



# SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare

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*From Evidence to Impact*

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January 26, 2022

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

**Uof  
SC** School of Medicine  
Columbia

# SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare

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## Established in 2017

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

## Mission

- Support and develop rural and primary care education, delivery, and sustainability in South Carolina through clinical practice, training, and research.
- Supported by an Advisory Committee comprised of key stakeholders including SC Primary Health Care Association, DHEC, SC Office of Rural Health, SC AHEC, Community partners, and other SC organizations

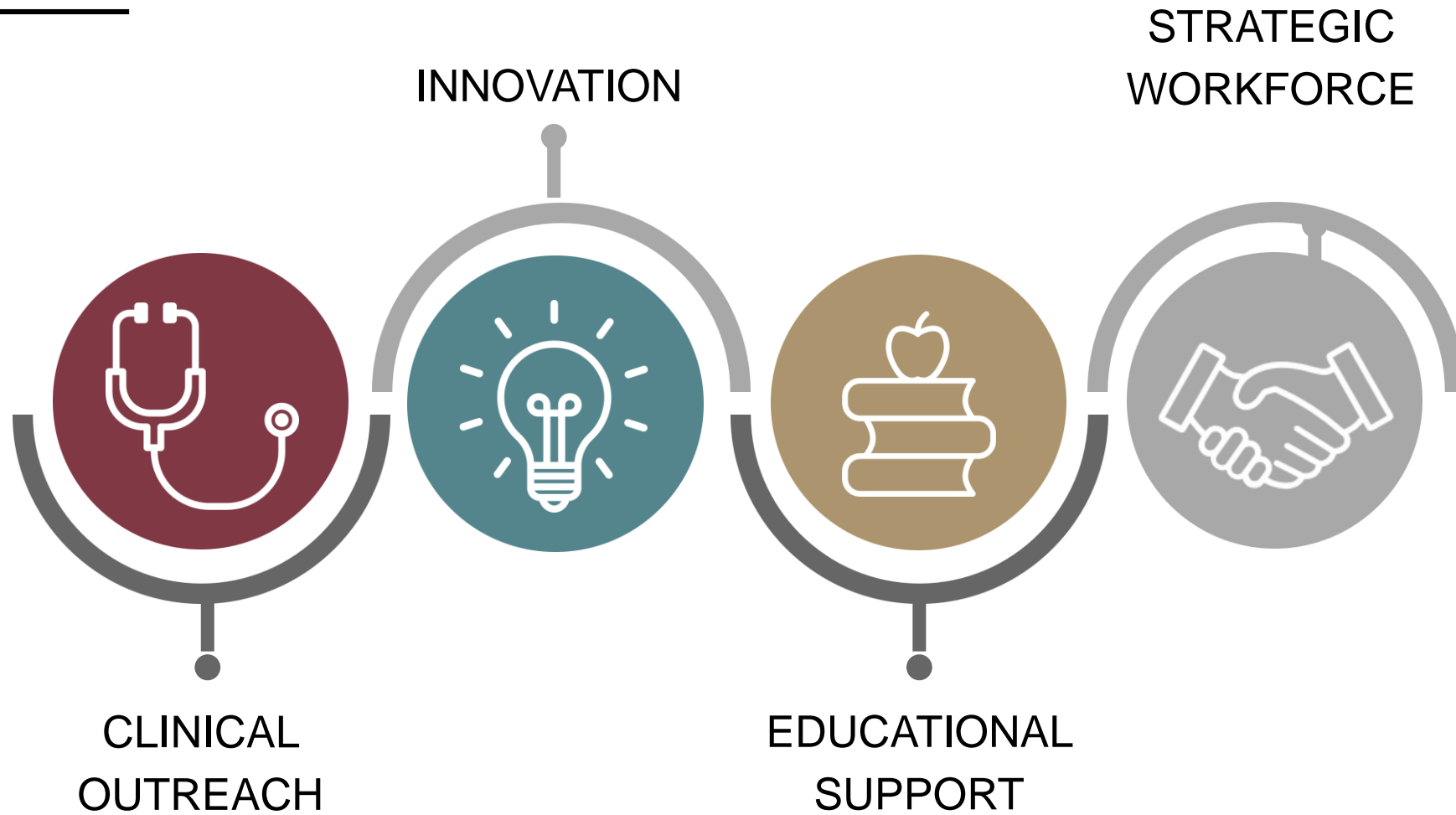
# Core Objectives

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- Support healthcare providers serving rural communities and populations that are underserved
- Provide access to primary, specialized, and high need services to rural communities
- Improve rural health workforce through training, curriculum support, and health professions education
- Inform rural health strategy, investment, and policy at local, regional, and state levels
- Facilitate Innovative programs that address rural health challenges
- Collaborate with communities to address rural health issues

# Focus Areas

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# Impact

## Clinical Service Delivery

Direct support for High Need, Specialty care across the state

- iCARE Program – pediatric Subspecialties, Tele-Psychiatry, Infectious Disease, Dental care, antimicrobial support
- Growth in patients, locations, reach

## Statewide Educational Partnerships

Partnerships throughout the state

- Rural residency support
- Allied health – social work, pharmacy, community health workers
- Ultrasound Training
- Curricula development and support

## Community Level Interventions

Expanding community impact Partners statewide

- FoodShare
- Micro-grants for rural practices
- Diabetes Free SC / CHW pilot Project
- SCPHA partnership
- Libraries and Health a growing model of linking communities and providers

## Statewide Innovation Projects

Entering fourth year of the statewide Innovations projects

- AccessHealth Expansion, Infant and Family Mental Health, Mobile Units, SAD/Hep C, Adolescent health,
- Pathway to ongoing support
- Library pilot project entering year 2, DEHC expansion

## Research and Evaluation

Building the evidence base for impact and need

- Evaluating ongoing program outcomes
- Statewide healthcare resource dashboard
- More precise measures of need
- Using data and evidence to direct resources, study impact

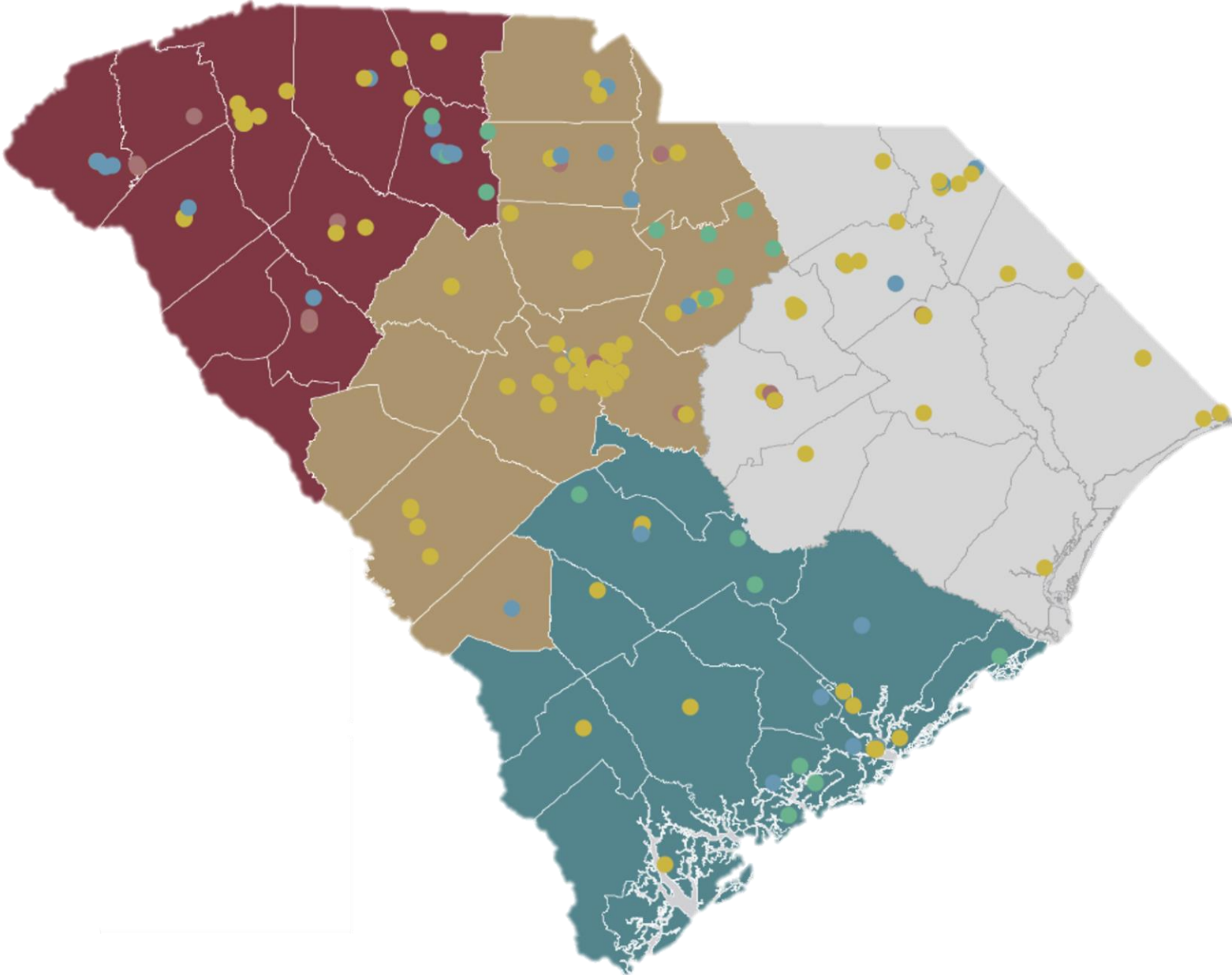
# Program Sites

## CRPH Active Projects

- iCARE
- Innovations
- Education
- Library Innovations

## SC Regions

- Midlands
- Pee Dee
- Lowcountry
- Upstate



# Clinical Service Delivery - iCARE

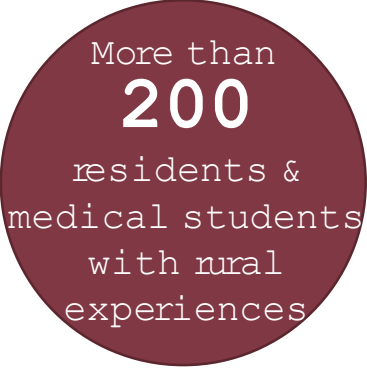
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Clinical services delivered in rural communities through “boots on the ground” subspecialists, primary care, and high need providers

Partnerships with External Health Systems - Prisma, MUSC, McLeod

Expanding reach - more patients, sites, services

Open call for 2022-2023 - Maternal and Child Health Focus



# iCARE Programs

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- Pediatric Subspecialties – Prisma Health Midlands & Prisma Health Upstate
  - Cardiology, Forensic Medicine, Behavioral Health, Pulmonology, Endocrinology, Nephrology, Gastroenterology, Neurology
- Infectious Disease – Prisma Health Midlands
  - Hepatitis C – Elimination
  - HIV PrEP and Navigation
- Dental Services – MUSC College of Dental Medicine & FQHCs
- Neurology – Prisma Health Midlands
- Psychiatry – McLeod, Prisma Health Midlands & FQHCs, Prisma Health Upstate
  - Collaborative Care
  - Pediatric Psychiatry
- Maternal & Fetal Medicine – Prisma Health/MUSC
- OB/GYN -- additional sites will be added in 2022





# Educational Partnerships & Workforce Development

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- UofSC School of Medicine -Ultrasound Institute
- MUSC rural dental training
- Antimicrobial Stewardship Collaborative (ASC-SC)
- UofSC College of Social Work
- MSWs training in rural settings for Behavioral Health
- Center for Community Health Alignment
  - CHW training and certification
- McLeod FM Residency Simulation Training
- UofSC College of Pharmacy
  - Rural pharmacy practice & leadership track
- AHEC Scripts Program
- UofSC - Aiken Nursing



# Workforce Assistance

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## Statewide Loan Forgiveness Program:

- Includes all state-affiliated health professions schools:
  - MUSC
  - UofSC School of Medicine Columbia
  - UofSC School of Medicine Greenville
- Requires one year of practice for each year of support
  - 4 years for MD, 3 years for APRN and PA
- Primary care and critical need specialties

## Incentive Partnerships

- Partnership with Prisma Health
- Family Medicine, Psychiatry (2022)

# Rural Residency Support

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- 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)

# Community Engagement

- Expanding community impact
  - Partners statewide
- FoodShare
- Micro-grants for rural practices
- Diabetes Free SC / CHW pilot Project
- SCPHA partnership
- Libraries and Health a growing model of linking communities and providers

# Rural Libraries and Health

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**Purpose:** Support programs that build on the role of libraries as community hubs to connect people to healthcare and other supportive social services

## Goals

- Expand access to healthcare and social services
- Improve health outcomes
- Build evidence to inform models of library engagement in health

Uses Community Health Workers, Social Workers, Telehealth

Close to 15,000 residents reached through Lee, Union, Kershaw, Orangeburg, and Charleston counties (remote locations) with screenings, referrals to services, health education, and healthy food initiatives.



# Rural Innovations

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Midlands Region	Pee Dee Region	Upstate Region	Statewide
<p>Upper Midlands Rural Health Network Community Health Worker Program</p>	<p>Rural Primary Care Resident Procedural Training Initiative</p> <p>Health Education and Active Living</p>	<p>Expansion of a Collaborative Care Behavioral Health</p>	<p>Coordinating Healthcare for Correctional Agencies in Rural Setting</p>
Lowcountry Region	<p>Communities Accessing Resources and Education for Success</p>	<p>Novel approach for rural interdisciplinary care coordination with opioid use disorder and/or co-occurring Hep-C</p>	<p>Rural Practice Enhancement Micro-grants</p>
<p>Healthy Tri-County Diabetes Prevention Program Expansion</p>		<p>AnMed Community Health Workers</p>	<p>Implementation of Evidence based Cancer Screenings in Rural Health Clinics</p>
<p>Mobile Services Clinic for Individuals with Disabilities</p>			<p>AccessHealth SC Rural Expansion</p>
<p>Infant Mental Health Rural Workforce Training and Support</p>			<p>Foodshare SC</p>

# Innovations Program Impact

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- More than 25 funded programs across the state, investing more than \$2.4 million for rural health improvements
- New models of care & workforce
- Leveraged for additional external funding
- Sustainability planning with all programs
- Tangible impact on rural residents - diabetes, healthy eating, medical home, access to healthcare professionals

# Research & Evaluation

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- **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



# SC Rural Healthcare Resource Dashboard

- Data informs actions and decision
- Identifying and organizing good quality data can be difficult and time consuming
- CRPH breaks down the barriers

We make this information accessible to people of all technical skills by distilling complex data into intuitive indexes, leveraging maps and visual aids, and providing the most relevant and up-to-date data available

I love this tool! This is really useful and user friendly. The best part is that [the data] is all in one place"

- Amanda Williams  
Deputy Chief of Staff a Strategy and Training  
SC DHHS



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**What is next for  
the CRPH?**

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# Delivery Systems

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- Focused expansion on access to care for maternal and child health
  - iCARE RFP
  - Educational Initiatives
  - Targeted Research
  - Integrate programs – e.g. Telehealth, Mobile Health Units
- Continued focus on behavioral health
  - Expand Tele-Psychiatry capabilities and reach
  - State Partnerships (HHS, DMH) to expand access and outcomes
- Expanded Mobile Health Unit Assistance
  - Inventory of Units, Services, and Scope
  - Technical Assistance and Enhancement (HHS)

# Workforce & Educational Support

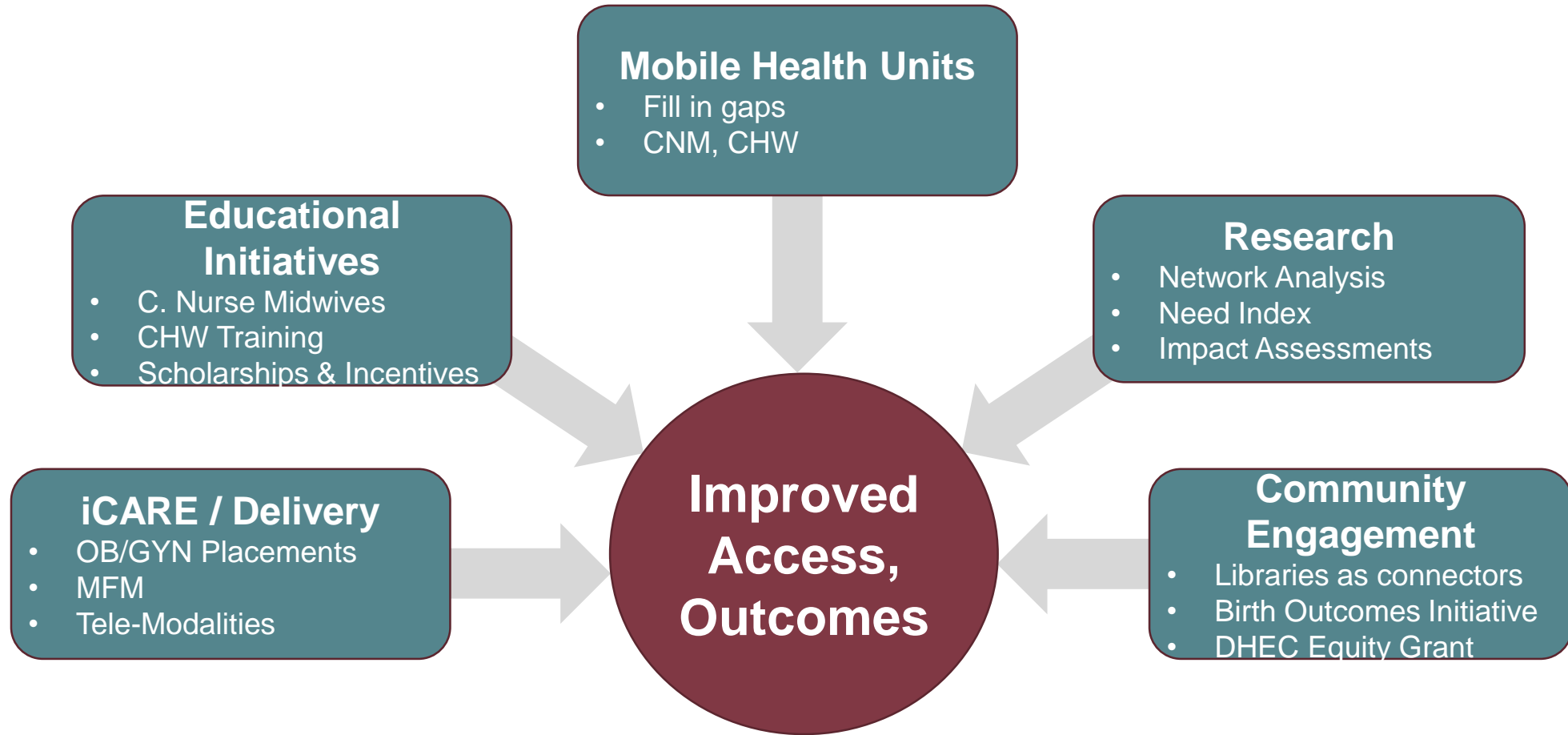
- Flexibility in loan, scholarship, and incentive programs
  - Short, medium, and long-term plans for rural placements
  - Improved diversity in, opportunities for health professions education
- Partnerships with HBCUs, Technical College systems, USC Regional Colleges
  - Denmark Technical, USC-Salkehatchie, Claflin, SC State
- Developing programs for the next iteration of our health care workforce
  - Nurse midwives
  - Telehealth navigators
  - Mobile Unit certificates

# Community Engagement

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- Expand delivery of healthcare services via non-traditional access points
  - Telehealth
  - Community Hubs, non-clinical settings
  - Partnering with mobile health unit
- Further development of the successful Libraries and Health model
  - Additional sites
  - Exploring differing staffing models
  - Partnership with DHEC Equity grant
- Continuing to identify and foster community collaborations leading to connections between communities and healthcare delivery

# Maternal & Child Health Focus



# 2022 and Beyond

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- Continue the growth and spread of successful programs
- Expanding partnerships with other health systems, organizations, and communities
- Proactive partnerships – strategic to fill gaps in services, needs, and areas
- Program Collaboration – breaking down silos and bringing successful programs to work in concert in specific areas
- Continued Emphases:
  - Sustainability planning with funded programs
  - Robust evaluation, ROI
  - Utilizing incentives for rural workforce placement

# Rural Investment and Revitalization

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- **Additional Funds Request**

- \$1.25 Million in additional recurring funds
  - Rural Practice Support (iCARE), specifically Maternal/Child Health and Behavioral Health (\$1,000,000)
  - Mobile Health Unit Technical Assistance and Enhancement (250,000)

- **One-time request - \$ 10 Million**

- Statewide rural network enhancement and revitalization
- Support models of network development
  - Accountable Health Communities, AccessHealth, Others.
  - New reimbursement models
  - Delivery System coordination
  - Integration of public and community health
  - Population focused (SDoH)
- Provide administrative, practice support (and expansion)
- Integrate, coordinate existing programs
  - Telehealth implementation
  - Mobile Health Unit Deployment



# Proviso

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- **Revised Proviso –**

- Previously passed by the House in 2021
- Continue the dedicated funding for our center, programs, communities
- Support the additions, edit made in 2021
- Additions
  - Increased iCARE
  - Mobile Unit Enhancement



Research Center for Transforming Health

TRI-COUNTY HEALTH NETWORK



McLeod Health



SOUTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH  
Investment. Opportunity. Health.



RURAL & MINORITY Health Research Center



SOUTH CAROLINA Telehealth ALLIANCE

United Way of the Lowcountry, Inc.

# Contact Us

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# Thank You!

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South Carolina Center for  
**Rural and Primary  
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**Uof  
SC** **School of Medicine  
Columbia**

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