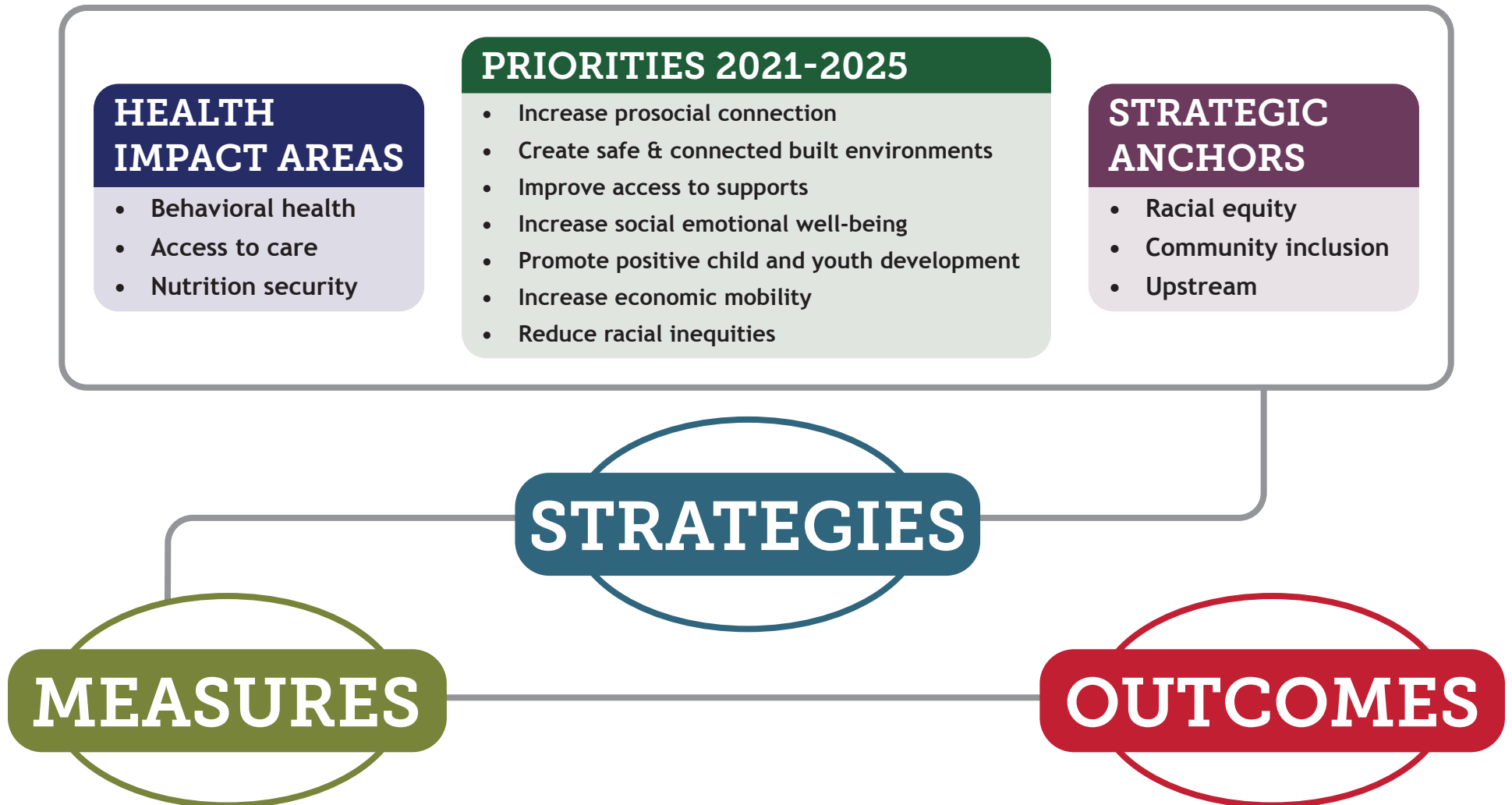


# MCH Framework

*To Increase Community and Family Resilience*



# MCH Framework

## PRIORITIES 2021-2025

Seven maternal and child health (MCH) priorities were selected for the 2021-2025 MCH block grant cycle. These seven interconnected priorities were selected with the intention of implementing strategies that could impact multiple priorities.

## HEALTH IMPACT AREAS

The MCH framework includes three health impact areas that emerged from the 2019 MCH statewide needs assessment: behavioral health, access to care, and nutrition security. A focus on these health impact areas guided the selection of strategies, measures, and outcomes for the 2021-2025 MCH priorities.

## STRATEGIC ANCHORS

The MCH program has three strategic anchors: racial equity, community inclusion, and upstream. These strategic anchors tether the seven MCH priorities to a shared vision. They also provide a lens through which every decision is viewed to ensure consistency in decision making.

- **Racial equity** is the condition that would be achieved if one's racial identity no longer statistically predicted how one fares. The MCH program works to address root causes of inequities not just their manifestation. This includes elimination of policies, practices, attitudes, and cultural messages that reinforce differential outcomes by race or fail to eliminate them.
- **Community inclusion** refers to the engagement of the people most impacted by the direction taken and decisions made in program planning, evaluation and implementation. The inclusion of these individuals in the work is done with a purpose of partnership, in order to make meaningful and relevant decisions and improve outcomes.
- **Upstream** means preventing a problem or negative health outcome before it takes place. It is population-based; the focus is not on the individual, but rather the systems that individuals interact and exist within. It includes both risk and protective factors. Working upstream addresses factors related to the social determinants of health.

## STRATEGIES

Colorado's MCH program identified statewide strategies using the following factors: the priorities, strategic anchors, health impact areas, national performance measures, level of evidence, and the MCH/public health role. The strategies define what the program is doing to achieve its goals. Currently, local strategies are under development for implementation beginning in October 2021.

## MEASURES

**National Performance Measures (NPMs):** To measure progress each state is required to select at least one measure from a national list identified by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau for each of the following populations: infants, children, youth, children and youth with special health-care needs, and women.

**State Performance Measures (SPMs):** Colorado identified state performance measures for the three priorities without aligned national performance measures: reduce racial inequities, increase economic mobility, and create safe and connected built environments.

**Evidence-Informed Strategy Measures (ESMs):** States use these structural or process measures to monitor incremental progress toward achieving the NPMs. Colorado has adopted six ESMs.

## OUTCOMES

**State Outcome Measures (SOMs):** Colorado identified six state-specific outcome measures that reflect multiple, if not all priorities. These are organized by the three health impact areas plus a cross-priority impact area.



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