

# Exercise

Neglected children and their families tend to find community resources and supports difficult to access. Parents of neglected children may be wary of formal support services for a range of personal and historical reasons.

Services may also lack sufficient outreach support. Children may lack the confidence and knowledge to make use of community resources. The existence of resources for children and families is, therefore, not sufficient. Parents and children can be supported to make use of resources in the context of good working relationships that can act as bridges and supports.

In small groups use the diagram as a guide to map out on a flip chart the kinds of bridges and supports that can be put in place to enable children and families to benefit from a range of supports, including formal and informal, universal and specialised. Think about bridges and supports as human or other resources and in relation to parents and children. Where possible, draw on examples from your own experience.

