

## Introduction

- Grandparents (GP) raising grandchildren (GC) are a rapidly growing population in the U.S.
- A systematic literature review identified interventions for 'grandfamilies'; these address a small portion of their needs
- Moreover, the studies' experimental designs (e.g., two-arm RCT) make it unclear what components are producing an effect and how they work together
- There is no universal network of services that can sufficiently address the GP's need for support, resources, and training

## Objectives

This research is grounded in the Preparation Phase of MOST. The goal was to develop a theoretically- and empirically-based conceptual model and identify candidate components for an intervention for grandparents raising grandchildren.



## Methods

- Mixed Methods
- Survey  $N = 70$ , Interview  $n = 16$
- Descriptive statistics and content analysis

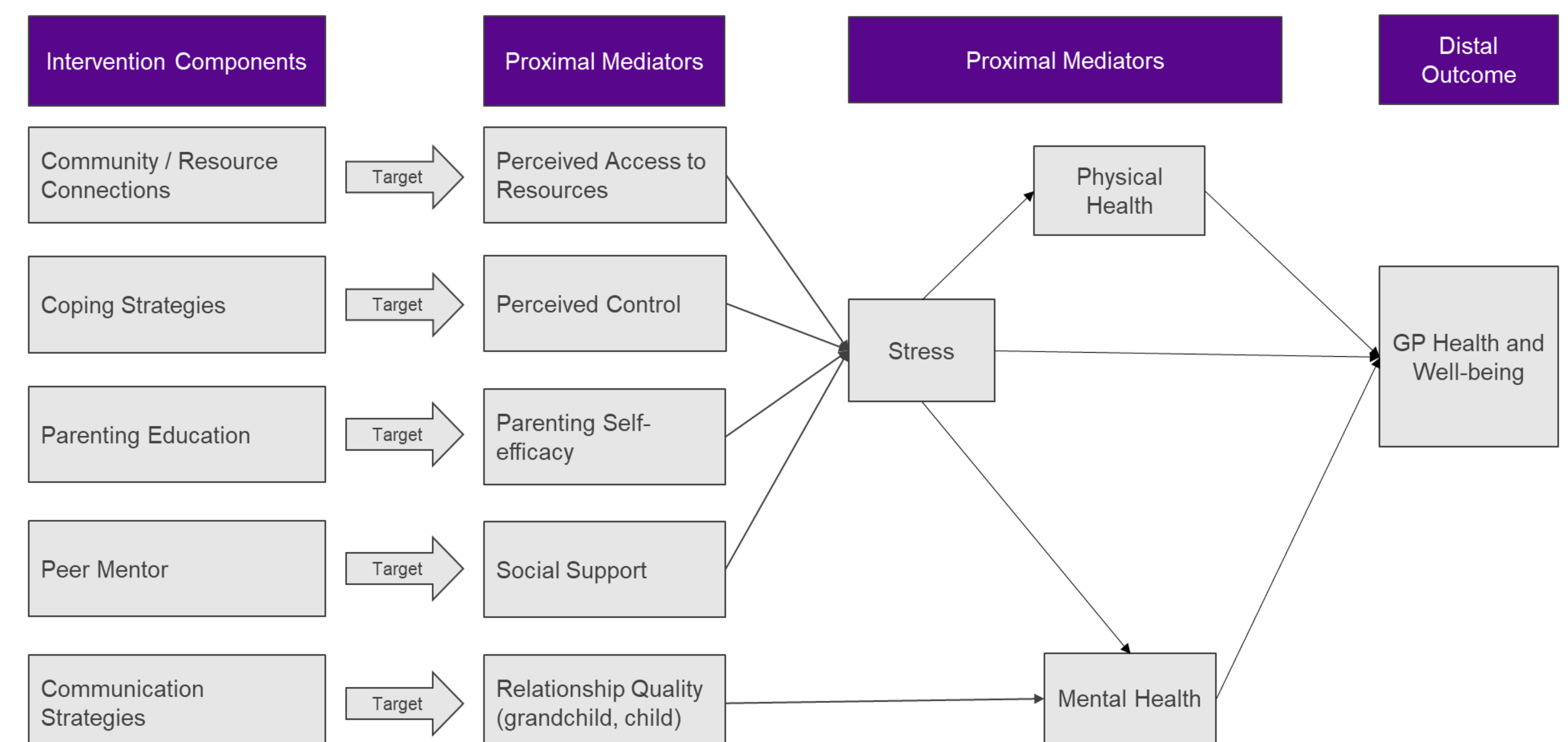
## Results

- GP shared a wide array of reasons for acquisition: parental mental health; parental incarceration; parental substance use/misuse; parental death; child protective service system involvement (e.g., allegations of maltreatment)
- Stressors discussed by GP included: financial, emotional, physical, social, and familial (i.e., relationship with child or parent of GC).

## Quotes

- "I feel pretty proud of the fact that I'm doing it differently this second time around and that it's working."
- "I hope this study helps progress as the GP raising their children do not receive much help from the system ... when you have custody, you are not eligible for those benefits because we are the GP, the law is pretty clear in this aspect... most GP are on fixed incomes and most of them like myself, will not receive child support from the parents."

## Conceptual Model



## Next Steps

### Finish the Preparation Phase of MOST

- Develop intervention components with input from a Community Advisory Board (CAB) following principles of community engaged research and human centered design (HCD)
- Pilot test intervention components for acceptability and feasibility
- Identify implementation constraints that will be important to consider in identifying the optimized intervention

### Dive into the Optimization Phase of MOST

- Design optimization RCT using factorial experimental design

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