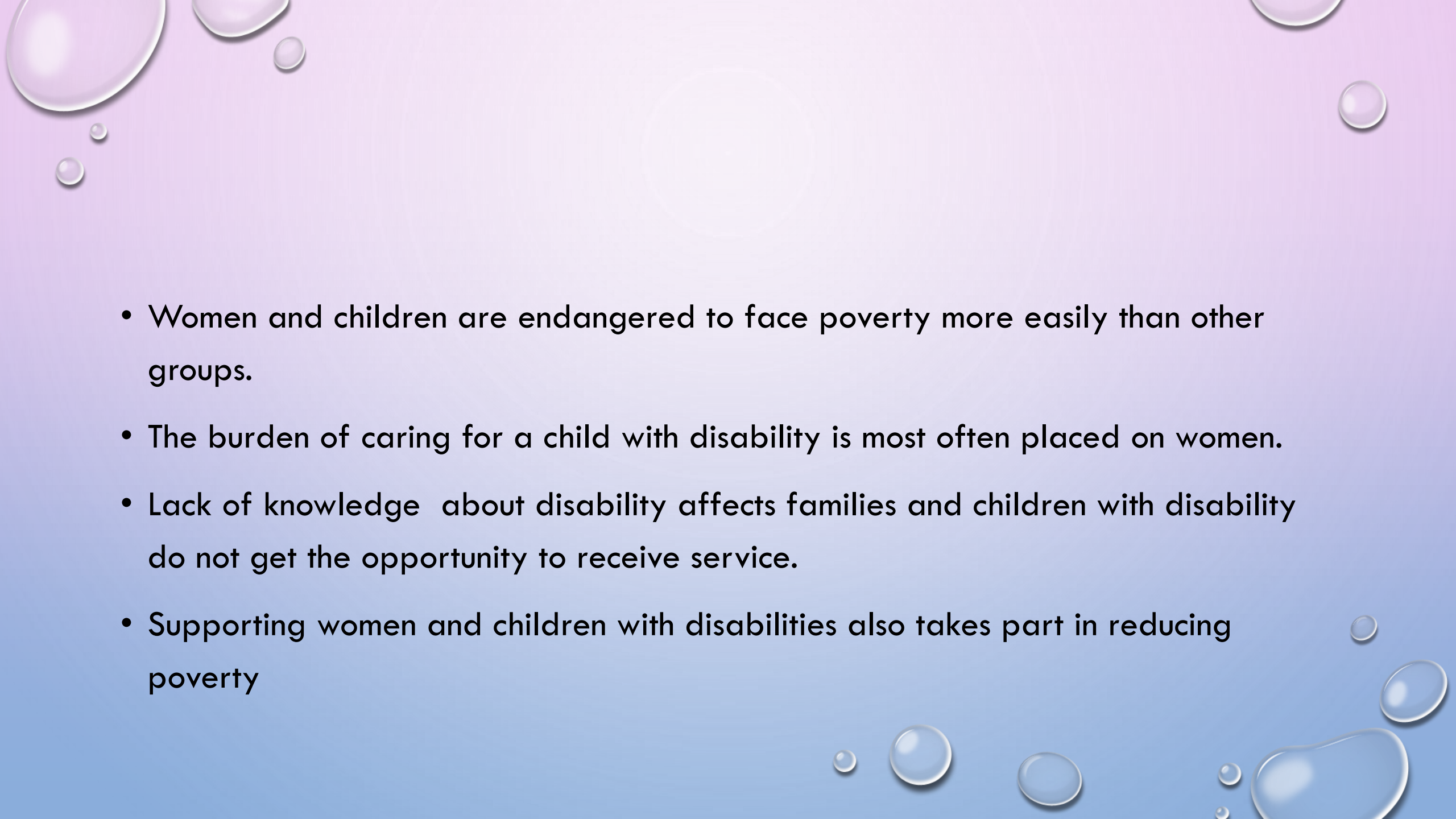
The background features a gradient from light purple at the top to light blue at the bottom. Scattered throughout are various-sized, realistic-looking water droplets with highlights and shadows. In the center, there is a faint, white silhouette of a person sitting in a wheelchair, facing forward.

# **INTENSIVE THERAPY WEEKS: A TOOL FOR CAREGIVERS IN FACILITATION PARTICIPATION IN LIFE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH DISABILITY**

BRENDA SHUMA OT, ANTHONY EPHRAIM

# INTRODUCTION

- This concept begun after seeing the need of having caregivers gain knowledge for better performance of their children.
- This is due to limited number of health profession and occupational therapist
- Lack of services in near by area where parents could attend daily

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- Women and children are endangered to face poverty more easily than other groups.
  - The burden of caring for a child with disability is most often placed on women.
  - Lack of knowledge about disability affects families and children with disability do not get the opportunity to receive service.
  - Supporting women and children with disabilities also takes part in reducing poverty

# TARGET GROUP

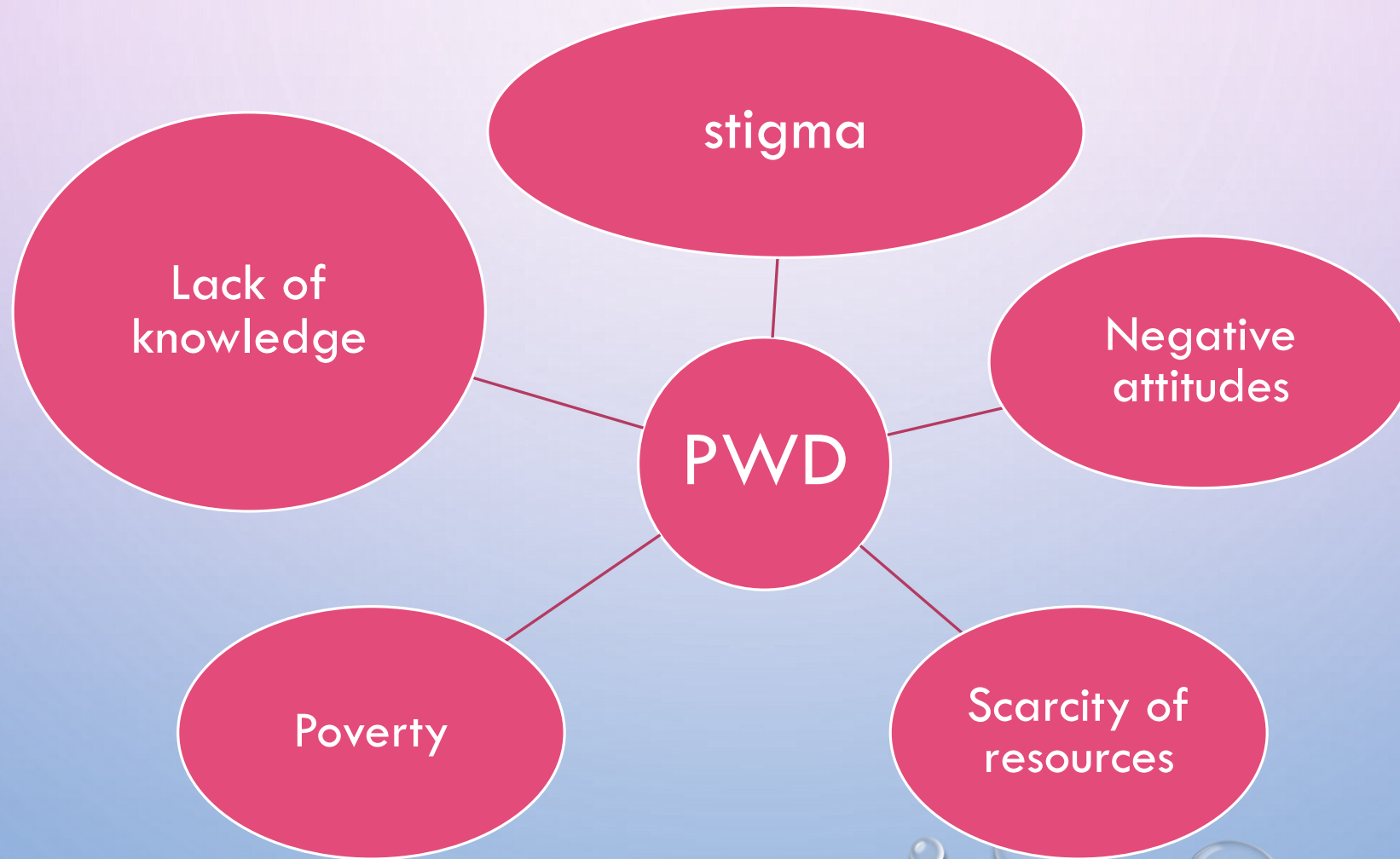
- All children with disability including those with severe disability
- Parents and caregiver
- Institutions and services
- Community at large

# AIM OF INTENSIVE THERAPY WEEKS

- Empower caregivers to become knowledgeable co- therapist to their own child
- To equip caregivers with the skills and become confident advocates for the rights of PWD.
- Facilitate peer education amongst caregivers
- Enable the children to develop to their full potential
- Reduce the cost to their caregiver
- Support caregiver through their grief process



# SITUATION IN TANZANIA



# THERAPY WEEKS

- They Get To Have Therapy Sessions With Their Children In The Mornings
- Afternoon Discussion Sessions With Different Themes And Topics
- Feel Free To Share Their Home Situations in group activities
- Get to see specialist/consultant within and even in other institutions.
- Evaluation At The End Of The Week
- Assistive devices are designed and tried out before child take it home.







# OUTCOME

- Children develop their abilities and become enabled to participate more in their communities
- Parents learn new techniques to handle their children
- Caregivers get time to share with others ones who don't point fingers at them since they are also in the same situation
- The communities become enabled to be active participants towards the development of the child with disability





# CONCLUSION

- Are very effective for the caregivers, children and youth with disability.
- Intensive therapy weeks program has been adapted by other centers in the country and the parents/caregivers in the programs show appreciation and are happy to participate.
- Special acknowledgement to Herma Grossman who started the idea.





THANK YOU

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