## Karen Glossary – Effective Treatment of Refugee Adults with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

This is a glossary of *41 Sgaw Karen-language terms pertaining to effective treatment for PTSD.* The glossary was developed by a team of three interpreters from Sgaw Karen-speaking refugee communities in the United States with guidance from a psychologist, applied linguist / professional interpreter, and primary care physician, as well as input from three monolingual, Sgaw Karen-speaking community informants. *The glossary is intended to help clinicians, interpreters, and members of this community talk about PTSD treatment.*Contents include:

- Suggested translations
- Community Notes with community- and culturally-informed guidance on communication
- Terms that are not recommended or that may require the clinician or interpreter to use caution.

We encourage clinicians and interpreters to have a brief pre-session to clarify terminology and concepts prior to meeting with any patient who is new to PTSD treatment. We also offer the following general guidance:

- Avoid jargon and technical terms
- Terms in daily use in English (e.g., "therapist") may describe treatment concepts and professional roles that require additional explanation
- Mental health treatment remains stigmatized; normalizing mental health conditions as a form of chronic illness for which treatment improves well-being can improve communication and may improve treatment adherence and outcomes
- Patients may be more comfortable speaking openly about mental health after they have developed a caring interpersonal relationship with their provider
- Women may be more comfortable speaking openly with gender-concordant clinicians and interpreters
- Calibration may be needed to accommodate Sgaw Karen's considerable regional variation.

**How to find terms in the glossary -** The glossary is organized into five sections: *Symptoms & Assessment, Trauma, Mental Health Professionals, Treatment,* and *Psychotherapies*. Within each section, words are ordered alphabetically. The Table of Contents shows a complete list of terms with page numbers.

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Citation: Nyun M, Tin SS, Day N, Gurung A, Ortiz P, McWhorter LG, Yun K (2020) *Karen Glossary - Effective Treatment of Refugee Adults with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.* Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. This project was funded through a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Award (EA #15378).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For a brief summary of effective PTSD treatments for refugees, see https://bit.ly/PCORI\_PTSD

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
Symptoms & Assessment		
Anxiety	"Anxiety is common	(၁) တာ်သူဉ်ကိာသးဂီး - "troubled heart"
Problematic feelings of being "on edge", worried, or "jumpy." Some physical symptoms might be an increased heart rate, headaches or upset stomach. Thoughts are usually accompanied by feelings of worry, fear, anger, irritation, aggravation, and/or dread.	after a traumatic event."  "Your inability to sleep or go to school due to fears and worries sound like anxiety."	(၂) သးတက် unstable emotion (၃) တဂ်ကိဂ်တဂ်ဂီး worry
A little anxiety is normal (e.g., before an important test). However, anxiety that interferes with daily life (e.g., that prevents someone from going to school on the day of their test) or causes considerable distress is often a sign of an anxiety disorder.		
Avoid	"Let's <i>avoid</i> that	(၁) ပဒ္ဒဉ်ဟးဆွဲး — keep / move away from
To keep away from	dog. The barking scares me."	(၂) ဃာ်ဒူးချာ — turn away from
something. In the context of PTSD, it refers	"Since the house fire, do you avoid restaurants and other places that smell like smoke?"	(၃) သးတအိဉ်မၤဃုာ်
to not wanting to talk or think about the traumatic event. It also refers to staying away from situations that remind one of a traumatic event.		(၄) ဃာ်ကဟ်ကွဲဘ်သး — not want to bother, meaning to stay away
		Community Notes  Different options are suggested to accommodate Sgaw Karen's considerable regional variation.

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
Cope  To manage or deal with and attempt to overcome problems. Effective PTSD treatment improves coping.	"I don't know how to cope with these feelings. I feel angry all the time and it's hard on my family."  "How are you coping with your stress?"	(၁) ကွန်ဆာဉ်မဲဂ်ဒီးမာဘဉ်လိဂ်ဖိးဒဲ့ - to face / deal with something to make it ok (၂) မာဂ္ဂာမာမုဂ်ထီဉ်သးသူ face and make it ok (regional)
Depression  When one experiences sadness and decreased enjoyment of activities that used to be pleasant (e.g., hobbies and socializing), and these feelings interfere with functioning and last longer than 2 weeks. Depression can include feelings of worthlessness, hopelessness, guilt, or anger. Often depression include changes in appetite and sleep (increase or decrease).  Note that sometimes laypeople will use the term "to feel depressed" as a synonym for sadness without really meaning they have depression.	"Depression symptoms include losing interest in activities you used to enjoy and feeling hopeless."  "Your difficulty sleeping, eating and feeling good about yourself all sound like symptoms of depression."	(၁) တာ်သူဉ်အုးတာ်သးဟးဂီး unhappy, heart-broken (၂) တာ်သူဉ်လီးတုံးသးလီးဘုါ very tired and weighed down (regional)  Community Notes The first option may not be meaningful to all community members. The second option is used in some regions.
Diagnosis  A medical term to describe a collection of symptoms, in this case to describe psychological symptoms and behaviors that cause distress or the	"Now that you have a diagnosis of PTSD, we can start creating a treatment plan to help you heal."	(၁) ဃုထံဉ်နှါလီးတံာ်လီးဆဲးတာ်က်အိဉ် ဖျသး လာနပူး — find out accurately the cause of a situation within you  (၂) ဃုထံဉ်နှါတာ်ဆါအက်လီးတာ်လီးဆဲး — find out accurately about the disease  (၃) ဃုထံဉ်နှါတာ်ဆါအိဉ်ဖိုဖိုဖိုဖြူဖြုလာနပူး — very clearly find out about the disease or pain within you

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
inability to function normally		Community Notes  Some community members may find the term "disease" stigmatizing. If they are familiar with alternatives, such as "situation" or "condition," these may be preferred.
Distress  Feeling upset and uncomfortable; having very unpleasant feelings	"It sounds like you have been feeling distressed since your move to the US, with all of the changes and disruptions."	(၁) တာ်သူဉ်ကိာသးဟးຄືເ — "my liver is hot and my heart is broken/uneasy" (literal), feeling upset or uneasy (၂) သူဉ်တဉ်တာ်တာ်, သးဘဉ်တာ်တာ – suffering, discomfort (၁) တာ်လီးပျံးလီးဖုး(တာ်သးပျံး) – feeling agitated, jumpy and highly distressed with the implication that something terrible and frightening happened (၂) သူဉ်ကိာသးရီး – feeling not good  Community Notes  Different options are suggested to accommodate Sgaw Karen's considerable regional variation.
Drink alcohol  (to drink; to use alcohol)  To use intoxicating beverages, such as beer, wine, or liquor	"She drank vodka every day to help forget about the war."  "How much do you drink?"	(၁) အိသံ:ຮີເຕີຮີເ drink alcohol / liquor (၂) အိသံ:အီမ္ drink alcohol / rice (regional)  Community Notes  Neither option indicates that drinking is problematic. The second option is used in some regions to describe celebrations that include food and alcoholic drinks.
Flashback  In the context of PTSD, this is a sudden, involuntary memory in which one suddenly feels like a traumatic event is happening again	"Do certain sounds, smells, or sights— like military uniforms—trigger flashbacks to when you were imprisoned?"	(၁) ကလာဂ်ဘဉ်တဂ်သည်နီဉ်ကာ့၊သတူဂ်ကလာ်၊ တဂ်လဲ၊ စီဖြလာ၊ တူဂ်ဘည်၊ ဒီးထံဉ်ဘည်ဝဲ၊ဒ်ကဲထီည် ခဲအံးအသီး - suddenly feeling the memory of past trauma and seeing it happen right now (၂) ပလာဂ်ဘည်၊ သည်နီည်ဘည်သတူဂ်ကလာ်တာဂ်လဲ၊ စီဖြီလာတူဂ်ဘည်ဝဲမေးသးကဲထီည်ခဲအံး - suddenly remembering the past trauma coming back again (၃) ဒူးသည်နီည်ထီည်ကာ့၊လာတာ်တဟ်သည်တ်သား အပူးတာမေးဘည်ဒိလာအပူးကွဲသို့, ဒ်သီး ကဲထီညီသား ခဲအံး - suddenly remembering the past trauma coming back again Community Notes There is no equivalent term, and these may be challenging phrases for someone who is not already

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
		familiar with this concept. Additional explanation may be helpful.
Function  To have the ability to carry out one's daily responsibilities, have close relationships, and take care of oneself	"Sometimes emotions can affect how well you function, like your ability to work or care for your family."  "PTSD treatment can help you function better at home and at work."	(၁) ທູາົ່ໝູ້ເປົ້າ to look after oneself properly  (၂) ທູາົໝູ້ເປົ້າ. ກຸາ ລະເ ລຸວໍດຸກຸກຸກລາວລິງ - can look after oneself properly  Community Notes These are not exact equivalents but capture the general idea.
Hypervigilant  Always feeling on guard, always looking out for danger, extremely cautious, and never able to relax	"After his car accident, he became hypervigilant when driving. He never felt relaxed or safe in the car, and he was always worried it would happen again."  "Do you feel hypervigilant when you're in crowded places, feeling like you are waiting for something bad to happen?"	(၁) ສິຊິວິສະດາໂບດ້ໂລະເອີຊິຊິຊິຊິຊິຊິຊິຊິຊິຊິຊິຊິຊິຊິຊິຊິຊິຊິຊິ
Long-term impact  How something is going to affect an individual over months to years	"Upsetting events can have a long-term impact on people. We can recommend treatment to reduce this impact."	(၁) တາ်မາသဉ်ဒိလာအယံာ်တုာ်ဝဲ - some hurting effect for a long period  (၂) တာ်မာသဉ်ဒိလာအဆာကတိုာ်ယံာ်ယံာ် - some hurting effect for a very long time  (၃) တာ်မာသဉ်ဒိလာကဲထီဉ်သးယံာ်တုာ်ဝဲအဃိ some hurting effect for a very long time  Community Notes

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
		There is no exact equivalent. The suggested phrases can be used when discussing <i>negative</i> long-term impacts of a bad event. Different language would be needed if the long-term effects of something are positive.
Negative thoughts  Troubling, disturbing, or upsetting thoughts focused on negative things, e.g., believing one will never be safe, or (inappropriately) blaming oneself for a bad thing that happened. These are often self-critical thoughts or negative beliefs about the world.	"When he thought about the war, he couldn't stop having negative thoughts about himself. His family said he was a wonderful father, brother and son, but he had trouble believing them."  "Have you had more negative thoughts and beliefs since the accident?"	(၁) တာ်ဆိကမိဉ်အိဉ်ထိဉ်သးလာထံဉ်တာ်ထဲအတဂ္ - thoughts that only see the bad or negative view  (၂) တာ်ဆိကမိဉ်လာတဂ္ တဘဉ် — not good thoughts (regional)  Community Notes  The first option is recommended. Use caution with the second option. It may be easier for some patients to understand, but it may also be understood as "immoral thoughts."
Numb  Lack of emotions, even when one would expect to have emotions. Feeling detached from one's emotions. Unable to feel emotions.	"She felt numb while her mother was in the hospital. At home, she couldn't feel sadness or joy. She didn't feel anything at all."  "What you described sounds like you are numb, and can't seem to feel anything, positive or negative."	(၁) ລະເຮົາຊື້າຈິດທຣິ່າເທີ່ງລະເ(ລະເທົາກອກົ່າ) – no feelings or emotions  (၂) နသະເຮົາຊື້ຈິກອກ໌ ຕອງຈົດທີ່ງລະ. – "your body and mind are not in working together" (idiomatic, regional)  Not Recommended  Saying "not feeling anything" in Sgaw Karen refers to physical numbness so is not recommended.
Re-experience  To feel like one is experiencing something over again, even though it is not really happening. In the context of PTSD, this may include thoughts, emotions,	"I sometimes re- experience the moment of the accident unexpectedly. Like once I was standing in line at a store and a loud noise made	(၁) တဂ်လဲးခီဖိုအအာအသီလာအပူးကွဲဉ်တဖဉ်ဒ်တူဂ် ဘဉ်ဝဲခဲအံးအသီး - feeling like the past traumatic experience is happening again  (၂) တဂ်လဲးခီဖိုအအာအသီလာအပူးကွဲဉ်တဖဉ်ဒ်တူဂ် ဘဉ်ဝဲခဲအံးအသီး - experiencing the past trauma as if it is happening right now (regional)  (၃) ဒ်သီးတူဂ်ဘဉ်က္၊ဝဲတဂ်လဲးခီဖို အအာအသီလာ အပူးကွဲဉ် - happening right now, an experience of past trauma (regional)

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
physical sensations, or a sense that the traumatic event is recurring. Types of re-experiencing include:  • Flashbacks – reliving the trauma over and over  • Nightmares – frightening dreams with images or themes similar to the traumatic event  • Frightening thoughts related to the traumatic event	me suddenly feel like I was in the car crash again."  "You seem to re- experience the night when your father had a heart attack whenever you go to a hospital."	Community Notes  There is no equivalent term, so patients may appreciate additional explanation. The latter two phrases include regional variations.
The act of taking drugs, herbs, or home remedies on one's own without the advice of a medical doctor. In the mental health context, it means to use drugs, alcohol, or other addictive behavior, such as overeating or gambling, in an unhelpful way, as an attempt to reduce negative thoughts or feelings.	"She is really struggling with the loss of her son and I think she is self-medicating by drinking so much."  "Some people self-medicate with drugs or alcohol, but this leads to more problems for them, and does not make their PTSD go away. Instead, we recommend treatments such as therapy from a specialist or medication prescribed by a doctor."	(၁) တာ်သူကသံဉ်ကသိဒ်သီးကမၤ ອຸ້າເດັ້າເກູ່ວ໌ နတာ်သူဉ် တဗုວ်သးတဗုວ໌ improperly using medicine to numb your emotional pain  (၂) အနိုာ်ကစာ်ဒဉ်ဝဲကူစါယါဘျါလီး က္၊ အသး improper self-treatment with a substance / medication  (၃) ຜ່າເຊົາກວ່າວໍຣີ ແກຸຍໃໝ່ໃໝ່ໃໝ່າຕຸ້າສາລະ - using improper medication to reduce your suffering  Community Notes  There is no exact equivalent. Use caution with this word, as it is can be understood as the use of herbs or medications for their intended purpose rather than unhealthy use of medications, drugs, or alcohol to reduce emotional pain. Clinicians may want to use more straightforward language, e.g., "Have you been misusing medications, drugs, or alcohol to reduce your emotional pain?"  Disease and pain are the same word in Karen.

Example	Translation & Notes
"When we look at these great strengths you have, we can build on the things you already do so well."  "Your positive outlook and friendly personality are wonderful strengths."	(၁) တာ်အိဉ်ဒီးသးအက်အဘါလာကသူတြီဆာမာ နာၤတာ် - having an inner strength that can resist or overcome  (၂) တာ်အိဉ်ဒီးသးက်ဘါလာမာ နာၤတာ် - having an inner strength to overcome  (၃) တာ်အိဉ်ဒီးသးက်ဘါလာကမာမှဉ်မာစားနညး - having an inner strength to help you feel better
"Nightmares about the traumatic event are a common symptom of PTSD."	(၁) တာ်ပနီဉ်ဖျါထီဉ်လာအတူာ်ဘဉ်ဝဲ(လာနကအိပူး) – signs of suffering (၂) တာ်အပနီဉ်ဖျါလာအဒွဲပူး – "a sign found inside you" (literal, regional)
"The sound of the train was a trigger for her, causing her to re-experience the train accident in her mind."  "Are there specific situations that trigger your flashbacks, like specific noises, sights, or smells?"	(၁) တဂ်လာမာသည်နီဉ်ထီဉ်ကူးသးလာအတူဂ်ဘဉ်တဂ နှာ်နှာ် ကျူးကျူး အက် ဒ်ကဲထီဉ်သးခဲအံး - reminder of an event as if happening again right now (noun)  (၂) တဂ်လာမာသည်နီဉ်ထီဉ်ကူးသးလာအတူဂ်ဘဉ် တဂ်ဒိဉ်ဒိဉ်မှဉ်မှဉ်ဒိအကဲထီဉ်သးခဲအံး reminder of traumatic suffering as if happening right now (noun)  (၁) မာသည်နီဉ်ထီဉ်ကူး တဂ်အဒိဉ်အမှာ် လာ ကဲထီဉ် သးဝံး - to remind of a prior significant event (verb)  Community Notes  There is no exact equivalent. Clinicians may want to use more straightforward language, e.g., "Do any sights, sounds or smells make you feel like the car accident is happening again?"  Not Recommended  The term ခုးအိဉ်ထီဉ်တဂ်မာဆာကာ့၊တာ် (လာတဂ်အာ) means retaliate and is not recommended.
	"When we look at these great strengths you have, we can build on the things you already do so well."  "Your positive outlook and friendly personality are wonderful strengths."  "Nightmares about the traumatic event are a common symptom of PTSD."  "The sound of the train was a trigger for her, causing her to re-experience the train accident in her mind."  "Are there specific situations that trigger your flashbacks, like specific noises,

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
such as an anniversary of a trauma.		
Uncontrollable thoughts and images  (intrusive thoughts and images; unwanted thoughts and images)  Uncontrollably thinking about or imagining the traumatic event when one wants to be thinking about something else. This includes nightmares and thoughts, images, or imagined sounds that occur unexpectedly or when one is trying to focus on other things.	"When she was baking a cake for her daughter's birthday, she had frequent uncontrollable thoughts and images about the car accident. She kept seeing the accident over and over in her mind."  "Are you having uncontrollable or unwanted thoughts or images when you try to fall asleep?"	(၁) သະတာ်ဆိကမိဉ်ဒီးထံဉ်ကမှံတာ်လာບານນາວ တန္နာ -thinking and seeing illusions that cannot be controlled  (၂) သະတာ်ဆိကမိဉ်ဒီးထံဉ်ကမှံတာ်လာမေလီးမာ်ကွဲခ်တသ္ - thinking and seeing illusions that cannot be shut out  Community Notes There is no exact equivalent, so patients may appreciate additional explanation.
Use drugs  To use prescription drugs (e.g., opiate pain medication) in a harmful way (other than intended) or to use other addictive substances, e.g., heroin or cocaine	"Some people use drugs as a way to cope with their PTSD symptoms."	(၁)သူကသံဉ်မူးဘိုး (၂) သူကသံဉ်လာတကဲဘျူး. – using medicine that is not beneficial (regional) <b>Community Notes</b> In some regions, the second option is used to describe illicit drug use.
Trauma		
Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)  Excessively troubling thoughts and feelings that continue more than one month after witnessing or experiencing a traumatic event, or learning about	"One in three people can develop posttraumatic stress disorder, or <i>PTSD</i> , after traumatic events. You are not alone."  "The symptoms you described are typical of <i>posttraumatic</i>	(၁) တာ်သူဉ်ကိာသႏီး အပနီဉ်လာကဲထီဉ်သးဖဲ အမေးဘဉ်ဒိဘဉ်ထံး အဒိဉ်အမုဉ်မေးသးဝံးအလ်ာံခံ - stress that a person feels after a traumatic event (၂) တာ်အိဉ်မူဆီတလဲသးဝံးဖဲ လဲးခ်ီဖြိုဘဉ် တာ်ကီ တာ်ခဲဝံးအလ်ာံခံ - change in a person after a terrible incident (၃) တာ်သူဉ်ကိာသးဂီးအက္နာ်အဂီး ကဲထီဉ်သးဖဲတာ်မင်း ဘဉ်ဒိဘဉ်ထံးမင်းသင်းအလ်ာံခံး - stress that happens after a traumatic event Community Notes

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
such an event happening to a loved one.  Symptoms include nightmares, flashbacks, uncontrolled thoughts about the traumatic event, wanting to avoid reminders of the trauma, and feeling like you can't relax. These symptoms are common immediately after a traumatic event. When they continue for more than one month, they may be an indication of posttraumatic stress disorder or PTSD. PTSD can be caused by events such as being attacked, experiencing an assault, witnessing violence, and many other upsetting and life-threatening experiences.	stress disorder, or PTSD. I recommend you see a specialist who can help you."	There is no equivalent term, and this condition and concept may not be familiar to the lay public. We recommend that clinicians have a conversation with the interpreter before talking to a patient about PTSD for the first time. Clinicians will need to think carefully about how they will explain what is meant by PTSD, and interpreters may also need time to prepare.
Trauma  A negative emotional reaction to a traumatic event, e.g., a natural disaster, assault, war, or serious injury.	"The hurricane caused trauma to many of the families in our city."	(၁) တာ်တမှာ်တလး တာ်လီးပျံးလီးဖုံး လာ အကဲ ထီဉ်တာ့်သး - unpleasant condition, something terrible that has happened (၂) တာ်ဘဉ်ဒိဘဉ်ထံး - hurt or injury (၃) တာ်လဲးခ်ီဖျိလာကိာ်ဂီးအာသီ - an experience of violent stress (regional)
Some people also use "trauma" as shorthand for the traumatic event itself.		Community Notes  There is no exact equivalent. Because this concept may not be familiar, we recommend that clinicians have a conversation with the interpreter before talking to a patient about this topic for the first time. Use caution with the second option, which is more often used to describe physical injuries. Use caution with the third option, which is appropriate and easily understood in

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
		some regions but in others will trigger intense emotional reactions and cause distress.
An event that is terrifying or highly distressing. It may be life-threatening or violent. Examples of traumatic events include experiencing, witnessing, or having a loved one experience a natural disaster, assault, war, forced displacement, or serious injury.  Some people also use "trauma" as shorthand for the traumatic event itself.	"Watching her son fall from the bridge and break his leg was a traumatic event. She was so glad he survived with just a broken leg." "Traumatic events can cause longlasting problems in how we think and feel. We have effective treatments to help reduce the negative impact these events have on your life."	(၁) တာ်မာသူဉ် ကိာသးဂီး distressing event, an event that can cause distress (၂) တာ်မာသးလီးပျံးလီးဖုး - terrible distress  Community Notes There is no exact equivalent.
Mental Health Professiona	ls	
Psychiatrist  A medical doctor that specializes in problems with stress, emotions, behavior, and thoughts who is able to prescribe medication for management of symptoms	"We will make an appointment for you to see Dr. Martin, a psychiatrist, who can determine the right medication for you."	(၁) သးပီညါကသံဉ်သရဉ်အိဉ်ဒီးတာ်သုလီးဆီလာ, ကူစါယါဘျါဒီးဟ္ဉာ်ကသံဉ်ကသီ - medical doctor who specializes in psychology and provides treatment and gives medicine  (၂) သးကသံဉ်သရဉ်လာ ကမာဘျါတာ်ဆါဒီးဟ္ဉာ် ကသံဉ်ကသီ medical doctor for mental health  (၃) ຈິဉ်နူဉ်ကသံဉ်သရဉ်လာမာဘျါတာ်ဆါဒီးဟ္ဉာ် ကသံဉ်ဖီဉ်. – brain doctor  Community Notes  Community Notes  Community members may be unfamiliar with this professional role.
Psychologist  A professional with a doctoral degree in psychology who provides therapy to people to help reduce their problematic	"We have a psychologist who can meet with you regularly to help you learn new ways to	(၁) ບານຸດຳລັດການເປັນປ່າກິຖາ, ອິນໂະກອາ ກຸເຜື່ວນຸວິນເສຕິ້າ. – person with special talent in psychology, who can improve the mind (၂) ນະປືນປ່ວນຄຸວິດກາຍາ ເກເຜື່ວ ວ່າ ສົນສິກິ teacher (specializing in the mind / emotions) who can treat your suffering/disease

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
thoughts, emotions, or behaviors. In the context of trauma, a psychologist provides therapy with the goal of helping that person work through the trauma and experience less symptoms.	sleep better and feel better."	(၃) သးသရဉ်လာကမၤမုဉ်ထီဉ်က္ခၤနညး teacher (specializing in the mind / emotions) who can help improve your mind  Community Notes  Community members may be unfamiliar with this professional role.
Specialist  A trained healthcare professional who is an expert in diagnosing and helping people with specific health conditions. In a mental health context, this refers to a therapist, licensed clinical social worker, counselor, psychologist, or psychiatrist, who all may treat PTSD.	"She is a specialist in helping people with PTSD feel better."  "There are specialists who can help you to feel better and move forward in your life."	(၁) ກသံဉ်သရဉ်စံဉ်နီးလာအသ္ခကူစါယါဘျါ တာ်ဆါလီးဆီတမံး – medical doctor who can treat a specific disease  (၂) သရဉ်အိဉ်ဒီးတာ်သှဉ်ညါလီးဆီလာအသ္ခကူစါယါ ဘျါတာ် — "teacher with outstanding knowledge to treat or cure"  (၃) သရဉ်လီးဆီလာအသ္မမာဘျါတာ် — "special teacher who can treat or cure disease"  (၄) သရဉ်လာအသ္မမာဘျါတာ်ဆာ — "teacher with the ability to treat or cure disease"  Community Notes  There is no exact equivalent, but these terms are appropriate for describing specialists. The first option is used to describe specialist physicians. The other options are appropriate for describing psychologists or other non-physician mental health specialists.
Therapist  (counselor)  A healthcare professional who provides therapy to address behavioral or emotional problems, such as PTSD. This may be a licensed clinical social worker, a counselor, or a psychologist.	"I think seeing a therapist or counselor would really help. Therapy can be a very helpful way to overcome these feelings."	(၁) သရဉ်လာအသွှစ်းကတိလော်လာအခုးနှဲဉ်သိဉ်လိဆီဉ် ထွဲမာ ဂူးထီဉ်တာ်သးဂဲးသးကလာ်ခီးတာ်ဟ် သူဉ် ဟ်သး / ဒီသူဉ်ဒီသး - a skilled speaker who guides / instructs to improve emotional and behavioral situations; mental health therapist (၂) ပူးသဲ့ကဟုကယာ်တာ်အိဉ်ဆူဉ်အိဉ်ချ လာအခုး နှဲဉ်တာ် မးဂုံးဆီဉ်ထွဲတာ်သးဂဲးသးကလာ်ခီးတာ် ဟ် သူဉ်ဟ်သး / ဒီသူဉ်ဒီသး - healthcare professional who guides / shows the way to recover from emotional or behavioral problems (၃) သရဉ်လာအသွှစ်းကတိုးတာ်ဒ်သီးကမာမှာ်ထီဉ်ကုံးပူးသး - skilled teacher who can make you feel better (regional) (၄) သရဉ်လာကတိုးဟုဉ်က်ဟုဉ်ဘါဒီးမာမှာ်ထီဉ် ကုံးနသး teacher who encourages you to feel better

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
		The word "treatment" in Karen refers to medical treatment. So instead words such as support, guide, or help are used to refer to psychological treatment.
Treatment		
Intervention  (treatment)  Specialized care given to a person to a person to treat or bring about a change in people. In the mental health context, this can include psychological therapies and medications designed to improve a person's emotions and/or behavior.	"My brother had effective intervention from a specialist, and is feeling better after his time in the war."  "I can recommend an effective intervention to help you with your PTSD symptoms."	(၁) တာ်မာသာဉ်လိပ်မီးဒဲ့လာတာ်ကဂုၤထီဉ်အကို mediation for a better result  (၂) တာ်ကူစါယါဘျါဒီးတာ်မာသာဉ်လိပ် မီးဒဲ့လာ တာ်က ဂုၤထီဉ်အကို — treatment with medication  (၃) တာ်မာသာဉ်လိပ်ဘာဉ်စားလာ တာ်ကဂုၤထီဉ်အကို something that makes things better (regional)  (၄) တာ်လာကမာဂုၢထီဉ်တာ်အကို something that makes things better (regional)  Community Notes  The word "treatment" in Karen refers to medical treatment. So alternative phrases are used to refer to psychological treatment.
Process (verb)  To perform a series of steps in order to change something.  In PTSD therapy, to process a traumatic event means working collaboratively with a therapist in a careful way to reduce the emotional reaction to thoughts, memories, or reminders of the trauma.  Processing is a component of therapy that reduces the distress, fear, and negative beliefs related to the traumatic event. This results in a	"I know that talking about what happened is difficult. But together we can process those experiences so that the memories don't keep causing so much stress and anxiety."  "The therapist helped me process the experience of the explosion and now the memories do not upset me like they used to do."  "The specialist can help you process these traumatic	(၁) തിവെന്:ജമ്ജി। ജാത് ജി നാത് ജീ നാറ്റ് വാങ്ക് - work / get together in many steps for a change (regional)  (၂) തിവെന്: തരിർവതരിന്ന തിജ്നറെറ്റ് വാങ്ക് work together step by step and part by part for a change  Community Notes  There is no exact equivalent. Clinicians should use more straightforward language.

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
reduction in the power the event has to interfere with current functioning.	experiences and help you to feel better."	
Refer (verb)  When a healthcare provider gives a patient the contact information and recommendation to seek healthcare services from another provider, often a specialist. This sometimes includes the healthcare provider sharing information with the new provider.	"I am giving you a referral to talk with a therapist about your PTSD. This specialist will meet with you once a week to talk about your symptoms and help you decrease the amount of stress you feel."  "We are referring you to a medical doctor who specializes in PTSD and stress. She may prescribe medication to help you with your symptoms."	(၁) တာ်ဘဉ်ထွဲလိာသးဒီးကသံဉ်သရဉ်အဂၤတဂၤ - being connected to another specialist (noun)  (၂) ကဘဉ်လဲးထံဉ်လိာ်သးဒီးကသံဉ်သရဉ် အဂၤတဂၤ going to see another doctor (simple explanation of getting referred from the standpoint of the patient)  (၁) တာ်ဟုဉ်ခီဟုဉ်နီၤတာ်သုဉ်ညါဒီးလော်အှဉ်အသး - to give / share information and recommendations (verb)  Community Notes  There is no exact equivalent, but these communicate the general idea. Members of the community may not be familiar with the need for referrals under some US health insurance plans
Serotonin  A chemical in your brain that affects how you feel	"This medication affects <i>serotonin</i> in the brain."	(၁) တာ်အသံးအကာ်အိဉ်လာခိဉ်နှုပ်ပူးလာအက မာ စား တာ်ဆိကဗိုာ တာ်သွဉ်ညါအင်္ဂီ - a substance / chemical in the brain that can help with mood and thought  (၂) တာ်တမံးမံးလာခိဉ်နှုပ်ပူးလာကမာစားတာ်ဆိ ကမိဉ်တာ်သွဉ်ညါ something in my brain to help with my mood / emotion  Community Notes  There is no exact equivalent.
Side effect  Unwanted, unpleasant reactions to a medication	"That medicine has some side effects, such as upset stomach, but that goes away after a few days."	(၁) ကသံဉ်အတာ်မာဘဉ်ဒိလာအဂၤ - other bad effect of a medicine; side effect  (၂) ကသံဉ်အတာ်မာဘဉ်ဒိလာအတနီ - some undesirable effect of medicine  (၃) ကသံဉ်အတာ်မာဘဉ်ဒိလာအတဂ္ဂာဘဉ်တခါခါ some kind of bad effect of medicine

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
Therapy  (psychotherapy)  The American Psychological Association describes therapy as "a collaborative treatment based on the relationship between an individual and a psychologist. Grounded in dialogue, it provides a supportive environment that allows you to talk openly with someone who is objective, neutral and nonjudgmental. You and your psychologist will work together to identify and change the thought and behavior patterns that are keeping you from feeling your best."  Therapies for PTSD often include remembering or re-telling the story of the traumatic event. Someone who is trained to help the person with PTSD cope with their emotions does this in a safe, supportive setting. Over time, therapies for PTSD reduce the emotional impact of the traumatic event.	"Therapy for trauma has been shown to help reduce symptoms and improve functioning. It can be difficult at first, but it will help you start to heal."  "I think talking to someone who is trained to offer therapy would help you feel better and feel more patient with your children."	(၁) တ်ဆီဉ်ထွဲမေရာလာ ကမာရာလီ၊ တာသကဲသားကလာဂါ ဒီးတာ်ဟ်သူဉ်တ်သားအတာကိတာခဲ supportive therapy to reduce emotional and behavioral problems (၂) တာဆီဉ်ထွဲမေရာလာ၊ ကမာရာလီ၊သားတာဘုံ လိဘ်ဘုံခ်ား - supportive therapy to reduce mental disorder (၃) တာဆီဉ်ထွဲမေရာလာ၊ ကမာရာလီဉ်သားတာ၏ တကျားဘာဉ်အ၏ - supportive therapy that will increase mental harmony Community Notes There is no direct equivalent, but these phrases are understood and are not stigmatizing.
Trauma-informed treatment  Treatments that are specifically designed to treat the effects of	"Trauma-informed treatment will be the best approach to help you heal. It is designed for people who have been	(၁) တာ်ကူစါယါဘျါဒီးဆီဉ်ထွဲမေစာ၊ လီးဆီ လာကမေ့စုးလီးကာ့တာ်မာဘဉ်ဒိသးအဒိဉ်အမှာ် - particular treatment or support / help to reduce the effects of a traumatic event

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
traumatic events. Research has shown these treatments to be effective when used for this purpose.	through upsetting events like you have and has helped many people."	(၂) တာ်ကူစါယါဘျါလာတာ်တိာ်ကျဲးအိန် လီးဆီ, ခံသီးကဆီဉ်ထွဲမးစုးလီးတာ်သးဘဉ်ဒိအဒိဉ်အမုာ် - a specially-designed remedy to help reduce the effects of a traumatic event (၃) တာ်မာဘျဲဒီးဆီဉ်ထွဲမးစား လီးဆီလာကမာ ကူး(စုး)လီးကာ့း တာ်သူဉ်ဘဉ်ဒိသးဘဉ်ဒိအဒိဉ်အမုာ် - special treatment to help reduce the effects of a traumatic event <b>Community Notes</b> There is no direct equivalent.
Treatment plan  A plan created by a healthcare professional to address a health condition. In the context of PTSD, a plan includes the chosen approach to treatment (e.g., Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy, EMDR, medication), how that approach will be carried out, and the duration of treatment.	"This treatment plan is made specifically with you, and aims to give you the type of supports that will help you the most."	(၁) തിയുത്തത്തിസ്ര നൂരിധിച്ചിതിങ്ങ് - the chosen or selected plan for treatment  (၂) തിയുത്തത്തിസ്രാനം പ്രച്ചിതിങ്ങ് the chosen plan for treatment  (२) തിൽിന്റെ സോലാച്ചിതിങ്ങ് the plan that will cure disease  Not Recommended  The equivalent term, തിനൂരിധിച്ചിതിൽിന്റെ, is seldom used so may not be meaningful to community members.
Psychotherapies		
Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)  An effective therapy for PTSD in which a therapist helps the patient to engage in productive and pleasant activities, learn coping strategies, and reduce symptoms by addressing negative thoughts and beliefs.	"The therapist thinks CBT will help."	(၁) တာ်ဆီဉ်ထွဲမးစားတုးလီးတီးလီးလာကမးဂဲ့း ထီဉ်တာ်သူဉ်ညါနာ်တာ် တာ်သးကလာ် သးဂဲးဒီးတာ် တ်သူဉ် တ်သး – effective therapy to improve (troubling) thoughts, emotions and behavior  (၂) တာ်ဆီဉ်ထွဲမးစားတုးလီးတီးလီးလာကမးဂဲ့း ထီဉ်တာ်ဆိကမိဉ်ဒီးသးတက်တကျားအင်္ကိုး – supportive treatment to improve emotion and behavior  (၃) တာ်ကမးဂဲ့းထီဉ်တာ် သူဉ်ညါနာ်တာ်ဒီး တာ်တ်သူဉ်တ်သမ်း – improve your emotion and behavior  Community Notes  There is no direct equivalent. Because this type of therapy may not be familiar, we recommend that clinicians have a conversation with the interpreter before talking to a patient about this treatment for the first time.

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT)	"The therapist thinks CPT will help."	(၁) ကျိုကျဲလာကမၤဘဉ်လိ၁်က္၊ တာ်သ့ဉ်ညါ နာ်ဟာ်ဒီးတာ်ဟူးတာ်ဂဲၤ - therapeutic process to help improve mood and action
An effective therapy for PTSD in which a therapist supports the patient in writing an impact statement and detailed account of the trauma story while the therapist helps correct maladaptive thoughts and beliefs.		(၂) တာ်ဆီဉ်ထွဲမၤစာၤတုၤလီးတီးလီး အိဉ်ဒီးအကျိုး အကျဲလာ ကမၤဂုၤထီဉ်တာ်သ္ဉ်ညါနာ်ဟာ်.ဒီး တာ်ဟူး တာ်ဂဲၤ – effective therapy to help / support the process / improve one's mood and actions
		(၃) တာ်မၤဂ့ၤထီဉ်က္၊ကျိုကျဲလာ တာ်သ္ဉ်ညါနာ်ဟာ် ဒီးတာ်ဟူးတာ်ဂဲၤအင်္ကို effective therapeutic method for mood and action
		Community Notes  There is no direct equivalent. Because this type of therapy may not be familiar, we recommend that clinicians have a conversation with the interpreter before talking to a patient about this treatment for the first time.
Cognitive Therapy  An effective therapy for PTSD in which a therapist focuses on the interaction between thoughts, feelings, and behaviors and changing those that interfere with functioning, including the construction of a verbal or written autobiographic narrative.	"Cognitive therapy requires a few months."	(၁) တာဆီဉ်ထွဲမေစားတုလီးတီးလီး, အိဉ်ဒီး တာ သးစဲဘဉ်ထွဲလိာသူး လာတာသှဉ်ညြနာ်ပားခြီး တာဟာ သူဉ်တာသုံး ခိသိးကဆီတလဲ မလုံးထီဉ်တာလာ အမင်္ တာတာက် – effective therapy focusing on the interaction between knowledge and behavior to improve those that interfere  (၂) တာမြားဘျဲအြဉ်ဒီးတာသုံးစဲလာတာသုံးညည်နာ်ပာာါ ဒီးတာ်တာသူဉ်တာသုံးခဲ့သိုးကဆီတလဲမလုံးထီဉ်အကို -treatment focused on improving thoughts and behavior to make a change for the better  (၃) တာမြားဘျဲလာကမလုံးထီဉ်တာဆီကမိဉ်အကို -treatment to improve thoughts  Community Notes  There is no direct equivalent. Because this type of therapy may not be familiar, we recommend that clinicians have a conversation with the interpreter before talking to a patient about this treatment for the first time.
Exposure  A therapeutic technique that helps a person to process a traumatic experience by working collaboratively with a therapist in a careful way, reducing the	"One effective component of many PTSD treatments is exposure. This is a carefully controlled way to help people process their traumatic experiences so those	(၁) တာ်မာဘျဲလာဒူးသုဉ်နီဉ်ထီဉ်က္၊ ပှာဆါဘဉ်ဃး အပူးကွဲဉ်တာ်မာ သူဉ်ကိာသးဂီးအက်ုဒ်သီး ကမာရားလီး, တာ်တူ်ဘဉ် treatment that helps patients reduce their suffering by helping to remember past traumatic events (၂) တာ်မာဘျဲပှာဆါဒ်သီးကမာရားလီးတာ်တူာ်ဘဉ်အင်္ကိခ်ီဖိုတာ်မာဒူးသုဉ်နီဉ်ကာ့၊ဘဉ်ဃး အပူးကွဲဉ် တာ်မာသျဉ်ကိာသး ဂီးအက့် treatment for the patient to

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
emotional reaction to thoughts or reminders of the trauma. The goals are to return a sense of control, self-confidence, and predictability to the patient, and help them to	experiences no longer control their lives."	reduce their suffering by helping to remember past traumatic events (၃) တာ်မာဘျာလာဒူးသူဉ်နီဉ်ထီဉ်ကူးတာ်ပျုံးတာ်ဖူး လာ အပူးကွဲ့ဘ်ခ်သီးကမားလီးမာ်ကွဲဘ်,
		നലവുറയ്പ്സു തിയിങ്ങ് treatment that helps remember past traumatic event to reduce suffering
be more relaxed and less fearful. This is an		Community Notes There is no direct equivalent. Because this type of
evidence-supported		therapy may not be familiar, we recommend that clinicians have a conversation with the interpreter
treatment for PTSD.		before talking to a patient about this treatment for the first time.
Eye Movement	"Eye movement	(၁) တၢ်မာဘျါအိုဉ်ထီဉ်ဖဲတၢ်မာသူဉ်နီဉ်ထီဉ်ကာ့၊ ပှာဆါ ဘဉ်ဃးတၢ်မာဘဉ်ဒိသး အဒိဉ်အမှာ်ခီဖျိ
Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)	desensitization and Reprocessing, or	တါဒုးနဲဉ်အီးလာမဲာ်ချံ, မှတမှါစုခံခီခံကပၤ အတါဟူးဂဲၤတဝီ၀ဲၤတဝီ treatment during which the patient remembers the traumatic event with hand or eye movements
An effective therapy for	EMDR, uses special eye or hand	(၂) တာ်မာဘျါလာအဒုးမာသာ့ဉ်နီဉ်ထီဉ်ကာ့၊ ပှာဆါ ဘဉ်ဃးတာ်မာဘဉ်ဒိသး
PTSD in which a therapist instructs the patient to	movements retrain your brain to stop letting memories of the trauma interfere with your daily life."	အဒိဉ်အမု၁်အိဉ်ဃု၁်ဒီး တဂ်မၤဟူးမဲ့၁်ချံ မှတမှာ်စုခံခီအတဂ်ဟူးတာ်ဂဲၤ treatment
recall a traumatic memory and then guides		helping remind the patient about the past traumatic event with eye or hand movements
the patient through a series of bilateral eye or		Community Notes
hand movements as the		There is no direct equivalent. Because this type of therapy may not be familiar, we recommend that
memory is recalled.		clinicians have a conversation with the interpreter
		before talking to a patient about this treatment for the first time.
Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET)		(၁) တာ်ဆီဉ်ထွဲမၤစာၤတုၤလီးတီးလီး, လာကမၤဂ့ၤ ထီဉ် (ပှາဆါ)၊ ပှးတူာ်ဘဉ်တာ် ဒ်သိးကသ္ <b>ဒုး</b> အိဉ်ထီဉ် တာ်တဲဖျါက္ <b>း</b> အတာ်လီးပျံးလီးဖုးအဂ့ာ်, လာကျိုးကျဲ လီး
		o സ്റ്റീട് :നലാവിനുതിങ്ങ് effective therapy that helps the
An effective therapy for PTSD in which a therapist helps the patient create a narrative story of the traumatic event in a coherent and therapeutic way.		(patient) sufferer create a narrative story of the traumatic event in a coherent and therapeutic way
		(၂) တာ်မာဘျါလာကသ္ဒုးအိဉ်ထီဉ်တာ်တဲဖျါထီဉ်က္ၤ တာ်လီးပျံးလီးဖုးအက်ုဒ်သီးကမာဘျါက္စာတာ်အင်္ကီ treatment that helps relate the trauma story in a therapeutic way
		·
,		(၃) တါမာဘျါက္ းပှားဆါဒ်သီး ကတဲ့ဖျါထီဉ်ကဲ့ အတာ်လဲးခ်ီဖြိတာ်လီးပျုံးလီးဖုံးလာအပူးကွဲဉ်အက် -therapy that cures a patient by helping to tell the story of a past traumatic event

Word & Definition	Example	Translation & Notes
		Community Notes
		There is no direct equivalent. However, telling a story to
		heal from trauma or stress is familiar to the community.
		Often this is done with a trusted friend or peer.