

# Leading in Complex Systems

Session A5, International Forum on Quality & Safety in  
Healthcare

21 June 2022

# Simon Sinek's: Start with the Why





# We need to enjoy the messiness of life!

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*För ett bra liv i  
en attraktiv region!*

For a good life in an attractive region

# Agenda & Objectives

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- Set up of the Why
- New ideas for Leading in Complex Systems
- A Swedish Case Study of Leading in Complex Systems
- Some final ideas
- Discussion

After this session:

1. Identify key leadership principles for supporting staff and teams
2. Apply lessons learned by Executive Leaders within your own team and organization
3. Demonstrate the ways leaders contribute to building and fostering a culture of equity and safety



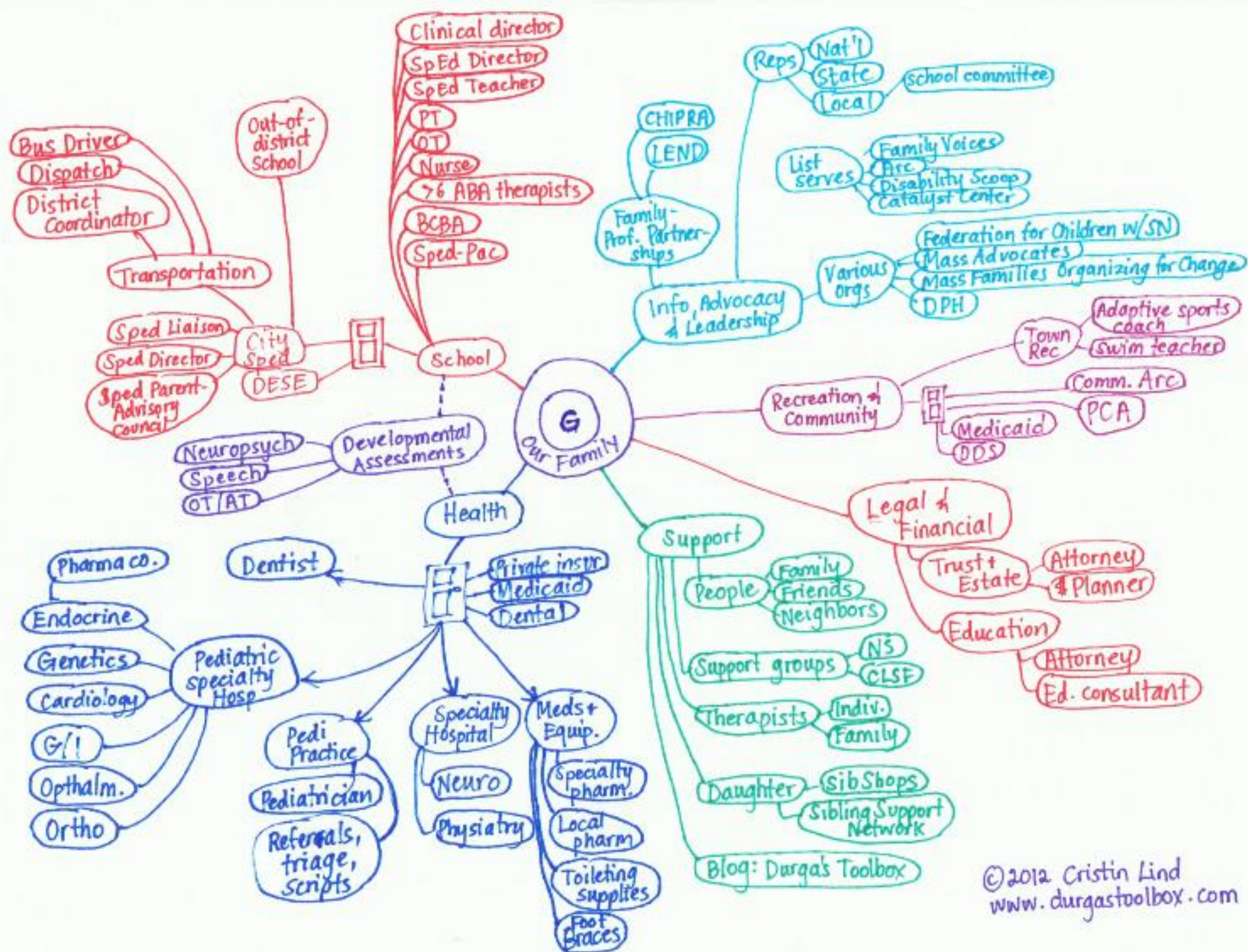
# Leading in Complex Systems

*Executive Leaders Session – International Forum on Quality & Safety in Healthcare*



**Maureen Bisognano**  
President Emerita and Senior  
Fellow

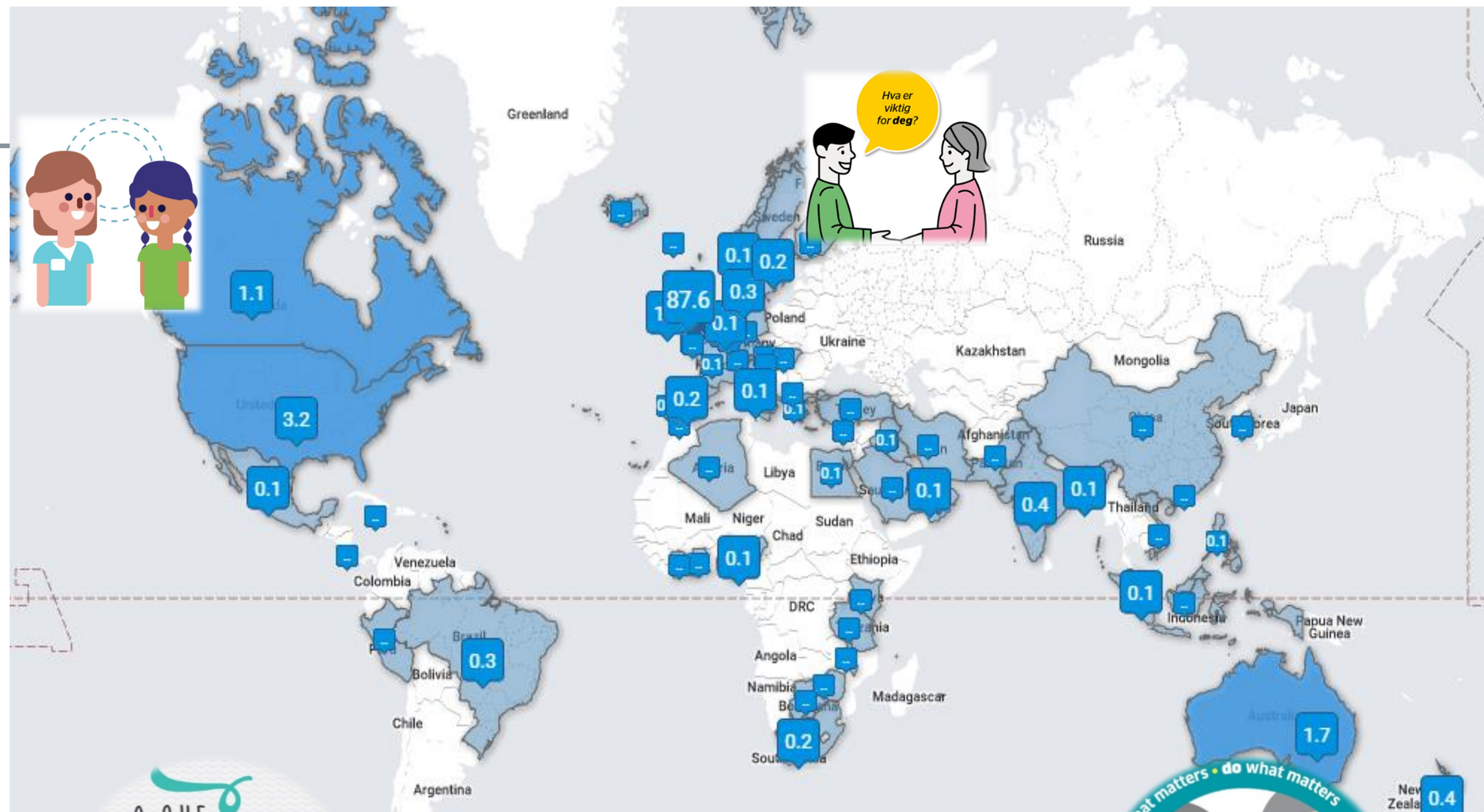




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O QUE  
**Importa**  
PARA VOCÊ?  
POR UM CUIDADO  
CENTRADO NA PESSOA

# 50 Countries

# 2000+ teams





# Reablement - Oslo Kommune

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- Interprofessional team who are the first to meet with new patients in need of home-based care
  - occupational therapists
  - physiotherapists
  - nurses
  - social workers
- Work towards independence and mastery of everyday life, transitioning patients to either:
  - discharge without need of further healthcare, or
  - home-based care with the best possible function



# Jarle

- **History:**
  - 70 year old man with COPD, type 2 diabetes, and two previous heart attacks
  - Suffered a major stroke, and spent a month in the hospital
  - Left side paralysis, cognitive and physical function challenges
- **Reablement program**
  - Physiotherapy – Build strength and balance
  - Occupational therapy – Map daily routines and motivating factors
  - Offered a spot at FRAM health rehab in June
  - Progress with walking and talking
- Came back to reablement after challenges; they helped him find a new, more accessible apartment
- Now largely independent, and needs a wheelchair only for long distances





# CAPABLE

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- “Community Aging in Place, Advancing Better Living for Elders”
  - Emphasizes helping older adults maintain independence through environmental adaptations and interventions
  - Team of nurse, occupational therapist, and handyman
- Common fixes:
  - Installing or fixing railings or grab bars
  - Improving lighting
  - Installing non-skid treads in tubs and showers
  - Repairing trip hazards, like holes or tears in carpet, or broken times
- 79% of initial participants reported fewer activity of daily living limitations





# CAPABLE

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- Roughly \$3,000 in program costs yields approximately \$10,000 in savings in medical costs.
- Participants showed reduced symptoms of depression, fewer difficulties with Activities of Daily Living, and improved motivation.



Source: Szanton et al., Preliminary data from community aging in place, advancing better living for elders, a patient-directed, team-based intervention to improve physical function and decrease nursing home utilization: the first 100 individuals to complete a centers for medicare and medicaid services innovation project. *J. Am. Geriatr. Soc.* **63**(2), 371–374 (2015).





# Innovation-Spread-Exnovation

## Innovation

- Where are care models and processes broken?
- Where do we need new thinking?
  - Innovation labs, design processes
  - Harvesting

## Spread

- Where do we see variation in performance?
- How can we reliably spread to ensure that we can provide the best care to every patient, where they are?
  - Transparent data
  - Curiosity
  - Spread Model

## Exnovation

- How do we stop what doesn't work anymore?
- How will we eliminate wasteful practices and processes?
- **It takes courage!**





# Drivers for Innovation

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- Harvesting ideas and seeing the gaps
- Live Case Visits
- Grrrrrr List
- Frustration and pebbles
- Research and innovative designs
- Design Studios and the IHI Innovation Process





# Exploring the different types of waste we see in the system and the impact it has

**Wasted  
resources and  
processes**

**Wasted time  
patients,  
carers, staff**

**Wasted spirit  
and  
opportunities for  
staff**





## Perspective

NOVEMBER 8, 2018

### Getting Rid of Stupid Stuff

Melinda Ashton, M.D.

Many health care organizations are searching for ways to engage employees and protect against burnout, and involvement in meaningful work has been reported to serve both func-

tions. According to Bailey and Madden, it is easy to damage employees' sense of meaningfulness

my colleagues and I had reason to believe that there might be some documentation tasks that

of the beholder. Everything that we might now call stupid was thought to be a good idea at some point."

We thought we would probably receive nominations in three categories: documentation that was never meant to occur and would require little consideration to elim-

#### Status of "Getting Rid of Stupid Stuff" Requests from Nurses and Physicians.\*

Status	Nurses	Physicians
	<i>no. of requests (%)</i>	
Completed	68 (46.6)	19 (45.2)
Not possible	18 (12.3)	8 (19.0)
In progress	27 (18.5)	2 (4.8)
Assigned to work groups or not yet started	33 (22.6)	13 (31.0)

\* Does not include 31 suggestions from other disciplines or related to issues other than improvements to electronic health records.





# EXNOVATE TO INNOVATE



## VIRTUAL WORKING FREES UP.....

Office space, travel, staff time, reduces Co2 omissions, reduces DNA's, save patients time, reduces issues of childcare/time out of work



## COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY HELP US TO.....

Improve contact with families, reduce interruptions on ward, reduce paper (NIECR), promote self-care (InHealth), empower parents, access info (QR codes), access training, remote triage (dermatology), support tissue viability team



## PREDICTIVE DATA LETS US.....

Model medicines for critical care, palliative care & respiratory, O2 usage, fluids, identify the appropriate form of respiratory support (Airvo, CPAP), PPE usage



## NEW MODELS OF SERVICES WHICH ARE WORKING WELL.....

Hospital at Day, EMSU (inc. direct access for GPs), Gynae assessment unit, Radiology hot reporting, reduction in duplication of tests, improved triage (supporting discharge from waiting list), EQiP, on-line rehab (cardiac), insulin shots in pregnancy, digital corporate welcome, removal of cash counting

*"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about"*  
(Meg Wheatley, Leadership & the New Science)





# Is there a “golden triangle”?

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Strategic, targeted **waste reduction**, and focus on **value management**

Raise  
**Joy in Work**



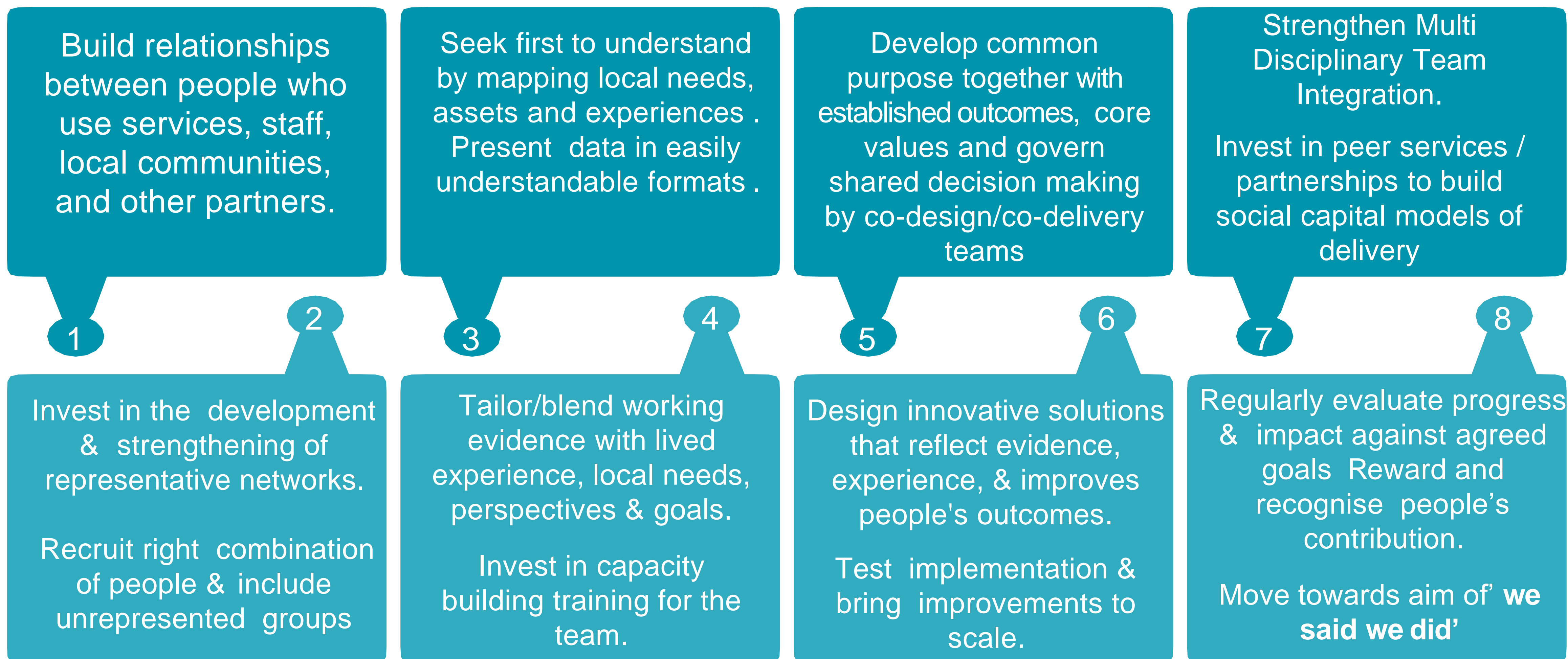
**Co-production** with  
patients and  
families

# Co-design with Patients





# Key Implementation Steps to Effective Co-Production



# Connective Tissue

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Connective tissue is the **infrastructure** needed to support intentional alignment, coordination, and integration between sectors/organizations that serve like populations within a community.

- Infrastructure = information exchange systems, financing, personnel, shared language, trust and shared goals.
- Requires a deliberate process that moves towards a community-wide approach vs individual goals of any one system.

## Sources:

- Butler, Stuart M. & Maguire, Marcella (2022) [Building connective tissue for effective housing health initiatives](#). Brookings
- [Multnomah County FUSE Report](#) (2021)





# Components of Success

## 1. Clearly defined goals that align priorities between sectors



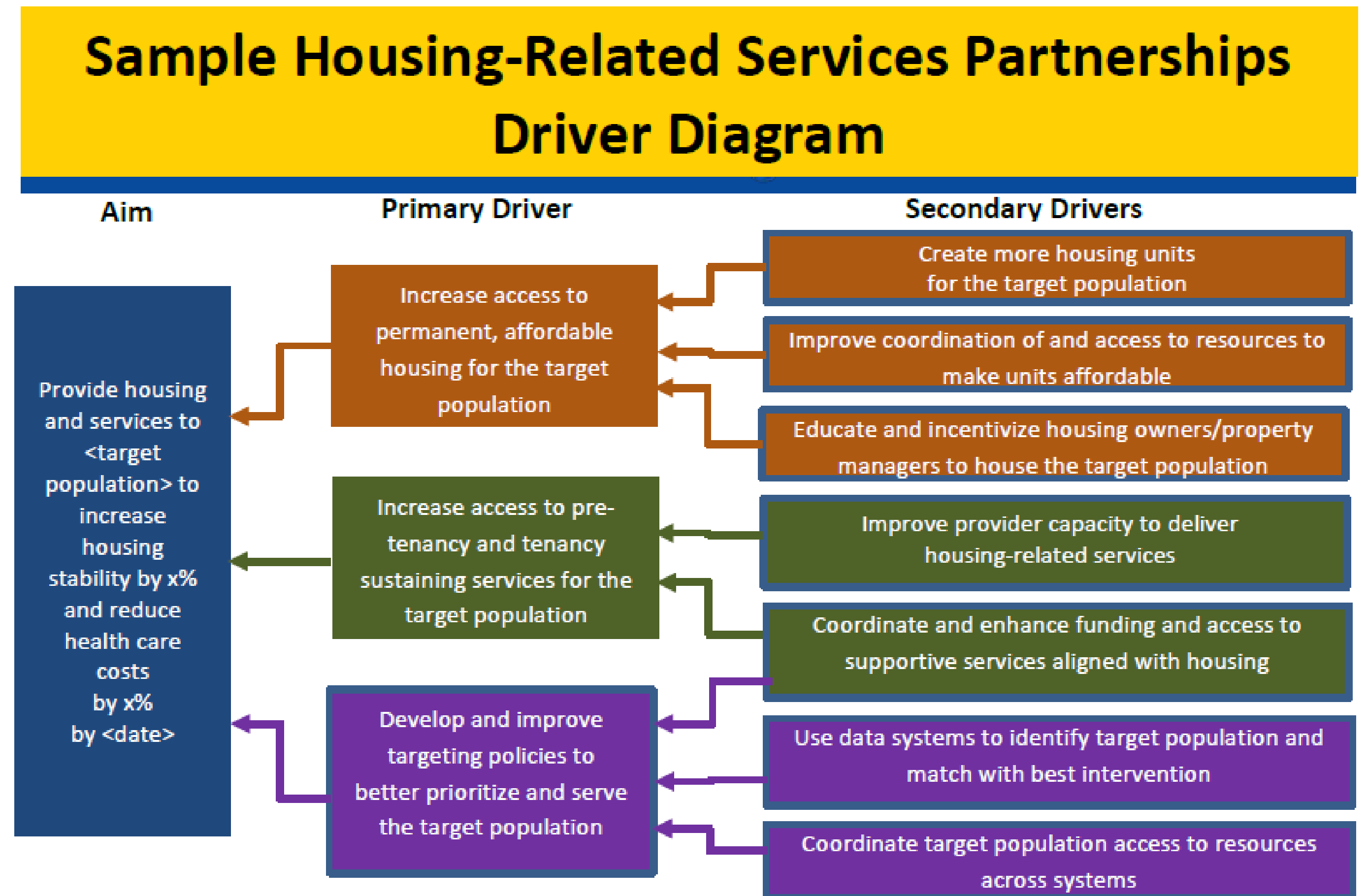
### Sources:

- Butler, Stuart M. & Maguire, Marcella (2022) [Building connective tissue for effective housing health initiatives](#). Brookings
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# Components of Success

## 2. Engagement and network development between sectors





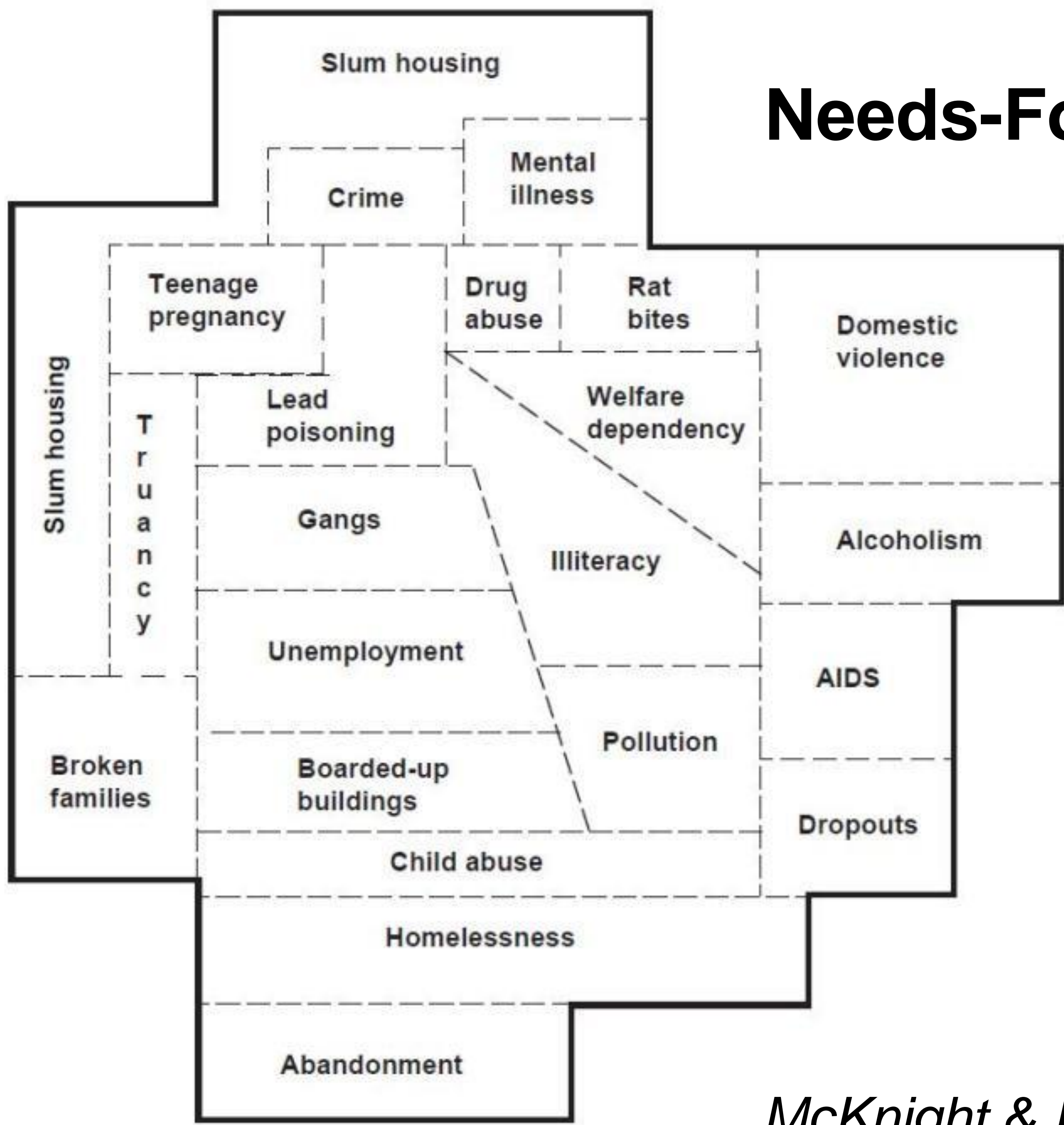
# Components of Success

3. **Activities or concrete projects that build networks between sectors.**
4. **Embedded intermediaries cement cross-sector partnerships involving health.**
5. **Shared Data Systems**
6. **Budgeting transparency and coordination.**





# Needs-Focused Map

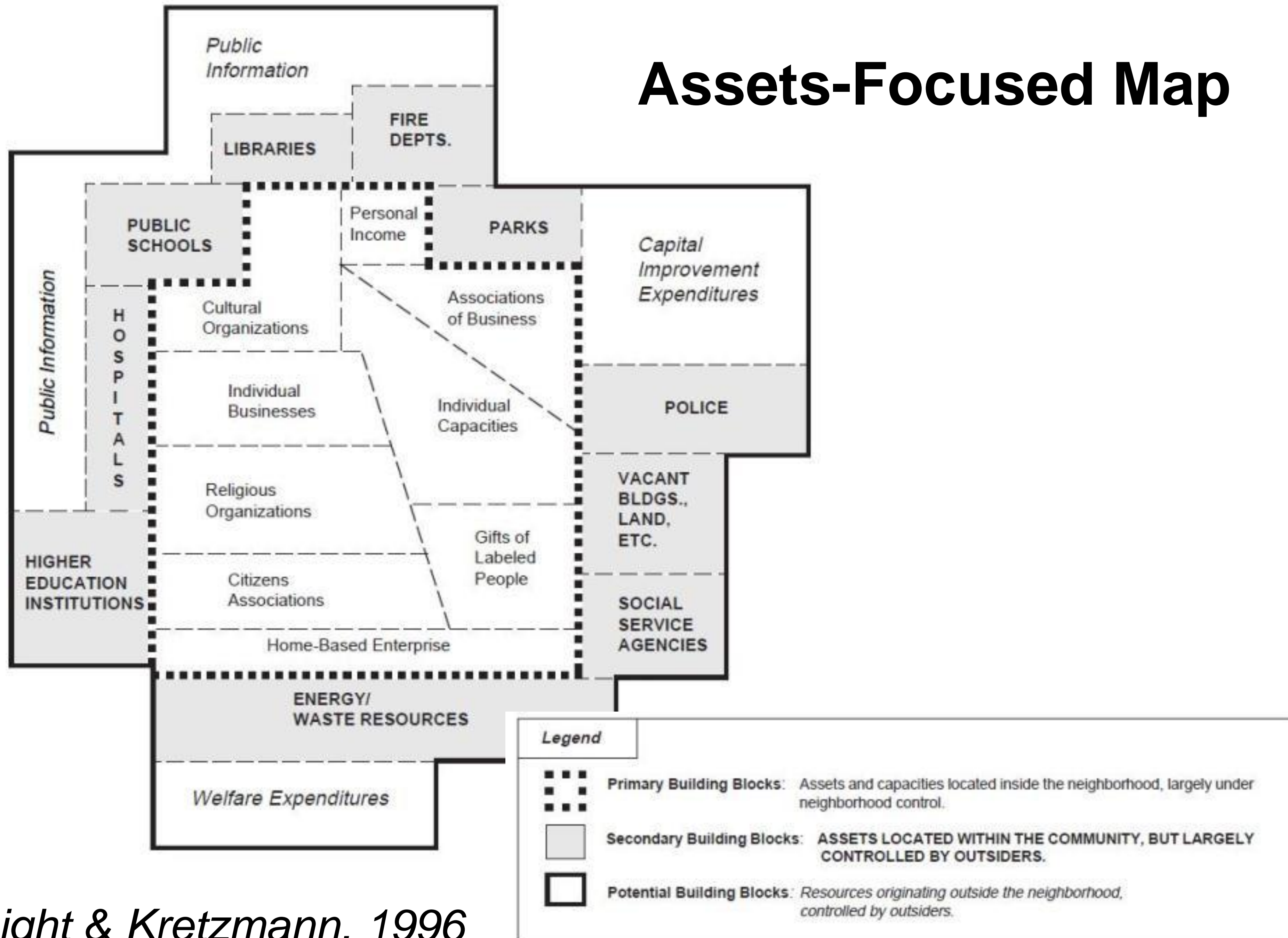


*McKnight & Kretzmann, 1996*





# Assets-Focused Map



McKnight & Kretzmann, 1996



# Challenges for you

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- Look at the data, across your system and in your community
- Ask “What matters to you?” to residents, patients, carers and staff
- Build your asset and deficit maps across the system
- Convene, share stories and data
- Build community goals-for this year first





# The Ten Teams Challenge

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1. **Health coverage:** achieve universal health insurance coverage for the region served by the hospital.
2. **Food security:** end hunger and food insecurity.
3. **Housing security:** end chronic homelessness.
4. **Immigrant needs:** ensure excellent care and social support for all immigrants.
5. **Corrections and prison health:** foster a restorative and compassionate criminal justice system.
6. **Climate and decarbonization:** 50% reduction in the hospital's greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, and a 100% reduction by 2050.
7. **Voting rights:** protect voting rights for all, including encouraging 100% voting for staff.
8. **Education supports:** strengthen elementary and secondary education in the region served.
9. **Early childhood supports:** help ensure safe birthing, early childhood supports, and school readiness for all children younger than 5 years.
10. **Elderly and loneliness:** end social isolation for older individuals, which is associated with increased mortality and morbidity.



# Ten Teams – Four Challenges

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1. **Medicalization of social problems**, or health care's exerting economic and political influence without deference to community voices and expertise that lies well outside health care. That would indeed be a mistake. The Ten Teams idea is for health care to be a generous and active participant in community-led activities to improve social determinants.
2. **Overwhelming the health care workforce**: the workforce would be energized by the opportunity to engage with social influences on health. By making jobs in health care more meaningful than ever, Ten Teams would reduce, not aggravate, workforce shortages.
3. **Call for “focus” / 10 is too many teams** and that having fewer would raise the odds of success. That underestimates both the latent potential in the health care industry and the urgency of each need. The influence of social determinants is vast; it warrants a vast response.
4. **No one will pay for this activity**. The Ten Teams challenge calls for an explicit reallocation of existing hospital resources to the improvement of health; it is a change in the business plan; it obligates the hospital to find the needed resources. A good starting place might be at 2% of the hospital's total budget.





# Thank You!

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21 June 2022

# Region Östergötland

Krister Björkegren, Chief executive officer



# Leading in complex systems

- Improvement team Intensive care unit



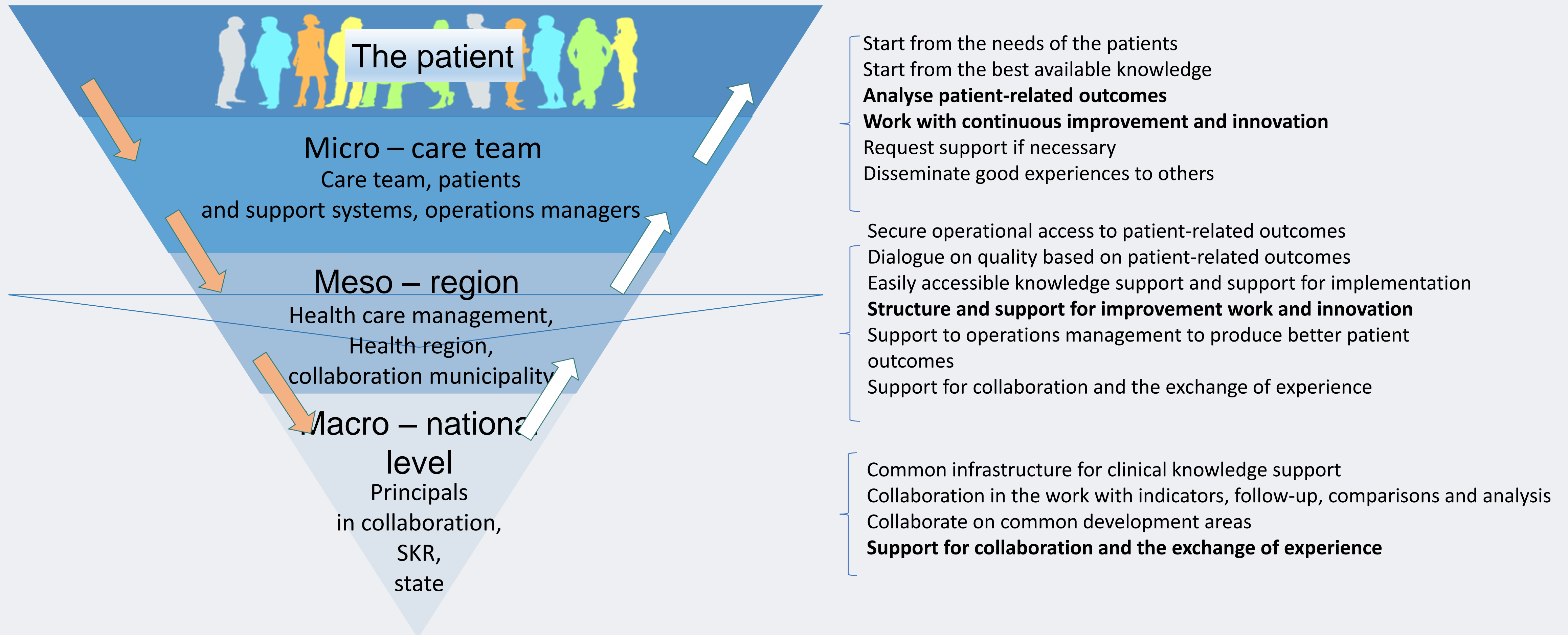


# This is Daniel





# Innovation and knowledge management



# Southeast healthcare region

## REGION ÖSTERGÖTLAND

Inhabitants	470 000
Employees	13 000
Hospitals	3
Health centers	45
Managers	640

## REGION JÖNKÖPING

Inhabitants	365 000
Employees	10 000
Hospitals	3
Health centers	47
Managers	570

## REGION KALMAR LÄN

Inhabitants	245 000
Employees	7 000
Hospitals	3
Health centers	40
Managers	320

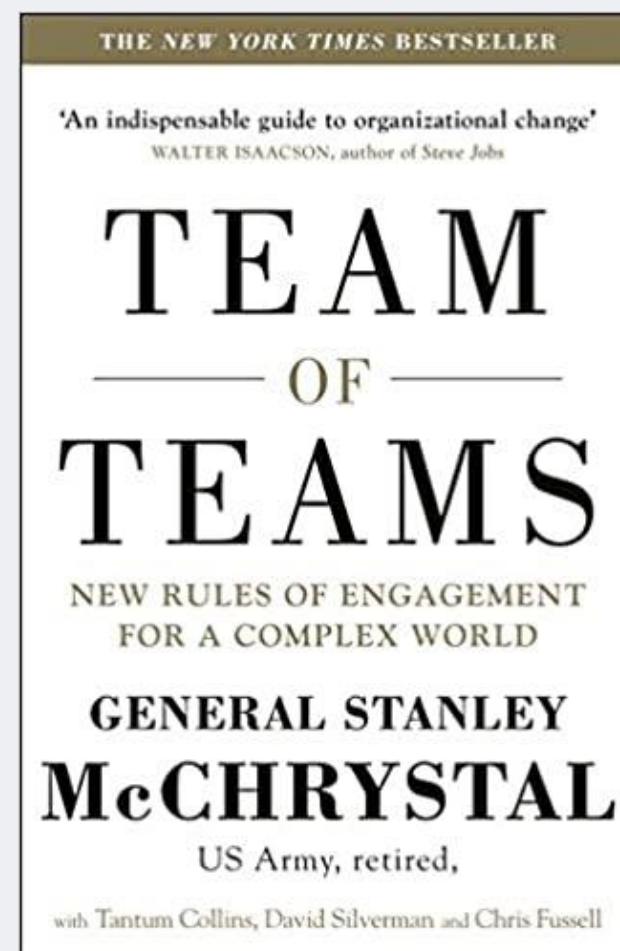
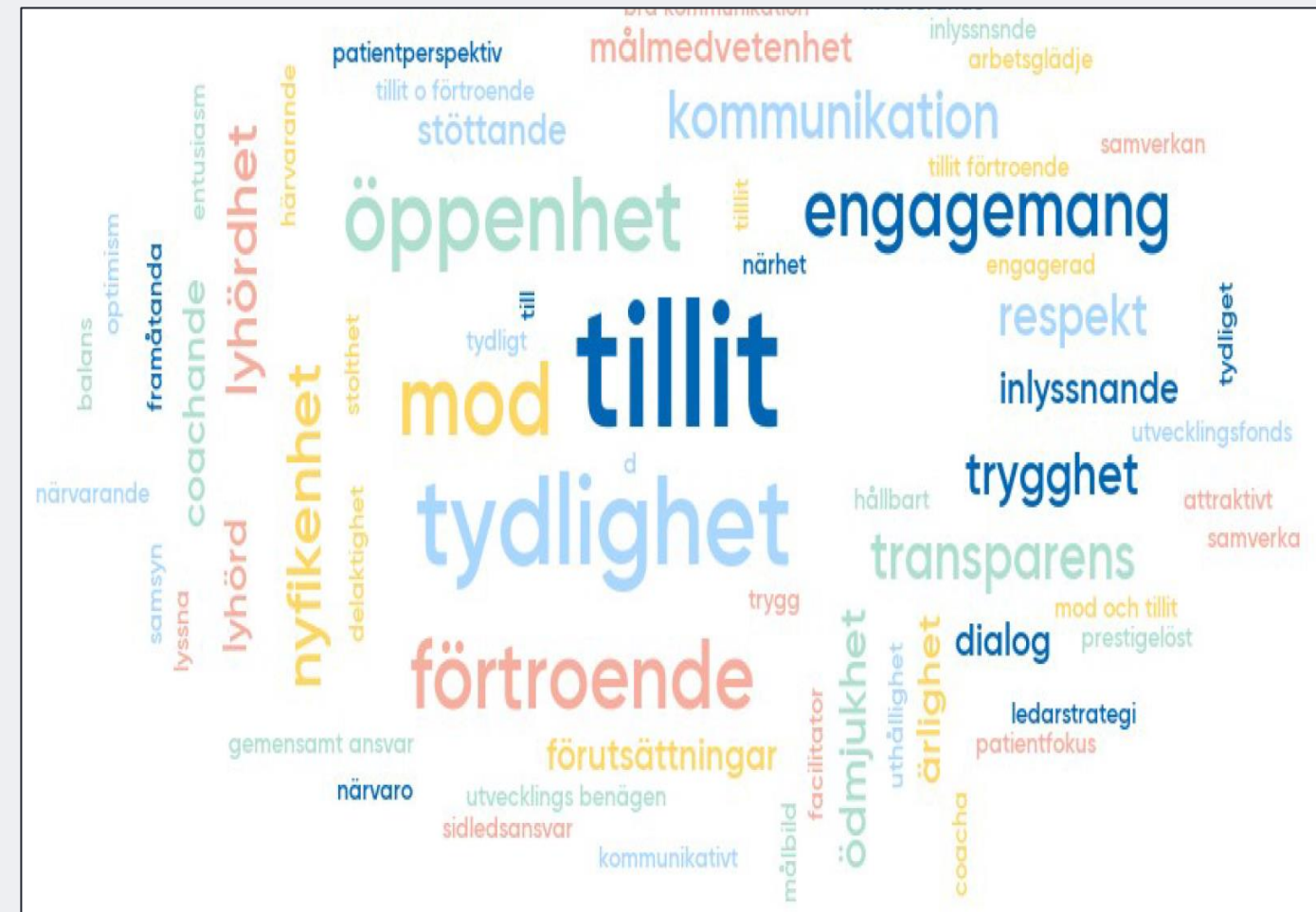


## TOTAL

Inhabitants	1 080 000
Employees	30 000
Hospitals	9
Health centers	132
Managers	1530



# Work in progress - Our approach to leadership







# Our approach to leadership

As manager, you enable us all, through your leadership, to work together every day to further develop the region and bring about continuous improvement to people's daily lives.



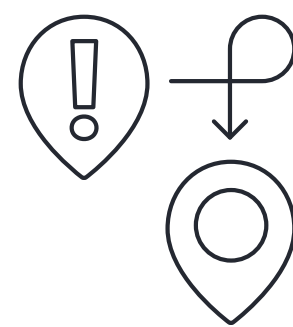
# The four pillars of leadership





# Embrace complexity

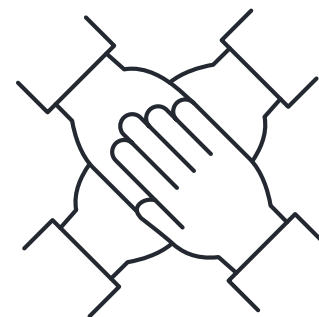
- Pause and reflect, to be able to identify and analyze problems
- Consider challenges in the proper perspective; take responsibility for the whole picture and take action on the various parts of the whole picture
- Get help in finding solutions
- Be courageous and accepting
- Understand that the task may be difficult





# Build trust

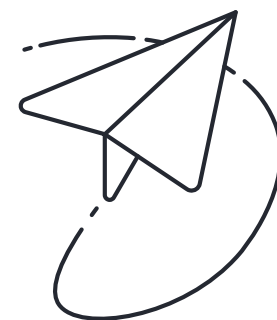
- Take active and shared responsibility for the whole picture
- Trust the people you work with
- Remember that people complement each other and be open to the possibilities this entails
- Be aware of the consequences of your own and others' actions





# Focus on development

- Focus on improvement and development
- Be curious, and don't be afraid to challenge established ideas
- Don't be afraid to take risks: test out new ideas and be ready to learn from mistakes
- Cultivate an atmosphere of acceptance, in which both successes and setbacks are shared by everyone





# Create together

- Provide the conditions that promote participation
- Facilitate and create meeting places
- Be open: listen and ask questions
- Take advantage of employees' varying abilities, skills and differences
- Learn from others





# The power lies with our employees and they deserve good leadership





# So we can do a good job for those we are here for

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Chief executive officer

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# High-Impact Leadership Behaviors

What leaders do to make a difference

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## 1. Person-centeredness

Be consistently person-centered in word and deed

## 2. Front Line Engagement

Be a regular authentic presence at the front line and a visible champion of improvement

## 3. Relentless Focus

Remain focused on the vision and strategy

## 4. Transparency

Require transparency about results, progress, aims, and defects

## 5. Boundarilessness

Encourage and practice systems thinking and collaboration across boundaries





# What do Boundariless Leaders do?

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- They ask open and honest questions – always curious
- They build trust – in order to radically co-produce
- They say what they do, and they do what they say
- They go to visit the people in the work
- They share ideas from one part to another (and then they eliminate the silos that prevented organic spread of ideas)
- They have the courage to ask the hard questions, apologize when needed and do it differently





# High-Impact Leadership Behaviors

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Have you seen these  
behaviors in your work?



# Discussion



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**We will not rest until everyone  
has the best care and the best  
health possible.**

**Thank you**





PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR FEEDBACK



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