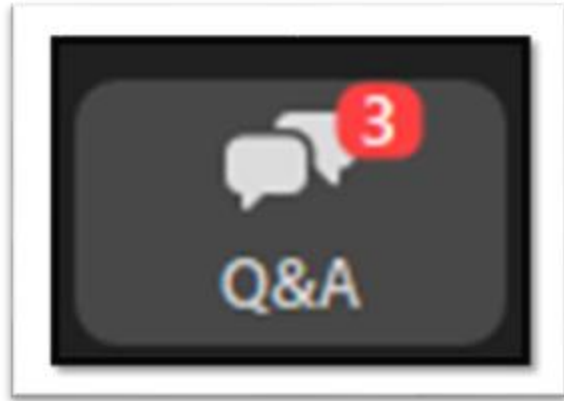




*State Webinar: NCQA Solutions for Your State's  
Rural Health Transformation Program*

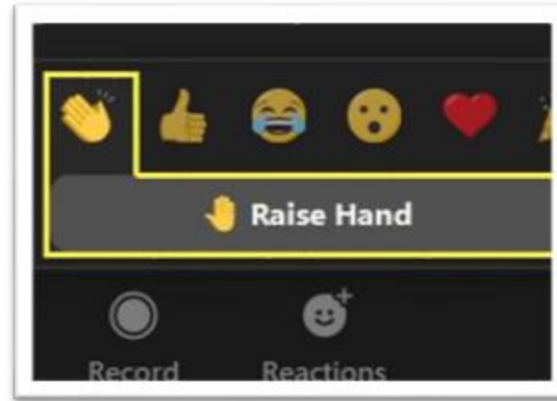
April 2, 2026

# Housekeeping



## *Ask Now*

Enter your questions in the Q&A function in Zoom



## *Join In*

To ask questions verbally, click on Zoom's "Raise Your Hand," and our team will unmute you.



## *Engage After*

A recording of the event and slides/supporting materials will be sent to attendees.



# *Agenda*

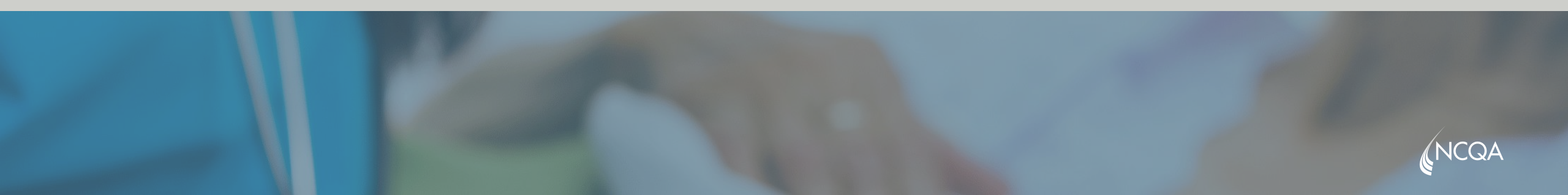
**WHAT IS RURAL HEALTH**

**OVERVIEW OF THE RURAL HEALTH  
TRANSFORMATION FUND (RHTF)**

**NCQA SOLUTIONS**



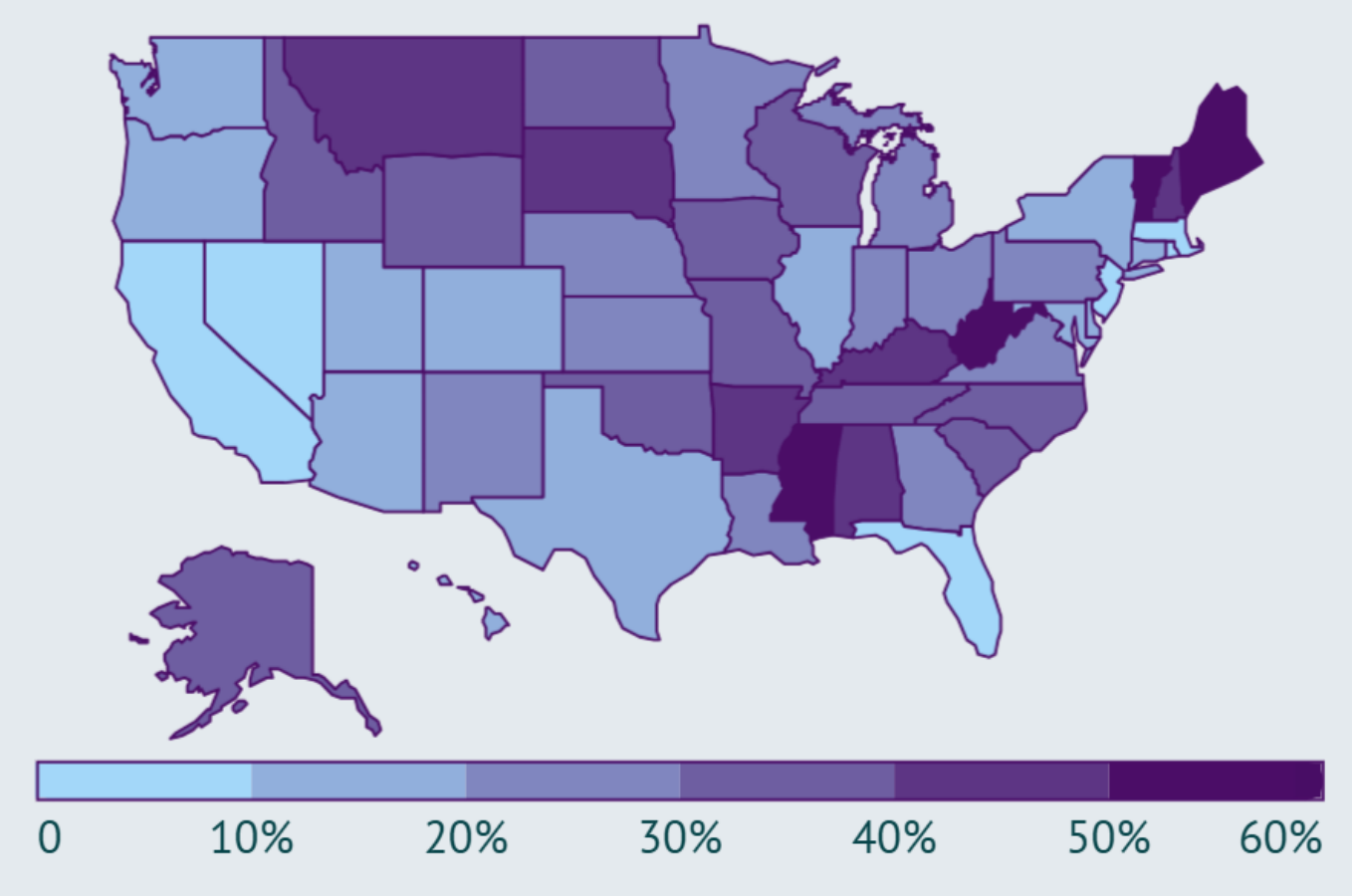
# Rural Health



# Rural America Snapshot

*Rural America is large and central to U.S Health System*

## Percentage of Individuals living in Rural Areas by State



**1:5** Americans live in a rural area, which equates to **64-66 million** individuals.

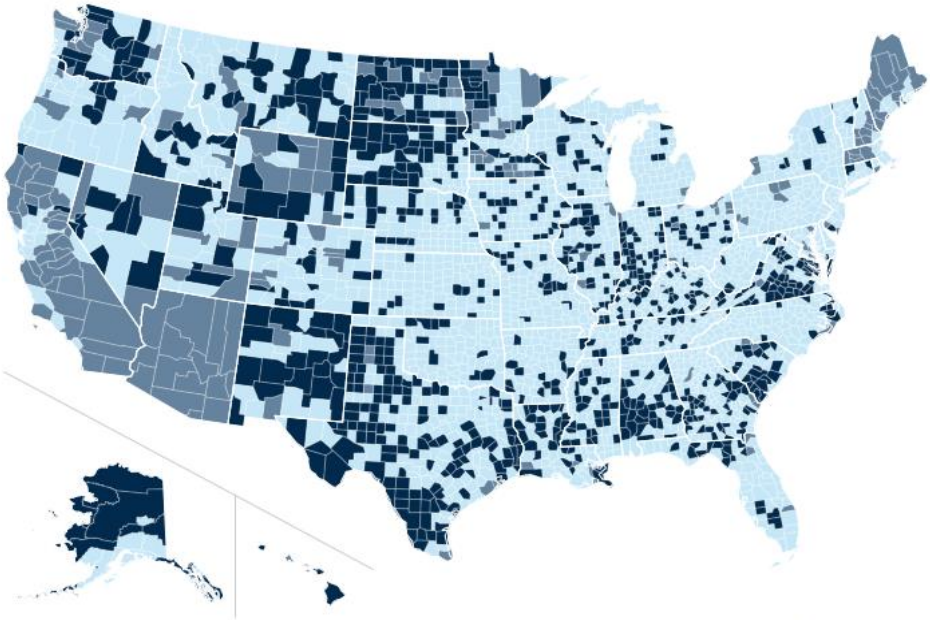
Many rural Americans rely on Medicaid and Medicare.

Confidential. Do Not Share.

# Rural Areas Lack Access to Care

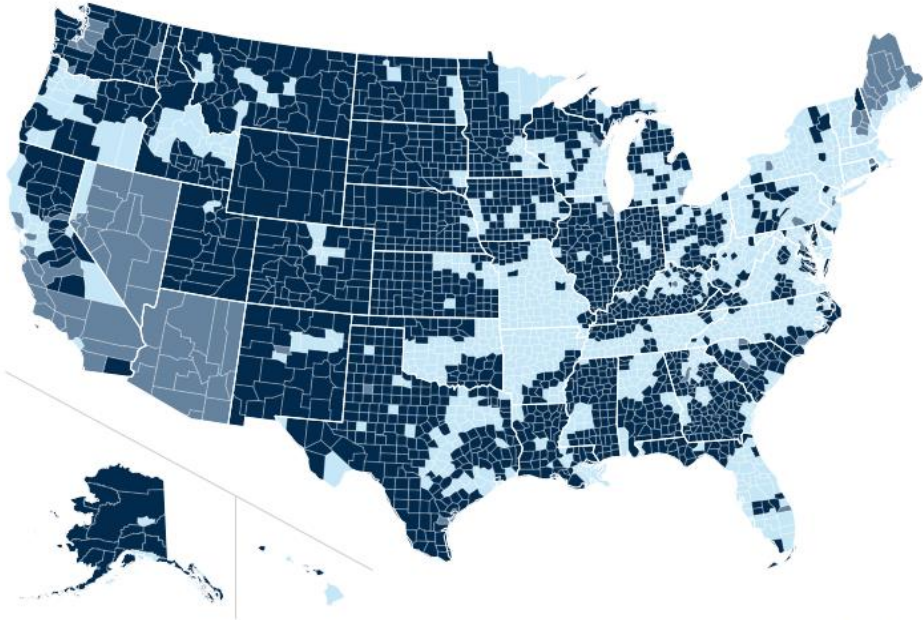
*Rural areas have greater exposure to shortage areas*

## Primary Care Professional Shortage Area



Portion of county that is geographic shortage area.  
None Part Whole

## Mental Health Professional Shortage Area



Portion of county that is geographic shortage area.  
None Part Whole

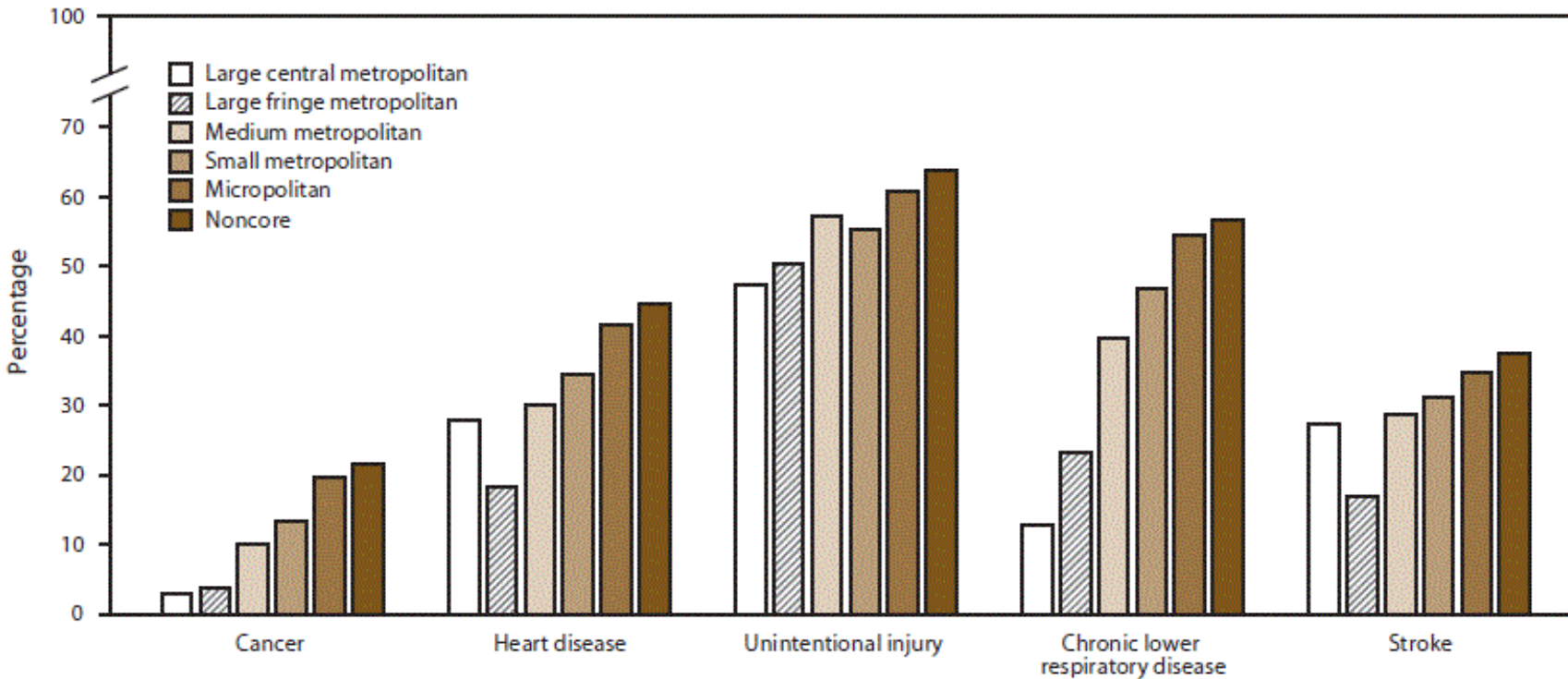
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# Rural American's Experience Higher Rates of Disease

*Lack of access and other factors impact their care*

**Percentage of deaths that were potentially excess\* among persons aged <80 years from the five leading causes of death, by urban-rural county classification — National Vital Statistics System, United States, 2017**



Rural populations also face higher rates of overdose and suicide mortality.



# Rural Health Transformation Fund (RHTF)

# Rural Health Transformation (RHT) Program

## *Strategic Goals*



\$50 Billion to States Over 5 Fiscal Years

Make rural America healthy again

Innovative Care

Tech Innovation

Workforce Development

Sustainable Access

# Lessons Learned

*Funding, Timing, Flexibility, Sustainability*

## State Innovation Model (SIM) [2013-2020]

Awarded funding to Model Test states charged with testing innovative value-based payment (VBP) models across payers

**Funding.** 11 states received approximately \$650 million over 5 years

**Timing.** 8 of 11 Round 2 states requested at least 1 no-cost extension during 5-year program period

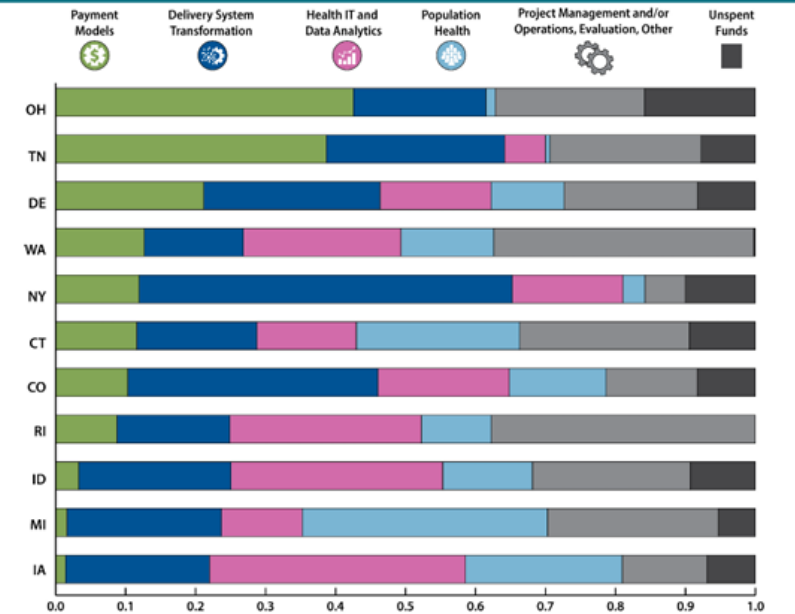
**Flexibility.** All 11 states had to pivot over the course of the program

**Sustainability.** Legislation in place and/or use of Medicaid waivers and SPAs were more likely to sustain their VBP models.

Source: [A summary of State Innovation Models \(SIM\)- evaluation results across 17 states;](#)  
[State Innovation Models \(SIM\) Round 2- Model Test Annual Report One](#)

Confidential. Do Not Share.

Exhibit 5. Model States' expenditures reflected strategic investments in priority areas for their states



**Notes:** States shown in order of expenditures in payment models.  
CO = Colorado; CT = Connecticut; DE = Delaware; health IT = health information technology; IA = Iowa; ID = Idaho; m = million; MI = Michigan; OH = Ohio; NY = New York; PCMH = patient-centered medical home; RI = Rhode Island; TN = Tennessee; WA = Washington.

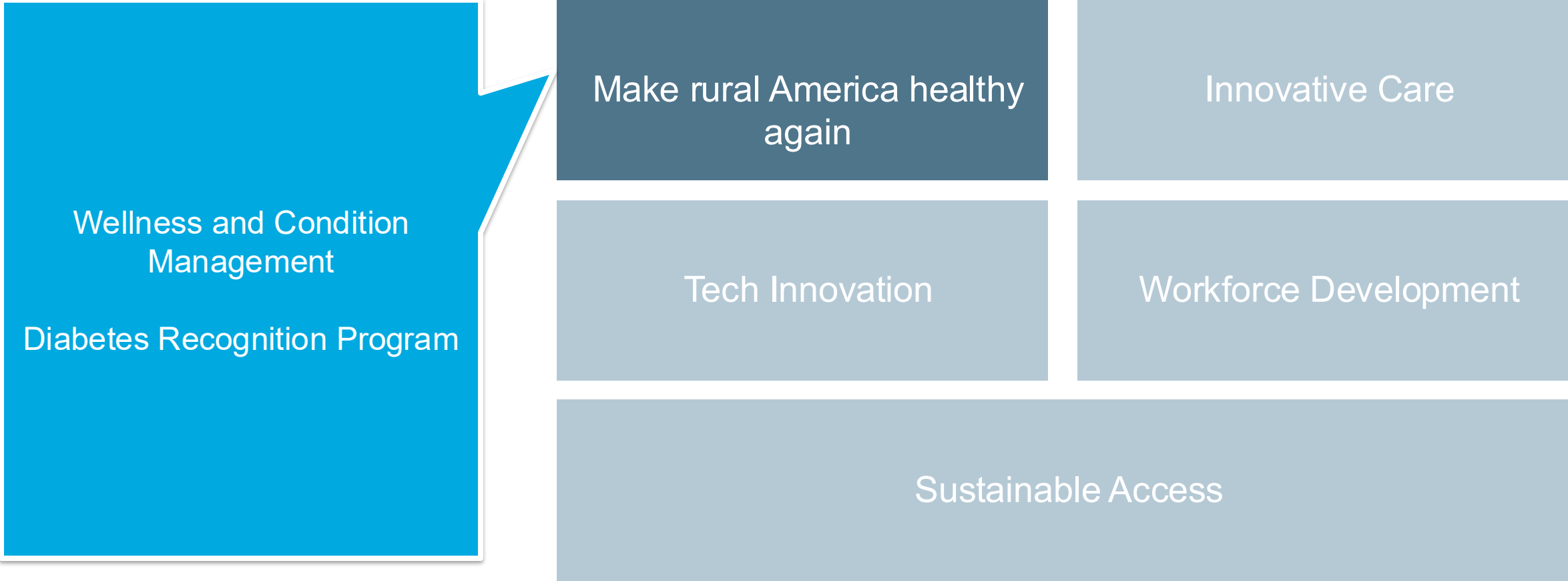
Source: Federal Evaluation Team analysis of state documents.



# NCQA Solutions for your RHT Program

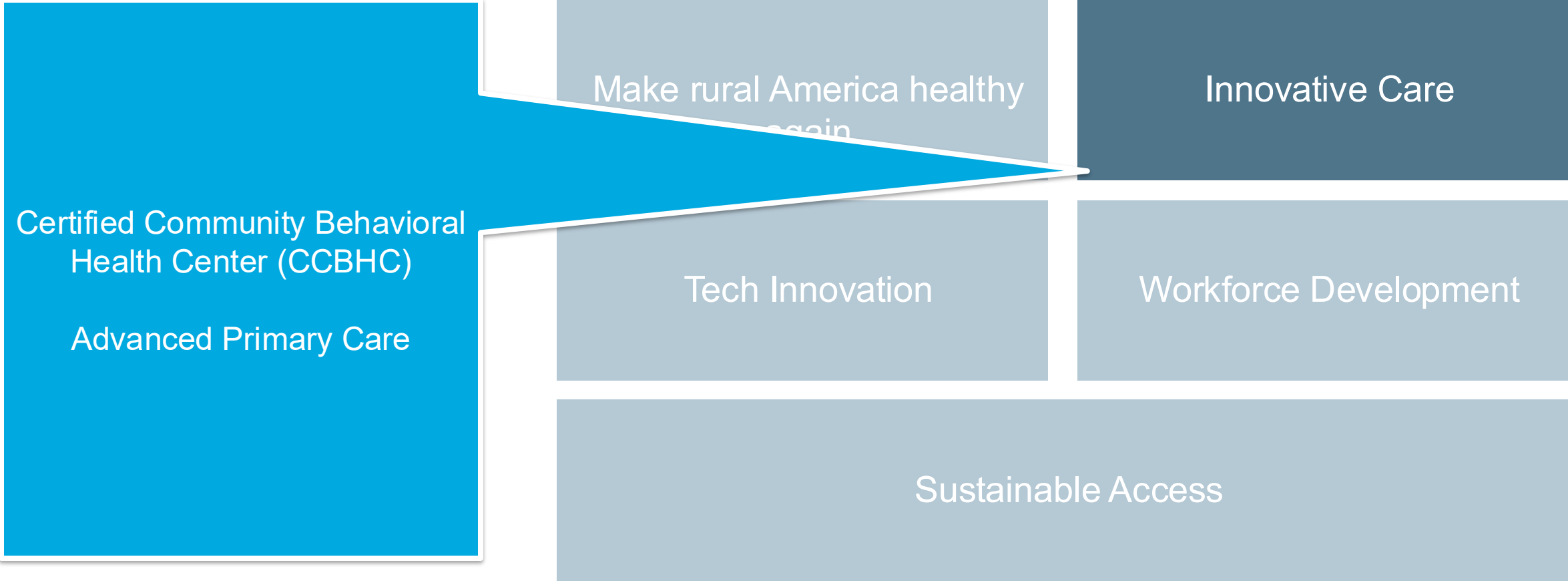
# Alignment with NCQA Programs

*Make Rural America Healthy Again*



# Alignment with NCQA Programs

*Innovative Care*



# Alignment with NCQA Programs

*Tech Innovation*

Digital Suite (DCS, DAV, dQM transition)  
Artificial Intelligence Standards

Make rural America healthy again

Innovative Care

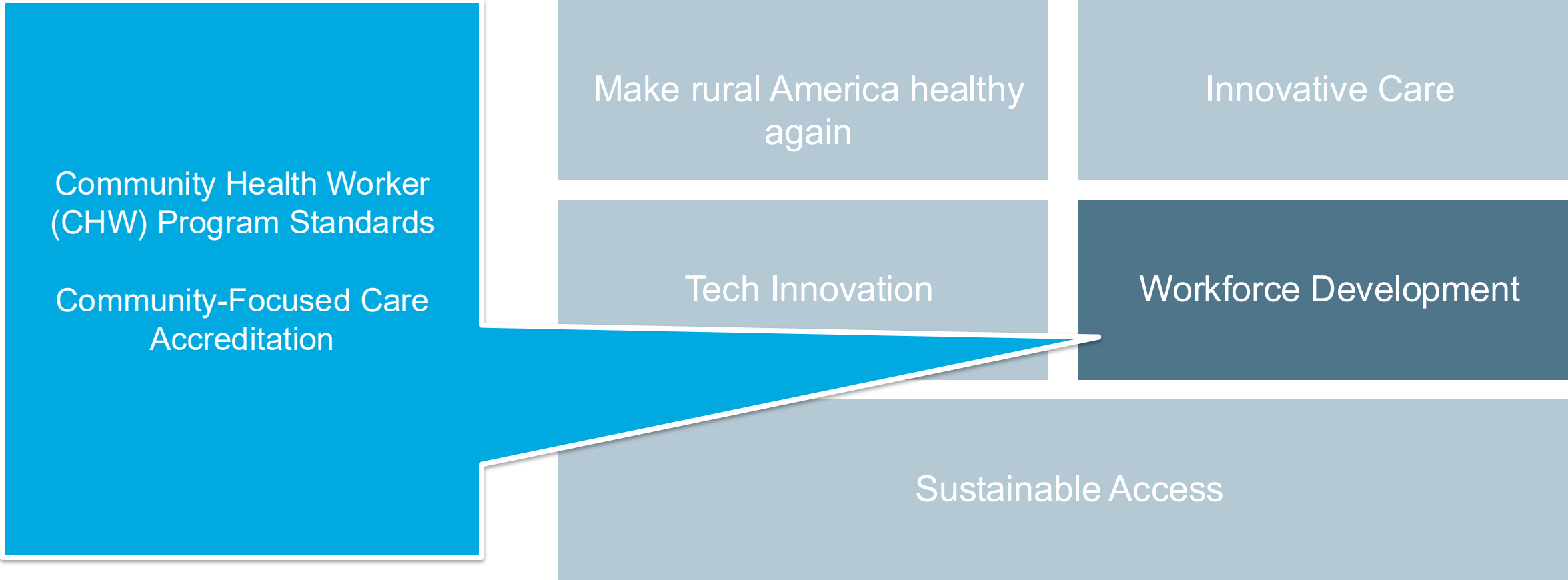
Tech Innovation

Workforce Development

Sustainable Access

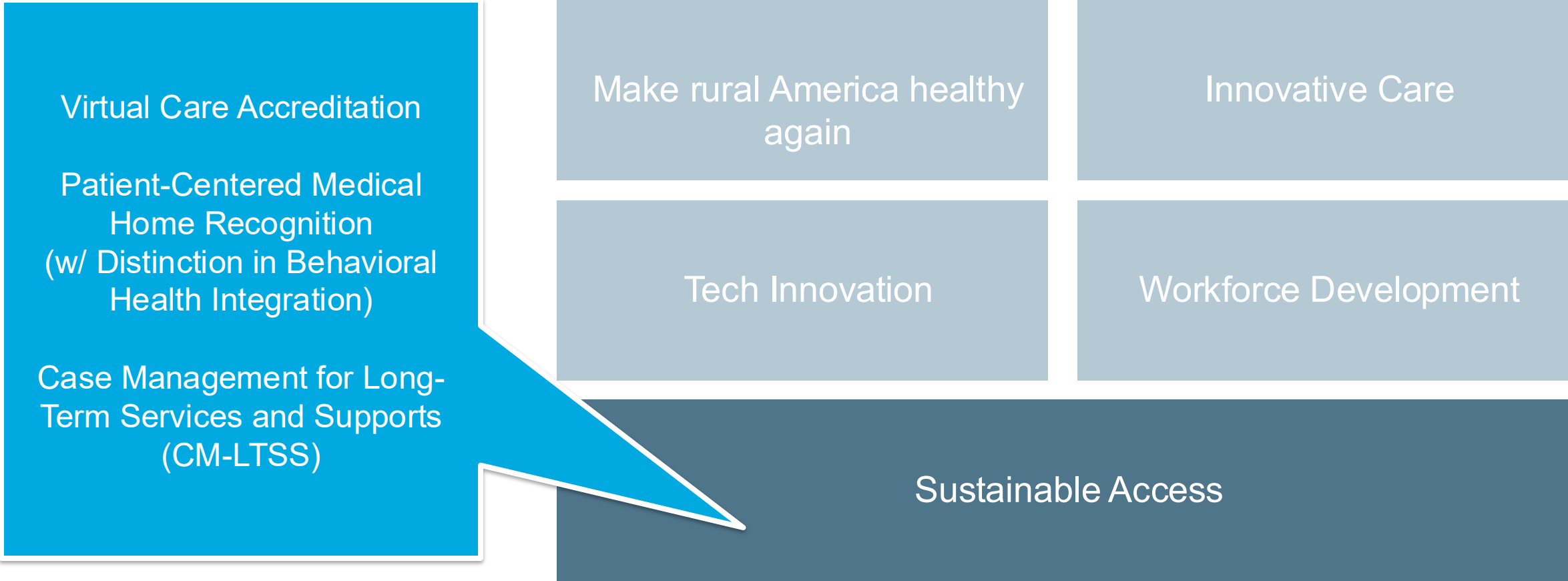
# Alignment with NCQA Programs

## *Workforce Development*



# Alignment with NCQA Programs

## *Sustainable Access*



# Tailored NCQA Solutions for States

*NCQA offers states service contracts to assist with implementation support that includes, but is not limited to:*

Custom training and education for state staff and initiative participants

Dedicated support contacts for state staff and initiative participants

Progress dashboards and reporting

Analytics and findings

Access to program discounts for a state providing upfront investment for participants, such as initial and/or ongoing assessments

Customized content development

# Why NCQA programs and solutions work in RHT?

*Meeting State Needs...*

Timing

Funding

Flexibility

Sustainability

# Polling Question #2

Would you like to connect with a member of NCQA's State Affairs team to learn more about the following programs?  
(Select all that apply)



- A. Certified Community Behavioral Health Centers (CCBHC) Accreditation
- B. Virtual Care Accreditation
- C. Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Recognition and/or PCMH Behavioral Health Integration Distinction
- D. Wellness and Condition Management Accreditation
- E. Digital Quality Measurement and Data Quality Advancements
- F. Tailored NCQA Solutions for States

# NCQA Upcoming Events- Register Now!



May 27, 12-1 PM EST

[Register Here](#)



*Featured Guest...*

*Assemblywoman Tracy Brown-  
May, Nevada State Assembly  
District 42*

# Subscribe to Our Newsletter!

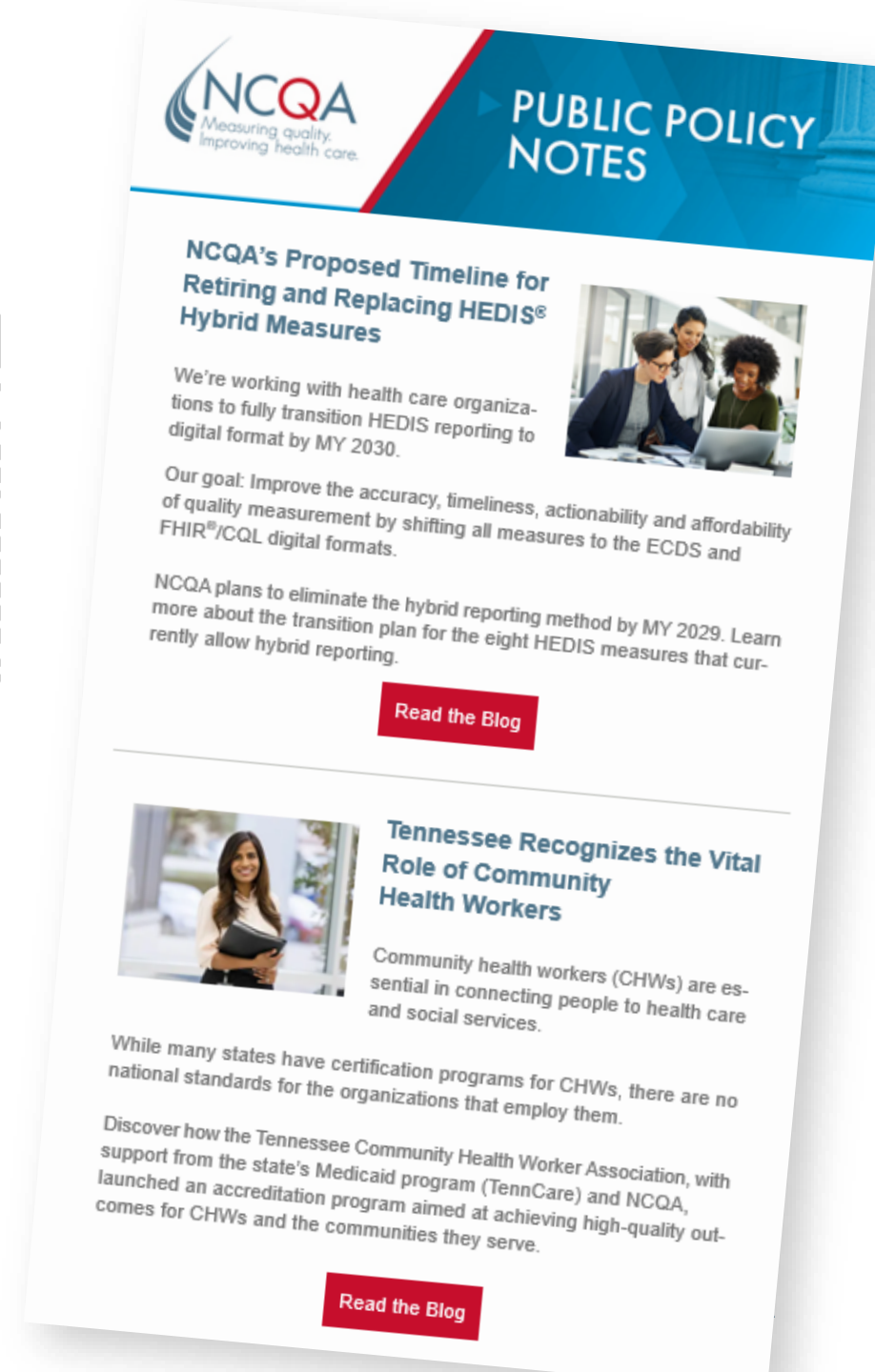
**Public Policy Notes** is a quarterly e-newsletter from NCQA's Public Policy team.

Subscribe to stay informed on NCQA:

- ▶ State & Federal Initiatives
- ▶ Product & HEDIS Announcements
- ▶ Public Comment
- ▶ State Resources & Toolkits
- ▶ Webinars & Events



Scan QR Code to Subscribe



# Will you be at these Conferences? Connect with us!

*Upcoming Behavioral Health Conferences*

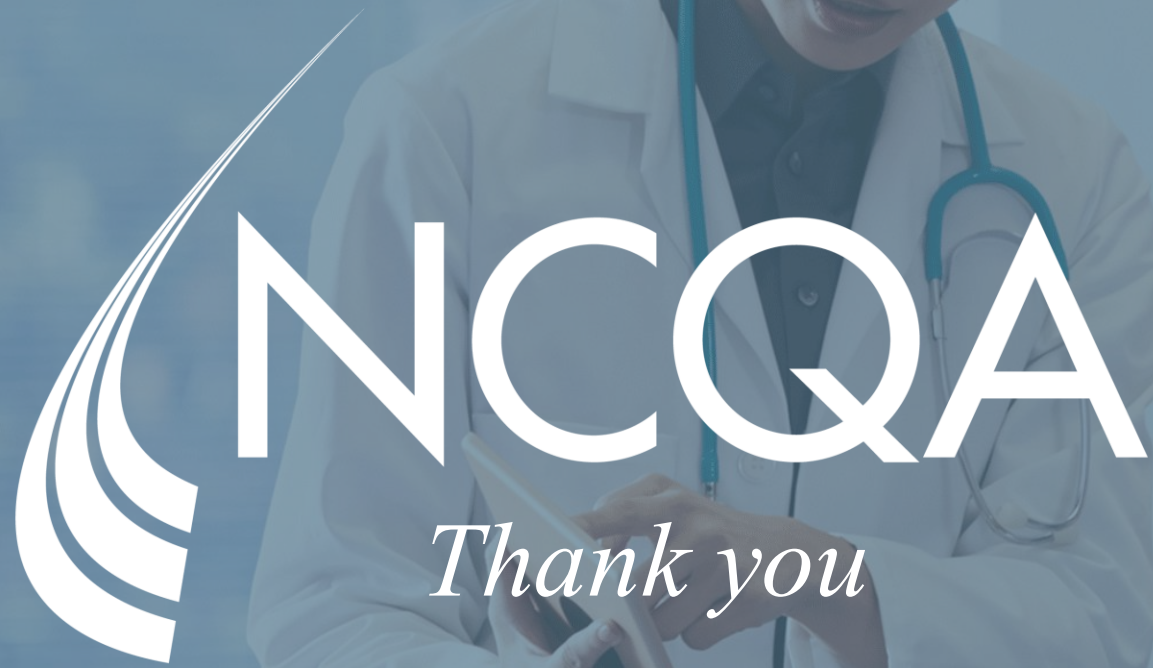


**NatCon**  
**Denver, CO**  
**April 26-29**



**NASMHPD Annual Meeting**  
**Washington, D.C**  
**July 26-27**

*Stop by our booths- or schedule a time with us  
to connect at [publicpolicy@ncqa.org](mailto:publicpolicy@ncqa.org)*



NCCQA

*Thank you*



# Appendix

## *NCQA Program High-Level Overview*

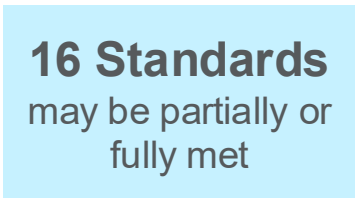
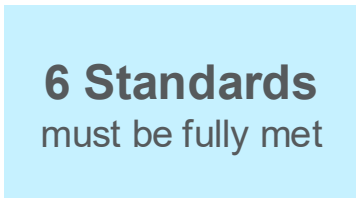
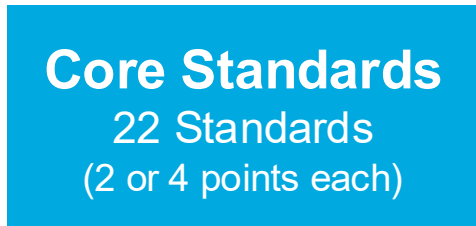
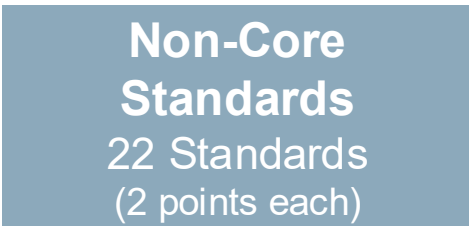
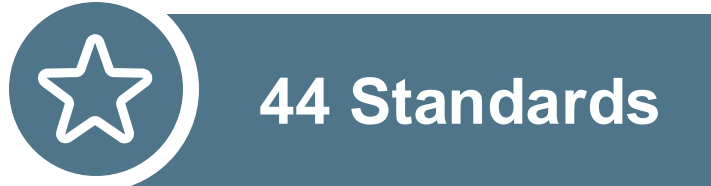
1. [Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic \(CCBHC\) Accreditation](#)
2. [Virtual Care Accreditation](#)
3. [Patient Centered Medical Home \(PCMH\) Accreditation](#)
4. [PCMH Behavioral Health Integration \(BHI\) Distinction](#)
5. [Wellness and Condition Management Accreditation](#)

### Other useful links:

- [Digital Quality](#)
- [Advanced Primary Care Pilot Launch](#)
- [NCQA RHTF Blog](#)
- [Wellness and Condition Management Public Comment](#)

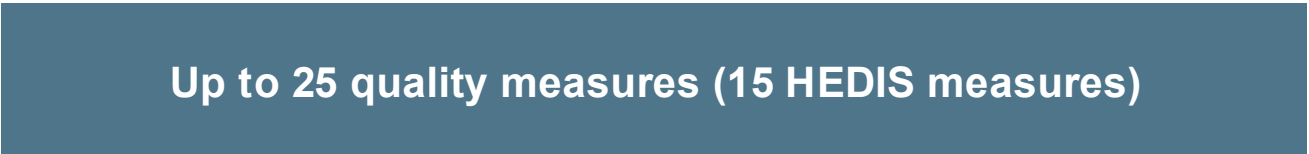
# CCBHC Accreditation

## Program Overview



**Program Areas (Same as SAMHSA Criteria)**

Staffing	Community needs assessment Staffing (model, training, licensure)
Availability and Accessibility of Services	Timely, attainable, safe access
Care Coordination	Partner with agencies/facilities, health IT systems
Scope of Services	CCBHC and DCO partner-provided services Individual treatment plans and evaluations
Quality and Other Reporting	QI and measure tracking
Organizational Authority, Governance and Accreditation	Operational requirements



# Virtual Care Accreditation

## Program Overview

*Five Standard Categories*



*Within Each Category...*



# PCMH

## *Program Overview*



*Team-Based Care and Practice Organization (TC)*



*Knowing and Managing Your Patients (KM)*



*Patient-Centered Access and Continuity (AC)*

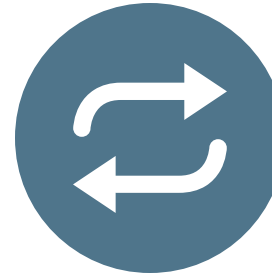
### **Outpatient primary care practices**

Defined as clinicians working together at one location.

- Includes nurse-led practices where state laws allow
- Excludes urgent care clinics, seasonal clinics, and residents



*Care Management and Support (CM)*



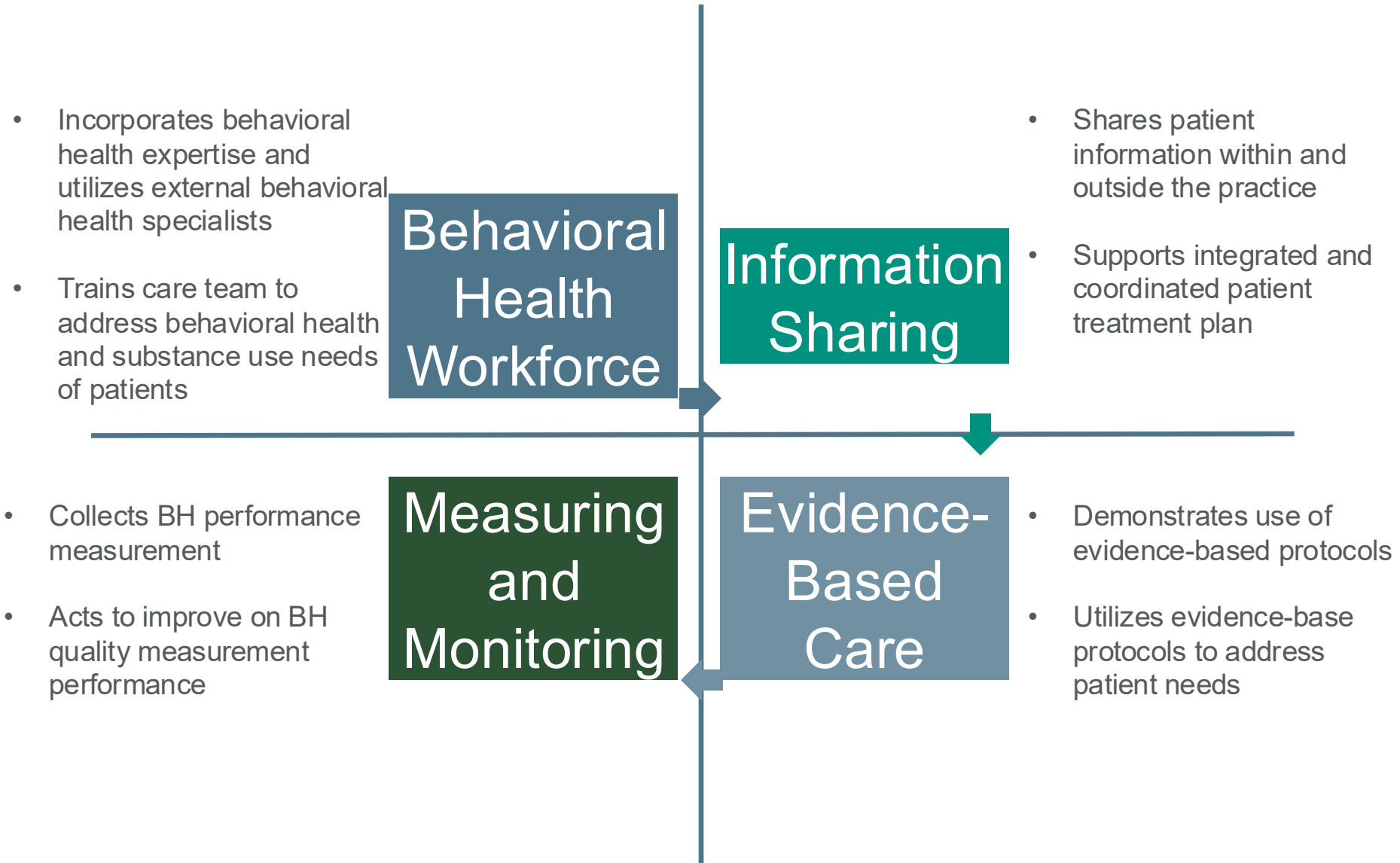
*Care Coordination and Care Transitions (CC)*



*Performance Measurement & Quality Improvement (QI)*

# Distinction in Behavioral Health Integration

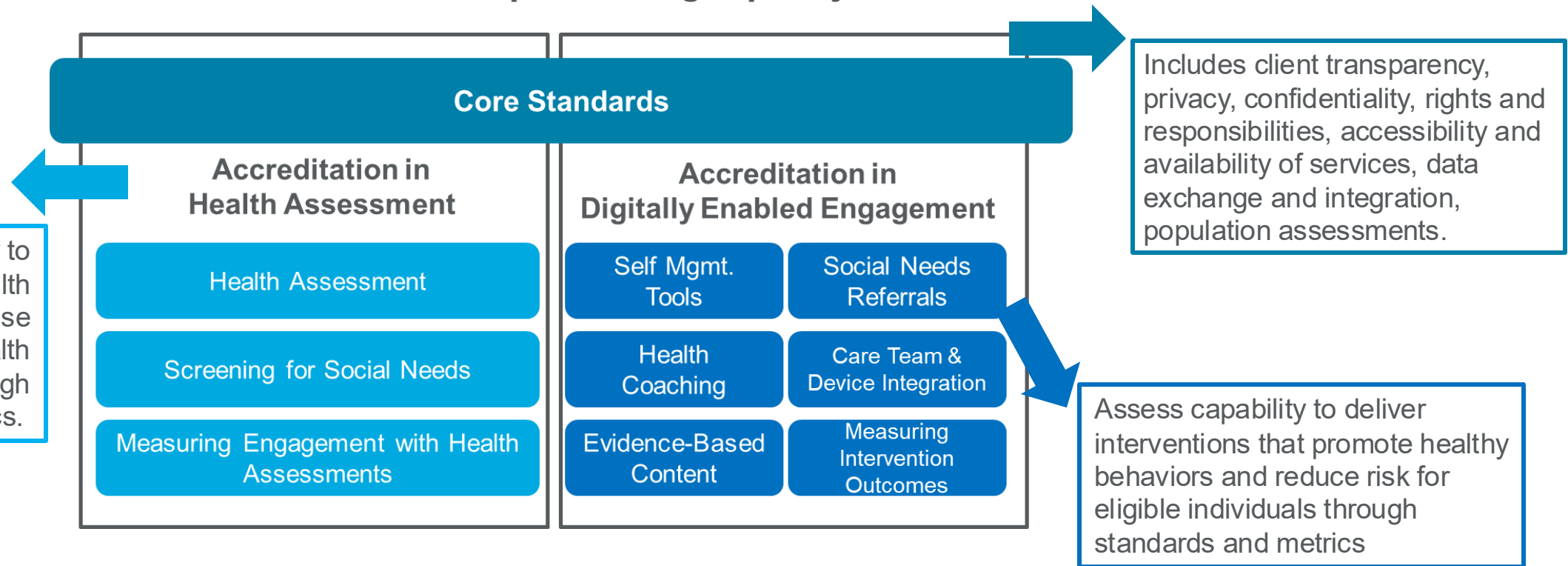
## *Distinction Competencies*



# Wellness & Condition Management Accreditation Program

## Program Overview

*A three-year accreditation designed for digital tools and apps to build trust across patients, providers, and purchasers, through a framework that provides a common language for what it means to provide high-quality care.*



**Customer:** digital tools and apps (also known as solutions or vendors) that empower members in managing their own health and wellbeing between provider visits through assessments, self management, and/or coaching.