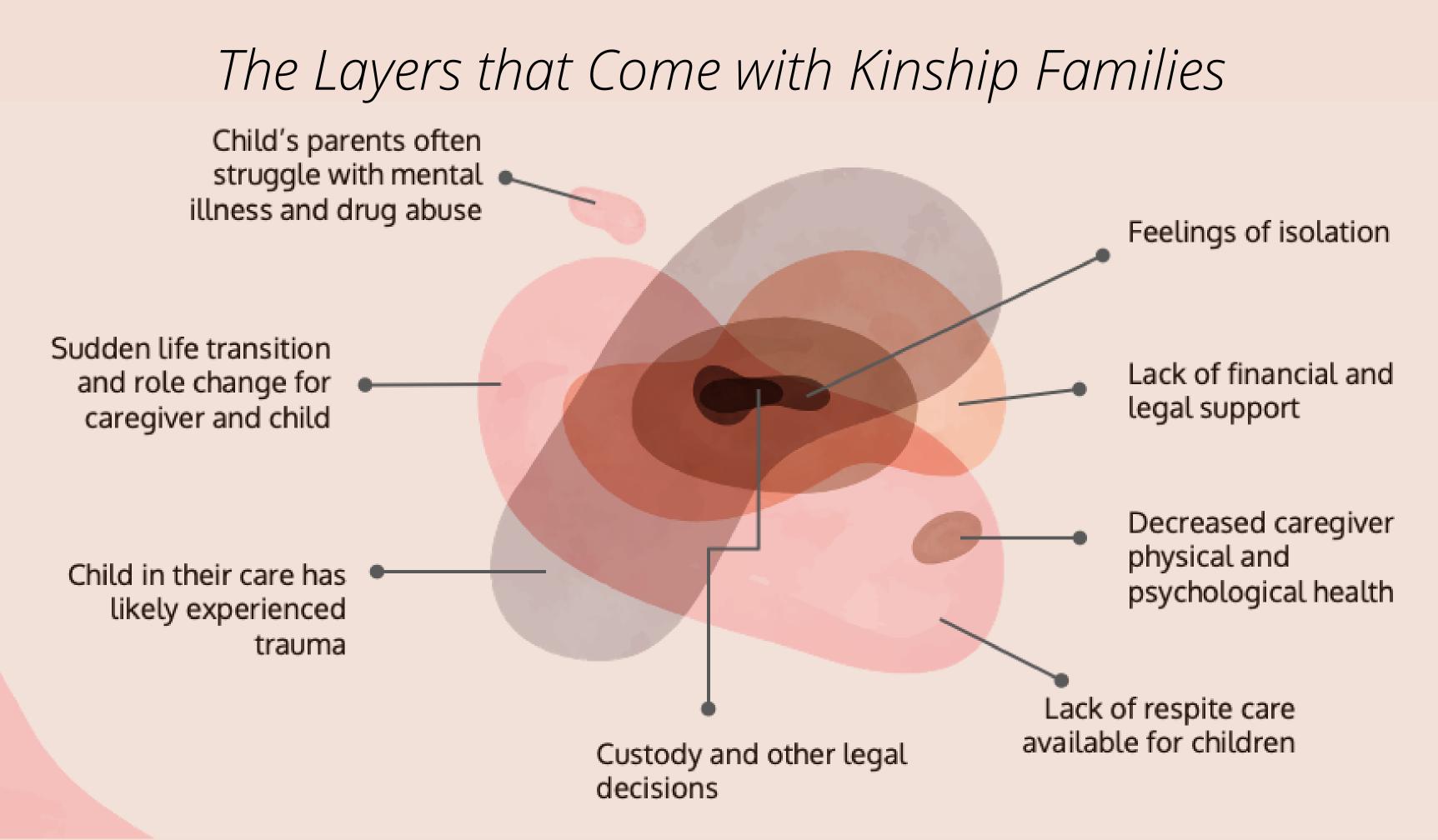
## Working with Grandfamilies in the Schools



- Form a foundation of trust
- Be a listener- ask about their needs
- Provide validation whenever you can
- Different needs, but equal as parents
- Share community and school resources
- Help them feel a part of the classroom
- Support with navigating school forms/policies



- Use a trauma-informed care approach
- Allow them to own their own story; avoid asking them to re-explain their story/ situation
- Consider referrals to necessary school services such as mental health support, educational support, OT services, etc.
  - Create a predictable, safe, and accepting environment
  - Use family-inclusive language



Prepared by Angela Provenzano, OSU OT/D student; founder and leader of Kinship Caregivers Connect Online Support Group Find more resources at: kinshipcaregiversconnect.com