



A CONVERSATION BETWEEN FRIENDS: UNPACKING MID-LIFE AND MID-CAREER TOGETHER

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GRAVENHURST ON,
2009

AGENDA

01. FRAMING THE TOPIC

02. PANEL DISCUSSION

03. CALLS TO ACTION



01.

FRAMING THE TOPIC



MID-CAREER: MIDLIFE CRISIS OR OPPORTUNITY?



AI VIEW OF MID-CAREER LIBRARIANSHIP?
Image generated by Canva Pro AI

QUIET QUITTING • LEADERSHIP • DOWNSHIFTING • BURNOUT •

MID

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FRUS

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CYN

“IT IS NO SECRET THAT MID -CAREER IS OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH CRISIS, BREAK, AND CHANGE. MID -CAREER EMPLOYEES ARE MORE LIKELY TO QUESTION THE MEANING OF THEIR WORK, THE VALUE OF THEIR COMPANY’S MISSION, THEIR JOB AUTONOMY, THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS, AND THEIR RELATIONSHIPS.”

(Vongalis-Macrow)

PERSPECTIVE • FRUSTRATION • SPECIALIZATION OPPORTUNITY

• EXPERTISE • CYNICISM QUIET QUITTING • LEADERSHIP •

“FOR MANY OF US, THE EARLY STAGE OF OUR CAREERS IN LIBRARIANSHIP IS A GOAL -ORIENTED **WHIRLWIND** , RIPE WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO NETWORK, ATTEND CONFERENCES, AND BUILD UP OUR SCHOLARLY PROFILES. WHILE THIS CERTAINLY DOES NOT END AT MID -CAREER, THE MOTIVATION AND EXCITEMENT **CAN BECOME TRANSFORMED** —PERHAPS BECAUSE THE NOVELTY OF GROWING AS A PROFESSIONAL HAS WANED OR WE ARE JUST BURNED OUT....THIS **FEELING OF UNCERTAINTY** — TRYING TO FIND SOLACE AT A CAREER PLATEAU AND DOWNSHIFTING OR REPRIORITIZING OUR GOALS —IS THE IMPETUS FOR THIS [PANEL].” (VII)

WEST, B. K., GALOOZIS, E). (2023). THRIVING AS A MID-CAREER LIBRARIAN. ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE & RESEARCH LIBRARIES.

02.

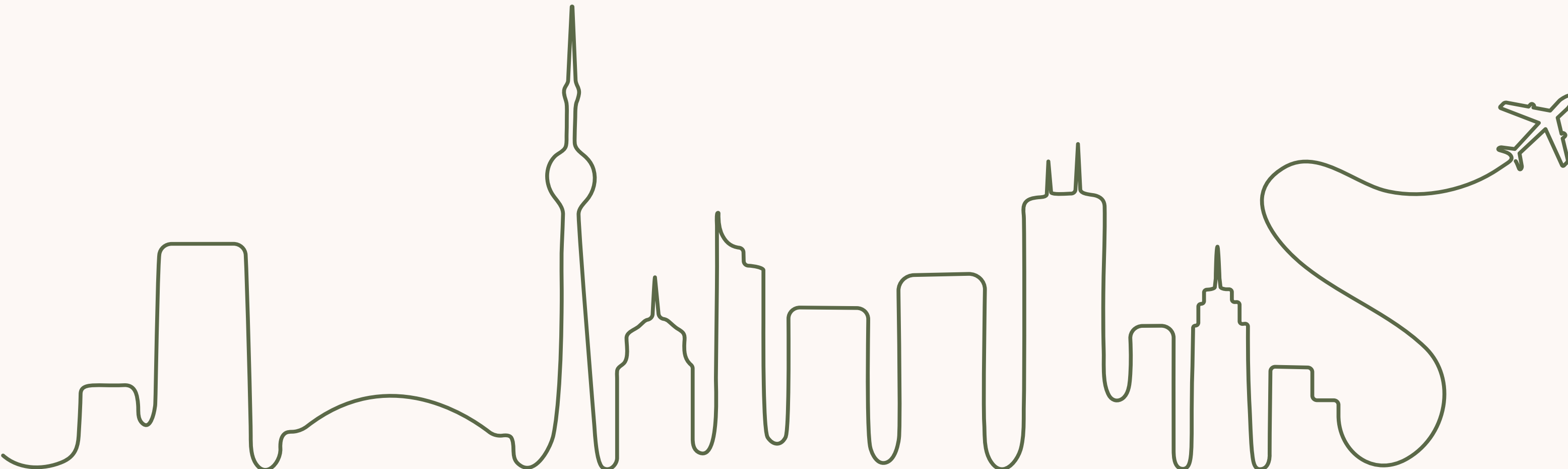
PANEL DISCUSSION



**What brought us to
this conversation?**

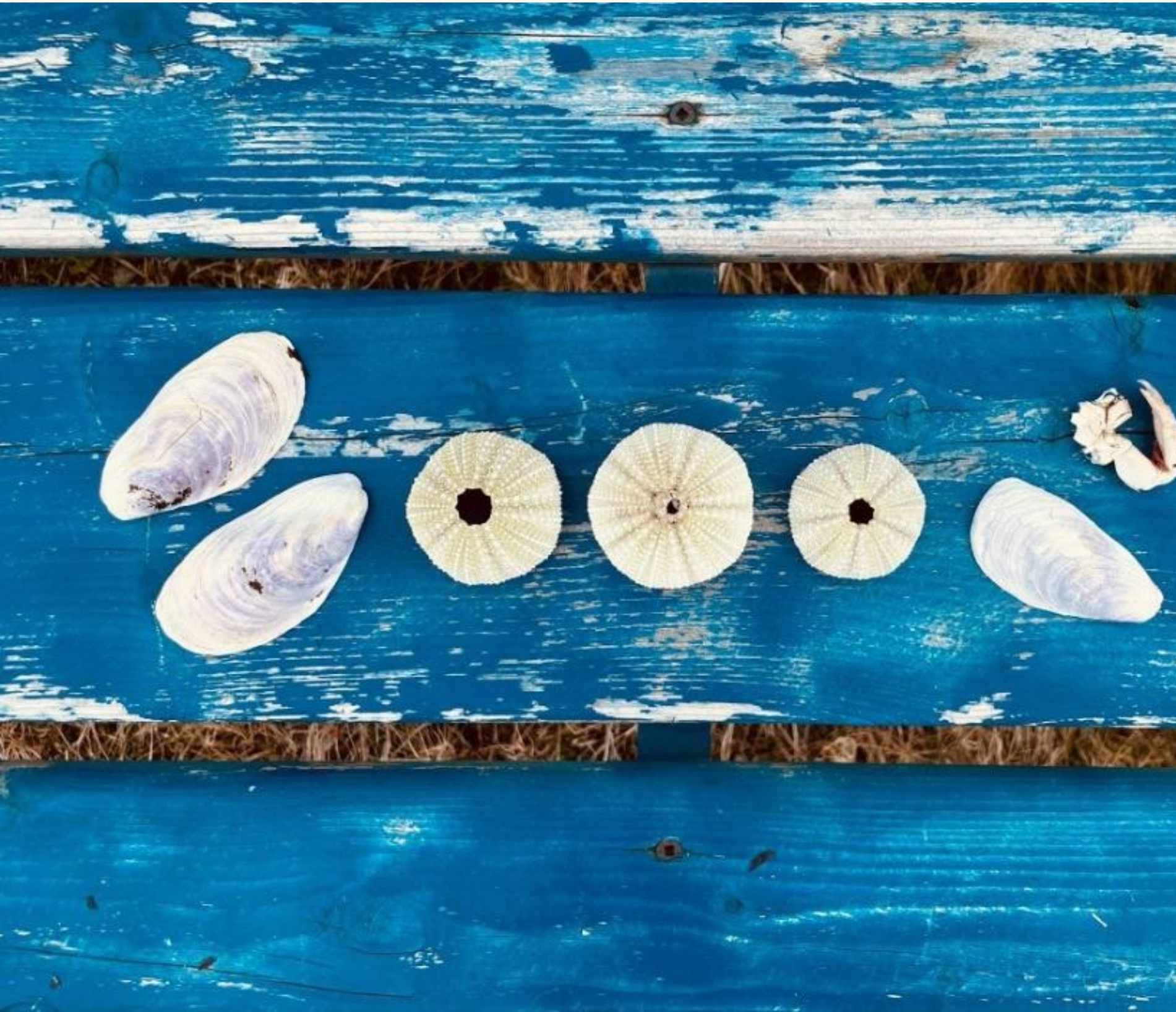


THE CITY



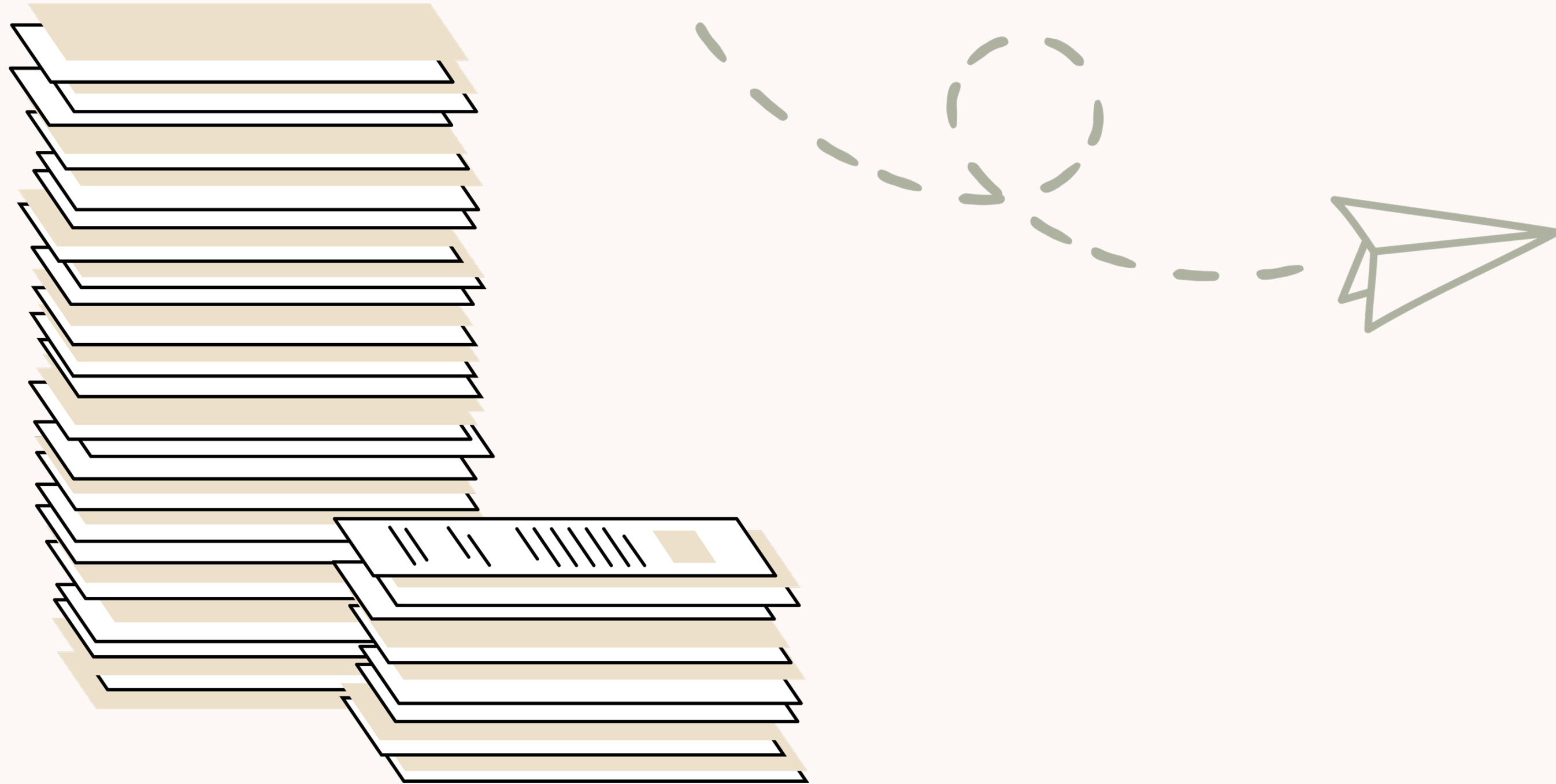
RELOCATION



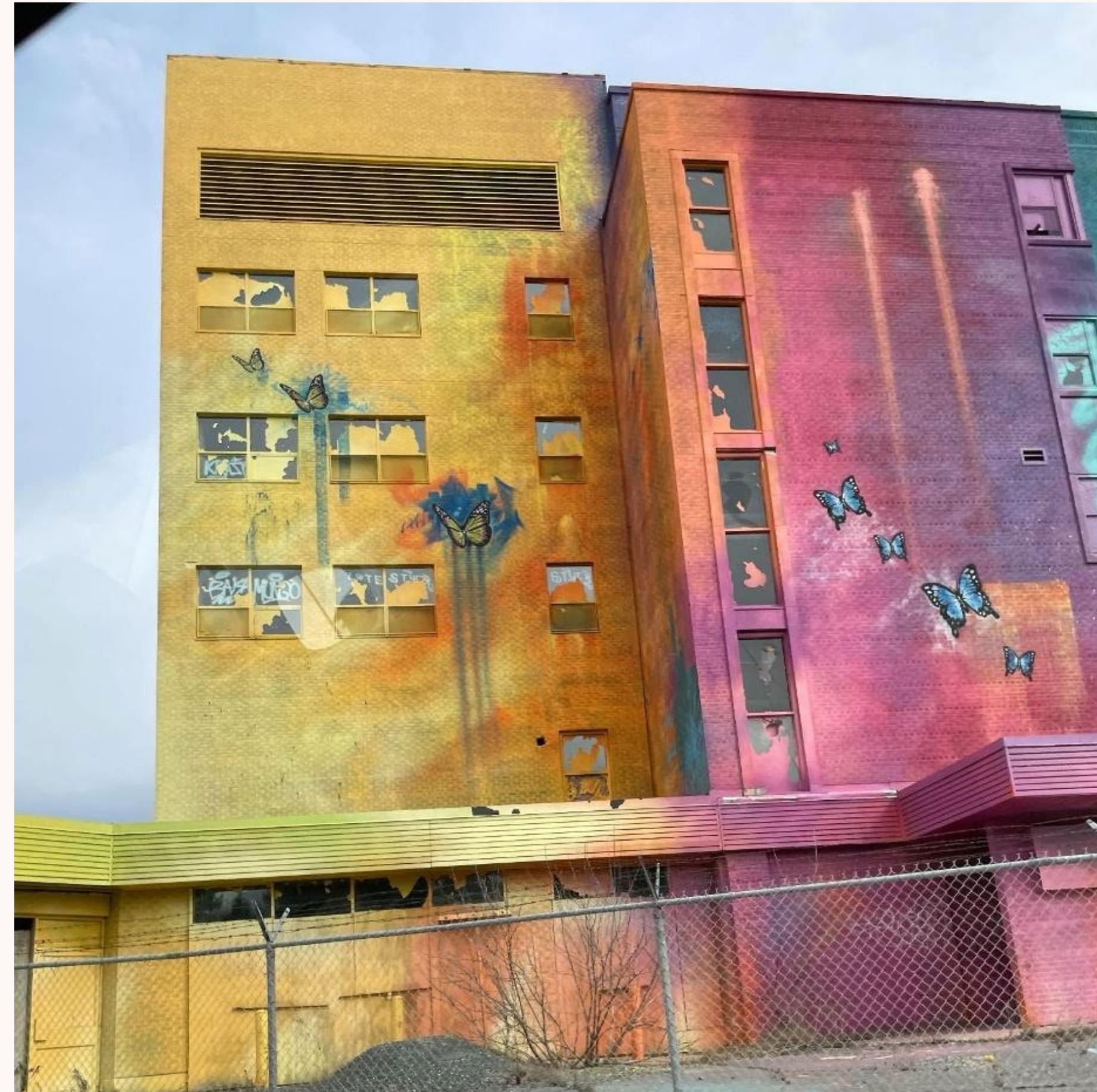


MIDDLE MANAGEMENT

ADMINISTRATION



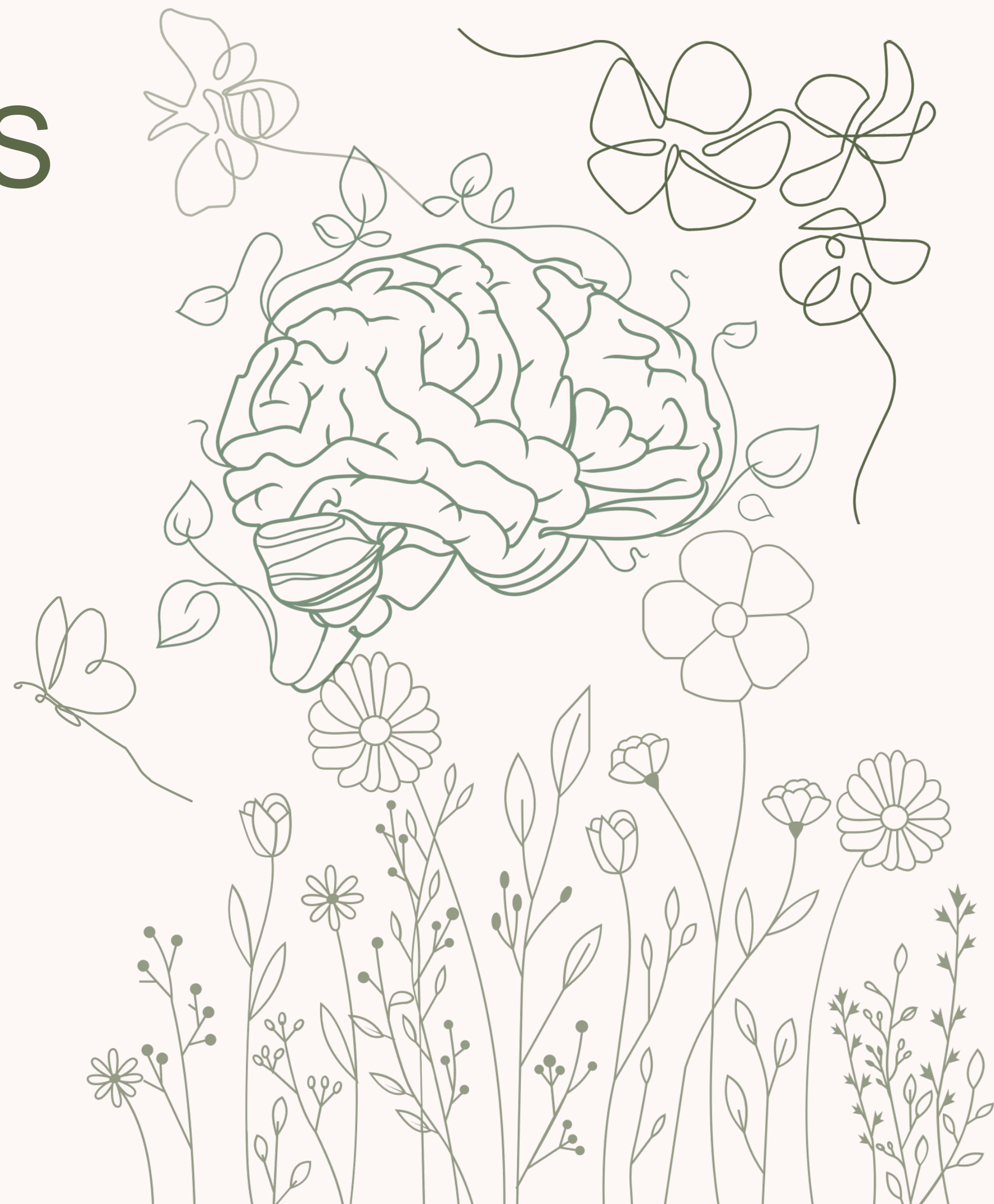
POWER





BRINGING YOUR
WHOLE SELF

LEVITY & KINDNESS



MEANING MAKING



03.

CALLS TO ACTION

1. What do you want to see in our workplaces & institutions?
2. What do you want to see in yourself?
3. How do you actively make meaning in your role?

03.

CALLS TO ACTION



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“It is much easier to be cynical than positive when you have been in your career for a long time and have witnessed the revolving door of administrators, colleagues, and dreams that go unfulfilled. Nevertheless, we think it is possible that through the strategies of community, support, and advocacy ..., it is possible for all of us to thrive.” (West & Galoozis, x)

THANK YOU

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