

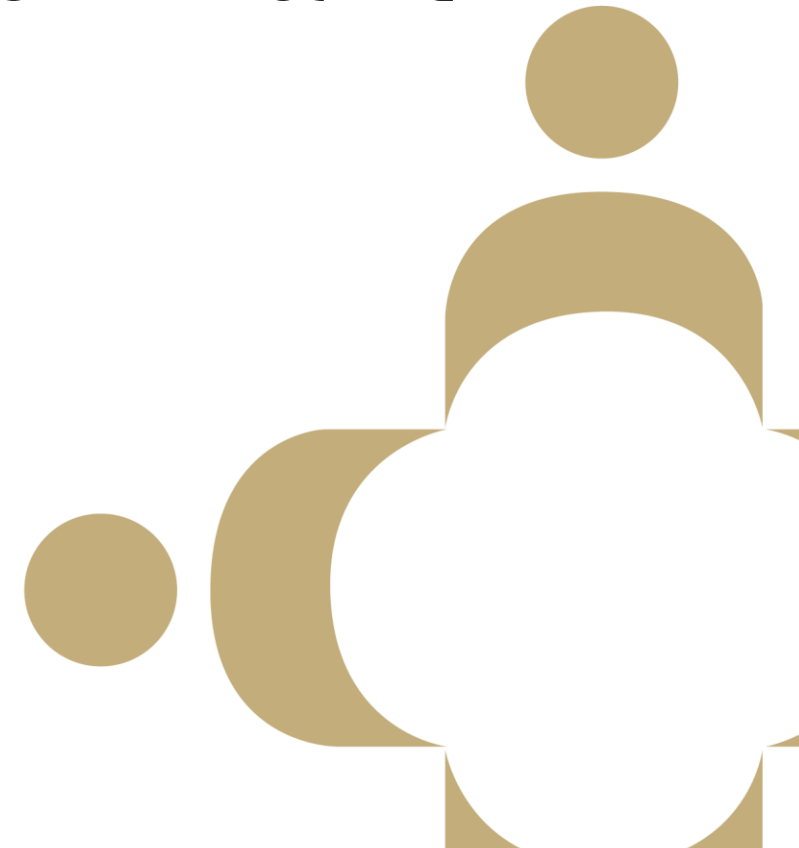
**TASKFORCE:**

# Rural Access to Care for Improving Maternal and Infant Health

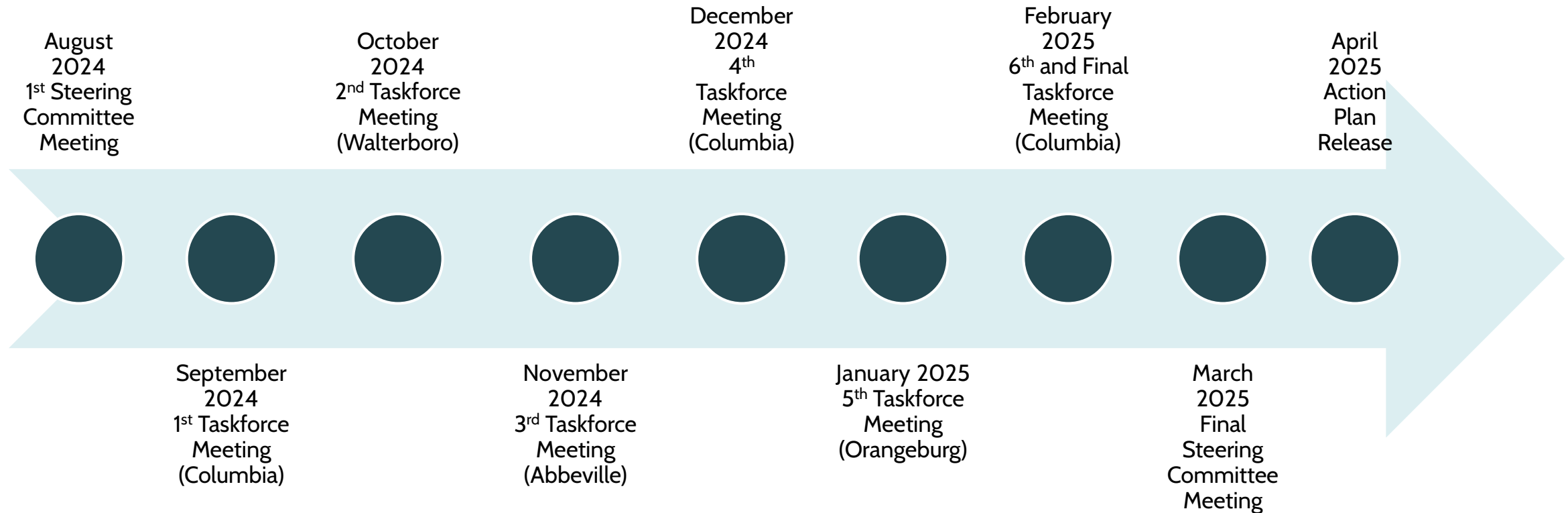
Taskforce Meeting  
November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024



South Carolina Institute of  
Medicine & Public Health



# Welcome



# Community Narratives in Maternal and Infant Health



# SC Department of Health and Human Services MCH Efforts

Jordan Desai, MS, LISW-CP, APHSW-C  
Chief of Quality, SC Department of Health and Human Services



# SC Department of Public Health MCH Efforts

Danielle Wingo

Director, Bureau of Maternal and Child Health,  
SC Department of Public Health



# Recommendation Development

Justina Siuba, MPH  
Project Director, IMPH



# Recommendation Examples

## **SC1: Develop funding models to support increased programming to foster social connectedness.**

**SC1a:** To support increased programming to foster social connectedness, the South Carolina Department on Aging (SCDOA) should:

- Request a modification to Proviso 40.5 to include “programs to promote social connection” in the list of allowable expenditures for Home and Community Based Services.
- Update its policies and procedures manual to define and allow reimbursement for programs to promote social connection.
- Launch a limited program at the beginning of the state fiscal year, subsequent to the passing of the modification to Proviso 40.5, in order to gather data on how many clients may take advantage of the program statewide.
- Request additional state Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) funding based on the estimates and analysis of the gathered data, including the number of participants, type of activity and pre/post social isolation assessment results.
- Encourage local community senior centers to continue to apply for grants and other funding opportunities to expand and grow programs to promote social connection.
- Promote cost sharing principles, where clients pay a portion of the program cost if they are able, to be applied to social connectedness programming options to assist with expanding the service.

**SC1b:** Funders, at various levels, should prioritize efforts focused on social connection in older adults to reduce the negative health outcomes associated with social isolation.

### CHAMPIONS

Area Agencies on Aging, foundations, philanthropies, SC Legislature, South Carolina Department on Aging

### TIMELINE

6 months – ongoing

# Recommendation Examples Cont.

**SC3:** The South Carolina Department on Aging should incorporate language about social isolation and related resources into the GetCareSC website *Guide to Services* page to assist older adults and their caregivers with finding resources to promote social connection.

**SC3a:** Establish a social connectedness category on the GetCareSC website *Guide to Services* page containing information related to the programs and services available through the Aging Network to promote social connectedness.

The Aging Network includes, but is not limited to, the Administration on Aging within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), the South Carolina Department on Aging, Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and Local Aging Service Providers and Direct Services.

**SC3b:** Develop a communications/outreach campaign to promote the newly established social

**SC3c:** Include learning in retirement programs (including, but not limited to, state-supported programs offering classes to persons 60 years and older without payment of tuition and Lifelong Learning Programs) in the GetCareSC resource database to promote additional opportunities for social connectedness.

## CHAMPIONS

Area Agencies on Aging, South Carolina Department on Aging

## TIMELINE

6 months - 1 year

# Recommendation Examples Cont.

**DIS1:** The Office for the Study of Aging at the Arnold School of Public Health at the University of South Carolina should form an inclusive, ongoing coalition focused on social isolation in older adults to continue the efforts of the South Carolina Institute of Medicine and Public Health and South Carolina Department on Aging Social Isolation in Older Adults Taskforce. This coalition will continue to build partnerships and foster intervention strategies across sectors. The coalition will meet quarterly.

## CHAMPIONS

AARP, Able South Carolina, Aging Service Providers, Area Agencies on Aging, Center for Community Health Alignment, Clemson University, Disability Rights of South Carolina, interfaith organizations, Legislative Study Committee on Aging, Lifelong Learning Institutes, local United Ways of South Carolina, older adults and older adult caregivers, Palmetto Care Connections, SC Thrive, South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, South Carolina Department of Mental Health, South Carolina Department of Social Services, South Carolina Department of Veteran's Affairs, South Carolina Department on Aging, South Carolina Educational Television, South Carolina Hospital Association, South Carolina Medical Association, South Carolina Office of Rural Health, South Carolina Silver Hair Legislature, United Way of South Carolina, University of South Carolina

## TIMELINE

Establish within 6 months  
- ongoing

# Recommendation Development Discussion



# Next Steps

Abigail Hubbard, MPH  
Health Policy Analyst, IMPH



# Next Steps

## Next Meeting

Saluda Shoals in Columbia, SC

December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Please complete the evaluation – link in the chat and paper in person.

We will be sending out survey to ask you to prioritize recommendations and share additional context.