



SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare

From Evidence to Impact

January 19, 2023

South Carolina Center for
**Rural and Primary
Healthcare**



**School of Medicine
Columbia**
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare

Established in 2017

- Legislative proviso passed in 2015
- Contract via SC DHHS
- Grew from grants from DHHS (ICARED grant)

University Based, Serves the entire State

- Access to the expertise and resources of the USC System
- Purposefully engage and collaborate with partners across the state

Steady growth since 2017

- Expanded reach / program impact
- Spread partnerships and collaborations throughout SC

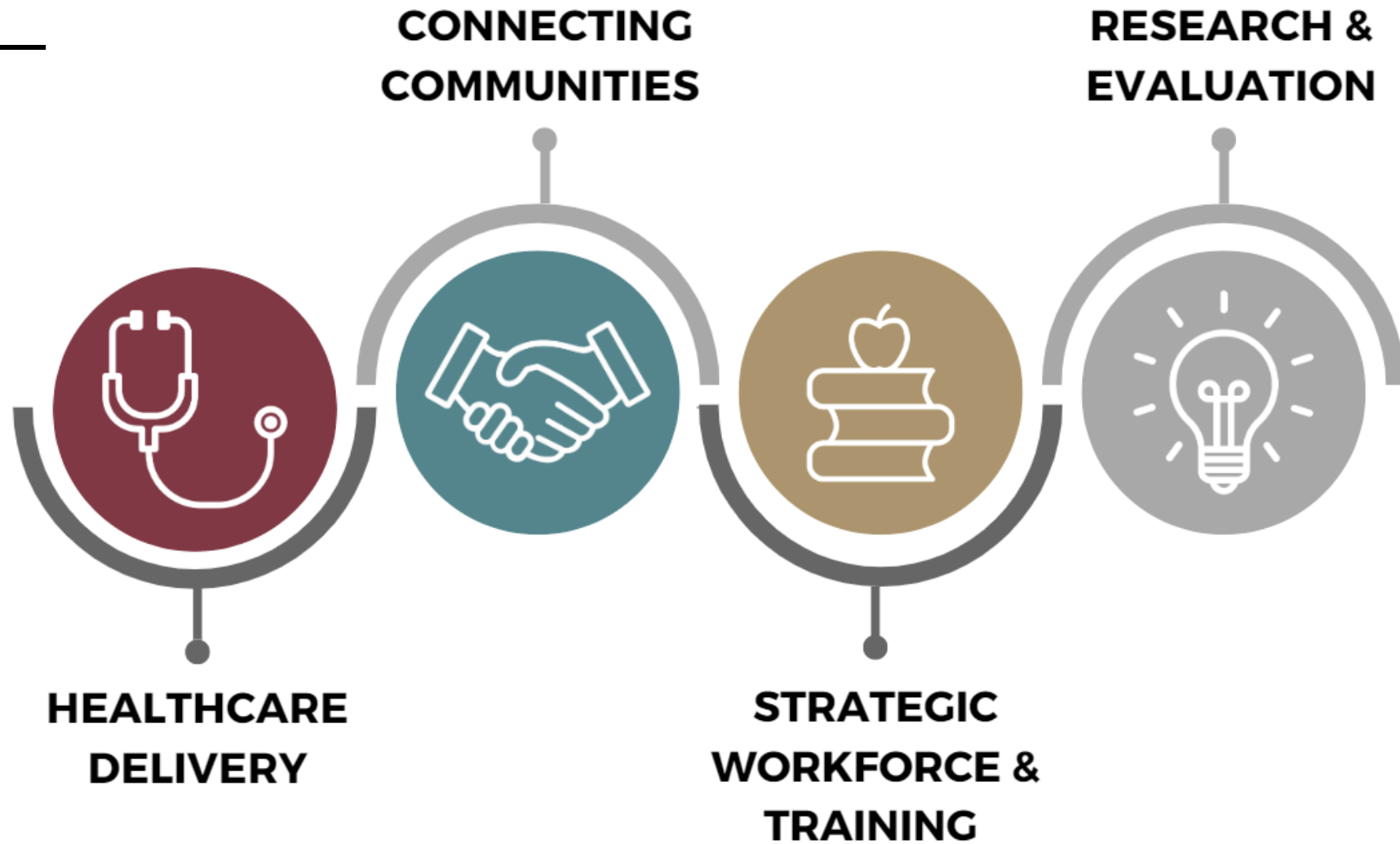
FY 2023 requesting level funding

Our Mission

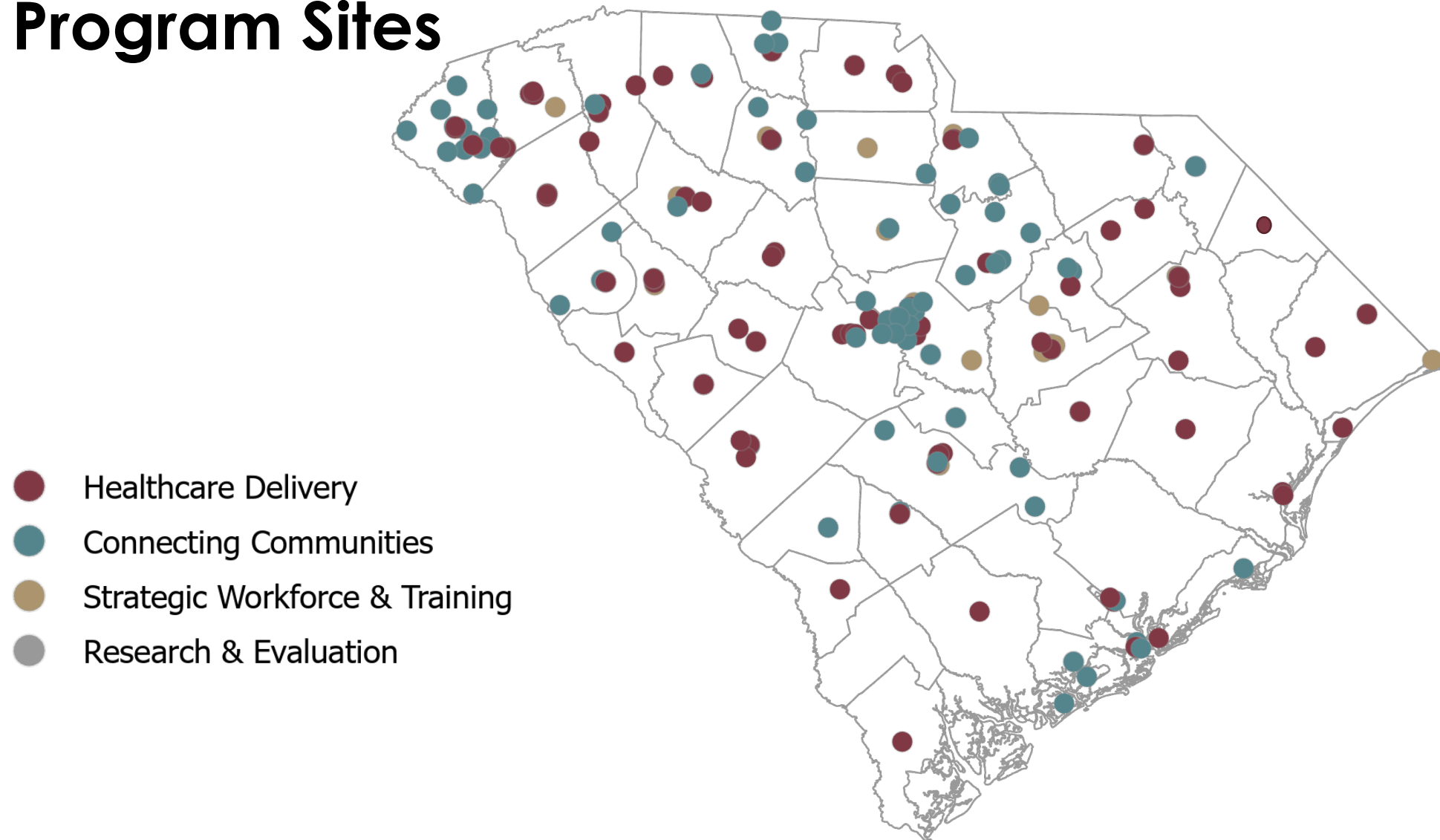
Accelerate the development of healthy rural communities through the support of healthcare delivery, community engagement, training of the healthcare workforce, and research.



Focus Areas



2022 CRPH Program Sites



Healthcare Delivery - iCARE

Purpose: Clinical services delivered in rural communities through “boots on the ground” subspecialists, primary care, and high need providers

Partnerships: health systems and practices across SC – Prisma Upstate, Prisma Midlands, MUSC, McLeod, Self Regional

Focus: Maternal and Child Health, Behavioral Health

36
counties
served

Over
2,800
rural patient
encounters

Over
240,000
miles of travel
avoided

More than
200
residents &
medical students
with rural
experiences

iCARE Programs

- Pediatric Subspecialties – Prisma Health Midlands & Prisma Health Upstate
 - Cardiology, Forensic Medicine, Behavioral Health, Pulmonology, Endocrinology, Nephrology, Gastroenterology, Neurology
- Behavioral Health/Psychiatry – McLeod, Prisma Health Midlands, Prisma Health Upstate, FQHCs
- Obstetrical Care – Self Regional, McLeod Health Cheraw, Emmanuel Family Medicine, Carolina Pines
- Pulmonology – MUSC
- Maternal & Fetal Medicine – Prisma Health/MUSC
- Infectious Disease – Prisma Health Midlands
- Dental Services - MUSC College of Dental Medicine & FQHCs
- Antimicrobial Stewardship Collaborative (ASC-SC)



Connecting Communities

Purpose: To support programs and initiatives that connect people to health-related and healthcare services in the communities where they live.

Focus areas:

- Access to Care
- Community Engagement and Health Equity
- Healthcare and Health-Support Workforce and Higher Education Engagement
- Behavioral Health

Selected Connecting Communities Programs

- Communities Connecting to Care Cooperative Agreement
 - Partnering with community-based organizations and non-profits including Healthy Learners, South Carolina Alliance of YMCAs, South Carolina Office of Rural Health, Union County School District
- McLeod Health AccessHealth expanding pre and postnatal care for mothers and children via community health workers
- Rural training tracks for Community Health Workers and Social Workers developed and currently being offered
- Libraries and Health a growing model of linking communities and providers currently active in 9 library systems

Rural Innovations

Purpose: Provide support to community organizations or healthcare providers to test and implement innovative programs to improve rural health

Supported areas: Diabetes, medical home development, health professional training, food insecurity, pharmacy integration...

Impact: More than 30 funded programs across the state, investing more than \$3.1 million for rural health improvements

Strategic Workforce & Training

- Claflin University – Rural Nursing (BSN & NP program)
- USC Lancaster - Pathway to BSN Program
- USC School of Medicine -Ultrasound Institute
- MUSC - Rural Dental Training
- USC College of Social Work - MSWs training in rural settings for Behavioral Health
- USC College of Pharmacy
 - Rural pharmacy practice & leadership track
- Incentive Partnership with Prisma Health
 - Family Medicine, Psychiatry



Rural Residency Support

- Tandem Health (Sumter)
 - Family Medicine (12 FM residents)
 - Pharmacy (1 Rural Pharmacy residents)
- ASC SC (Statewide)
 - Infectious Disease (1 Rural Pharmacy Fellow)
- USC/PH Preventive Medicine Rural Focus (Statewide)
 - Preventive Medicine/Public Health (3 PM Residents)
- Previously - John A. Martin Primary Healthcare Center (Winnsboro)
 - Family Medicine (2 FM residents)

Research & Evaluation

- Original Research
- Evaluation – internal and external
- Building an evidence base
 - Publications
 - Presentations
 - White Papers
- Data driven interventions and solutions
- Data access – [Data Dashboard](#)



Research & Evaluation

- **SC Rural Healthcare Resource Dashboard**
 - Improving access to county and zip code level data for our communities
- **Primary Care, Obstetrics, Community Health Worker, Pediatrics, and Geriatrics Need Indices**
 - Targeted resources
 - Loan Participant placements
- **Obstetrics Service Areas and Patient Flow**
 - Residence, prenatal care, and delivery sites
 - Prenatal care choice & outcomes
- **Program Evaluation Contracts**
 - Palmetto Care Connections, Upper Midlands Rural Health Network

Mobile Health Enhancement Program

Purpose: To provide resources and support for mobile health units serving rural and underserved South Carolina residents.

- Grant awards were made to organizations with an established mobile health unit for the following activities:
- Increase the services offered by the unit
- Increase the frequency by which such services are offered
- Identify new locations for services to be offered

Impact:

- 12 different mobile health units serving 28 counties
- Over 1000 patients served
- Services that included, but not limited to primary care, chronic disease management, STI screening, and addressing behavioral health.

Update: Rural Network Revitalization

Purpose: to invest in our rural communities' efforts to coordinate the care delivery for their patients.

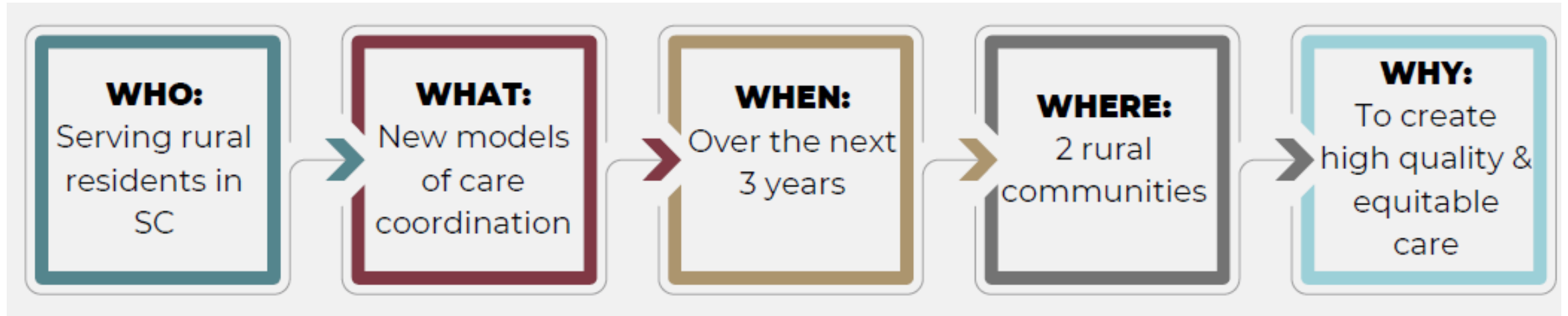
Components:

- Evidence-based models for such coordination
- Deployment of new healthcare technologies and services
- Work with partners in the state to develop these efforts
- Work with payers, such as HHS and others, for alternative payment models

The CRPH Role:

- Provide training and technical assistance
- Facilitate payment model development
- Evaluate impact and outcomes
- Work towards network self-sustainability

Collaborative Health Communities



Pilot Goals

- Create sustainable systems of health created that improve rural health outcomes and address health-related social needs by enhancing clinical-community partnerships.
- Enhance clinical-community partnerships to create spaces where patients can access the care and services they need from integrated programs in the community.

HBCU Health Discovery Program

Purpose: To utilize the talent and perspectives of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to promote health and reduce health disparities.

Program Goals:

- Support HBCU-led initiatives for their students and the surrounding community that define health equity from their context.
- Prepare and inspire the next generation of highly skilled and influential health leaders to impact their campus and community.
- Create a sustainable pipeline of diverse students entering the healthcare workforce with mentorship and networking opportunities.

Activities Include:

- Institution-developed campus and community health needs assessment.
- HBCU-created programs implemented to address identified health needs on their campus and in their local communities.
- Faculty-developed curriculum for students to support community health development through service learning.
- Student-led research that promotes new ideas to improve health outcomes in rural and underserved communities.



CRPH staff at Claflin University with Miss Claflin University

Expanding Scope and Impact

- Rural Brain Health Network
 - Hub and spoke to reach rural seniors
 - Co-located with existing rural services
- AI Mental Health Initiative
 - Psychiatry and engineering partnership
 - AI enabled extension for outreach and intervention

Funding Request

- **Level funding for 2023-24**



Contact us



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SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare



@SC_CRPH

Thank You!

South Carolina Center for
**Rural and Primary
Healthcare**

 **School of Medicine
Columbia**

Your support has made a significant
impact in rural communities, residents, and
systems

SC CRPH Organization Chart



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Associate Dean, USC SOM
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Patricia Witherspoon, MD



Associate Director
Michele Stanek, MHS



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Andrea Mitchell, MPH



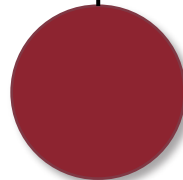
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Connecting Communities
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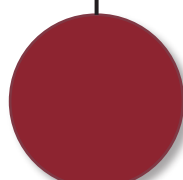
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