

# Aligning Health and Social Systems to Expand Evidence-Based Home-Visiting

*Strategies to Achieve Alignment, Collaboration, and Synergy Across Delivery and Financing Systems*

Research-in-Progress Webinar  
August 4, 2021  
12-1pm ET

**Welcome** Carrington Lott, MPH – Systems for Action

**Panelists** Venice Ng Williams, PhD, MPH  
Greg Tung, PhD, MPH  
Mandy Allison, MD, MSPH, MA  
Jade Woodard, MPA, BSW

**Q&A**



**Venice Ng Williams, PhD, MPH** is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the Prevention Research Center for Family & Child Health (PRC) located at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Her research is focused on improving maternal-child health through systems integration, cross-sector collaboration, and strengthening the evidence-based of prevention programs like Nurse-Family Partnership. Dr. Williams has a broad background in public health and health services research, with specific training and expertise in program planning and evaluation, mixed methods research, causal inference, and survey research. She is passionate about improving maternal and child health by building on the strengths of families, addressing social determinants of health, and dismantling systems barriers and inequities that are critical to addressing the health of families experiencing adversity.

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**Mandy Allison, MD, MSPH, MA** is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Before medical school, she taught public school in Mississippi where she saw the effect of poor health on her students which led to her focus on pediatrics and preventive care. She currently sees patients and teaches residents and students at the Child Health Clinic at Children’s Hospital Colorado, serving a racially, culturally, and linguistically diverse, mainly low-income population. Dr. Allison has conducted immunization delivery, school health, and early childhood development research that has been funded by the NIH, CDC, AHRQ, and foundations. She joined the team at the Prevention Research Center for Child and Family Health (PRC) in 2016 and has led their research about serving mothers with previous live births and mothers with substance use disorder with Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP). Since June 2019, she has been the Co-Director of the PRC with Dr. David Olds, the founder of NFP.

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**Greg Tung, PhD, MPH** is an Associate Professor in the Colorado School of Public Health's Department of Health Systems, Management & Policy. His research interests relate to how scientific evidence is incorporated into policy and program decision making, with a special emphasis on injury prevention. Dr. Tung works on a diverse range of injury topics, including the prevention of youth violence, suicides, poisonings and child abuse. His research interests also include the integration of health services and public health systems, with a focus on non-profit hospital community benefit activities. Dr. Tung is a mixed methods researcher and utilizes both quantitative (e.g. longitudinal, multi-level, and time-to-event analysis) and qualitative (e.g. case studies) methods. He is also faculty in the Program for Injury Prevention, Education and Research (PIPER).

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**Jade Woodard, MPA, BSW** has served as the Executive Director of Illuminate Colorado since its inception in 2015, following 7 years as the Executive Director of founding partner agency, the Colorado Alliance for Drug Endangered Children. Prior to this work, she provided family support services to families impacted by homelessness, domestic violence, and substance use disorders. As the Executive Director of Illuminate Colorado, she has participated in and led many state level initiatives related to child maltreatment, substance use, child maltreatment prevention, public awareness, and collaborative community approaches - including the Colorado Partnership for Thriving Families, Substance Exposed Newborns Steering Committee, Delivery of Child Welfare Services Task Force, Home Visitation Investment Task Force, Essentials for Childhood Steering Committee, and many others.

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# PROJECT TEAM & COLLABORATORS

## ■ Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators

- Venice Ng Williams, PhD, MPH
- Greg Tung, PhD, MPH
- Mandy Allison, MD, MSPH, MA

## ■ Project team

- Mike Knudtson, MS
- Connie Lopez, BSN, RN, MA
- Carol Franco, MA

## ■ Collaborators/Advisory Committee:

- David Olds, PhD
- Chris Arestides, BSN, RN, MPH
- Jade Woodard, MPA



**Health Systems, Management & Policy**  
colorado school of public health

# OUR PROJECT

- Study Purpose:
  - To examine the effects of *multi-sector financing and delivery strategies* in expanding the *reach and impact* of the Nurse-Family Partnership<sup>®</sup> (NFP) program across the United States using a *mixed-methods* approach



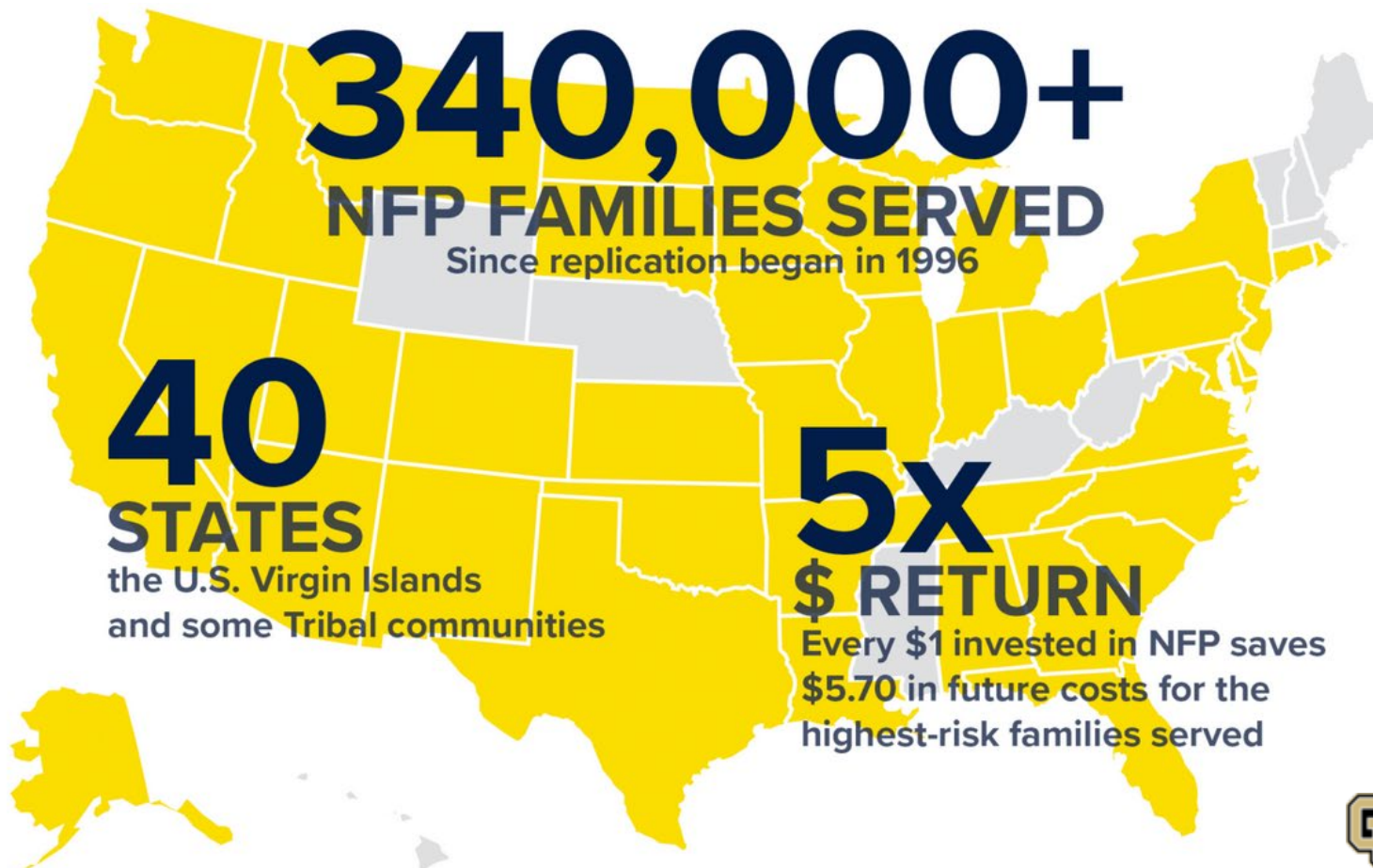


# Nurse-Family Partnership

*Helping First-Time Parents Succeed*®



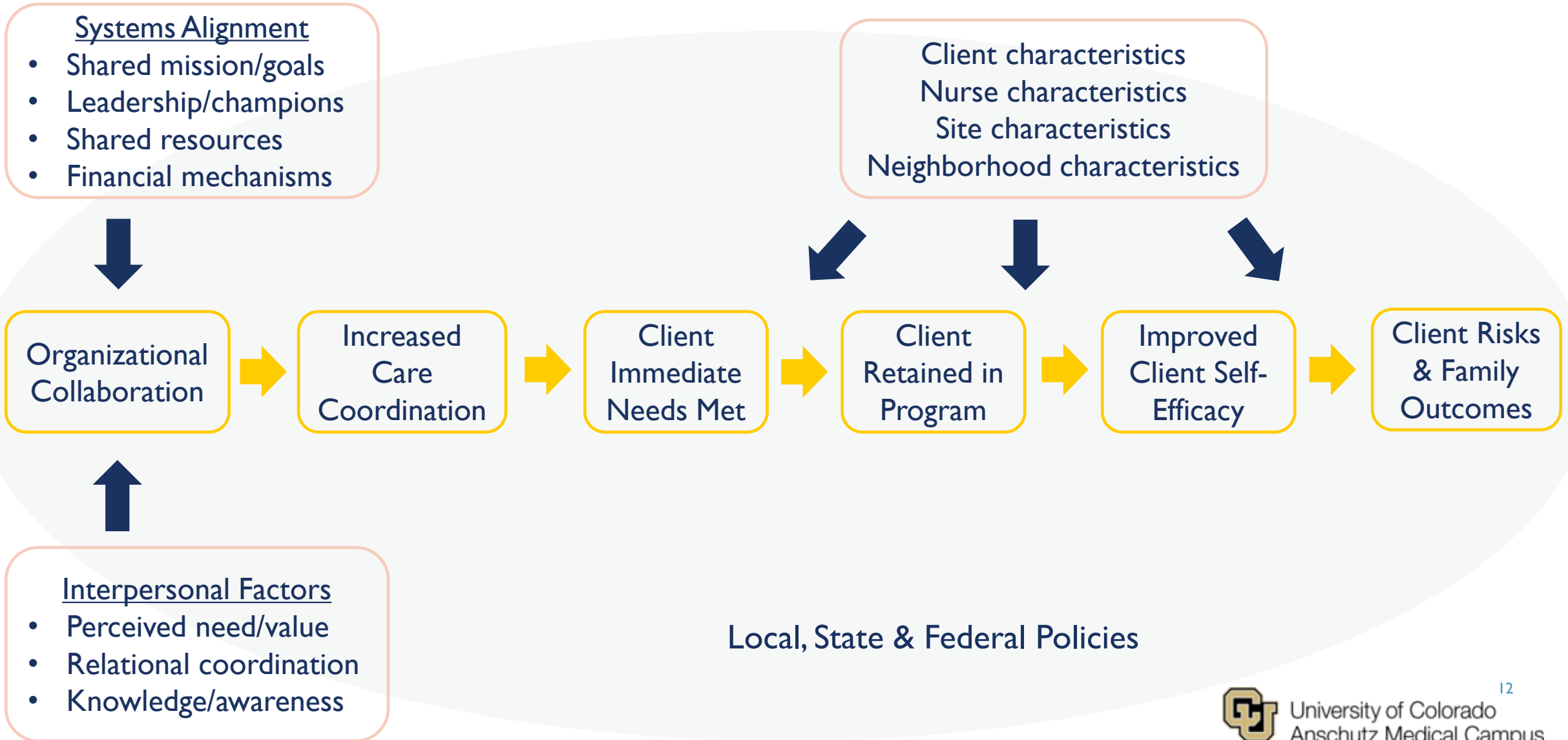
NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP® IS A COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM THAT TRULY CHANGES LIVES – FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.



# OUR PROJECT

- Aim 1. Assess degree of collaboration by site between NFP and cross-sector providers including healthcare systems and social services
- Aim 2. Estimate the relationship between site-level collaboration and program outcomes
- Aim 3. Identify and disseminate best practices of successful collaboration with health systems and social services

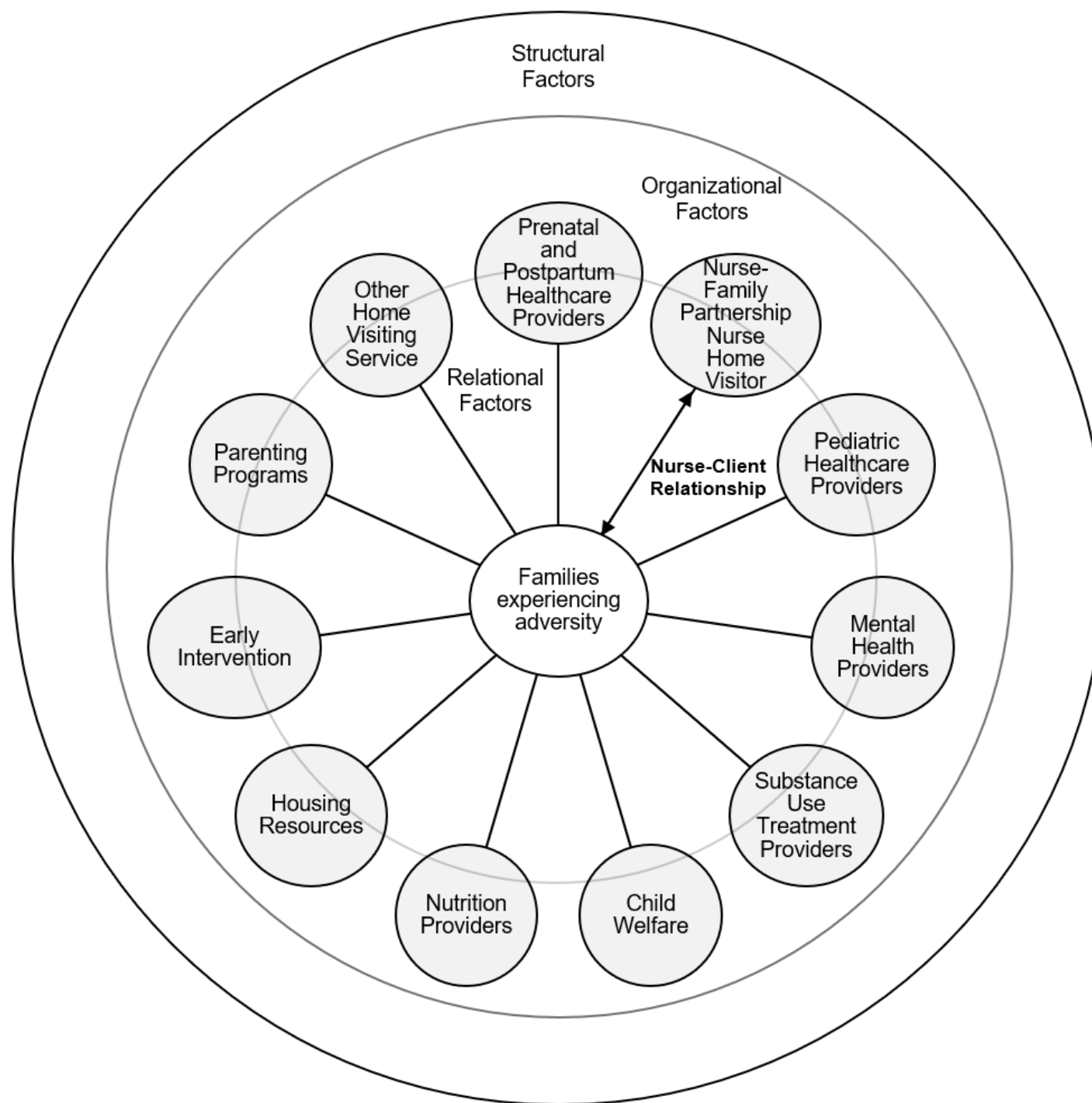
# Conceptual Model/Theory of Change



## AIM I: COLLABORATION CHANGES OVER TIME

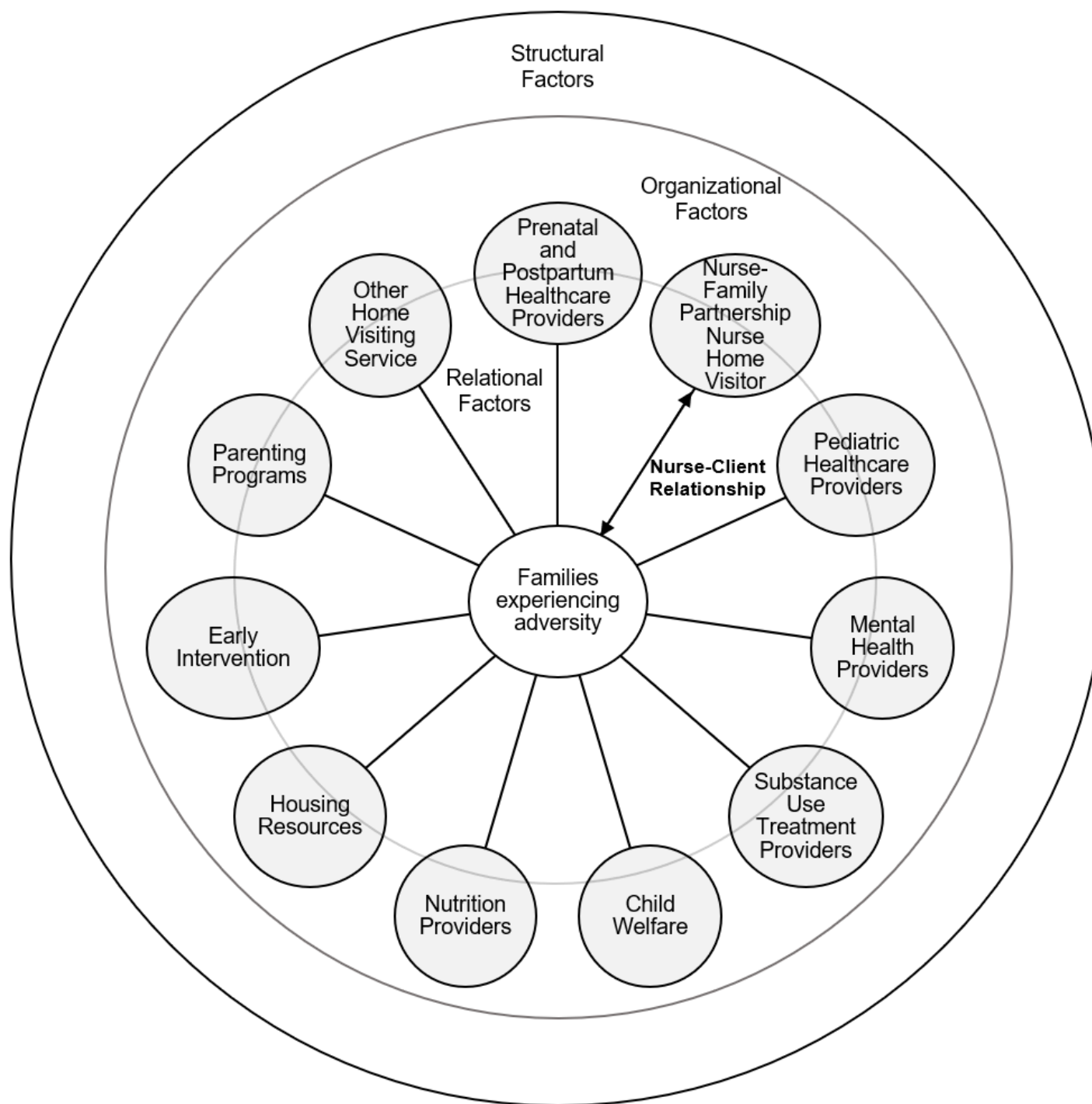
Research Question: *Has systems-level collaboration between NFP and other cross-sector providers changed in response to “naturally-occurring” efforts to facilitate enhanced collaboration?*

- Longitudinal survey methodology
- NFP nurse collaboration with other healthcare and social service providers
- Measures relational coordination and structural integration



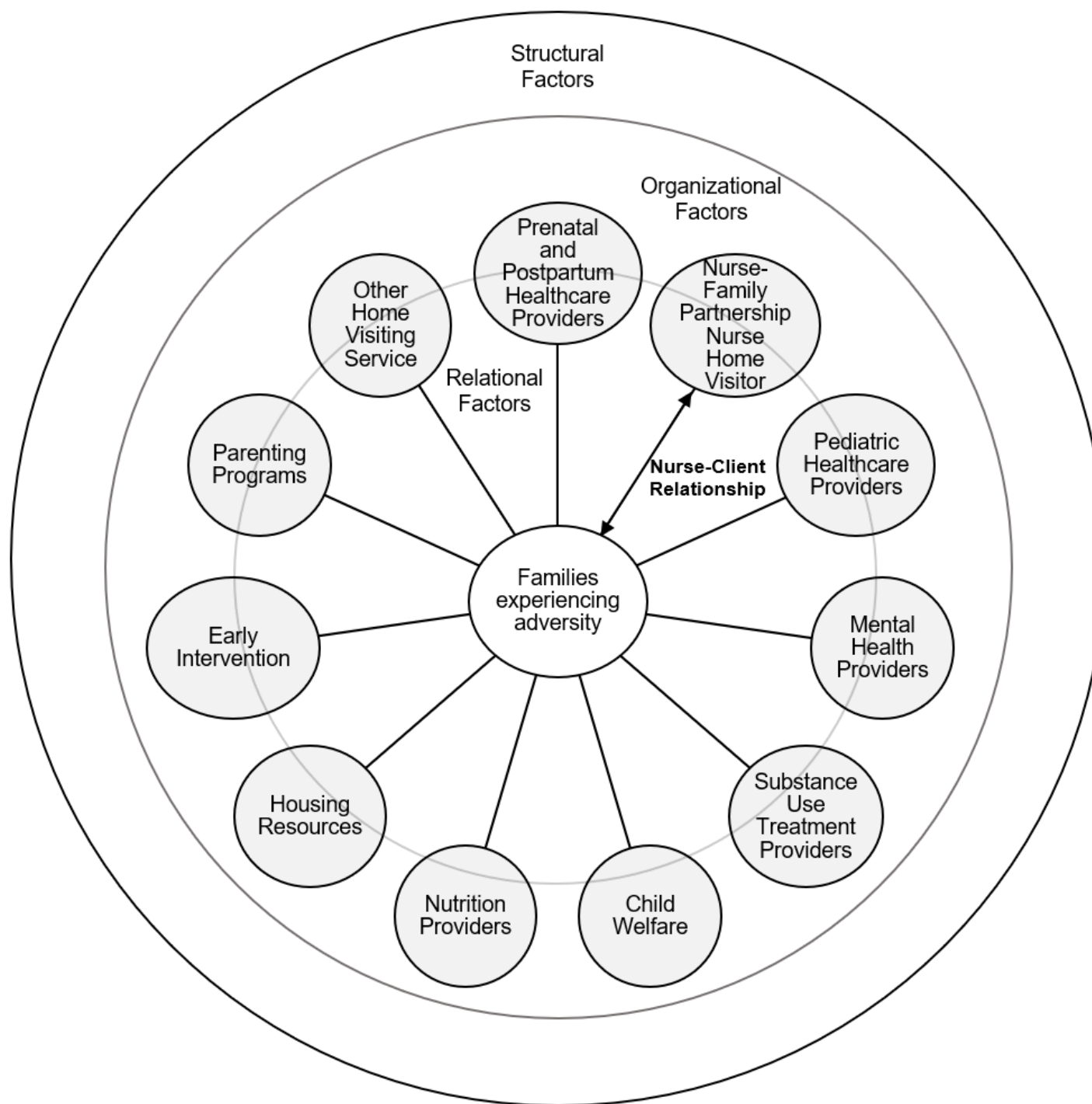
## Relational Factors

High quality  
communication +  
High quality  
relationships



## Relational Factors

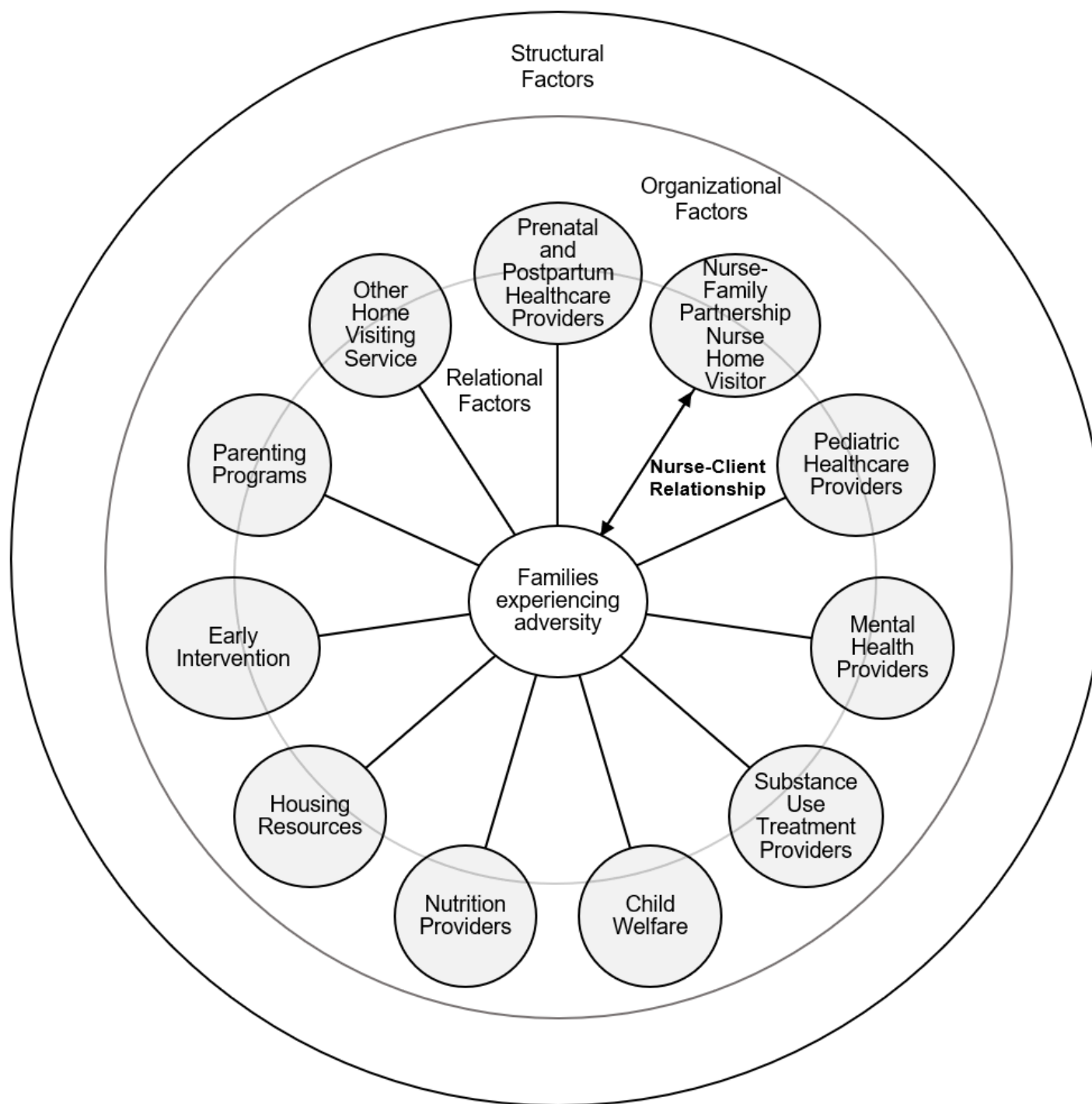
High quality  
communication +  
High quality  
relationships



Organizational Factors  
Shared policies  
Shared funding



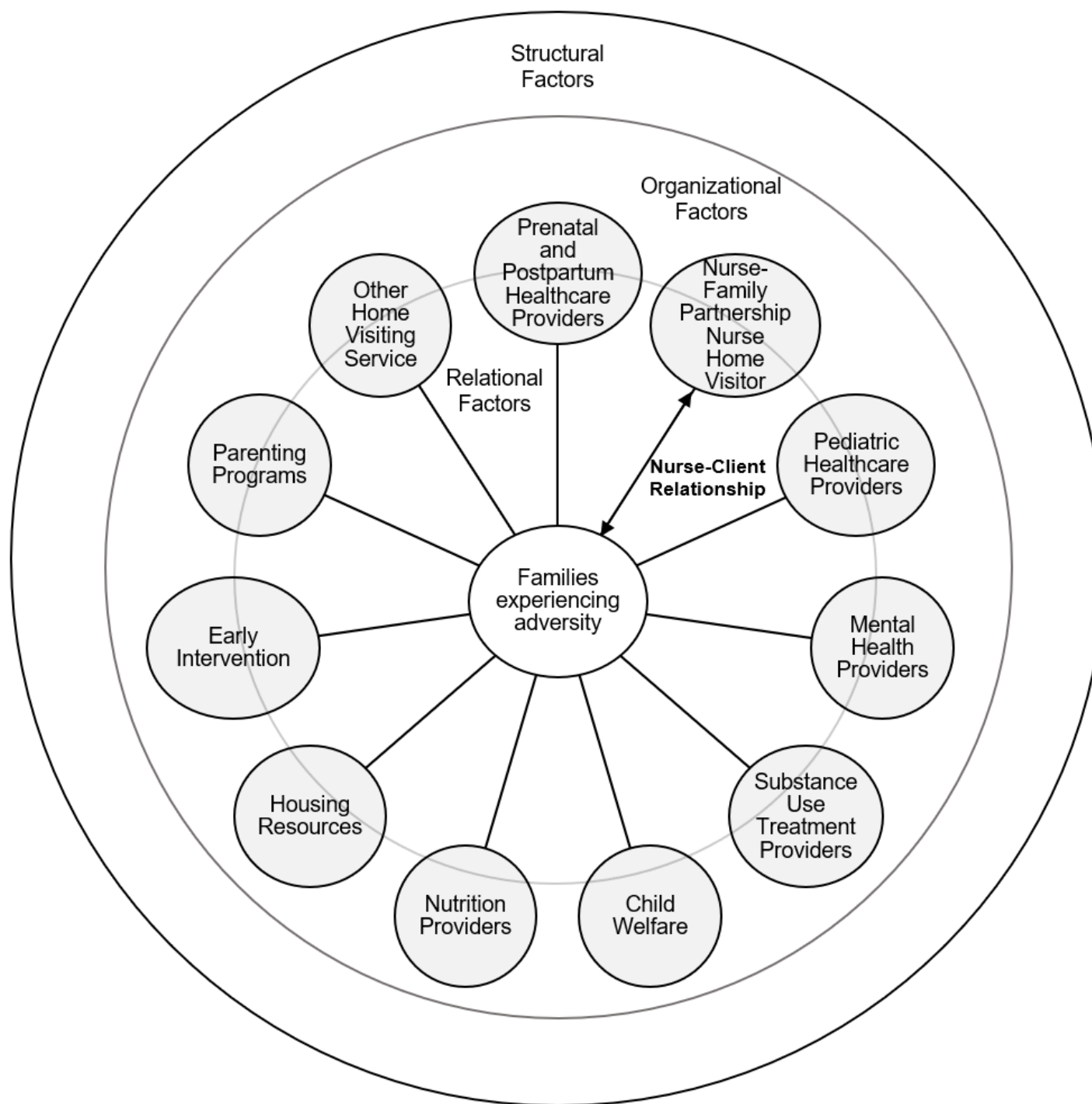
Relational Factors  
High quality  
communication +  
High quality  
relationships



Structural Factors  
Shared space  
Shared data

Organizational Factors  
Shared policies  
Shared funding

**RELATIONAL  
COORDINATION**  
measures Relational  
Factors



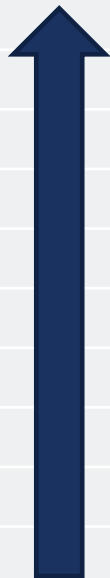
**STRUCTURAL  
INTEGRATION**  
measures Structural  
and Organizational  
factors

# COLLABORATION SURVEY

- Implemented in Fall 2020 via Qualtrics
- Invited 383 NFP nurse supervisors from active teams and sites
- Nurse supervisor completion rate of 77.8% (n=298)

# 2020 SUMMARY SCORES

Relational Coordination with...	2020					n
	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max		
WIC	3.68	0.82	1.25	5		296
Women's care	3.57	0.73	1.14	5		300
Early intervention	3.36	0.80	1	5		290
Other home visiting service	3.28	0.84	1	5		284
Child welfare	3.26	0.68	1.25	4.86		294
Mental health	3.25	0.73	1	5		297
Pediatric care	3.14	0.76	1	5		294
Parenting programs	3.01	0.85	1	5		262
Substance use treatment	2.76	0.85	1	4.57		286
Housing resources	2.50	0.84	1	4.71		283
Index Score	3.21	0.54	1.29	4.66		296



# 2020 SUMMARY SCORES

	2020				
Structural Integration with...	Sum	Std. Dev.	Min	Max	n
Other home visiting service	8.20	4.91	4	20	295
WIC	7.75	4.43	1	20	295
Women's care	6.69	4.15	3	20	296
Mental health	6.29	3.84	3	20	293
Pediatric care	5.65	3.32	3	20	295
Early intervention	5.64	3.07	3	20	296
Parenting programs	5.28	2.90	3	20	294
Child welfare	5.19	2.26	3	17	297
Substance use treatment	5.17	2.87	3	20	294
Housing resources	4.44	1.33	3	13	296
Index Score	6.02	1.80	3.9	14.9	297



## 2018 TO 2020 CHANGES

- Improved coordination with Women's Care
- Decreased coordination with WIC & parenting programs
- Less integration with parenting programs



# MATCHED COORDINATION SCORES

		2018	2020
Relational coordination with			
WIC**	M (SD) n	3.85 (0.83) 173	3.73 (0.80) 173
Women's care***	M (SD) n	3.46 (0.77) 177	3.66 (0.72) 177
Early intervention	M (SD) n	3.54 (0.84) 171	3.44 (0.80) 171
Child welfare	M (SD) n	3.37 (0.70) 173	3.38 (0.66) 173
Mental health	M (SD) n	3.29 (0.78) 169	3.27 (0.73) 169
Pediatric care	M (SD) n	3.19 (0.82) 170	3.26 (0.77) 170
Parenting programs**	M (SD) n	3.28 (0.94) 141	3.10 (0.85) 141
Substance use treatment	M (SD) n	2.82 (0.89) 161	2.83 (0.84) 161
Housing resources	M (SD) n	2.64 (0.91) 159	2.56 (0.84) 159

\*p<0.05, \*\* p<0.01, \*\*\*p<0.01

# MATCHED INTEGRATION SCORES

		2018	2020
Structural Integration with...			
WIC	M (SD) n	7.95 (4.07) 163	7.99 (4.63) 163
Women's care	M (SD) n	6.57 (3.72) 169	6.78 (4.23) 169
Mental health	M (SD) n	6.77 (3.67) 166	6.26 (3.88) 166
Pediatric care	M (SD) n	5.95 (3.56) 168	5.77 (3.43) 168
Early intervention	M (SD) n	5.75 (3.39) 164	5.91 (3.42) 164
Parenting programs***	M (SD) n	6.56 (3.65) 161	5.27 (2.94) 161
Child welfare	M (SD) n	5.45 (2.67) 162	5.31 (2.43) 162
Substance use treatment	M (SD) n	5.08 (2.34) 165	5.15 (2.93) 165
Housing resources	M (SD) n	4.44 (1.39) 163	4.48 (1.45) 163

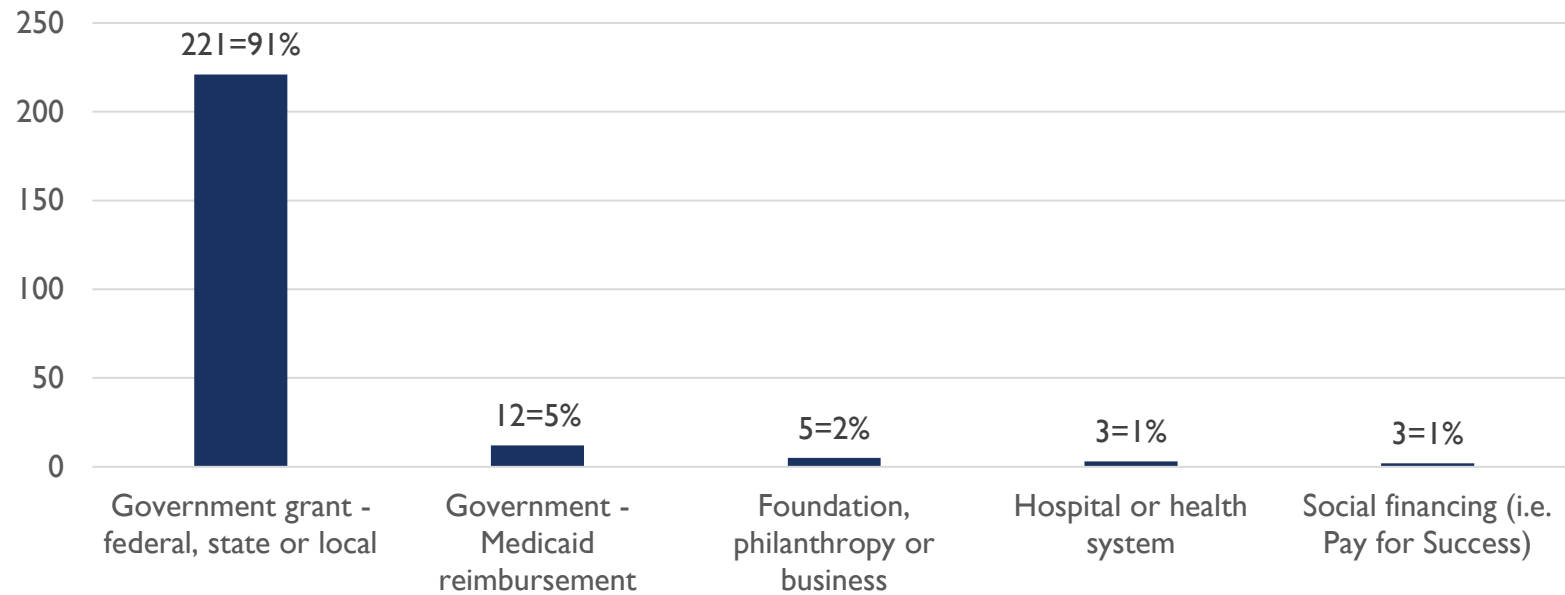
\*p<0.05, \*\* p<0.01, \*\*\*p<0.01



# AGENCY FUNDING SURVEY

- Implemented in Winter 2020 via Qualtrics
- Invited administrators from 268 active sites
- Site Completion Rate of 90.7% (n=243)
  
- 213 sites have completed Agency Funding AND Collaboration survey (79.5% of sites)

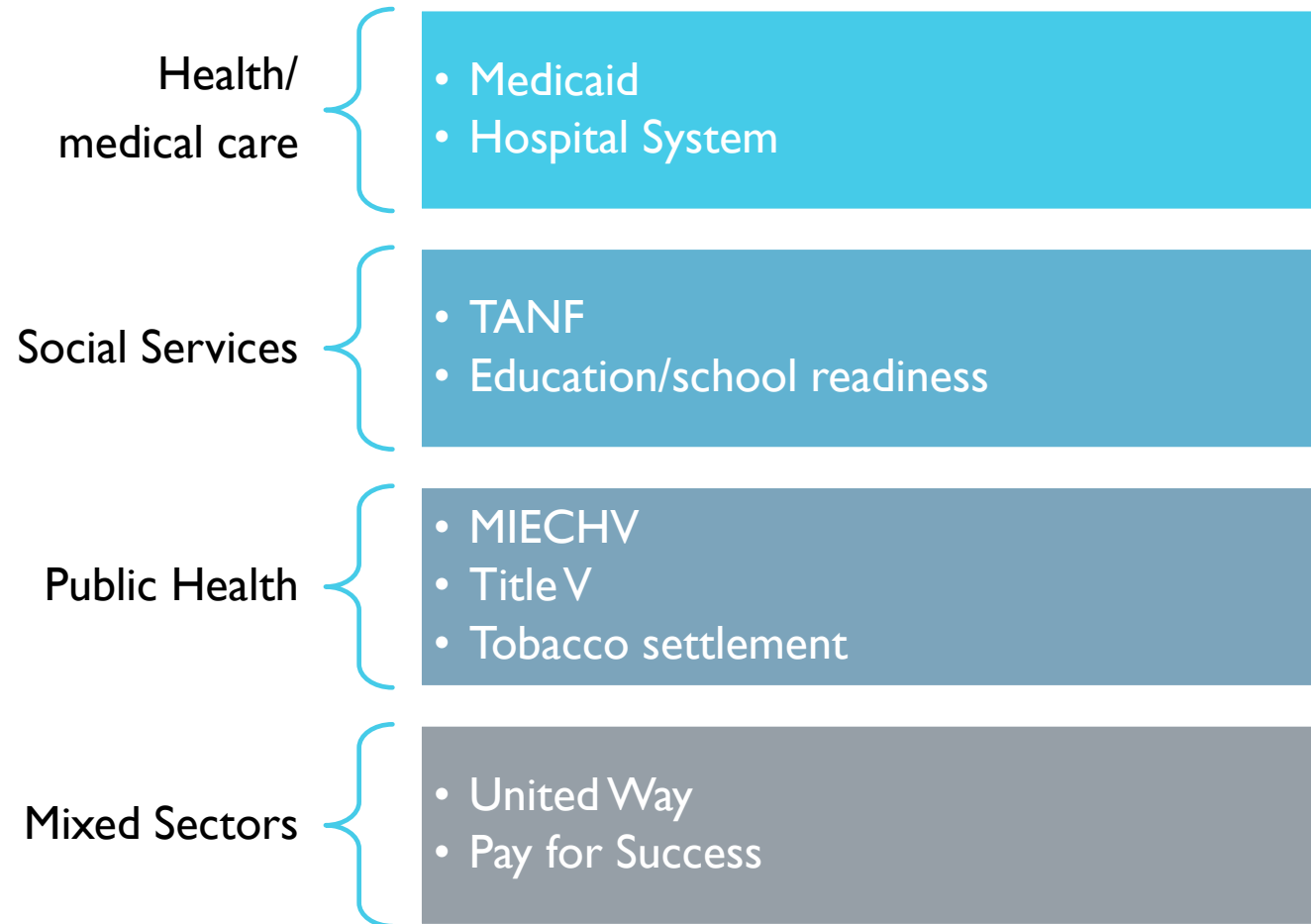
# LARGEST FUNDING SOURCE



# FUNDING SOURCE – SECTOR & DEFINITION

Sector	Definition
Health/medical care	The medical sector includes the organizations, programs, and services <b>that help individuals obtain access to personal health services that promote positive health outcomes</b> such as through prevention, treatment, or management of conditions, diseases and injuries, including services for obstetrics and pediatrics care in terms of physical health conditions, mental health conditions, substance abuse, and developmental disabilities.
Social service	The social service sector includes the organizations, programs and services <b>that work to address fundamental human needs and promote social wellbeing.</b>
Public health	The public health sector includes the organizations, programs and activities <b>that work to create the conditions in which people can live healthy lives</b> , including activities to prevent disease and injury and promote health for the population at large.
Mixed	The mixed sector is used if the organization, program or service falls into <b>more than one of the above sectors.</b>

# SECTOR EXAMPLES

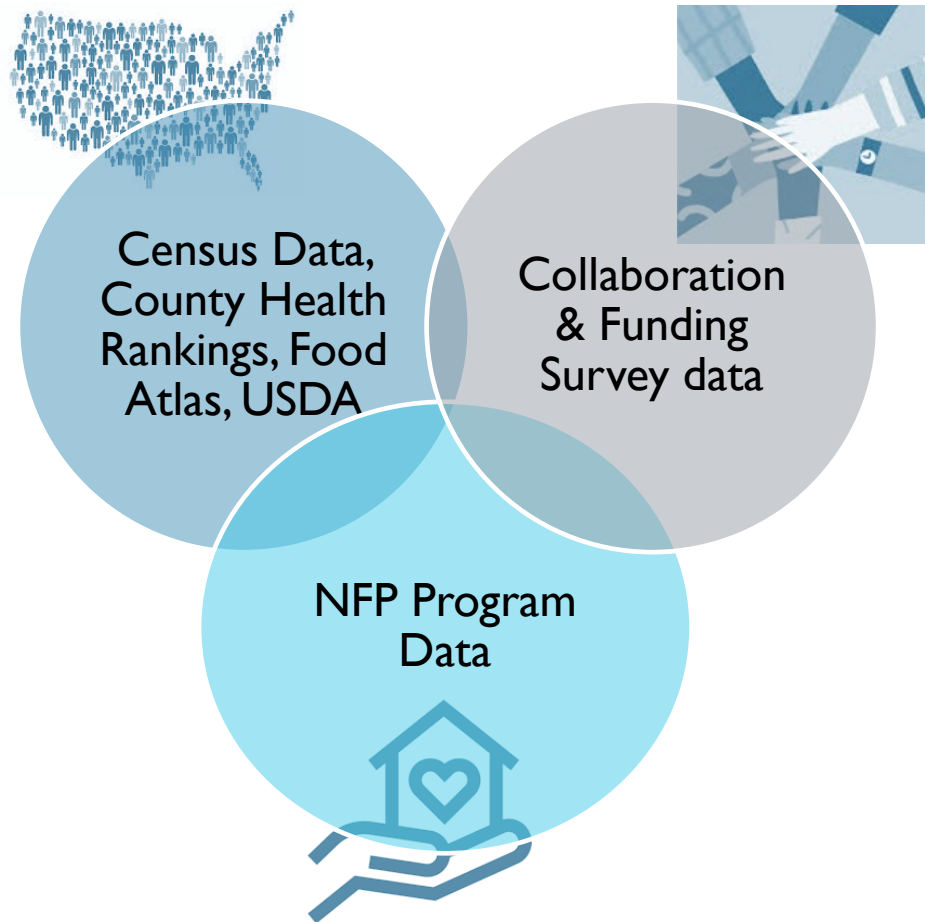


## AIM 2: COLLABORATION & OUTCOMES

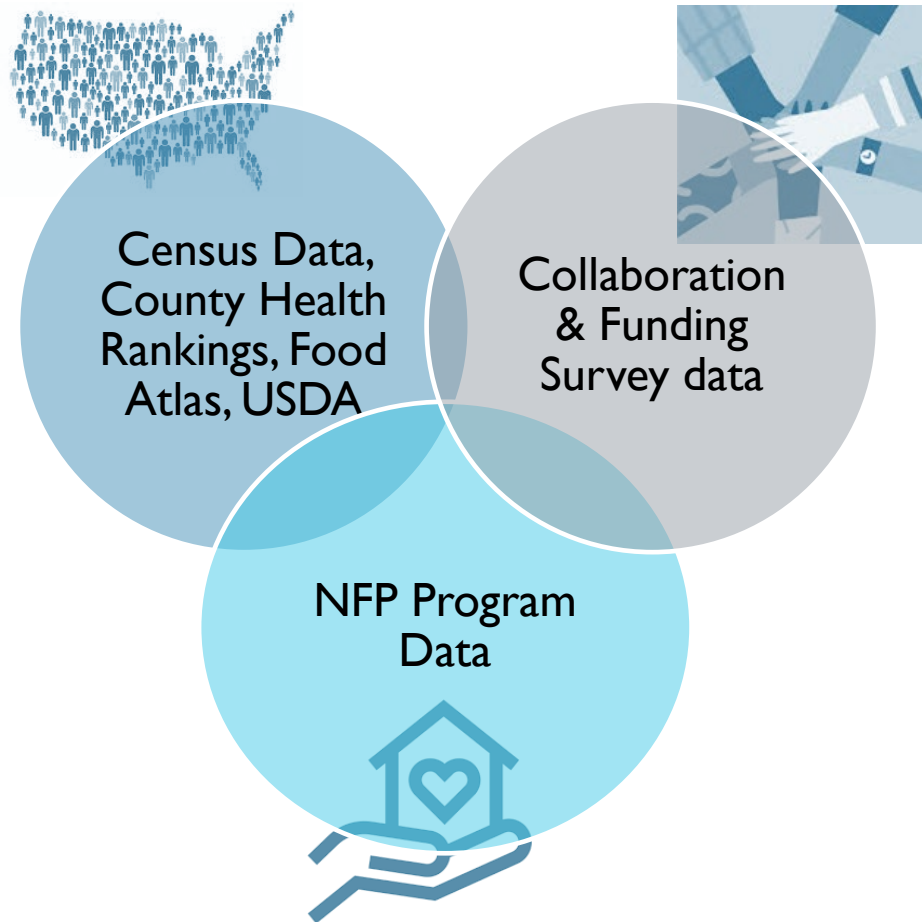
Research Question: *What is the relationship between improved NFP-community provider collaboration and program outcomes?*

- Random effect (mixed) models with client-, nurse-, and site-level factors
- Compare healthcare-financed sites vs. social service-financed sites

# DATA

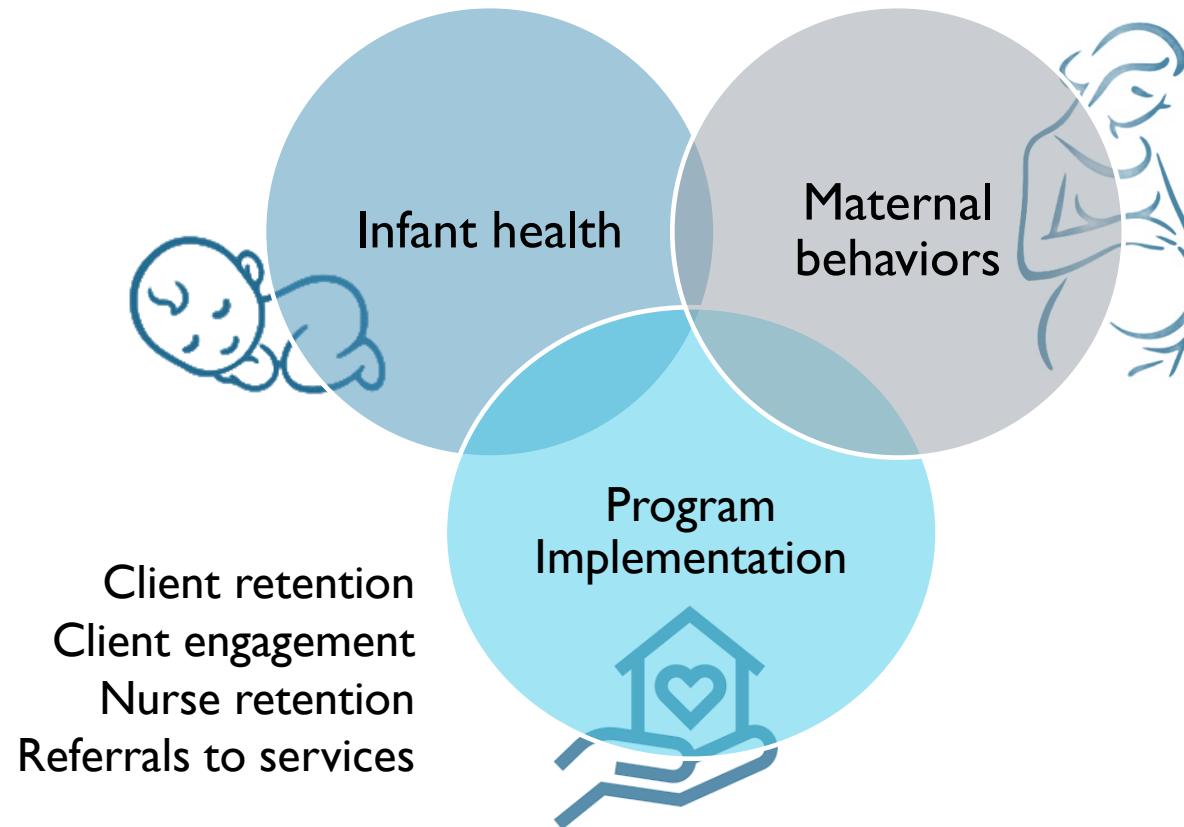


# DATA



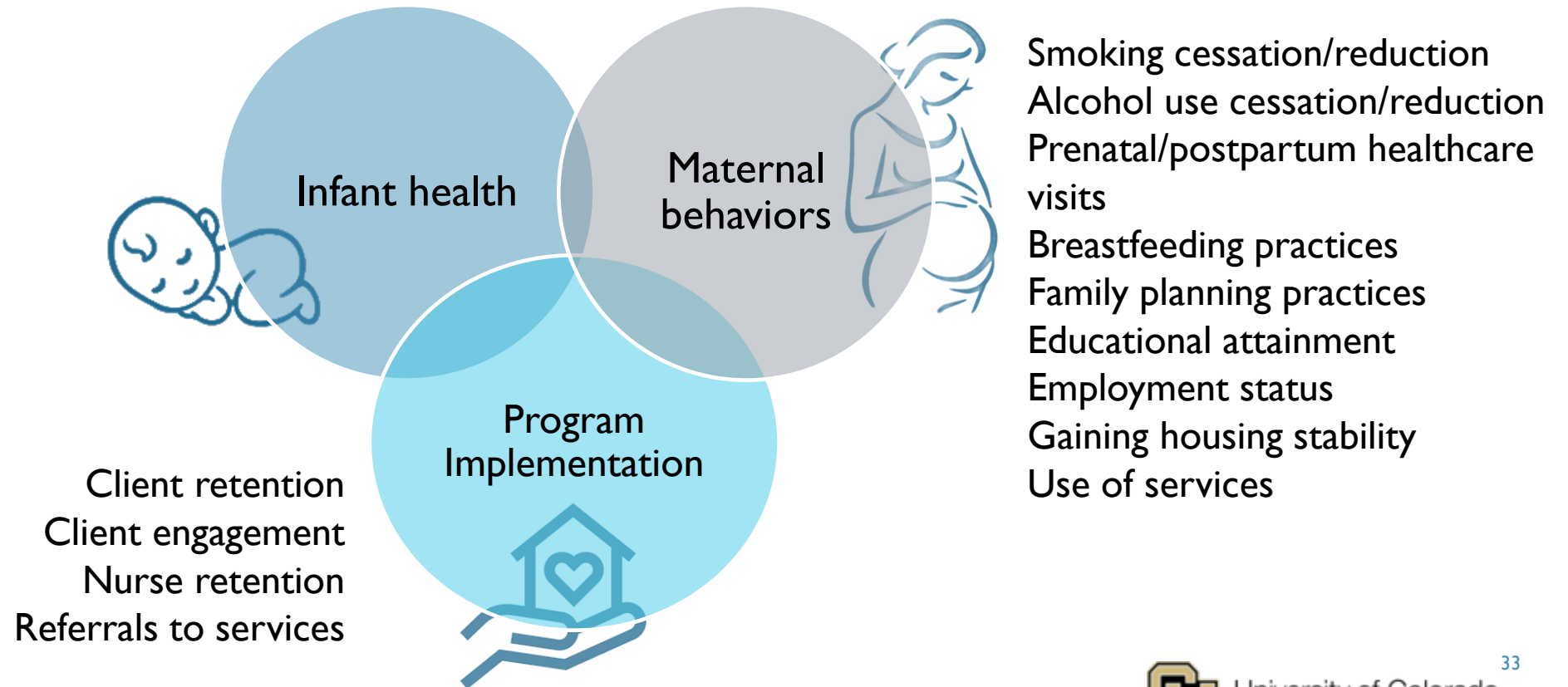
- NFP clients with their first visit between Jan 1, 2015 and Dec 31, 2020
- Clients matched to nurse with most home visits with that client
- Inclusion criteria: 4+ visits and have birthed
- Exclusion criteria: ceased participation due to moving, miscarriage, lost custody, child death
- Covariates: client-, nurse-, site-, neighborhood-level

# OUTCOMES

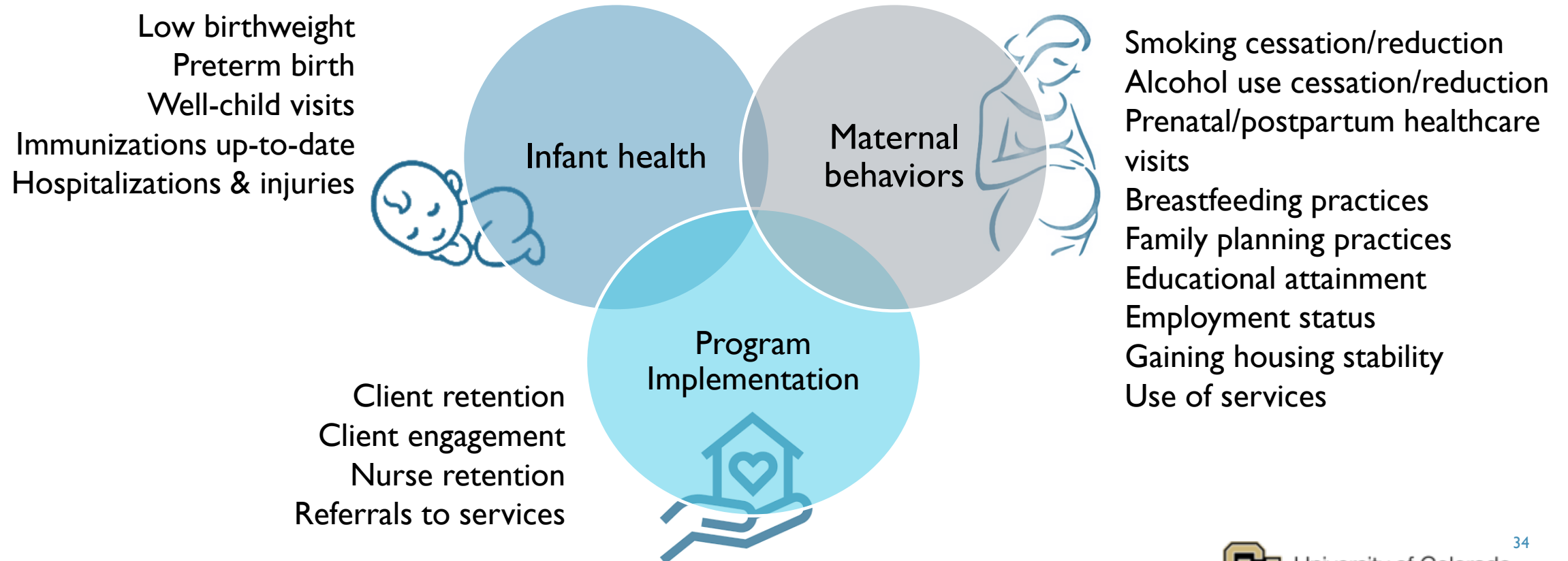




# OUTCOMES



# OUTCOMES





Mixed associations with client retention

	Client retention at birth Adjusted Odds Ratio <sup>a</sup>	Client retention at 6 months Adjusted Odds Ratio <sup>a</sup>	Client retention at 12 months Adjusted Odds Ratio <sup>a</sup>	Client retention at 18 months Adjusted Odds Ratio <sup>a</sup>	Client retention at 22 months Adjusted Odds Ratio <sup>a</sup>
<b>Relational Coordination</b> with Obstetrics	1.090	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
with Pediatrics	n/a	1.340***	1.319***	1.314***	1.278***
with Mental health	1.060	1.011	1.000	1.045	1.042
with Substance use treatment	0.935	0.839**	0.832**	0.807**	0.811**
with WIC	0.889*	0.887*	0.910	0.910	0.941
with Child Welfare	0.857**	0.854*	0.819**	0.864	0.890
with Housing	1.051	1.029	1.009	0.975	1.010
with Other home visiting services	0.969	0.963	0.972	0.938	0.929
with Parenting	0.974	0.980	0.983	1.018	0.999
with Early intervention	1.066	1.048	1.103	1.078	1.063
<b>Structural Integration</b> with Obstetrics	1.006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
with Pediatrics	n/a	1.004	0.998	0.992	0.990
with Mental health	0.995	1.015	1.021	1.021	1.024
with Substance use treatment	1.006	0.995	0.998	0.993	0.995
with WIC	1.047***	1.043***	1.045***	1.047***	1.038**
with Child Welfare	1.066***	1.042*	1.048*	1.062**	1.062**
with Housing	1.026	1.049	1.043	1.012	1.002
with Other home visiting services	0.988	0.979*	0.976*	0.978*	0.984
with Parenting	0.997	0.998	0.997	0.996	0.994
with Early intervention	0.986	0.987	0.986	0.991	0.993
Nurse-level variance	51233	47645	43563	39027	31838
Intra-class correlation	0.195	0.305	0.357	0.366	0.333
Observations	0.799	1.441	1.824	1.899	1.643

\*p<0.05, \*\* p<0.01, \*\*\*p<0.01

<sup>a</sup> Adjusts for client sociodemographic and health, nurse sociodemographic and agency program factors

	Client retention at birth Adjusted Odds Ratio <sup>a</sup>	Client retention at 6 months Adjusted Odds Ratio <sup>a</sup>	Client retention at 12 months Adjusted Odds Ratio <sup>a</sup>	Client retention at 18 months Adjusted Odds Ratio <sup>a</sup>	Client retention at 22 months Adjusted Odds Ratio <sup>a</sup>
<b>Client age</b>	1.029***	1.040***	1.046***	1.052***	1.055***
<b>Client Race: White</b>	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference
Black	1.097*	0.858***	0.786***	0.774***	0.781***
Other/Mixed	0.994	0.972	0.94	0.952	0.951
Declined/Unknown	0.864*	1.008	1.041	1.009	0.988
<b>Client Marital Status: Single</b>	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference
Married	1.348***	1.391***	1.362***	1.429***	1.480***
Live with Partner	0.774***	0.753***	0.752***	0.814***	0.842*
Widowed/Divorced/Separated	0.898	0.876	0.811*	0.867	0.931
<b>Client completed High School or GED</b>	1.047	1.241***	1.323***	1.347***	1.378***
<b>Client Living Circumstance: Live with others</b>	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference
Live alone	0.858*	0.900*	0.955	0.953	0.93
Homeless	0.629***	0.622***	0.599***	0.582***	0.606***
<b>Nurse-level variance</b>	51233	47645	43563	39027	31838
<b>Intra-class correlation</b>	0.195	0.305	0.357	0.366	0.333
<b>Observations</b>	0.799	1.441	1.824	1.899	1.643

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	Client retention at birth Adjusted Odds Ratio <sup>a</sup>	Client retention at 6 months Adjusted Odds Ratio <sup>a</sup>	Client retention at 12 months Adjusted Odds Ratio <sup>a</sup>	Client retention at 18 months Adjusted Odds Ratio <sup>a</sup>	Client retention at 22 months Adjusted Odds Ratio <sup>a</sup>
<b>Agency Type:</b> Government	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference
Health care	1.463***	1.434***	1.556***	1.604***	1.610***
Community based organization	1.171	1.175	1.151	1.194	1.221
Education	1.781***	1.911***	2.082**	2.441***	2.967***
<b>Funding Sector:</b> Public health	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference
Social Services	1.144	1.013	1.076	1.238	1.123
Healthcare	1.038	0.86	0.807	0.824	0.833
Mixed	0.991	1.133	1.211*	1.206	1.201
<b>Funding Longevity:</b> 1 year	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference
1-3 years	0.536**	0.701	0.749	0.653	0.550*
3-5 years	0.708	0.931	0.896	0.697	0.518*
5+ years	0.618**	0.756	0.707	0.604*	0.552**
Unknown end date	0.593**	0.705	0.692	0.643	0.539*
No end date	0.785	0.911	0.942	0.814	0.697
<b>Funding Renewal:</b> No renewal date	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference
Annual	1.117	1.068	0.888	0.939	0.893
Every 2-3 years	0.986	1.096	0.913	0.978	1.038
Every 4-5 years	1.002	1.126	0.884	0.903	0.83
Other timeframe	0.956	1.176	0.983	0.929	0.807
Unknown	1.508	1.657*	1.297	1.156	1.017
Nurse-level variance	51233	47645	43563	39027	31838
Intra-class correlation	0.195	0.305	0.357	0.366	0.333
Observations	0.799	1.441	1.824	1.899	1.643

\*p<0.05, \*\* p<0.01, \*\*\*p<0.01

<sup>a</sup> Adjusts for client sociodemographic and health, nurse sociodemographic and agency program factors

## EARLY INTERPRETATIONS

**Collaboration matters but the exact dynamics are challenging and complicated to interpret**

- Positive associations between coordination with pediatrics and client retention postpartum
- Negative associations between coordination with substance use, WIC and CPS and client retention; also integration with other home visiting
- Agency type may play role in retention



## AIM 3: BEST PRACTICE MODELS

Research Questions: *Which highly collaborative NFP sites are the top performers based on identified program outcomes in Aim 2?*

*What are the best practices, activities, and dynamics to collaboration among high-performing NFP sites?*

- Positive deviance approach to identify high-performers
- Conduct qualitative case studies
- Create best practice models of collaboration (including financing mechanisms)

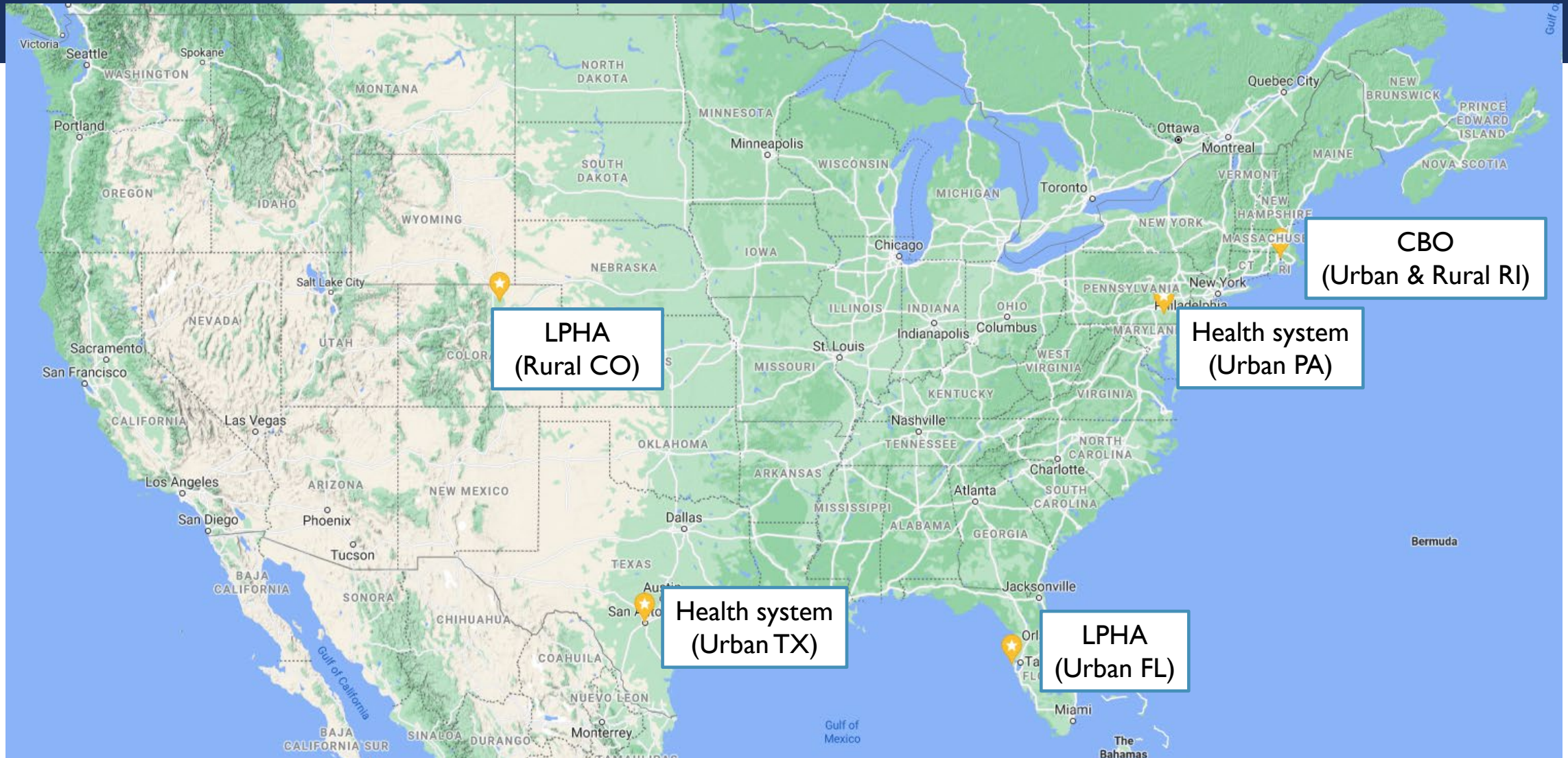


# SITE SELECTION

High performing sites have at least two of the following factors:

- Scoring 95 percentile in:
  - Coordination with substance use treatment providers
  - Coordination with child welfare
  - Coordination with WIC
  - Integration with women's care
  - Integration with pediatrics care
  - Integration with child welfare
- Above national average for client retention

# FIVE CASE STUDIES



# IMPLICATIONS FOR FAMILY WELL-BEING

Commentary by Jade Woodard, MPA  
Executive Director of Illuminate Colorado

# QUESTIONS?

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# Request for Information

We want to hear your ideas for how we can **better support practice-based organizations in conducting research** sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Systems for Action research program.

The ideas received from the Request for Information will be used to develop a new initiative devoted to helping practice-based organizations engage in S4A systems alignment research.

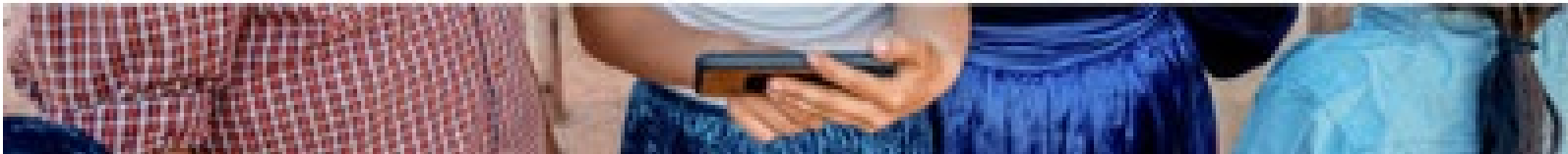
 <https://tinyurl.com/systemsforactionrfi>

# Upcoming Webinar



**Sept. 1**

**Evaluating Inclusiveness of Multisector  
Community Health Networks**



[https://ucdenver.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_PynIbtsWTPyx3uHVtwBiGA](https://ucdenver.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_PynIbtsWTPyx3uHVtwBiGA)

# Acknowledgements

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**public health**