



# ONC Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Information Exchange Learning Forum

## Policy and Funding

1:30 – 3:00 pm EST

Tuesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022

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The Office of the National Coordinator for  
Health Information Technology



# Agenda

- Welcome
- SDOH Information Exchange Background
- Overview of SDOH Information Exchange Foundational Elements
- Policy:
  - Federal Policy Landscape
  - Spotlight: Colorado's Approach to Social Health Information Exchange
- Financing:
  - Funding Landscape
  - Spotlight: Commonspirit
- Questions & Discussion
- Learning Forum Series and Small Group Opportunities
- Closing

# Welcome

Please chat-in your name, role and organization.



Greg Bloom  
**EMI Advisors**



Kristina Celentano  
**EMI Advisors**



Karis Grounds  
**211 San Diego**



Brenda Kiritkumar  
**EMI Advisors**



Liz Palena-Hall  
**ONC**



Sheetal Shah  
**EMI Advisors**



Whitney Weber  
**ONC**



Evelyn Gallego  
**EMI Advisors**

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# SDOH Information Exchange Background

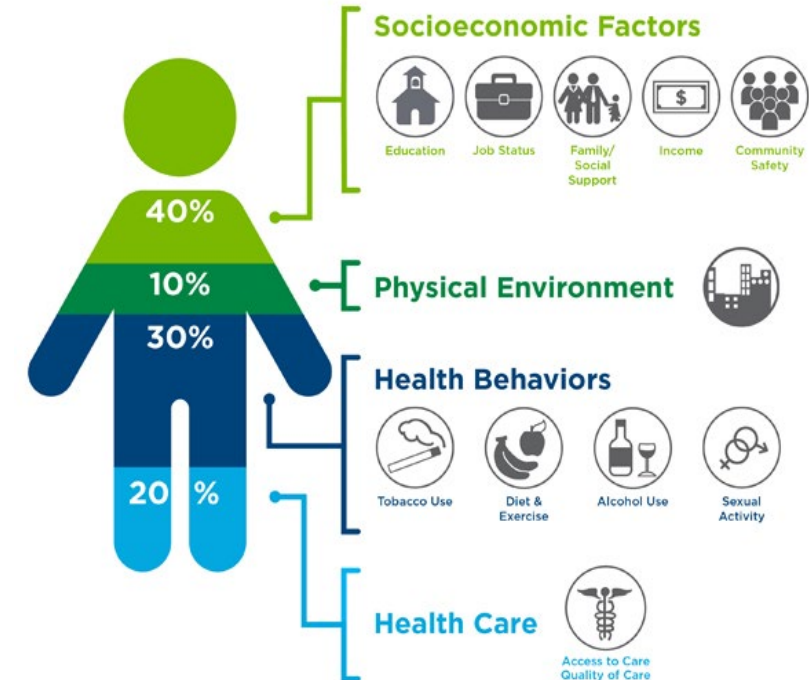
# Why Are Social Needs Important?

There is growing awareness that SDOH information improves whole person care and lowers cost. Unmet social needs negatively impact health outcomes.

- **Food insecurity** correlates to higher levels of diabetes, hypertension, and heart failure.
- **Housing instability** factors into lower treatment adherence.
- **Transportation barriers** result in missed appointments, delayed care, and lower medication compliance.

Addressing SDOH is a primary approach to achieve health equity.

## What Goes Into Your Health?



Source: Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement, Going Beyond Clinical Walls: Solving Complex Problems (October 2014)

The Bridgespan Group

Sourced: Gravity Project

<sup>1</sup><https://www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/socialdeterminants/faq.html>

<sup>2</sup>[https://www.bridgespan.org/insights/library/public-health/the-community-cure-for-health-care-\(1\)](https://www.bridgespan.org/insights/library/public-health/the-community-cure-for-health-care-(1))



# SDOH Information Exchange

**Who?**

**What?**

**When?**

**Where?**

**Why?**

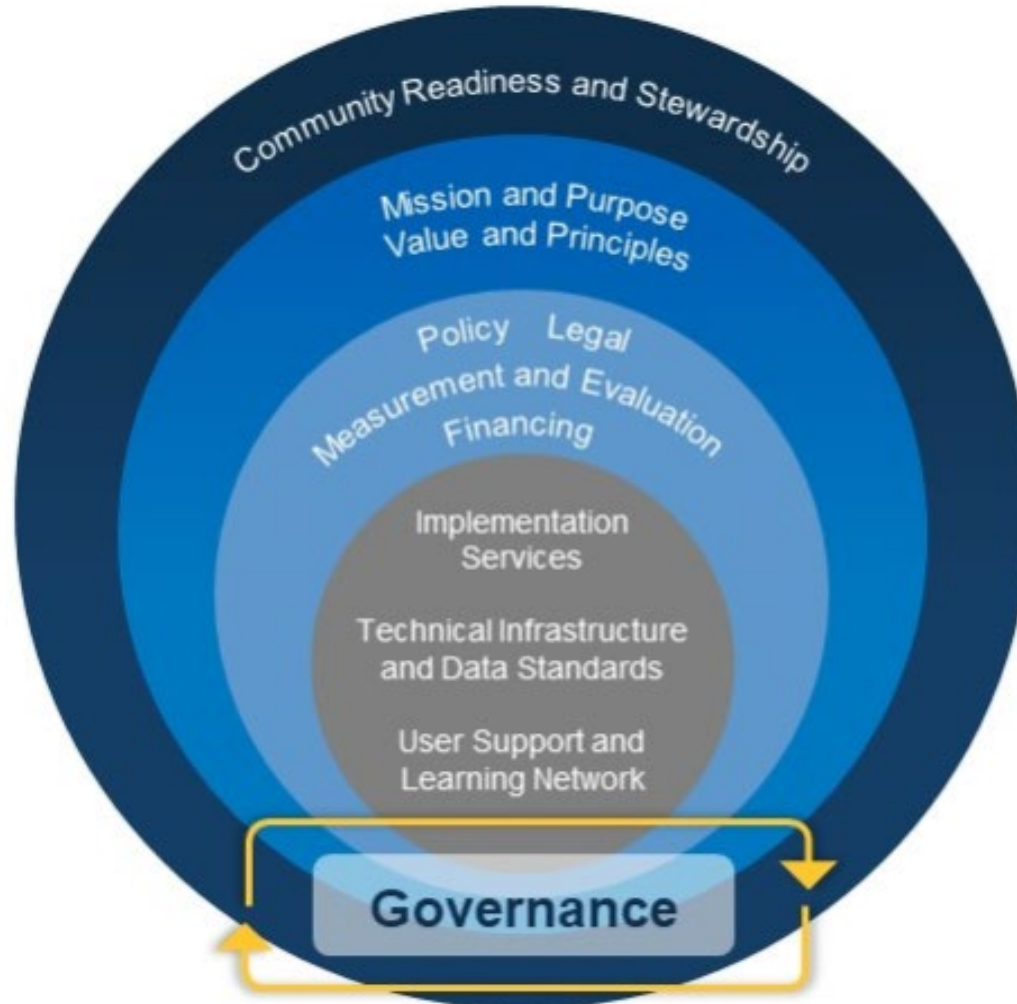
**How?**

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# Overview of SDOH Information Exchange Foundational Elements



# Social Determinants of Health Information Exchange Foundational Elements





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# Policy

## Policy Foundational Element

Policy includes use of federal, state, local, and tribal policy levers to advance the ability to collect, share, and use standardized SDOH data, as well as collaboration and alignment with other relevant efforts in the applicable community, region, and/or state(s) for collective impact and improved outcomes.

## Questions to Consider

- What assessments have been done on the existing federal, state, local, and tribal policy landscapes?
- What entities or efforts are in alignment with or differ from your objectives, and how will you orient your strategy for collective impact to improve outcomes?
- Whose role will it be to regularly research and review policies that could impact your SDOH information exchange effort?
- How does policy inform the development of the SDOH information exchange technical infrastructure? How can technical capabilities inform policy?

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# Federal Policy Landscape

# HHS SDOH Action Plan At a Glance

## Goals

The HHS strategic approach to address SDOH will drive progress through coordinated strategies and activities to better integrate health and human services and to advance public health initiatives involving cross-sector partnerships and community engagement to address specific SDOH drivers.



Goal 1 Build a robust and interconnected data infrastructure to support care coordination and evidence-based policymaking



Goal 2 Improve access to and affordability of equitably delivered health care services, and support partnerships between health care and human services providers, as well as build connections with community partners to address social needs



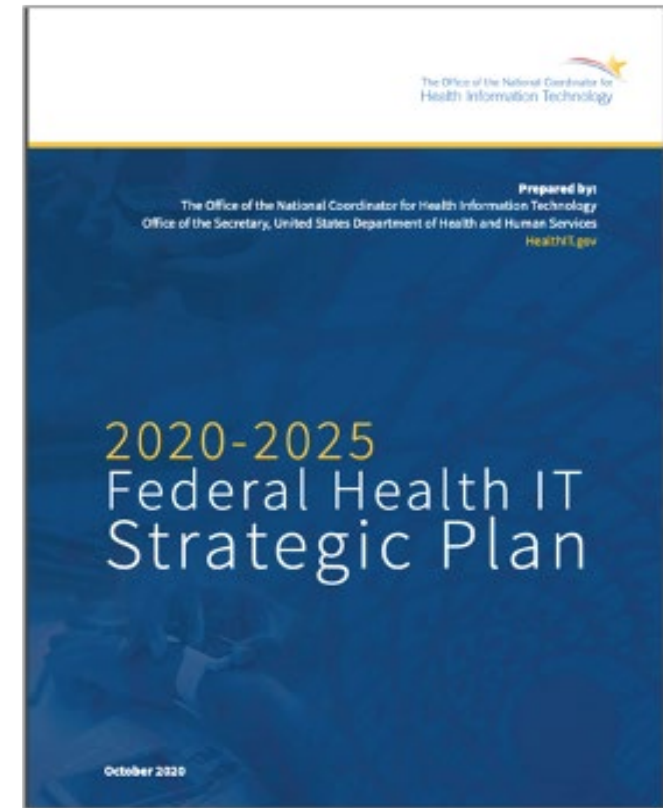
Goal 3 Adopt whole-of-government approaches, support public-private partnerships, and leverage community engagement to address SDOH and enhance population health and well-being

# ONC: Federal Health IT Strategic Plan 2020-2025

The Plan was developed in collaboration with over 25 federal organizations and is intended to guide federal health IT activities.

It includes an objective to integrate health and human services information and identifies federal strategies to:

- Strengthen communities' health IT infrastructure
- Foster greater understanding of how to use health IT
- Capture and integrate **SDOH data** into EHRs





# Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC)

ONC is the principal federal entity charged with coordination of nationwide efforts to implement and use the most advanced health information technology and the electronic exchange of health information.

## ONC Activities



## ONC Objectives





## STANDARDS AND DATA

(Advance Standards Development Adoption)

## INFRASTRUCTURE

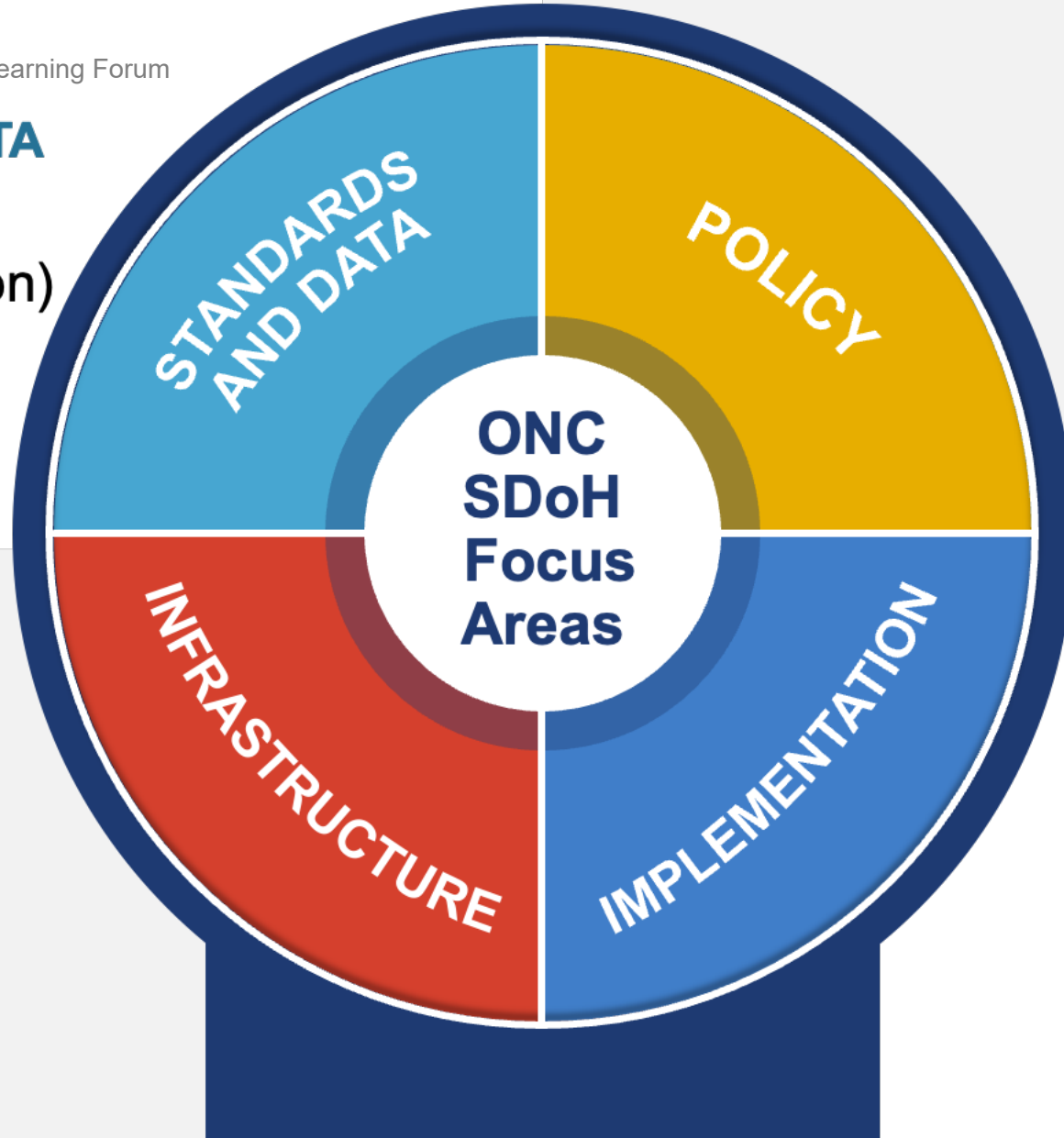
(SDOH Information Exchange/ Interoperable Referrals, HIE, State, & Local)

## POLICY

(Emerging Policy Challenges & Opportunities)

## IMPLEMENTATION

(Integration, Innovation, and Health IT Tools)



**Collect, Access, Exchange, Use**

# Addressing SDOH Data Gaps and Interoperability Challenges

Gaps in available standardized SDOH data make it difficult to leverage available technology (EHRs, portals) to collect, share, and use it for individual and community health.

## *Imagine if.....?*

Data captured at any point of care was structured and could be shared and reused by other service providers across community, state, and federal programs informing multiple patient care activities.

- Social determinant of health data sources could be leveraged and integrated with other data sets to provide more insights on improved outcomes and program effectiveness
- There were no obstacles for consumers in access to technology for virtual visits or for their health records
- Every community was fully resourced with sufficient infrastructure/technology
- Health and human services was fully integrated for holistic and equitable health and care

# Draft USCDI Version 3

<b>Allergies and Intolerances</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Substance (Medication)</li> <li>Substance (Drug Class)</li> <li>Reaction</li> </ul>	<b>Clinical Tests</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clinical Test</li> <li>Clinical Test Result/Report</li> </ul>	<b>Health Status</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health Concerns →</li> <li>Functional Status ★</li> <li>Disability Status ★</li> <li>Mental Function ★</li> <li>Pregnancy Status ★</li> <li>Smoking Status →</li> </ul>	<b>Patient Demographics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Name</li> <li>Last Name</li> <li>Middle Name (Including middle initial)</li> <li>Suffix</li> <li>Previous Name</li> <li>Date of Birth</li> <li>Date of Death ★</li> <li>Race</li> <li>Ethnicity</li> <li>Tribal Affiliation ★</li> <li>Sex (Assigned at Birth)</li> <li>Sexual Orientation</li> <li>Gender Identity</li> <li>Preferred Language</li> <li>Current Address</li> <li>Previous Address</li> <li>Phone Number</li> <li>Phone Number Type</li> <li>Email Address</li> <li>Related Person's Name ★</li> <li>Related Person's Relationship ★</li> <li>Occupation ★</li> <li>Occupation Industry ★</li> </ul>	<b>Procedures</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procedures</li> <li>SDOH Interventions</li> <li>Reason for Referral ★</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment and Plan of Treatment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment and Plan of Treatment</li> <li>SDOH Assessment</li> </ul>	<b>Diagnostic Imaging</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diagnostic Imaging Test</li> <li>Diagnostic Imaging Report</li> </ul>			<b>Provenance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Author Organization</li> <li>Author Time Stamp</li> </ul>
<b>Care Team Member(s)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Care Team Member Name</li> <li>Care Team Member Identifier</li> <li>Care Team Member Role</li> <li>Care Team Member Location</li> <li>Care Team Member Telecom</li> </ul>	<b>Encounter Information</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encounter Type</li> <li>Encounter Diagnosis</li> <li>Encounter Time</li> <li>Encounter Location</li> <li>Encounter Disposition</li> </ul>	<b>Immunizations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immunizations</li> </ul>		<b>Unique Device Identifier(s) for a Patient's Implantable Device(s)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unique Device Identifier(s) for a patient's implantable device(s)</li> </ul>
<b>Clinical Notes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation Note</li> <li>Discharge Summary Note</li> <li>History &amp; Physical</li> <li>Procedure Note</li> <li>Progress Note</li> </ul>	<b>Goals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patient Goals</li> <li>SDOH Goals</li> </ul>	<b>Laboratory</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Test</li> <li>Values/Results</li> <li>Specimen Type ★</li> <li>Result Status ★</li> </ul>		<b>Vital Signs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Systolic blood pressure</li> <li>Diastolic blood pressure</li> <li>Heart Rate</li> <li>Respiratory rate</li> <li>Body temperature</li> <li>Body height</li> <li>Body weight</li> <li>Pulse oximetry</li> <li>Inhaled oxygen concentration</li> <li>BMI Percentile (2 - 20 years)</li> <li>Weight-for-length Percentile (Birth - 36 Months)</li> <li>Head Occipital-frontal Circumference Percentile (Birth - 36 Months)</li> </ul>
	<b>Health Insurance Information</b> ★ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coverage Status ★</li> <li>Coverage Type ★</li> <li>Relationship to Subscriber ★</li> <li>Member Identifier ★</li> <li>Subscriber Identifier ★</li> <li>Group Number ★</li> <li>Payer Identifier ★</li> </ul>	<b>Medications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medications</li> </ul>	<b>Problems</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Problems</li> <li>SDOH Problems/Health Concerns</li> <li>Date of Diagnosis</li> <li>Date of Resolution</li> </ul>	

# Interoperability Standards Advisory (ISA)

## Vocabulary/Code Set/Terminology

### Allergies and Intolerances

Representing Patient Allergies and Intolerances; Environmental Substances

### Functional Status/Disability

Representing Patient Functional Status and/or Disability

### Industry and Occupation

Representing Patient Industry and Occupation

### Preferred Language

Representing Patient Preferred Language (Presently)

### Race and Ethnicity

Representing Patient Race and Ethnicity

### Sex at Birth, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

Representing Patient Gender Identity

Representing Patient Sex (At Birth)

Representing Patient-Identified Sexual Orientation

## Social, Psychological, and Behavioral Data

Representing Alcohol Use

Representing Depression

Representing Drug Use

Representing Exposure to Violence (Intimate Partner Violence)

Representing Financial Resource Strain

Representing Food Insecurity

Representing Housing Insecurity

Representing Level of Education

Representing Physical Activity

Representing Social Connection and Isolation

Representing Stress

Representing Transportation Insecurity

## Content/Structure

### Care Coordination for Referrals

Referral to Extra-Clinical Services - Request, Updates, Outcome

### Care Plan

Documenting and Sharing Care Plans for a Single Clinical Context

Documenting and Sharing Medication-Related Care Plans by Pharmacists

Documenting Care Plans for Person Centered Services

Domain or Disease-Specific Care Plan Standards

Sharing Patient Care Plans for Multiple Clinical Contexts

### Security Tags for Sensitive Information

Security Tags for Sensitive Information

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# Spotlight: Colorado's Approach to Social Health Information Exchange



# Connecting the Networks

Colorado's Approach to  
Social Health Information Exchange



**The Office of the National Coordinator  
for Health Information Technology,  
Learning Forum**

July 19, 2022



**OeHI**

Office of eHealth Innovation

Accelerate technology-driven health transformation by aligning public and private initiatives to support Colorado's commitment to become the healthiest state in the nation.



**COLORADO HEALTH INSTITUTE**

We improve the health of all Coloradans through independent research, analysis, and insight that advance sound policies and decisions.



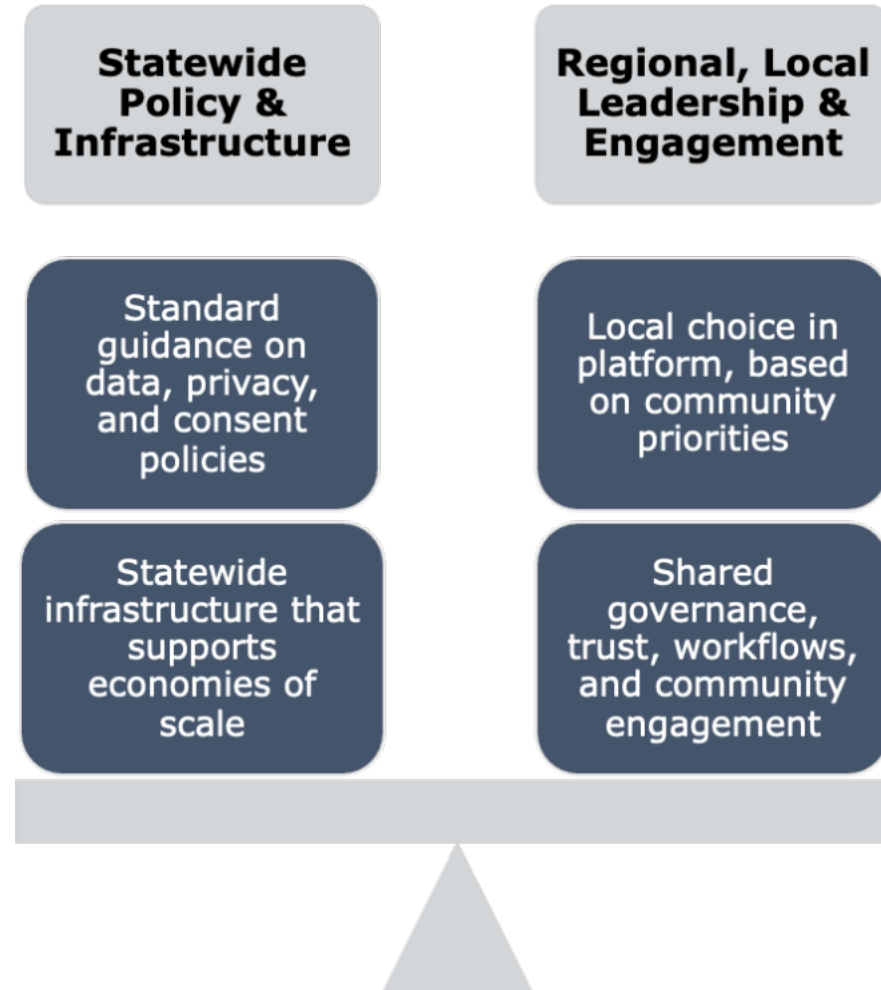
A panoramic view of the Denver skyline at sunset. The sky is filled with vibrant orange and pink clouds. In the foreground, the Colorado State Capitol building is visible on the left, and the Gothic-style St. John's Cathedral is on the right. Numerous modern skyscrapers are scattered throughout the cityscape.

# Strategic and Collaborative Policy and Approach

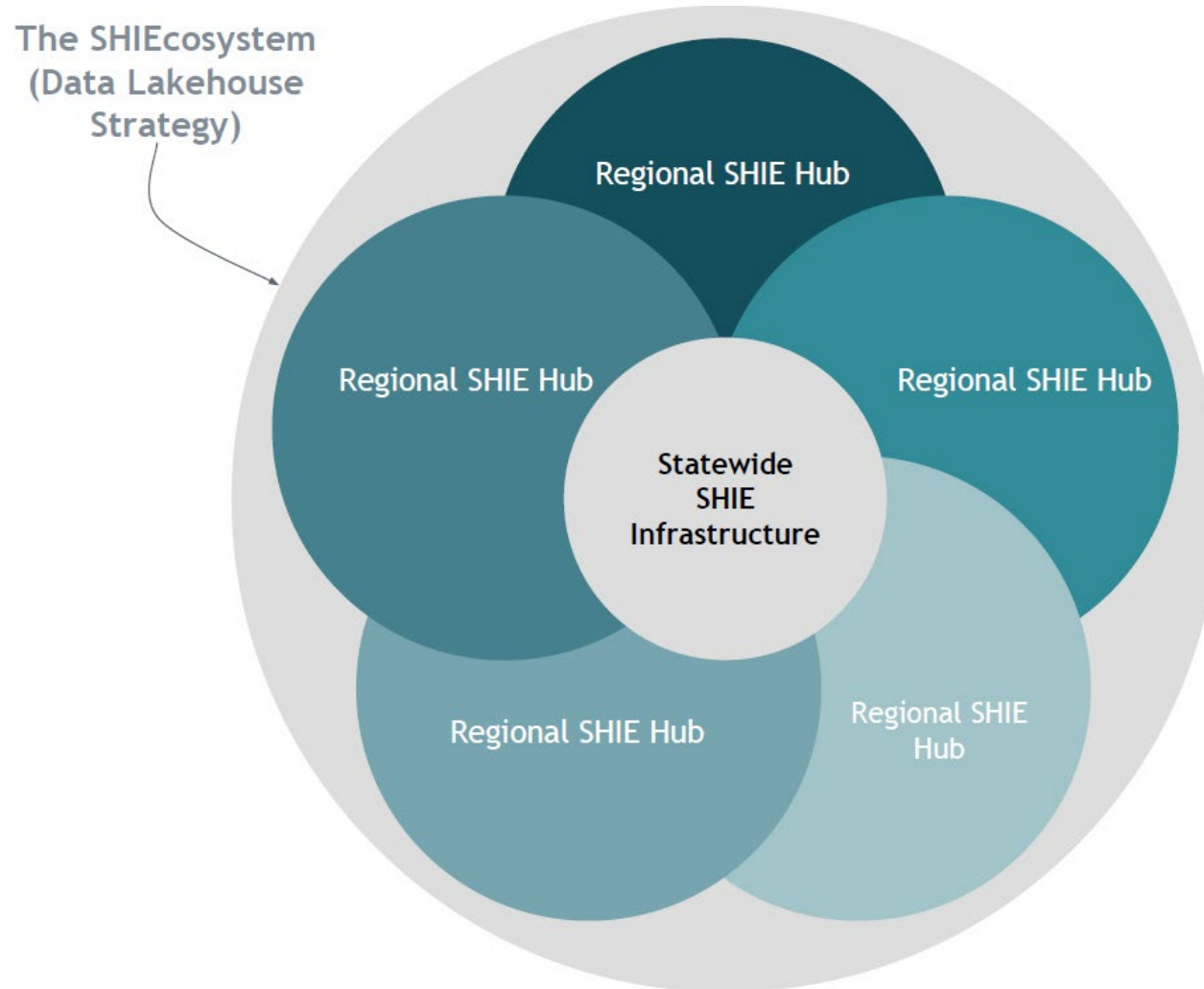
**Statewide regulatory framework and system infrastructure,**  
fostered by state leadership

**Regional governance, implementation, and community  
engagement,** supported by regional and local leadership

# Balanced Approach to Development and Sustainability

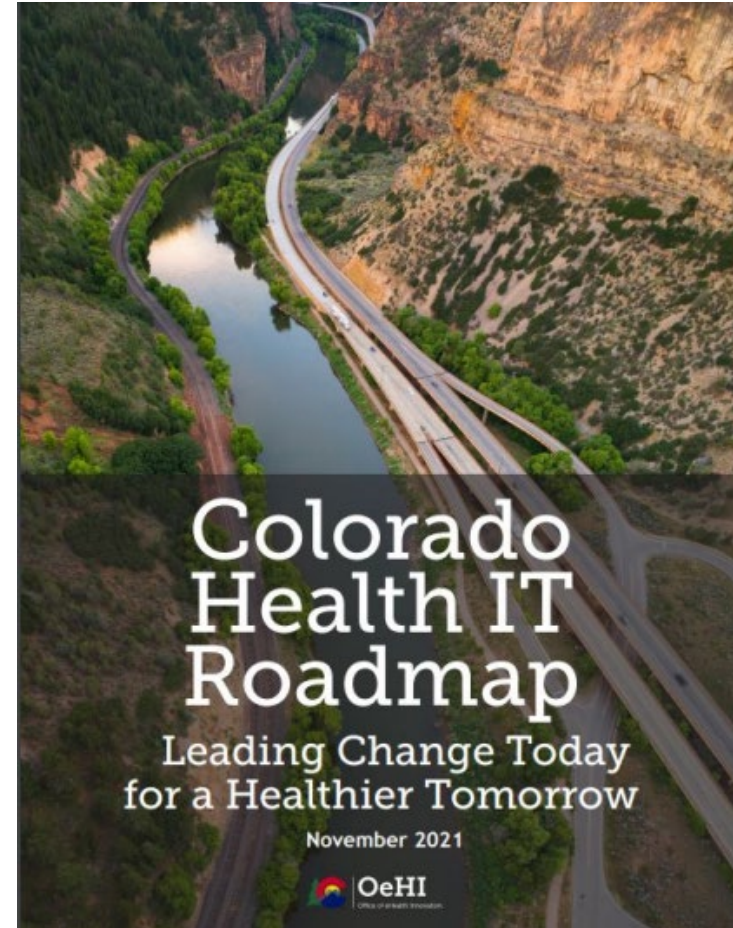


# Two-Pronged Approach



# Statewide Core Services

- Identity Management
- Provider Directory
- Resource Inventory
- Consent Management
- Data-sharing Management
- Scalable Data-Sharing Platform







# Metro Denver S-HIE Initiative

- **Over 30 cross-sector partners**, including local public health and human service agencies, health systems, community organizations, community members, Regional Accountable Entities, and technical organizations
- **Integrative governance** to promote shared leadership and decision-making for implementation, evaluation, and community engagement
- **Emphasis on exchange** — establishing agreements, building consensus, and deepening trust to identify priorities, implement, improve, and scale over time



# Regional, Integrative Governance

- **Rooted in a shared mission and vision**, developed by the partners
- **Facilitates shared leadership**, decision-making, commitment, and action
- **Leverages unique skills and expertise** of partners to support implementation, evaluation, and sustainability efforts
- **Operates with a community board** to ensure community priorities are at the center
- **Supported by a trusted convener/facilitator** to ensure alignment and progress across all activities

# Metro Denver S-HIE Governance Structure





# Lessons Learned



- **Community members** drive the value proposition for an interoperable ecosystem.
- **Policy and funding** are distributed across public and private sectors — no single authority.
- **Workforce and service capacity** are the biggest barriers to comprehensive care — not technology.

# Thank you!





# Questions & Discussion



# Financing

## Financing Foundational Element

Financing encompasses funding for start-up investments (e.g., hardware, software, capacity building, community engagement, and human resources) and ongoing costs (e.g., data and IT infrastructure, legal services, service delivery, backbone organization, and/or CBO capacity) that is supported by a revenue model and/or sustainability plan.

This funding may include funding opportunities (e.g., private sector funding, public sector funding, and partnerships), leveraging multiple funding streams, and incentives for community adoption and use.

## Questions to Consider

- What are the advantages and risks of different funding strategies?
- Who will design the funding strategy, and through what process?
- Does the community, health department, or state program have a similar initiative underway? If so, is there a way to leverage and expand what they have already built? If not, can they be a partner or help with financing or cost sharing?
- What are the risks of inequitable outcomes from various incentive structures, and how can such risks be mitigated?



# Funding Landscape



# Some Thoughts on Financing SDOH Information Exchange

Len M. Nichols, Ph.D.

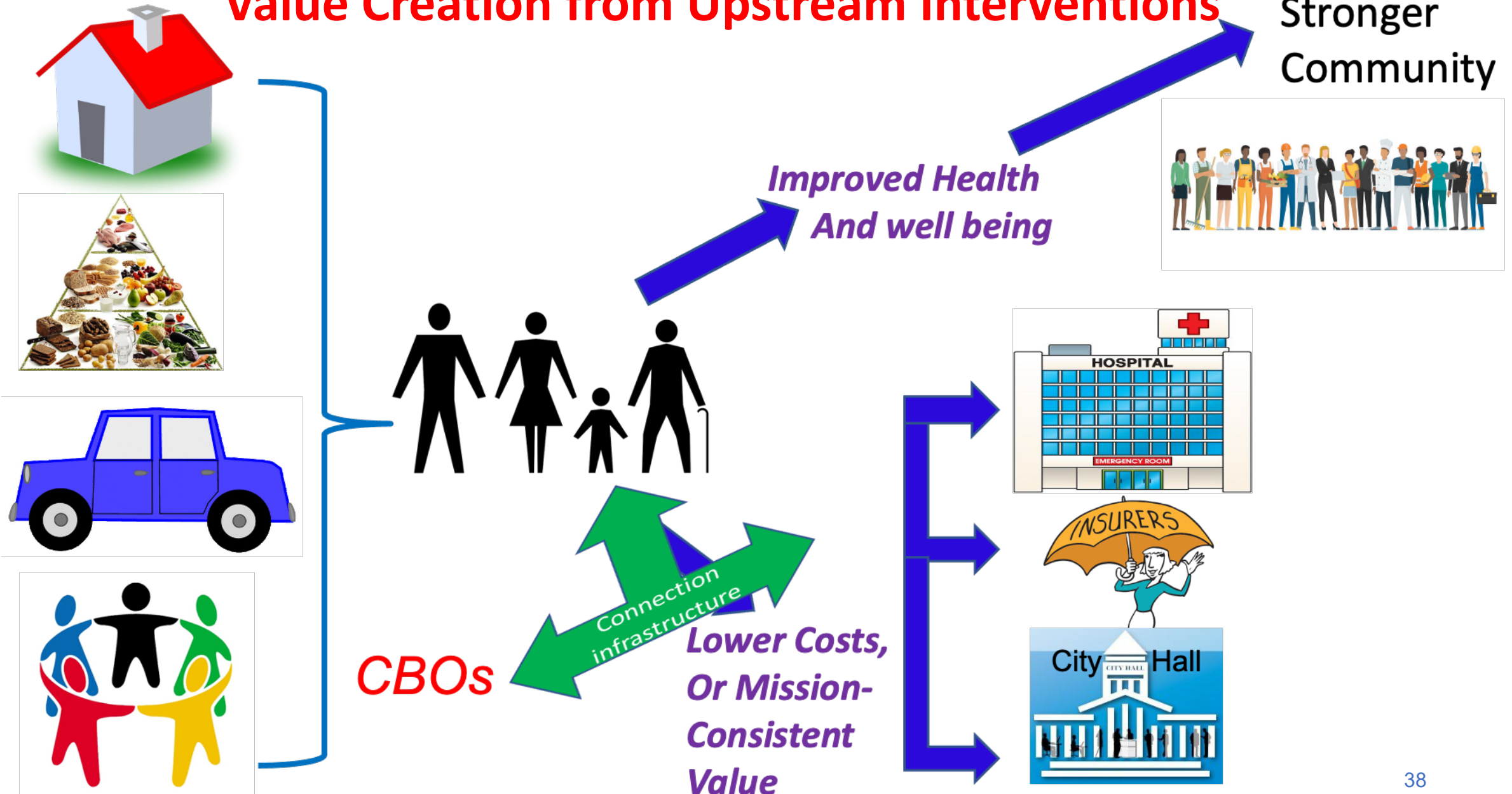
Non-Resident Fellow, Urban Institute

Professor Emeritus, George Mason University

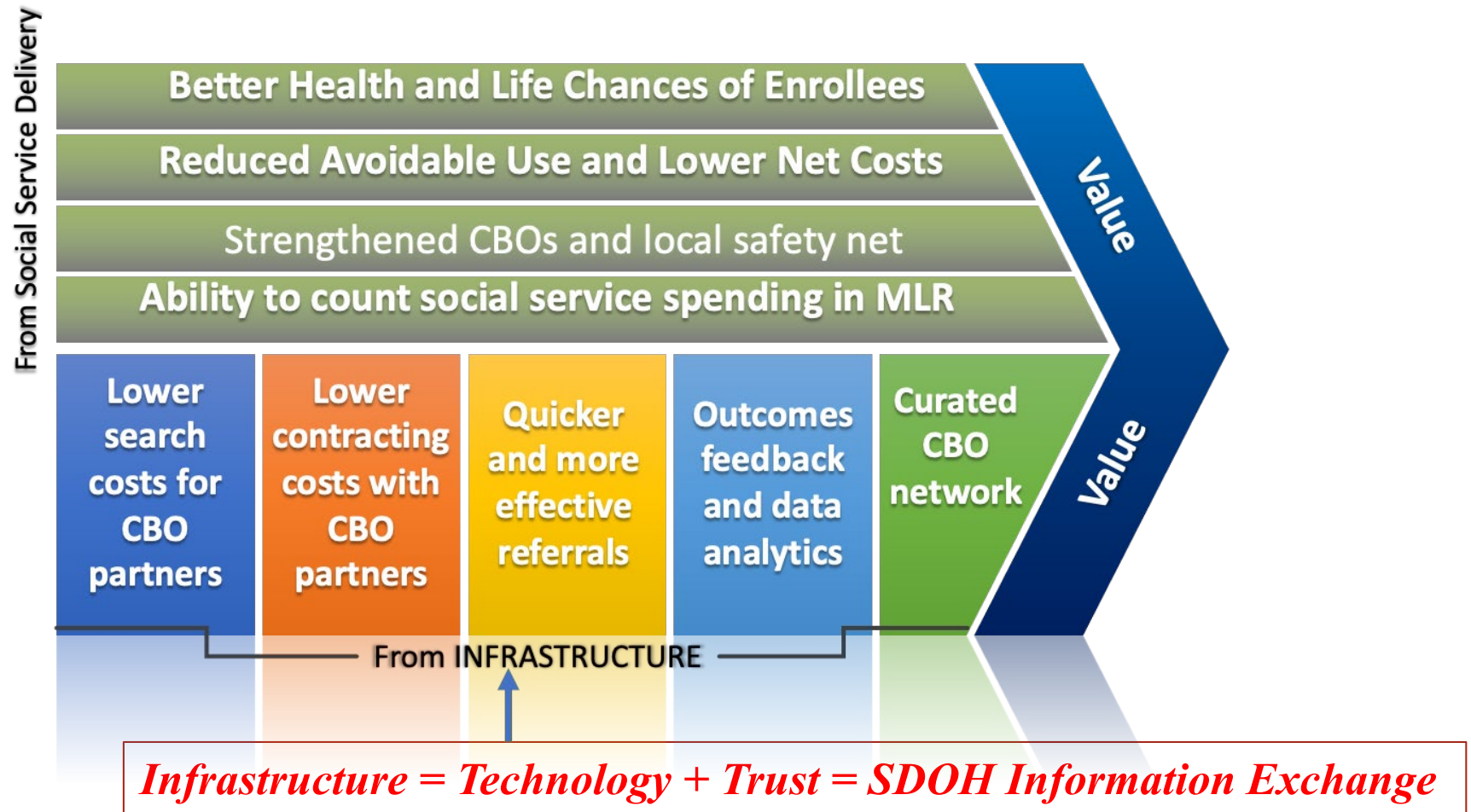
For ONC SDOH Learning Forum

July 19, 2022

# Value Creation from Upstream Interventions



# Value Streams to Health Care and Others from Addressing Health Related Social Needs Enrollees



# SDOH Information Exchange Financing

- Multiple beneficiaries => individual price assignment is key
- Value of infrastructure is affected by scale of social service funding *and* effectiveness of social service interventions
- Some important “value” is not financial



# Financing Alternatives

- Government alone
- Private equity alone
- Health plans or hospitals acting alone, or together?
- Explicitly Collaborative Approaches
  - Government and Private Equity making statewide decisions
  - Organic collaboration with high performing 211 or AAA base
  - Approaches like CommonSpirit's Community Bank Model
  - CAPGI (Collaborative Approach to Public Good Investment)
    - <https://capgi.urban.org>
  - Social Impact Bonds or Outcomes-Based arrangements

# Some Final Thoughts

- Each alternative has pros and cons, may be right for different communities
- Government and governance rules and standards *really* matter
- These choices are too important to leave to an “invisible hand,” or chance
- Community is underrepresented at most decision tables

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# Spotlight: CommonSpirit

# Community Bank Model

A Bridge towards Sustainable Social Payments

Jurema Gobena, MPH

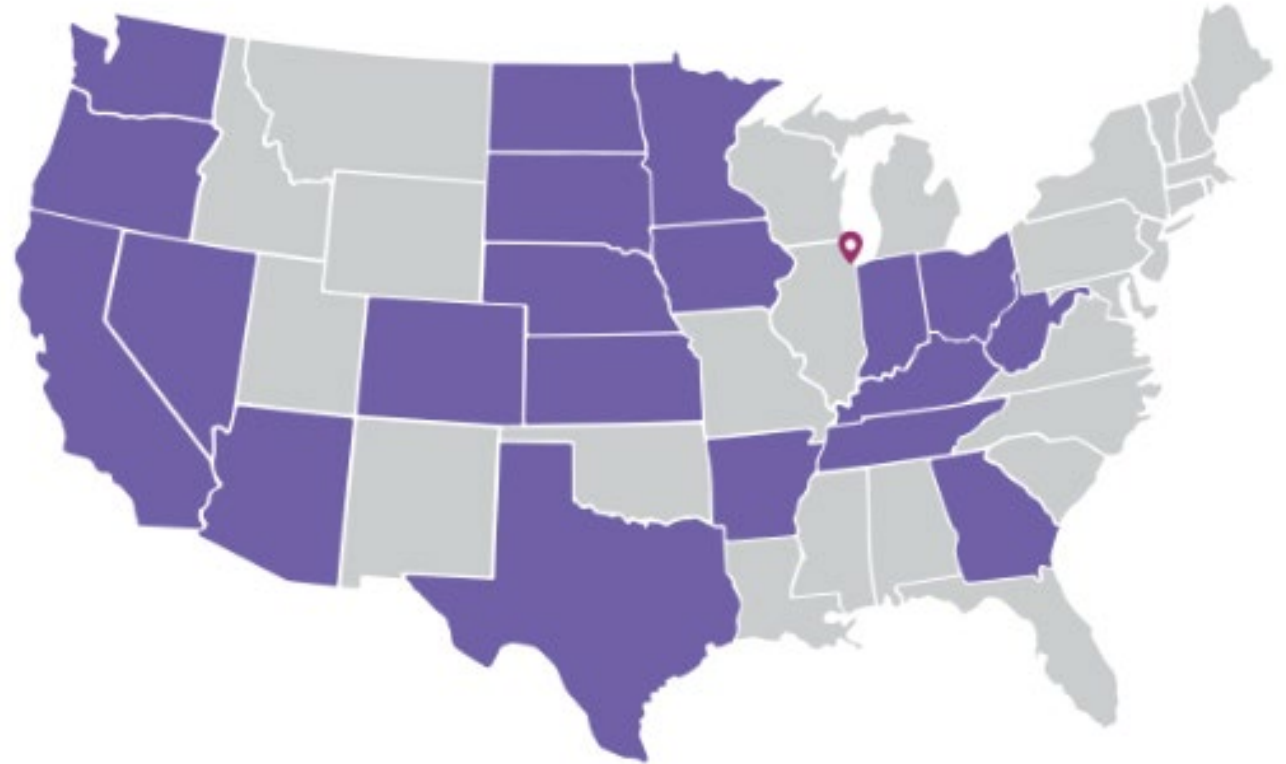
Director, Social Care Integration

Department of Community Health

CommonSpirit Health

# CommonSpirit Health

- 140 hospitals, >1000 care sites in 21 states
- Strive to build more resilient communities, advocate for those who are poor and vulnerable, and innovate how and where healing can happen—both inside the hospital and out in the community
- Committed to a mission of serving all people, especially those who are vulnerable
- Nation's leading provider of Medicaid services working to ensure those in need have access to quality care







# Community Health

Address the social, economic, and environmental conditions that influence health and health equity in communities by engaging in collaborative health improvement programs, strategic grant-making, investing, and innovative partnerships.

## Guiding Principles

- Emphasize prevention and wellness
- Build community capacity and resiliency
- Foster multi-disciplinary and cross-sector collaboration
- Contribute to a person-centered, integrated continuum of care
- Address disparities and challenge systemic inequities inclusive of and guided by community voice
- Commit to learning, innovating, and demonstrating impact

# Connected Community Network

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## What it is:

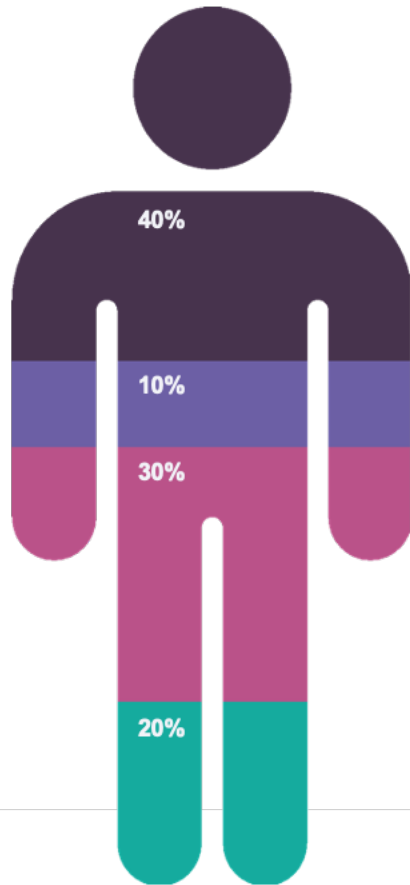
The CCN creates **efficient linkages** with and among local organizations that provide resources vital to people living in the community. These resources address the social determinants of health (SDoH) and create **access points** for health and wellness

## Goal:

One shared **public utility** open to all individuals, providers, care managers, social services organizations, etc.

# Why: Value of Robust Social Care

Addressing social needs by expanding our hospital walls to include community partners as part of the “care team”



## Socioeconomic Factors

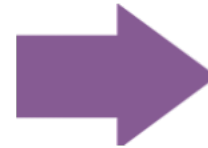


## Physical Environment

## Health Behaviors



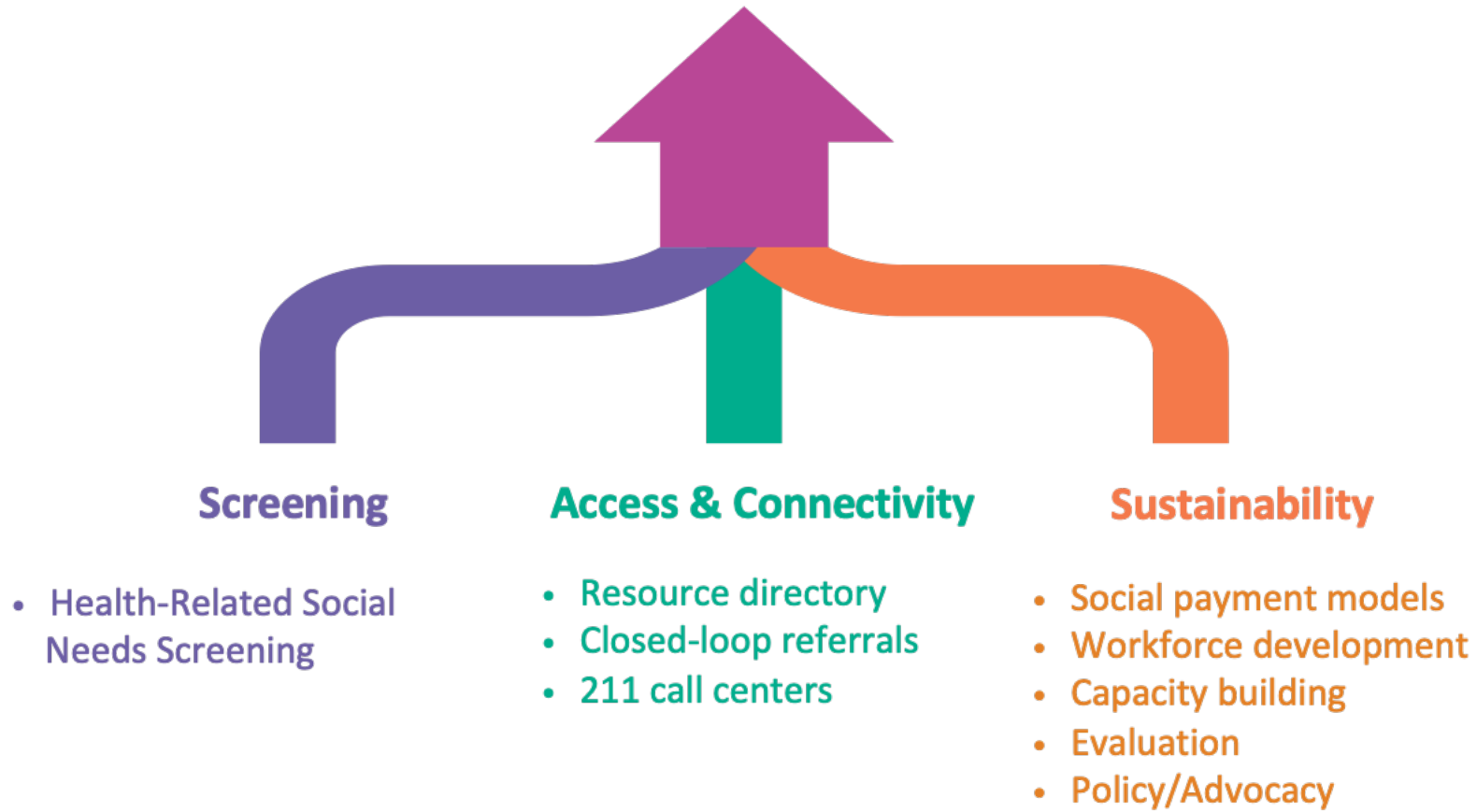
## Clinical Care



# CCN Strategy

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## Robust Social Care Response



# Community Infrastructure

The CCN infrastructure centers ownership in the community, with each partner playing a distinct and vital role in developing a robust network.



## Local Convener

(e.g. **United Way, Community Foundation**) the community backbone organization; *neutral* local agency that convenes critical community organizations, identifies opportunities for growth and expansion with potential funding partners and community network partners.



## Safety Net Navigator

(e.g. **2-1-1**) A free and confidential service that helps people across the U.S. and Canada find the local resources they need. The service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week in 180 languages. They will strengthen their core functionalities (navigation, outcomes, etc.) to receive referrals addressing social and economic needs. Co-champions of network.

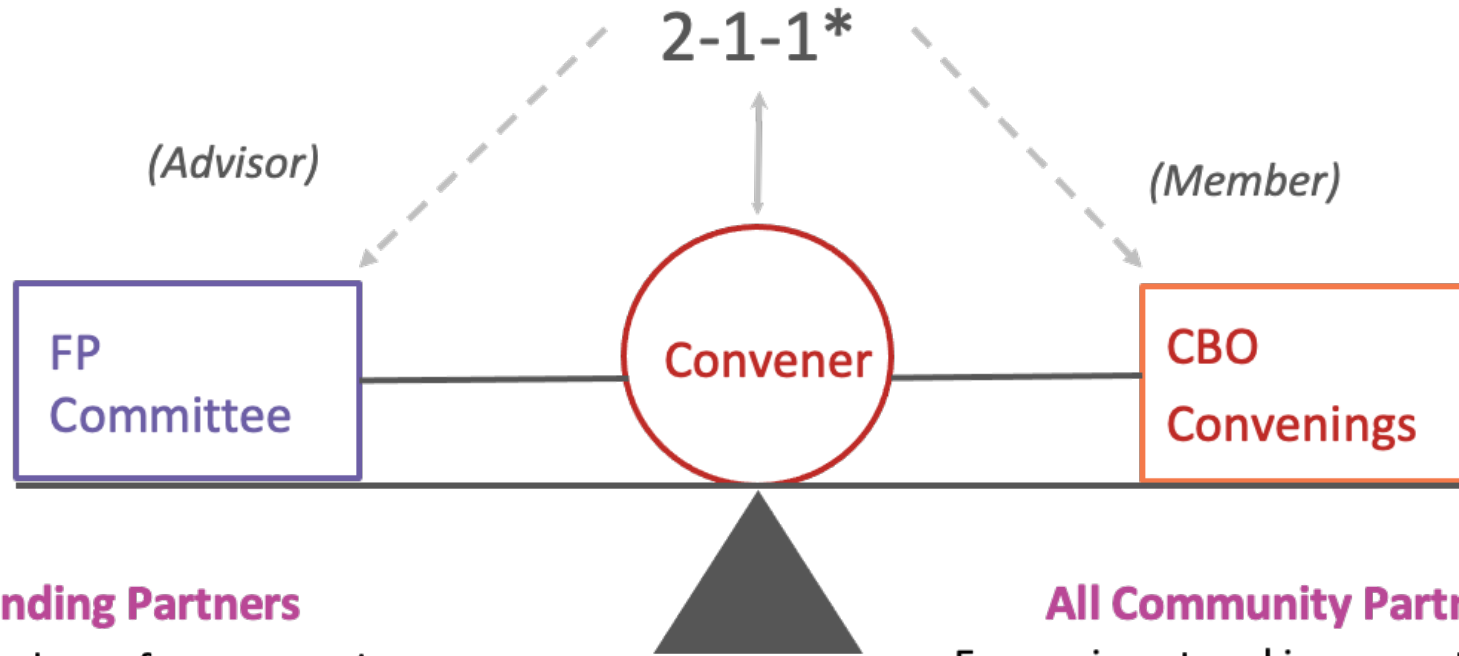


## Technology

A closed-loop referral technology that can power the network, streamlining coordination between health and social service providers.



# Governance to Anchor in Community



## All Funding Partners

Escalation pathway for community needs, align efforts, make strategic decisions for pooled community investment, identify & onboard new Funding Partners

## All Community Partners


Engage in networking opportunities to learn about community programs, align efforts, review utilization & identify barriers, provide feedback for Conveners & Funding Partners

# Collective Financing for Sustainability I

Funding Partners & Funders (e.g. other health systems, payers, government, businesses, foundations, etc) will contribute to a “community bank” and co-fund community infrastructure costs (shared network costs) in three areas on an annual basis.


### Community Bank

Funding Partners (Shared Cost)




#### Local Convener

- Project Management (Ongoing QA/Process Improvement)
- Recruits and convenes CBOs
- Sources other funding
- Stewards growth & governance
- Fiscal Agent



#### Community Capacity

- “Grant Fund” to support CBOs in the short-term to mitigate resource constraints as utilization goes up.
- Bridge funding until social payment models are established.



#### Safety Net Navigator



### Individual Cost

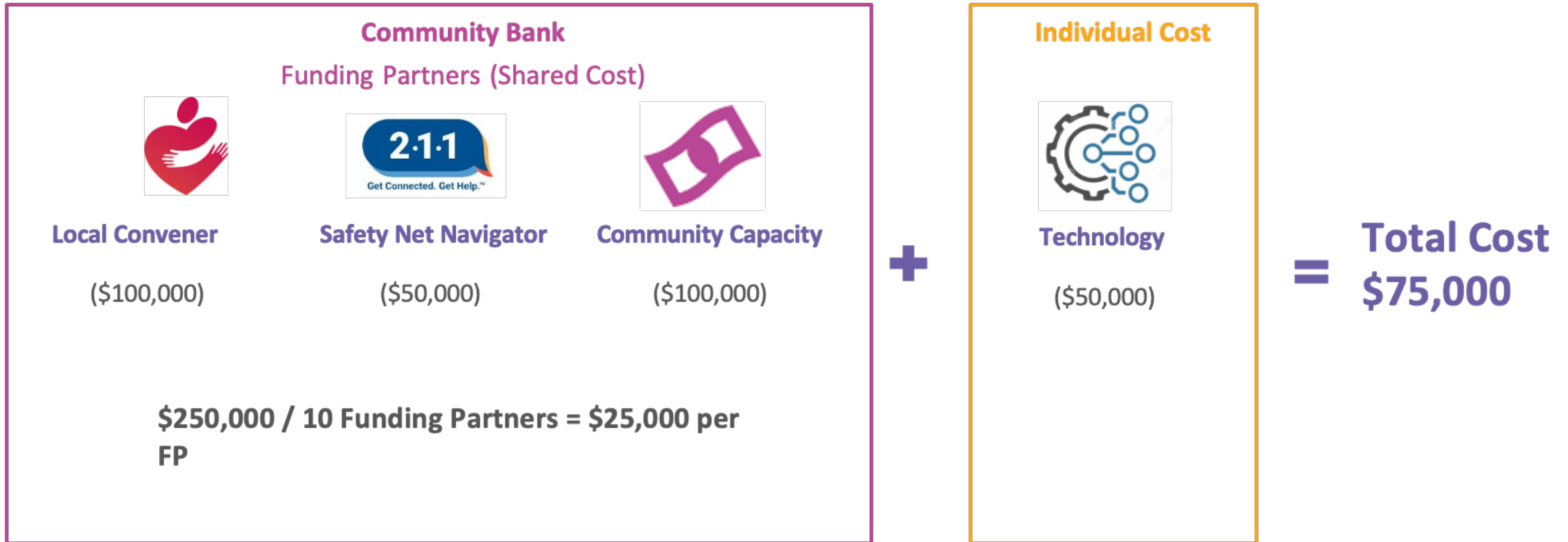


#### Technology

- Licenses
- Integration
- Reporting

# Collective Financing for Sustainability II

Funding Partners are agencies that contribute to community bank and utilize the network. Funders are organizations that only contribute to community bank. Model scenario of a network with 10 Funding Partners and total cost for 1 health system funding partner:



# Growth and Future State



2016

**CCN 1.0**

Nevada

Unidirectional referrals to internal CH programs

- No FPs
- No Convener
- No Standard Screening
- No 211
- No CBO Network
- Technology= Not Robust



2017

**CCN 2.0**

Santa Cruz, CA

Unidirectional referrals to internal & external community programs

- No FPs
- No Convener
- No Standard Screening
- No 211
- Technology= Not Robust
- 13 CBOS in-network.



2020

**CCN 3.0**

San Joaquin, CA

Bidirectional referrals to internal & external community programs

- 11 FPs, >\$200k raised
- Convener
- Standardized Screening in ED
- 211 engaged
- Technology= Robust
- 105 orgs in-network



2023+

**CCN 4.0**

Convener>Network Lead Entity

One-stop hub for contracting entities (health systems, payers, gov, etc.)

Contract, billing, data support for CBOs

Value-based payments for social services

Standardized screening in all clinical settings



## TAKEAWAY

Conveners & 211s are necessary backbone organizations in this work to meaningfully engage partners and impact the greater community. Conveners/NLEs offer a scalable pathway for community integrated networks.

# Lessons Learned

- Governance must flex to needs of community
- Continuous community and FP engagement is critical
- Funding agencies largely supportive of model and willing to participate
- Difficult to get funding partners to commit to an undetermined number, must set best estimate price to advance discussions and secure commitment
- Some agencies can only pay what they can, still participate in governance with equal voice
- Capacity Fund- rather than a generic grant fund, promote incentive payments, wraparound funding for Medicaid social service reimbursements, and subsidize CBO capacity-building education to prepare nonprofits for social payment models





# Appendix

# Alignment with CA State Medicaid Reforms

## Robust Social Care Response



### Screening

### Access & Connectivity

### Sustainability

#### Existing CCN Strategy

- Health-Related Social Needs Screening in acute and community settings

- Resource directory
- Closed-loop referrals
- 211 call centers

- Social payment models
- Workforce development
- Capacity building
- Evaluation

#### CalAIM Strategy

- Screening for Community Supports in acute and ambulatory settings
  - ambulatory cc
  - acute cc
  - ED
  - clinics
  - nursing

- Leverage CCN for referrals to community providers & streamline authorization process

- Secure state PATH Supports funding for community partners. Align with MCO Incentive Payment funding (short-term)
- Use referral platform to process claims/reimbursement for Community Supports and beyond (long-term)
- Identify capacity gaps with providers and harness wraparound funding

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## Questions & Discussion 2

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# Learning Forum Series and Small Group Opportunities

## Learning Forum: Webinar Series Schedule

Topic	Date & Time	Learning Objectives
<b>SDOH Information Exchange Foundational Elements Framework Introduction</b>	March 29 <sup>th</sup> 1:30pm – 3:00pm EST	Learn about the SDOH landscape and foundational elements to enable SDOH information exchange.
<b>SDOH Information Exchange: Vision, Purpose, and Community Engagement</b>	April 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1:00pm – 2:30pm EST	Learn about promising practices to engage with community stakeholders and define a mission and purpose.
<b>SDOH Information Exchange: Governance</b>	May 13 <sup>th</sup> 1:30pm – 3:00pm EST	Learn about different levels of governance for stakeholders engaged in SDOH information exchange initiatives.
<b>SDOH Information Exchange: Technical Infrastructure and Interoperability</b>	June 14 <sup>th</sup> 1:00pm – 2:30pm EST	Learn about data systems and standards to enable SDOH information exchange.
<b>SDOH Information Exchange: Policy and Funding</b>	July 19 <sup>th</sup> 1:30pm – 3:00pm EST	Learn about privacy and security considerations, as well as financing models to support organizations pursuing SDOH information exchange.

<https://www.healthit.gov/news/events/oncs-social-determinants-health-information-exchange-learning-forum>



## Learning Forum: Small Group Opportunities

ONC is also offering additional opportunities for interested stakeholders to participate in small group learning.

- Groups of approximately 10-15 individuals across a diverse set of stakeholder groups.
- Paired with a facilitator and subject matter experts who will guide and support learning and engagement.
- Discussion questions and focus areas will be collaboratively developed.
- Topics will align with the Learning Forum monthly webinar series.

To express interest in small group participation, please email [oncldohlearningforum@hhs.gov](mailto:oncldohlearningforum@hhs.gov) for more information on how to join.

# Upcoming Small Group Sessions

## Upcoming small group sessions:

- Wednesday, July 27th, 1:00 - 2:00 pm ET
- Thursday, July 28th, 1:00 - 2:00 pm ET
- Friday, July 29th, 1:00 - 2:00 pm ET

To express interest in small group participation, email [oncsohlearningforum@hhs.gov](mailto:oncsohlearningforum@hhs.gov) for more information on how to join.



**Thank You!**



The Office of the National Coordinator for  
Health Information Technology

# Contact ONC

Learning Forum contact information:  
[oncsdohlearningforum@hhs.gov](mailto:oncsdohlearningforum@hhs.gov)



**Phone:** 202-690-7151



**Health IT Feedback Form:**

<https://www.healthit.gov/form/healthit-feedback-form>



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