



Partnering to Deliver Community Conversations about Behavioral Health

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Oregon State University
Extension Service



Oregon State University
College of Health

Session Objectives

- Describe work conducted by OSU addressing behavioral health challenges.
- Share evidence-based practices that have been adapted and implemented as well as evaluation findings
- Detail Community Conversation efforts and processes.
- Explain the importance of community collaboration for behavioral health systems change

The State of Behavioral Health in Oregon



Oregon ranks at or near the bottom for adult and youth behavioral health.¹



Oregon has the 14th highest suicide rate and 12th highest youth suicide rate.²



Between 2019 and 2023, drug overdose deaths in Oregon quadrupled.³

Prevention, treatment, and recovery are possible.



Public Health and Public Safety Needs Assessment

Needs assessment for the public health and public safety partnerships in the Oregon Idaho High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)

Myers, A., Phibbs, S., White, J., Breuner, N., Stewart, H., and Headley, K. 2023.

Evidence-based practices being implemented

- Hotlines/text lines (e.g., Lines for Life, 988, AgriStress Helpline)
- 911 Good Samaritan laws
- Needle exchange and syringe services
- Naloxone/Narcan distribution
- Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- Communication or intelligence sharing between public health and public safety in communities
- Data sharing between public health and public safety



Funded by sub-award from University of Baltimore, through Combatting Overdose through Community-Level Intervention initiative supported by the CDC and the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (Grant #G2099ONDCP06A).

Needs assessment for the public health and public safety partnerships in the Oregon Idaho High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)

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Evidence-based practices not being implemented/unsure

- Overdose reduction task force
- Naloxone distribution MAT In emergency departments, treatment centers, and criminal justice settings
- Screening for fentanyl or poly substance use in toxicology testing
- Eliminating prior authorization requirements for opioid use disorder treatment medications
- Education/training for healthcare providers on opioid prescribing best practices
- Drug court/treatment court
- Rapid response teams for overdose or mental health crisis
- Drug prevention education for youth



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Solutions identified from the HIDTA needs assessment

- Strong collaborations
- Community education about dangers of substance use and importance of evidence-based practices
- Funding and staffing
- Access to housing and treatment
- Leadership and accountability through local, state, and federal actions
- Humanize the experience of addiction by involving people who have been affected by addiction and overdose
- Two-way data sharing platforms (e.g., OD-MAPS), for multiple agencies to update, access, and share real-time data



Community Conversations

Funding Acknowledgement

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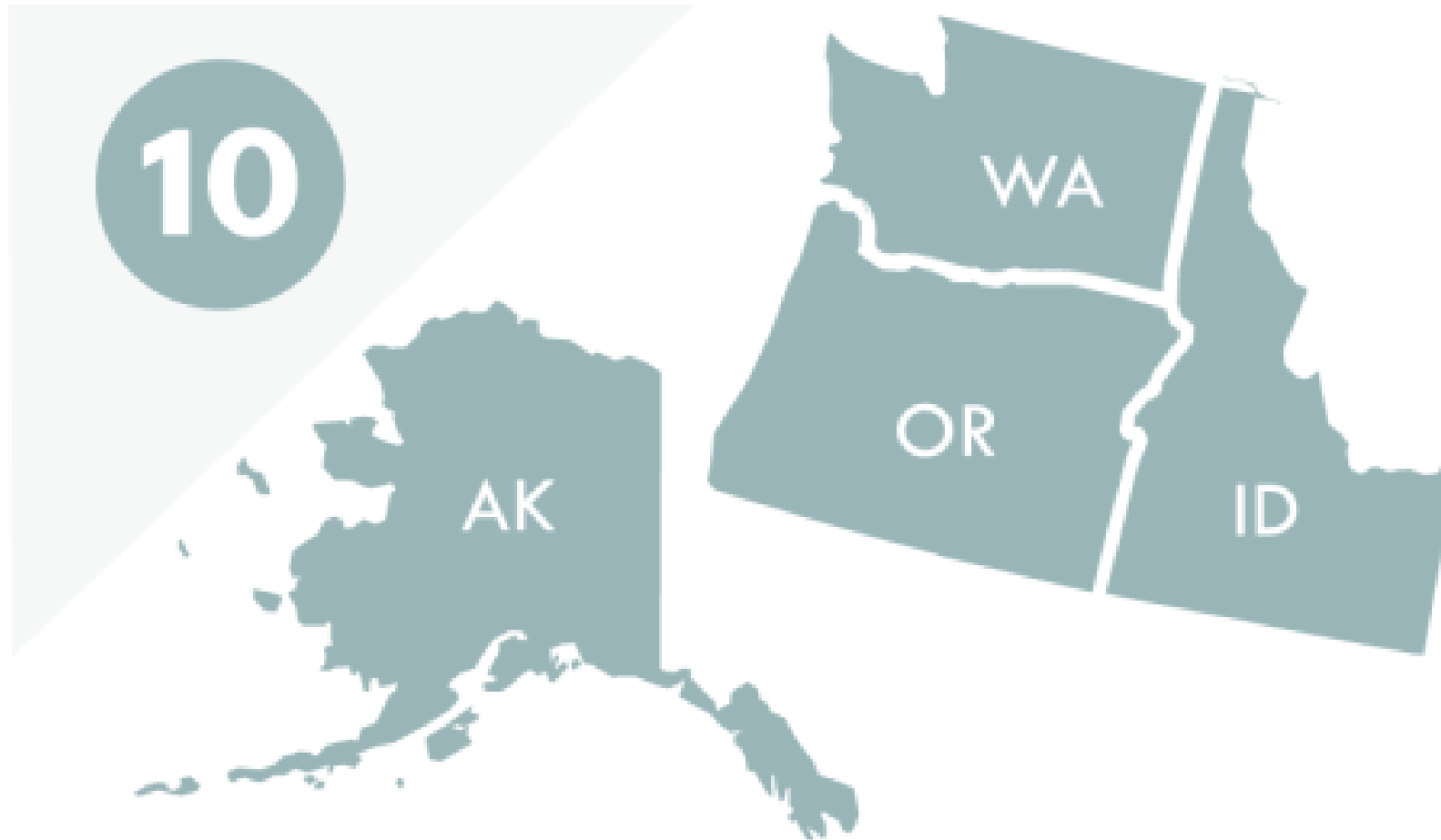
SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration



Northwest (Region 10)

ROTA C

The Northwest Rural Opioid Technical Assistance Collaborative (NW ROTAC)





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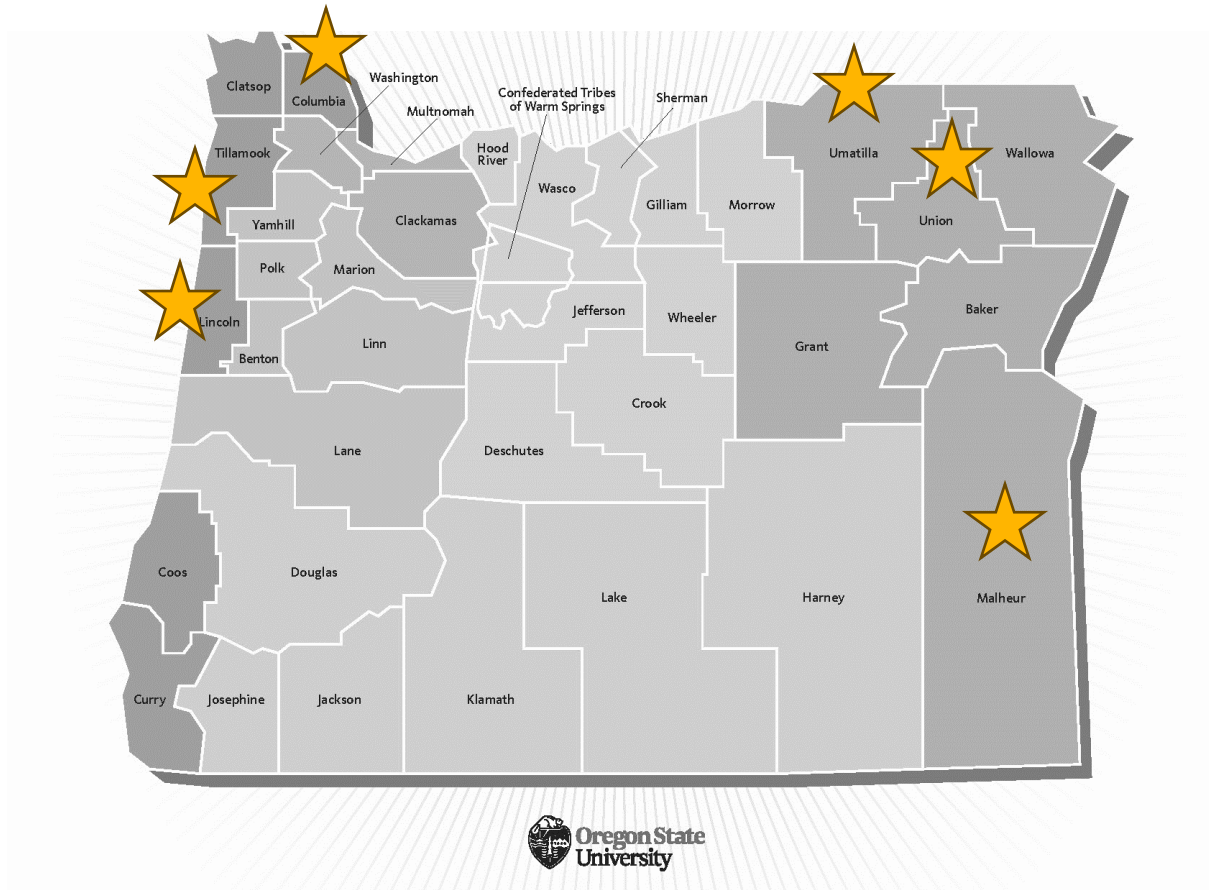


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Community Conversations about Behavioral Health in Rural Counties



Cross-sector participants:

- Behavioral health providers
- Community members
- Coordinated Care Organizations
- County Commissioners
- Criminal justice system
- Healthcare providers
- Public health
- Public safety
- School counselors
- Housing and homeless services

Activities:

- Assess strengths and gaps
- Create action plans

Public Health Departments
Hospitals and Medical Practices
Mental Health Practitioners
Coordinated Care Organizations
Treatment and Prevention Agencies



Local government officials
Agriculture Agencies and
Associations
Radio and Media Groups

Law Enforcement
Juvenile Departments
Corrections

Schools K-12 and Head Start
Community Based Organizations
Church and Faith Organizations
Community Collaborators
Academia

Goal: To gather leaders, decision-makers, and community members to assess the current situation and create action plans to create community-level and systems change to improve behavioral health outcomes.



SAMHSA's Community Conversations About Mental Health

Session 1: Share personal experiences

- What does mental health mean to me/to us?

Session 2: Discussion of challenges

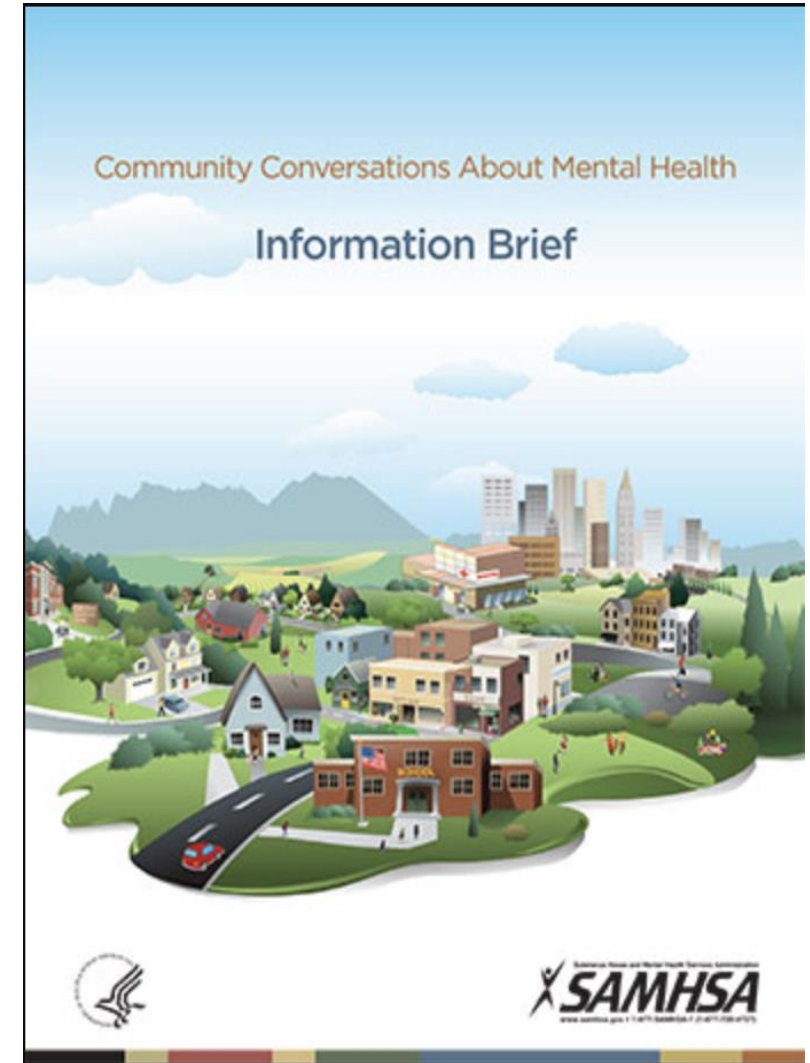
- Emphasizes identifying risk/protective factors and common ground

Session 3: Exploration of how to respond

- Consider ways to improve mental health

Session 4: Community solutions

- Decide on steps to take as a community



Conversation 1. Assess behavioral health in the community

Conversation 2. Inventory of the behavioral health system

Conversation 3. Identifying strengths and gaps in the current system

Conversation 4. Identifying solutions and priorities for action

Continuum of Care

Prevention

Programs and policies that reduce risk factors for mental health challenges and substance misuse.

Ex. Education programs, housing, food security

Early Detection

Programs and policies that detect and support people in early stages of mental health challenges or substance misuse.

Ex. Screenings, referrals

Harm Reduction

Programs and policies that reduce negative health consequences of using substances.

Ex. Naloxone, needle exchange

Crisis Intervention

Programs that help those experiencing a crisis event to experience relief quickly and to resolve the crisis when possible.

Ex. Crisis mobile response teams

Treatment

Programs and services that seek to change behaviors, thoughts, emotions and how people see and understand situations and medications that provide relief of symptoms.

Ex. Counseling, MOUD, Peer support programs

Recovery

Programs and services that support individuals in a process of change to improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and strive to reach their full potential.

Ex. Recovery housing, peer support

SAMHSA

Community members

Youth

Mental health

State & national data



Coast to Forest

Community leaders

All underserved populations

Behavioral health

Local data

Behavioral health system map

Participant-generated priorities

Final report

Impact



Created action plans



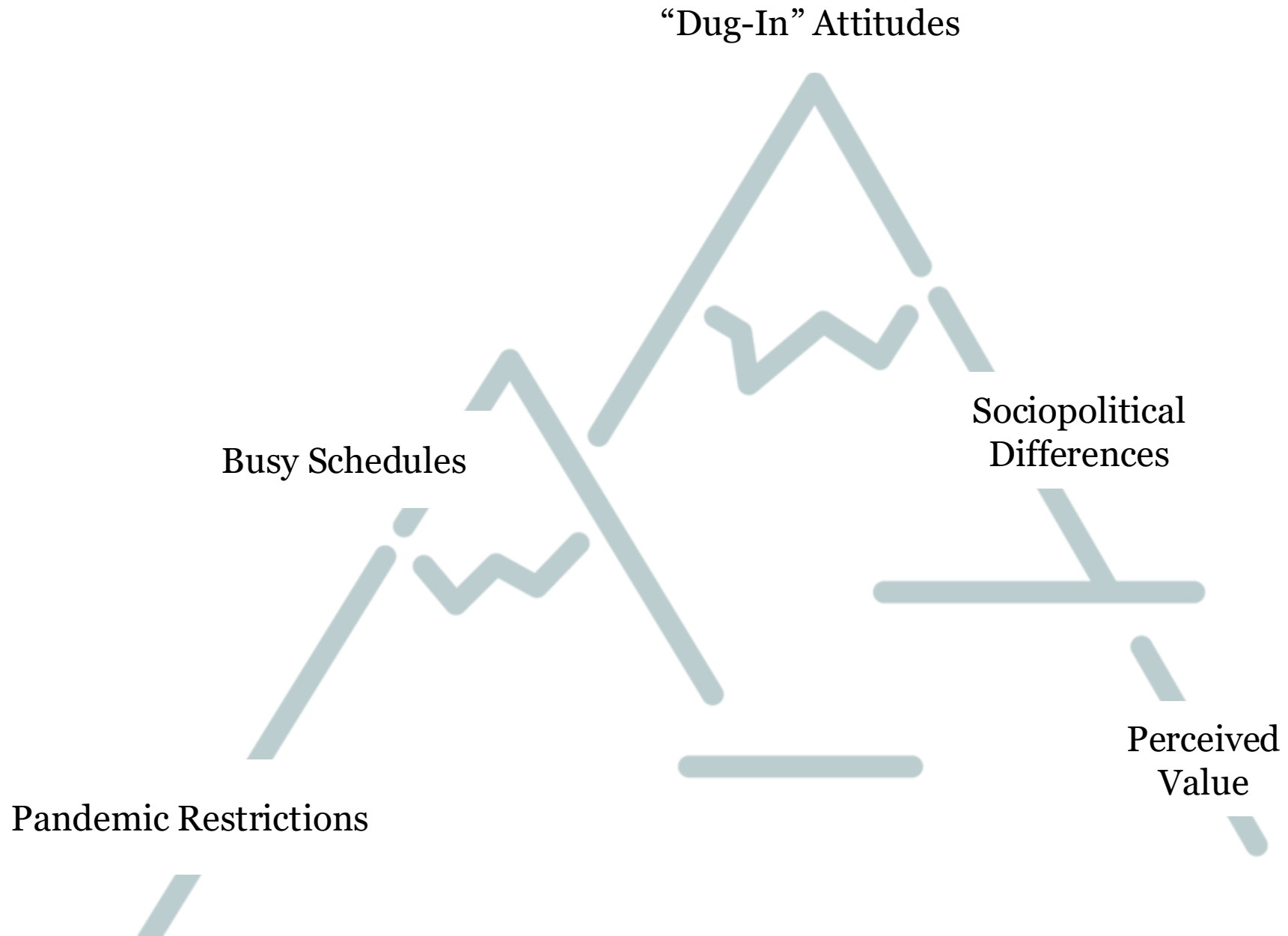
Prioritized funding

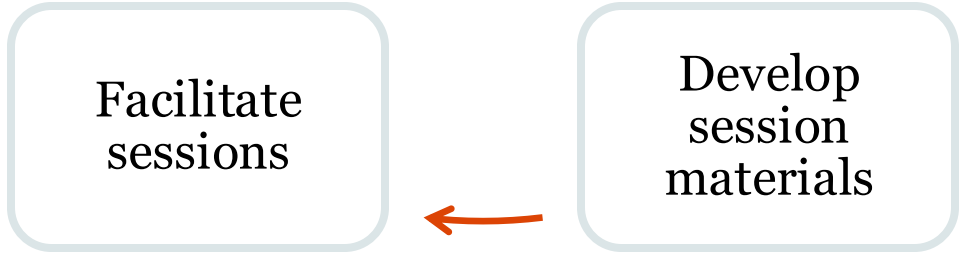
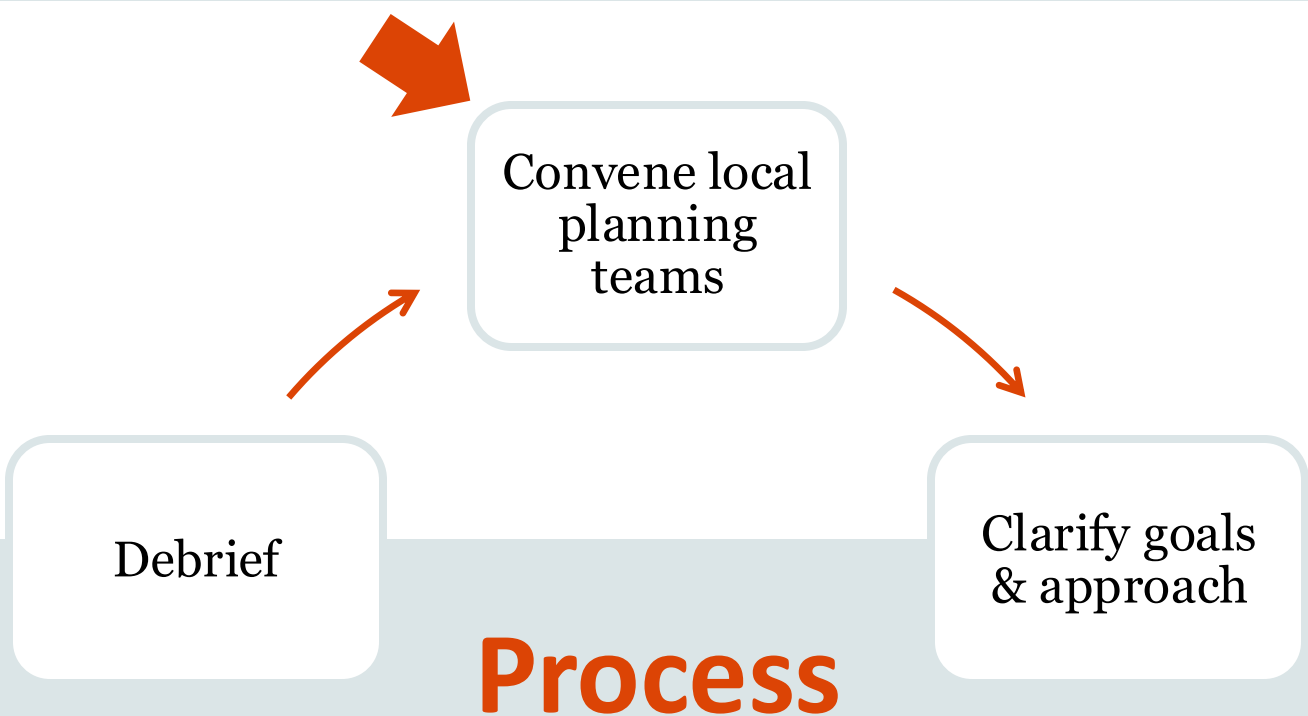


Built and repaired
relationships



Operationalized
investments







Overarching Structure

Timeline: 1-6 months

Format: Conversations virtual or in-person

Frequency: Conversations back-to-back, weekly, bi-weekly, or every three weeks

Selecting Participants

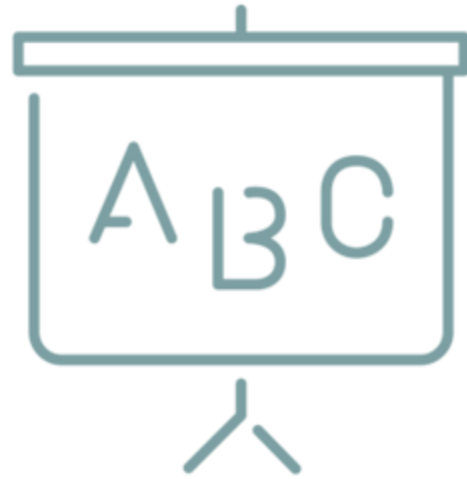


Conversation 1. Assess Behavioral Health in the Community

Goal: To broaden participants' perspectives of behavioral health issues that are urgent and need community-level interventions.



Increase collaboration
and expand
relationships



Orient group to
series goals and
structure



Establish common
vocabulary and co-
create group norms



Share local
behavioral health
data

Conversation 2. Inventory of the behavioral health system

Goal: To generate an inventory of programs and services in the community's behavioral health system.

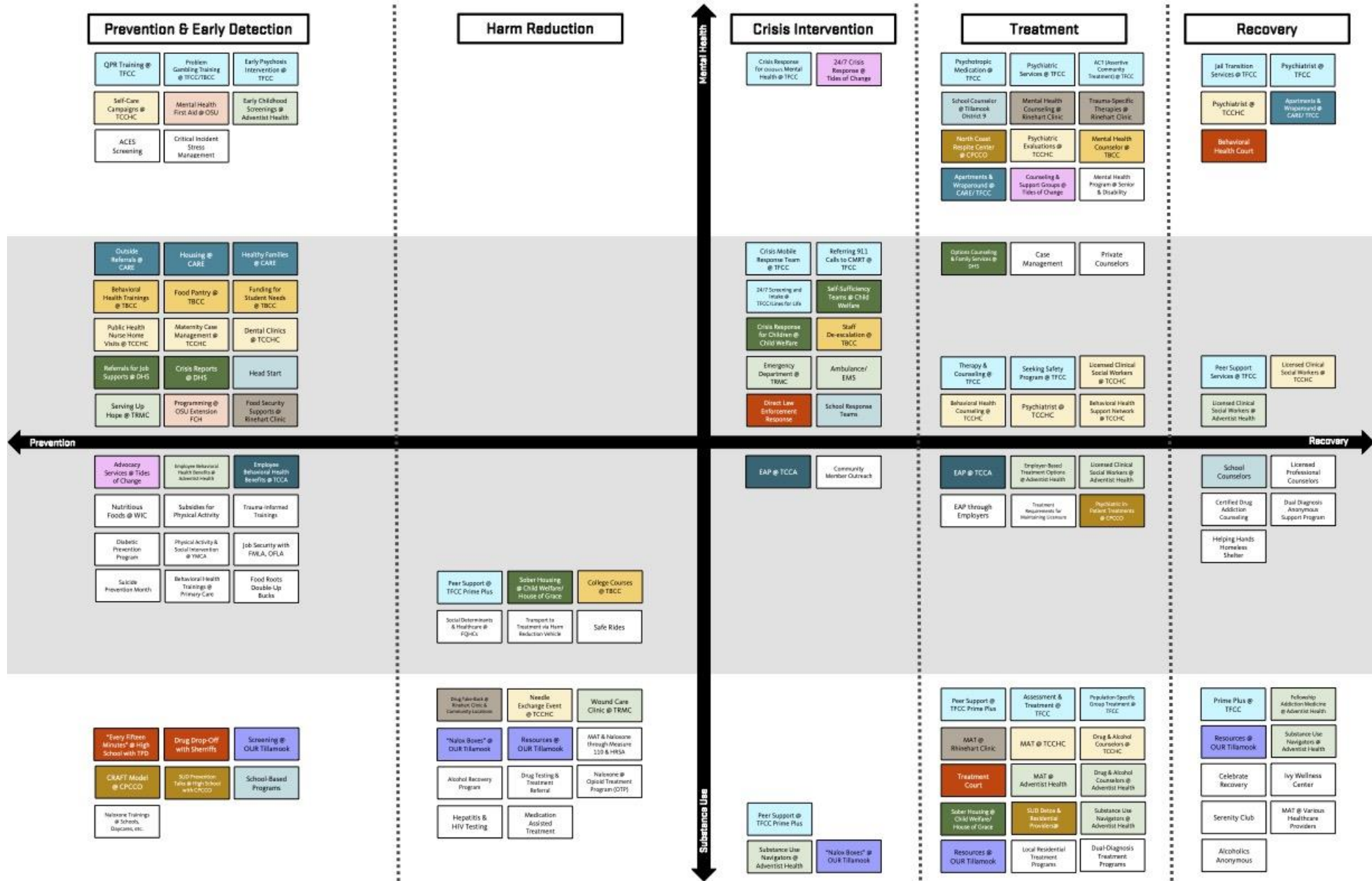


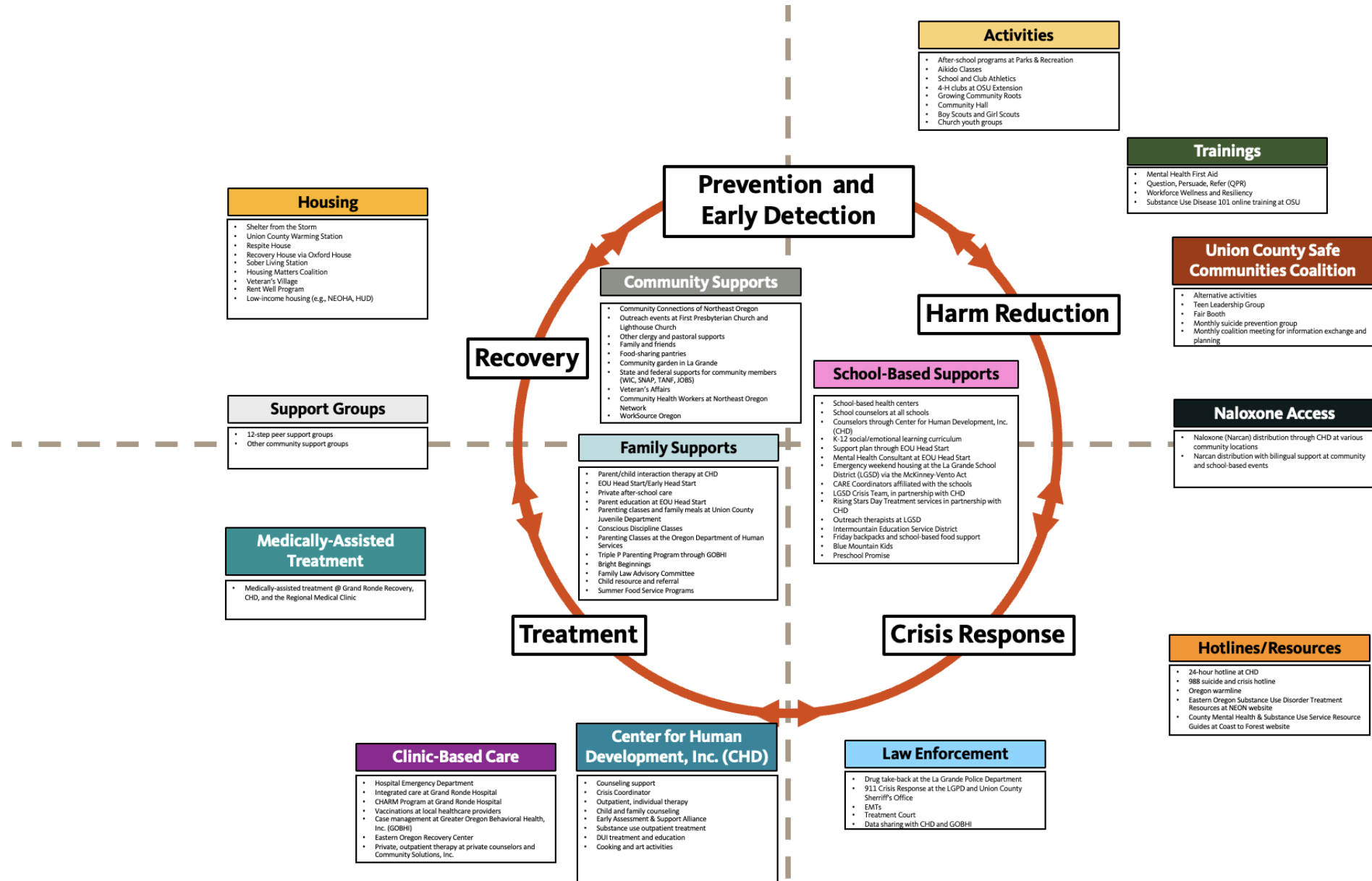
Inventory behavioral
health programs,
services, and actions

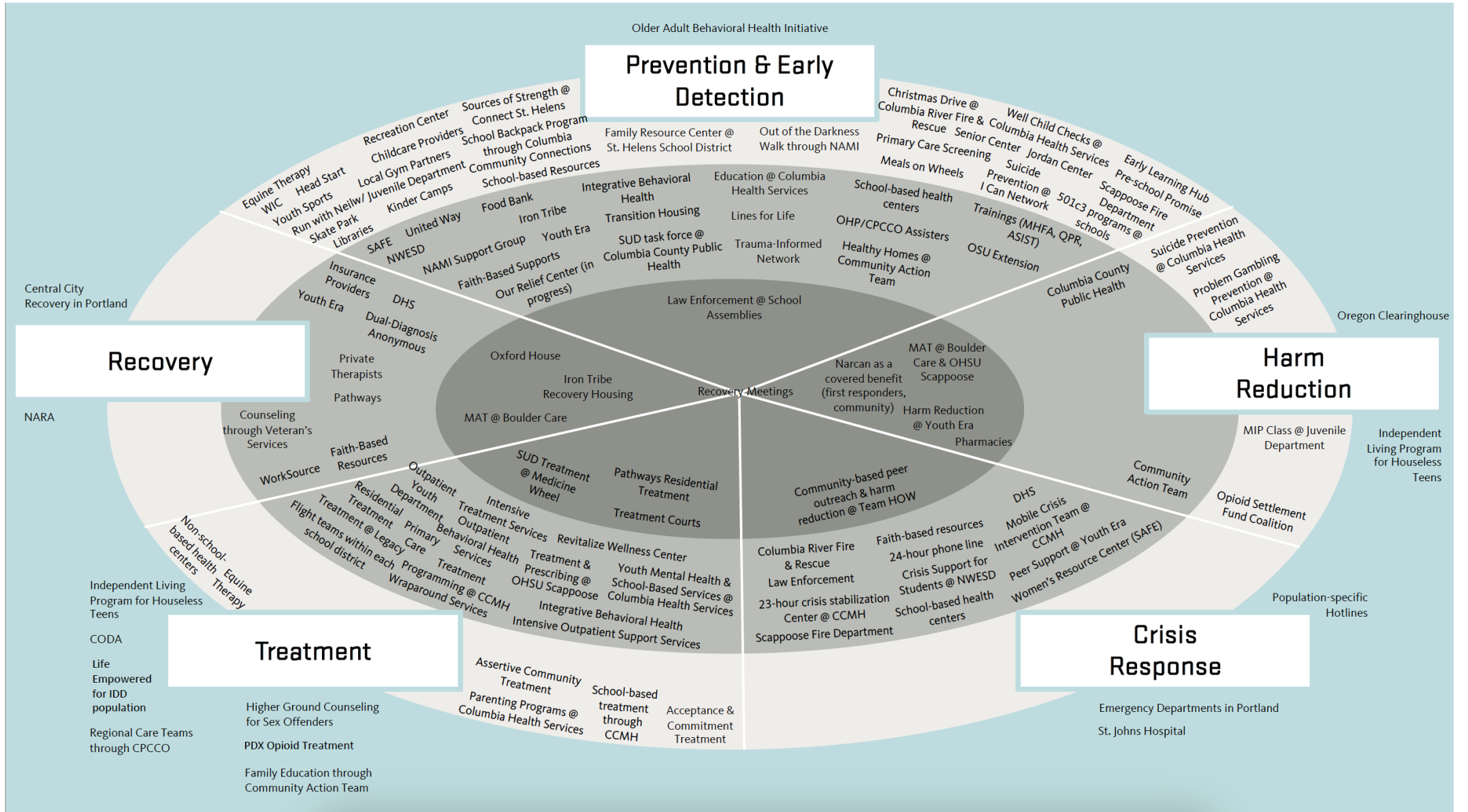


Map community
resources to facilitate
identification
strengths and gaps

Examples







System Maps

Tips for developing:

- Pay attention to the themes that are coming out of the conversation
- Share examples of how to organize the map with the group and ask how they would like to see it organized
- Use a checklist as a guide to inventory available services in the area
- Don't make it more complicated than it needs to be

Conversation 3. Identifying strengths and gaps in the current system

Goal: To use the behavioral health system map to assess current strengths and challenges.



Review system map



Assess strengths and challenges in the current system



Identify factors to consider for action planning

Sample Prompts:

- What does your ideal behavioral health system look like? Who is it ideal for?
- Who is being served well by the current system? Who isn't?
- What partnerships and coalitions exist that strengthen the system?
- What prevents people from accessing the services available?

Conversation 4. Identifying solutions and priorities for action

Goal: To determine solutions and prioritize areas for action.



Identify and rank
priority areas for
action

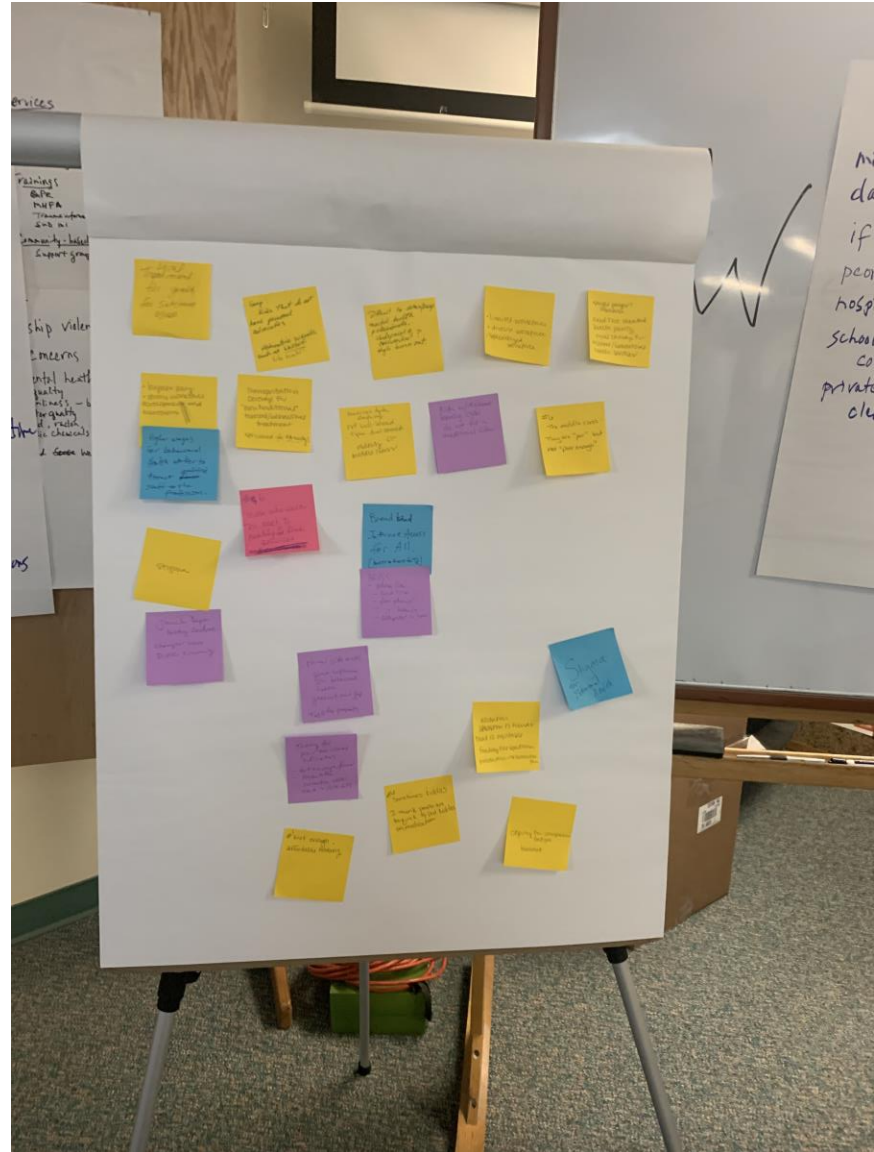
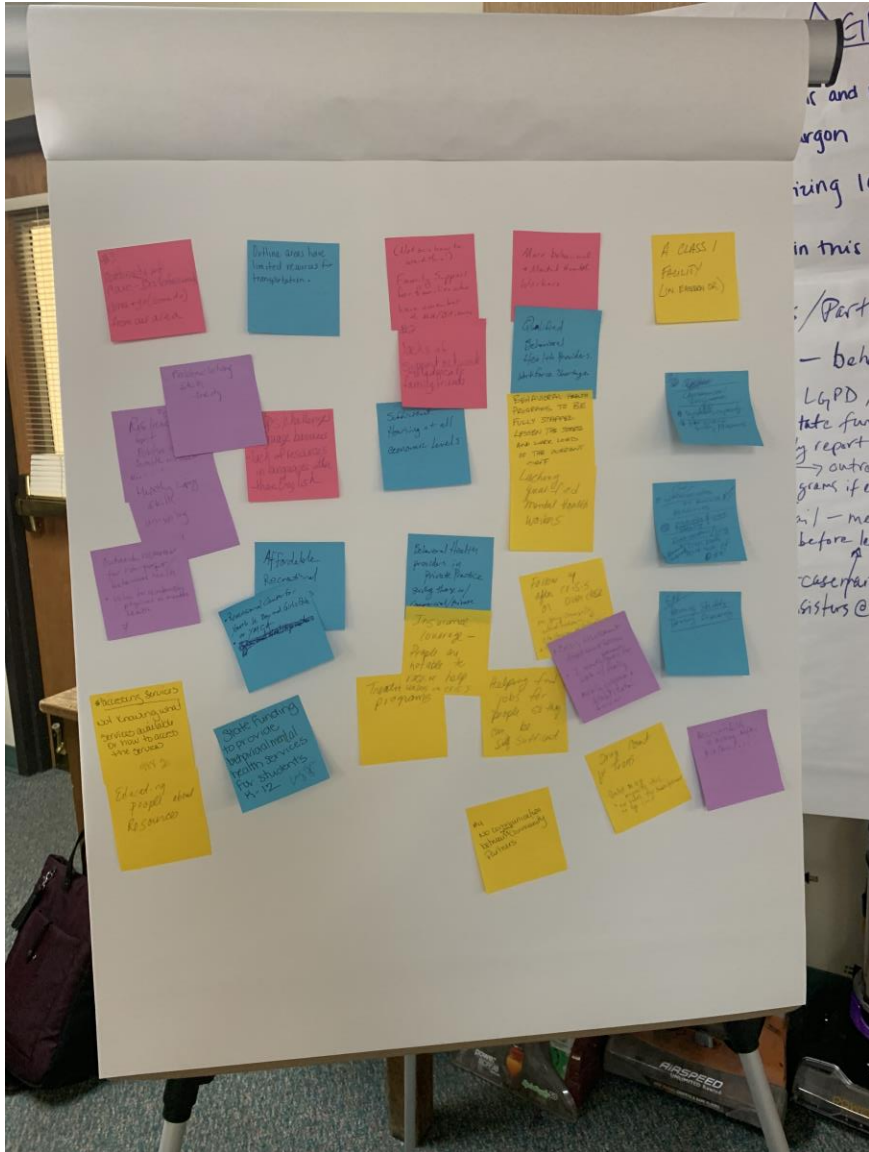


Develop a list of
associated action
items



Commit to action

Examples



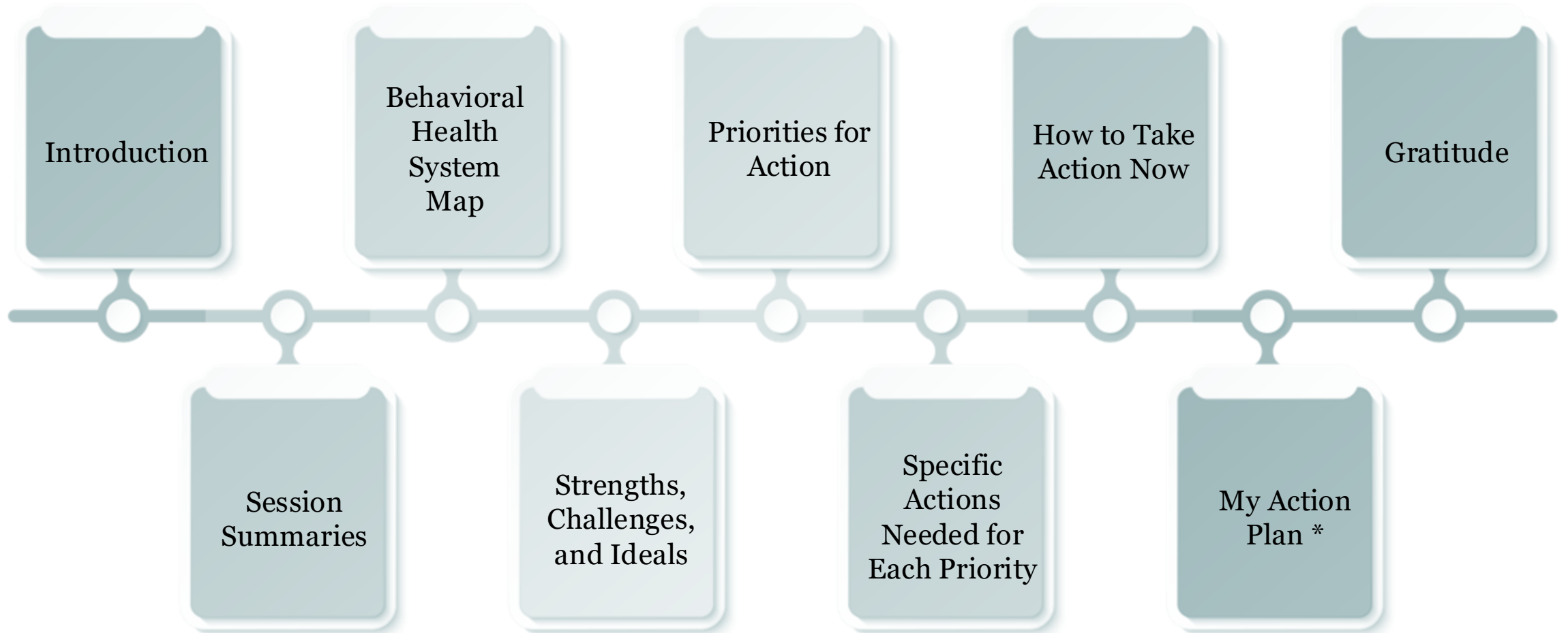
Final Report

*Use QR Code to
View Final Reports*

Goals:

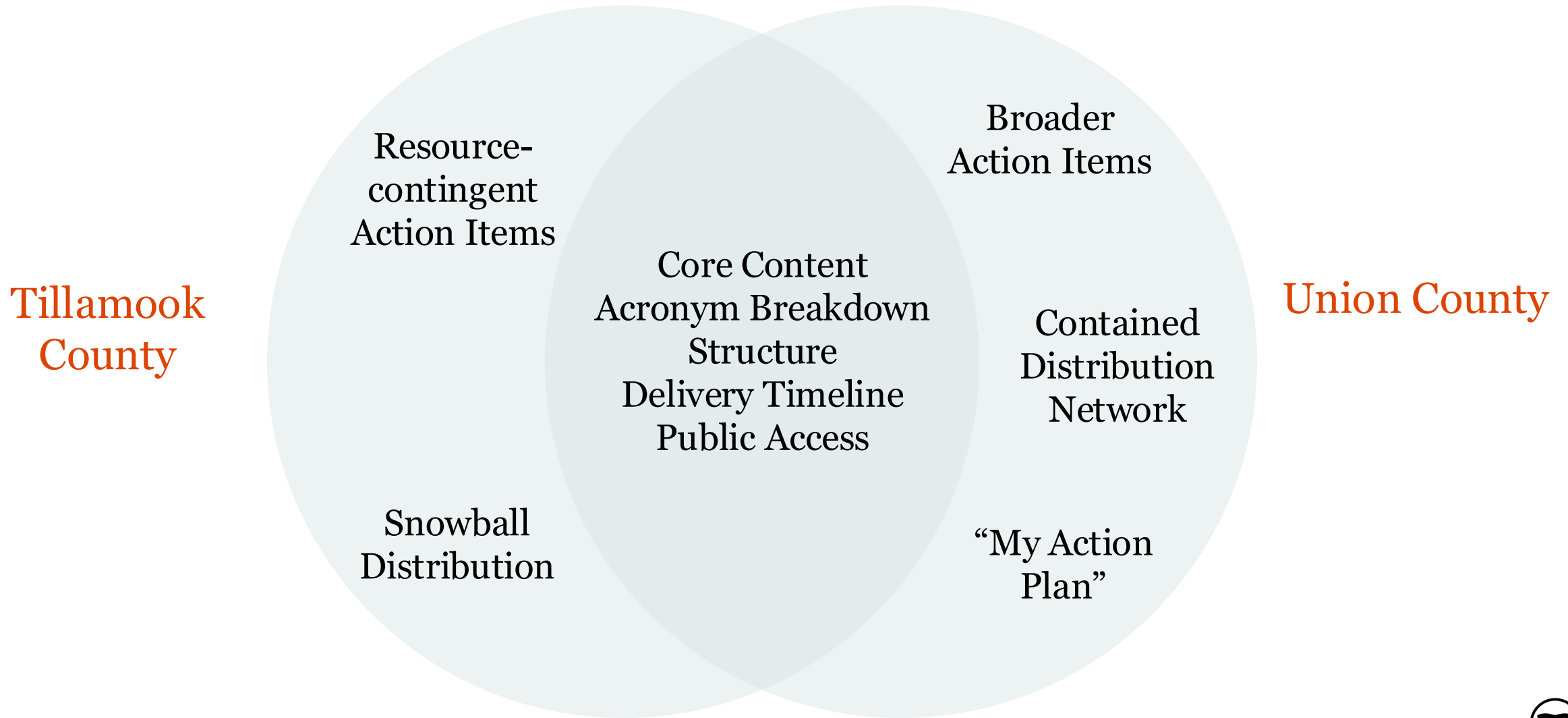
- Increase transparency
- Support continued collaboration
- Create opportunity for sustained action
- Express gratitude





* Union County Only

Spotlight: Unique approaches to the final report in Tillamook and Union counties.



Lessons Learned



Maximize role as a convener.



Make sure action items are specific, realistic, and responsive



Create a structure for the work to continue



Common themes from Community Conversations

- Behavioral health workforces are depleted
- Housing shortages prevent hiring and retaining qualified professionals
- Lack of communication and data sharing and between organizations
- Gaps in eligibility for programs and lack of coordination means people are falling through the cracks of disjointed supports
- Cross-sector coordination builds capacity and innovation

Prevention

Harm Reduction

Crisis Response

Treatment

Recovery

Highly needed

Individual-Level:

- Positive relationships
- Life and social skills
- Stress management
- Social resistance skills
- Consequences of drug use

Community Level:

- Economic stability
- Housing
- Employment
- Healthcare access and quality
- Education access and quality
- Food security
- Supportive, thriving families

Most resources in rural communities are focused here

- 911 Good Samaritan laws
- Hotlines/Text lines
- Narcan/Naloxone
- Needle exchange programs
- Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- Mobile crisis response teams

Highly needed

- Stabilization facilities
- Treatment facilities
- Recovery (Safe & Sober) housing
- MAT in primary care
- Peer support
- Transportation

Translating evidence-based practices to rural and frontier settings

Challenges

- Cultural misalignment
- Resource limitations
- Lack of practitioner or partner commitment
- Insufficient capacity
- Adapting and tailoring programs to fit the local context

What is needed

- Mentorship and guidance from evidence-based practice experts or model communities
- Research to develop evidence-base for practices designed by and for rural communities
- Establish metrics of success for rural communities

Notes on Facilitation

Facilitator Toolkit
Available now!



The facilitator toolkit includes:

- Tailored facilitation resources
- Detailed recommendations on assembling a planning committee and inviting participants
- A step-by-step facilitator guide for each conversation
- Recommendations on how to create the final report
- Sample PowerPoint templates
- Handout templates (behavioral health diagnoses, risk and protective factors, system assessment, etc.)

Behavioral Health System Assessment

An Inventory of Evidence-Based Practices Being Implemented in Our Community

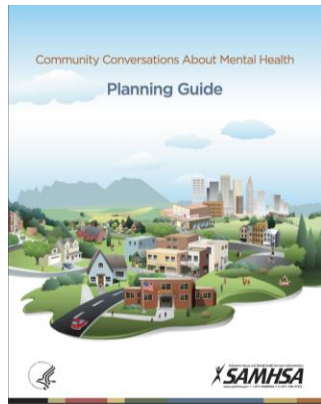
Prevention and Early Intervention	Is it available?	What is being implemented and who is involved?
Housing supports (e.g., rent assistance, housing case management, emergency shelter, supported housing).	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure	
Resources for food (e.g., food pantries, WIC, SNAP, congregate meal sites)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure	
Resources for financial assistance (e.g., financial assistance programs for utility bills or prescriptions, financial planning).	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure	
Resources for safety and security (child abuse, bullying, sexual violence, traumatic experiences).	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure	
Programs that promote social connectedness (for youth, adults, older adults, minority groups, LGBT+, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure	
Public awareness campaigns about mental health, substance use disorder, and suicide that reduce stigma and increase awareness of services	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure	
Education programs about mental health, substance use disorder, and suicide and build skills that are protective and reduce risks in healthcare, schools, and other settings	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure	
Screening for mental illness, substance use disorder, suicidal ideation and self-harm in healthcare, schools, and other settings	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure	
Early intervention programs for people with early stages of mental illness or substance use disorder for youth and adults	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure	
Data sharing across public health, public safety, emergency departments, and others	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure	



Evidence-Based and Promising Practices



**Mental Health
FIRST AID**
from NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR
MENTAL WELLBEING

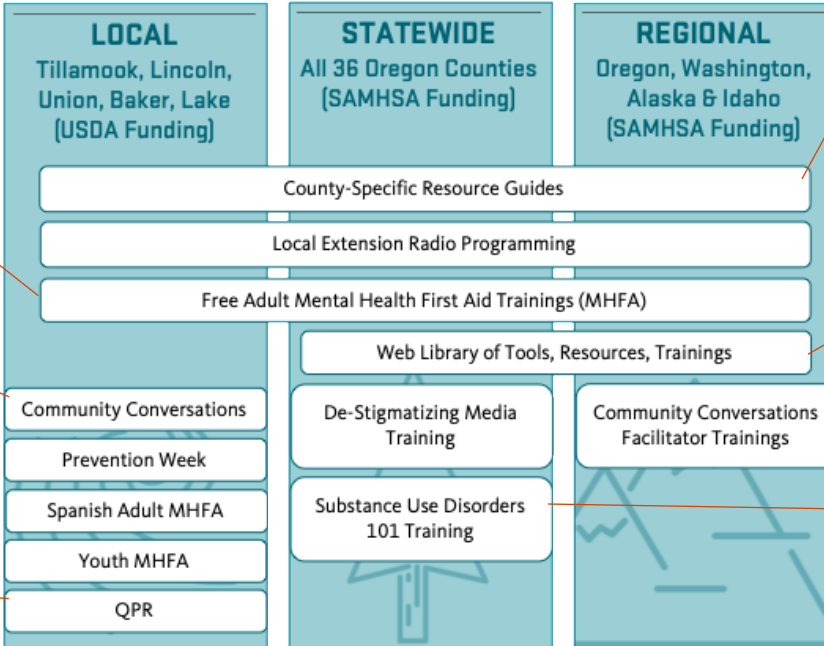


Coast to Forest

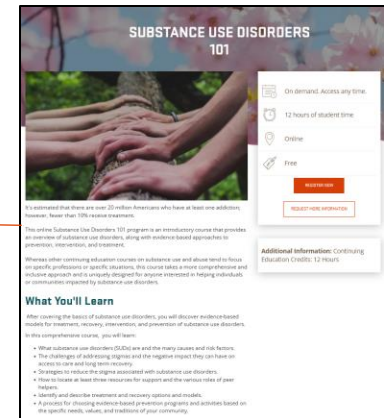
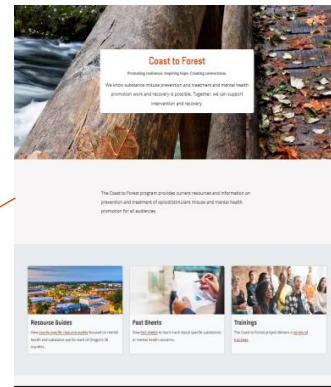
GOALS

- Improve mental health and well-being
- Expand training tools and technical assistance
- Build capacity in rural Oregon to prevent and reduce opioid and stimulant use disorders and their consequences, and move people to recovery

PROGRAMS



Baker County & Mental Health & Substance Use Services	Prevention & Care	Mental Health	Substance Use	Program Training	Peer Support	Family Support	Recovery Supports
Alzheimer's Anonymous Oregon 23 541-348-1517 www.alz.org/oregon							
Baker County Health Department 541-324-8212 2200 NW 5th, Baker City http://www.bakercountyhealth.com/health/health.html							
Baker County Sheriff's Office 541-323-8415 34501 SW Baker City http://www.bakercounty.org/							
Blue Mountain Area Narcotics Anonymous 800-766-5714 www.na.org							
Building Healthy Families 541-324-7411 1227 NW 5th St, Gervais, OR 97328 http://www.bhfamily.org							
Meritas Inc. 24 hour crisis line: 541-323-4134 1011 Court St, Baker City http://www.meritasinc.com/							
New Directions Northwest, Inc. 541-323-7411 3425 5th Street, Baker City 24 hour crisis line: 541-324-7136 Substance Abuse 24 Hour Helpline: 541-486-4844 http://www.newdirectionsnw.org							
Northeast Oregon Narcotics Anonymous 541-807-2271 www.na.org							
Northeast Oregon Community Center 541-323-8483 12501 Highway Lane, Baker City http://www.northeastoregoncc.com/							
St. Alphonsus Medical Center 541-324-8415 1010 Portman Rd, Baker City, http://www.stalphe.com/							
Baker County Veterans Services 541-324-8222 1000 First Street Baker City http://www.bakercountyva.com/veterans/veterans.html							



QPR
For Suicide Prevention



Coast to Forest
 Planning, prevention, response, recovery, intervention.

Effective substance misuse prevention and treatment and mental health promotion work and recovery is possible. Together, we can support resiliency and recovery.

The Coast to Forest program provides current resources and information on prevention and treatment of substance use and mental health problems for all audiences.

Resource Guides
www.coasttoforest.org provides Forest to Coast health and substance use resources for Oregon, WA, and Idaho.

Fact Sheets
 Free PDFs (2020) to learn more about specific substance use related health concerns.

Toolkits
 Free toolkits to support prevention and response efforts.



Baker County Mental Health & Substance Use Services <small>More information about services provided on page 2</small>	Emergency & Crisis	Mental Health	Substance Use	Prevention/Outreach	Peer Support	Recovery	Prevention & Education	Recovery Referrals	Services on request
Alcoholics Anonymous District 29 541-624-5117 aaorgnaidistrict29.org	•								
Baker County Health Department 541-523-8211 2200 4th St, Baker City https://www.bakercounty.org/health/health.html	•	•						•	•
Baker County Sheriff's Office 541-523-6451 2630 E. Baker City http://www.bakercounty.org/health/health.html	•								
Blue Mountain Area Narcotics Anonymous 800-766-9754 bluemountainna.org		•							
Building Healthy Families 541-426-9411 207 NW Park St, Enterprise, OR 97828 http://cor.gov/ahbf.org			•						•
Mayday Inc. 24-hour crisis line: 541-523-4134 1951 Court St, Baker City https://www.maydayinc.net/	•								
New Directions Northwest, Inc. 541-523-7860 3425 13th Street, Baker City 24-hour crisis line: 541-539-7126 Substance Abuse 24-Hour Warm Line: 541-406-6444 https://www.newdirections.org	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Northeast Oregon Narcotics Anonymous 541-406-2270 naoia.org			•						
Northeast Oregon Compassion Center 541-523-9881 1250 Hughes Lane, Baker City http://www.northeastoregoncompassioncenter.org		•							
St. Alphonsus Medical Center 541-523-6461 1515 Franklin Ave, Baker City, stjohnsmedical.org									•
Baker County Veterans Services 541-523-8221 1995 Third Street Baker City https://www.bakercounty.org/veterans/veterans.html	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•



COLLEGE OF HEALTH
OSU CENTER FOR HEALTH INNOVATION

A needs assessment for public health and public safety partnerships in the Oregon Idaho High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)

May 2023

Introduction

In 2022, the OSU Center for Health Innovation (CHI) conducted a needs assessment for the SE- coast Oregon Idaho high intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) with funding from the University of Baltimore Center for Drug Policy and Prevention. The goal for the project's first year was to understand local needs in such a way as to envision a forward-focused "12.0" vision for public health and public safety partnerships in the region.

Our team talked with public safety organizations and public health authorities in the Oregon Idaho HIDTA region about effective community-level interventions to prevent overdose. We conducted two main activities: (1) reviewed current evidence and activities involving public health and public safety partnerships to combat overdose, to create a menu or checklist of evidence-based and promising

Oregon State University
 Myers, A., Phibbs, S., White, J., Bremer, N., Stevens, H., Headley, C.



AgriStress HELPLINESM for Oregon

 833.897.2474
call or text



Community Conversations about Behavioral Health Toolkit

The goal of Community Conversations about Behavioral Health is to gather leaders, decision-makers, community organizations, and community members together to assess the current conditions and develop action plans to create community-level and systems change to improve behavioral health outcomes.

01

Facilitator's Guide

This facilitator's guide was adapted from **Community Conversations about Mental Health**, an evidence-based tool from **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**. The original tool is an evidence-based tool developed for engaging communities about mental health issues facing youth. We adapted it to focus on engaging community leaders to address a greater spectrum of challenges with mental health and substance use issues affecting communities.

03

Presentation Slide Templates

Conversation 1 - Assess the Issues
Conversation 2 - Create a System Map of the Behavioral Health System
Conversation 3 - Discuss Strengths and Challenges
Conversation 4 - Select Priorities for Action

02

Handouts

Conversation 1 Handout 1 - Definitions of Behavioral Health Diagnoses
Conversation 1 Handout 2 - Which of these behavioral health disorders are you most concerned about?
Conversation 1 Handout 3 - Protective Factors for Resilience and Mental Wellbeing
Conversation 2 Handout - Behavioral Health System Assessment
Conversation 3 Handout - Behavioral Health System - Ideas, Strengths and Gaps

04

Sample System Maps

Sample 1 - Behavioral Health System
Sample 2 - Behavioral Health System
Sample 3 - Behavioral Health System



NW ROTAC Radio Promotion Toolkit

This radio promotion toolkit contains resources for how to effectively engage with radio stations and develop content. This includes best practices for connecting with local radio stations, a breakdown of different options for radio outreach, sample interview guides, public service announcement (PSA) scripts, and phone and email templates for connecting with radio partners.

1

Start Here

Introduction to the Toolkit
[Download for Download with the Toolkit](#)

2

Radio Station Database

[Read First](#) [Radio Station Database Steps](#)
[Radio Station Database](#)

3

Table Comparing the Differences

Between PSAs & Interviews
[Interviews Between PSAs and Interviews](#)

7

Radio Promotion Toolkit Comprehensive

Guide (Includes All Sections)
[Radio Promotion Toolkit Comprehensive Guide](#)



4

Tips and Sample Questions -

Radio Interview
[Use for Radio Interviews](#)
[Sample Questions](#)

5

Tips and Scripts - PSAs

[PSA Tips](#)
[PSA Scripts](#)

6

Communicating with Radio Stations

[Local Templates](#)
[Phone Call Scripts](#)





Thank you!

... to the communities we serve and collaborate with,

to our partners across Oregon and the region,

to our colleagues at Washington State University and the Northwest Rural Opioid Technical Assistance Collaborative,

to our marvelous Coast to Forest team, including all those who have supported this project,

and to all of you.