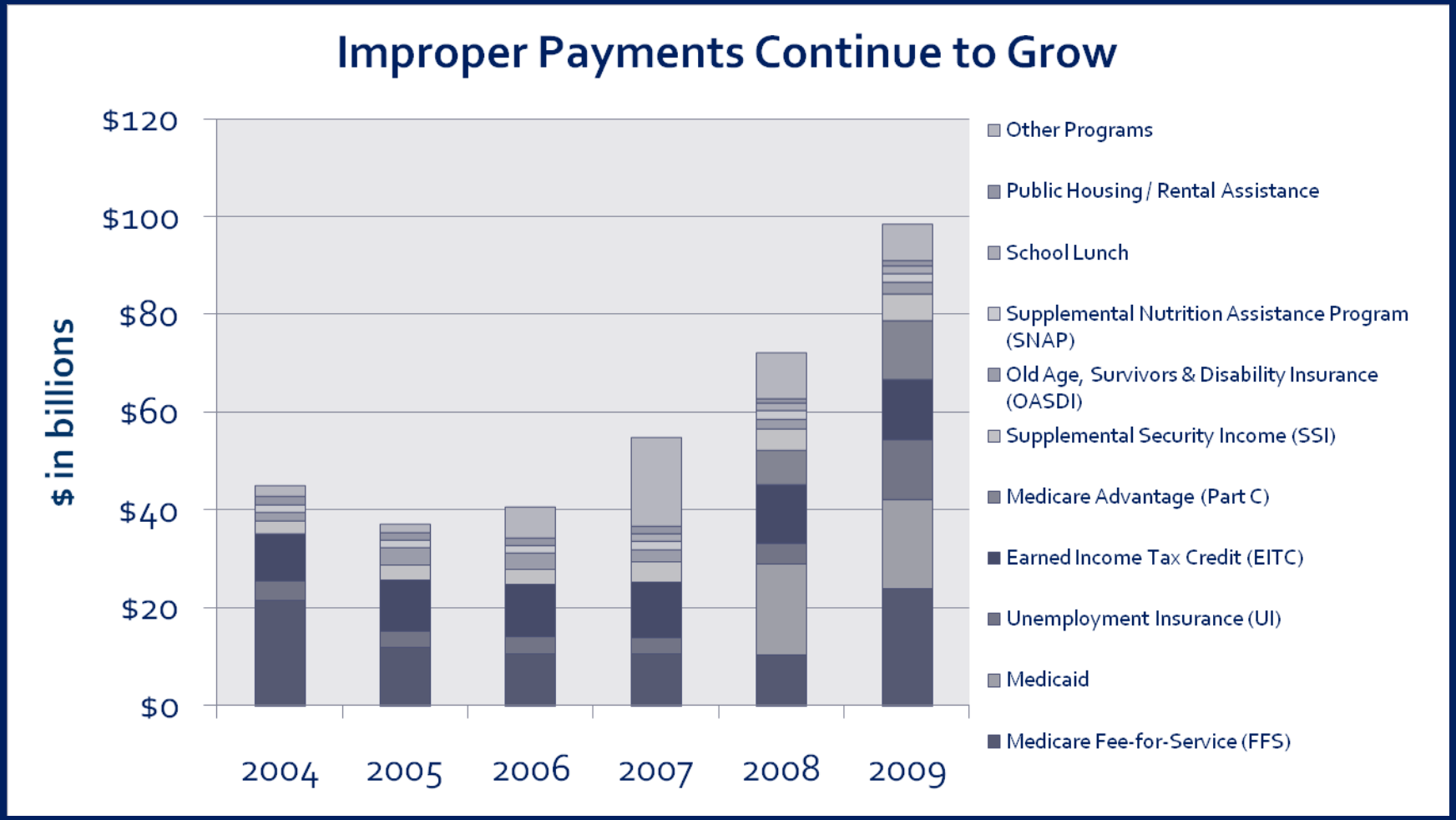
Partnership Fund for Program Integrity Innovation

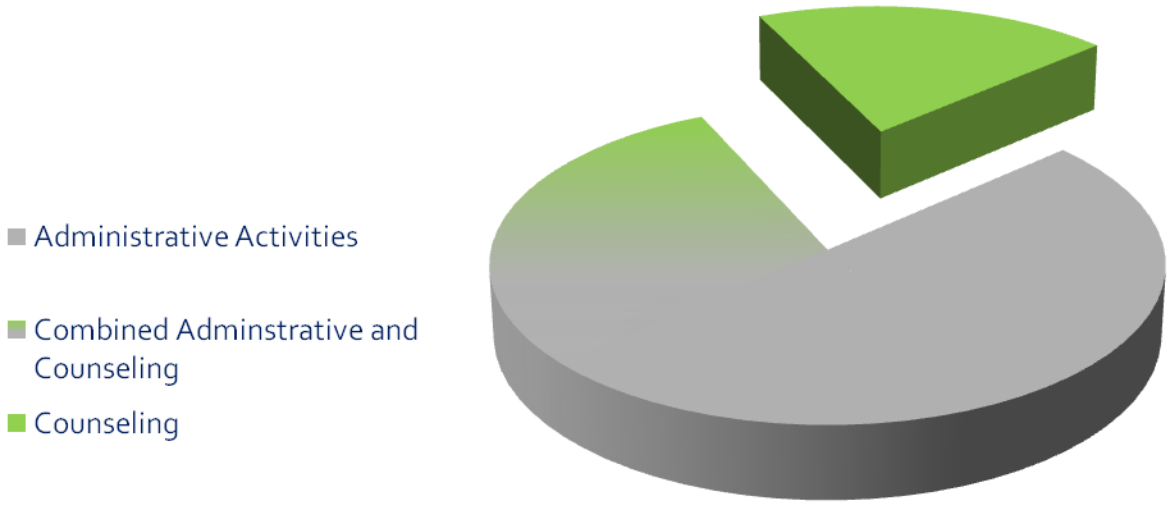
April 2010

The Problem: 1 of 3



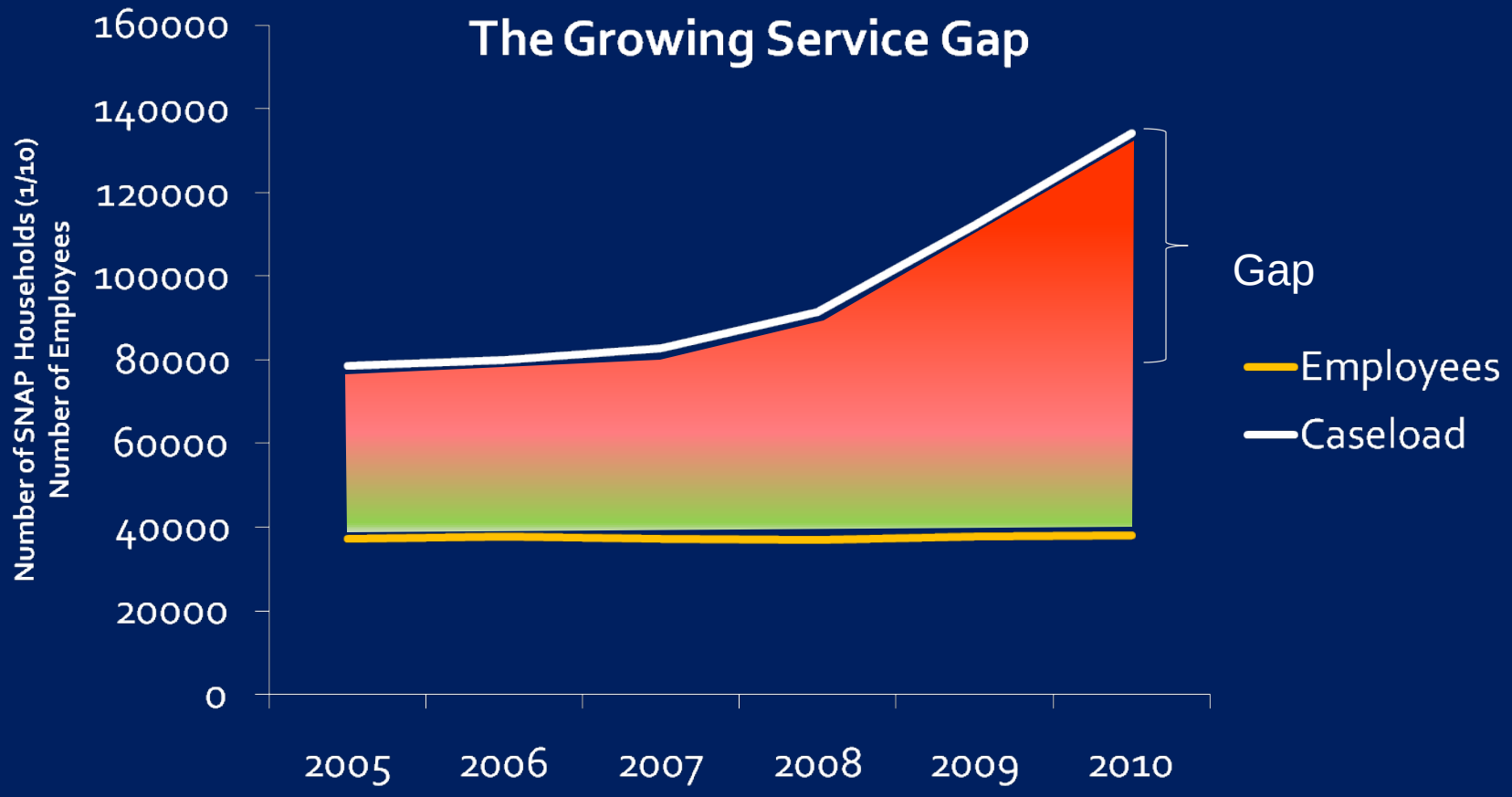
The Problem: 2 of 3

Front-line Case Workers Spend Less than 50% of Time on Direct Support of Families



Source: Child Welfare - HHS Could Play a Greater Role in Helping Child Welfare Agencies Recruit and Retain Staff, GAO 2003

The Problem: 3 of 3



Sample Data: California SNAP Enrollment versus Total Human Service Employees

What Do We Need to Do?

- Define methods to reduce errors
- Implement administrative efficiencies that reduce redundancy and facilitate front-line workers to better focus on the needs of individuals and families
- Identify administrative and other barriers to improving efficiency and service delivery
- Create a sustainable and transparent program for sharing best practices and assessing potential benefits of new approaches

What is the Fund for Program Integrity Innovation?

An initiative, funded by Congress, to identify and test innovative methods of improving integrity, reducing administrative cost, and improving service to beneficiaries of government benefit programs

What is the Fund for Program Integrity Innovation?

Purpose: To carry out pilots and evaluations that demonstrate the potential to streamline administration or strengthen program integrity

Scope: Federal programs that have a substantial State role or where Federal/State cooperation could be beneficial

Funding: $37.5 million through 9/30/2012

Authority: The 2010 Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 111-117)

For the **Partnership Fund for Program Integrity Innovation**, $37,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2012, which may be used for grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and administrative costs of carrying out Partnership Fund for Program Integrity Innovation pilot projects:

Provided, That these funds shall be transferred by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to appropriate agencies to **carry out pilot projects and to conduct or provide for evaluation** of such projects:

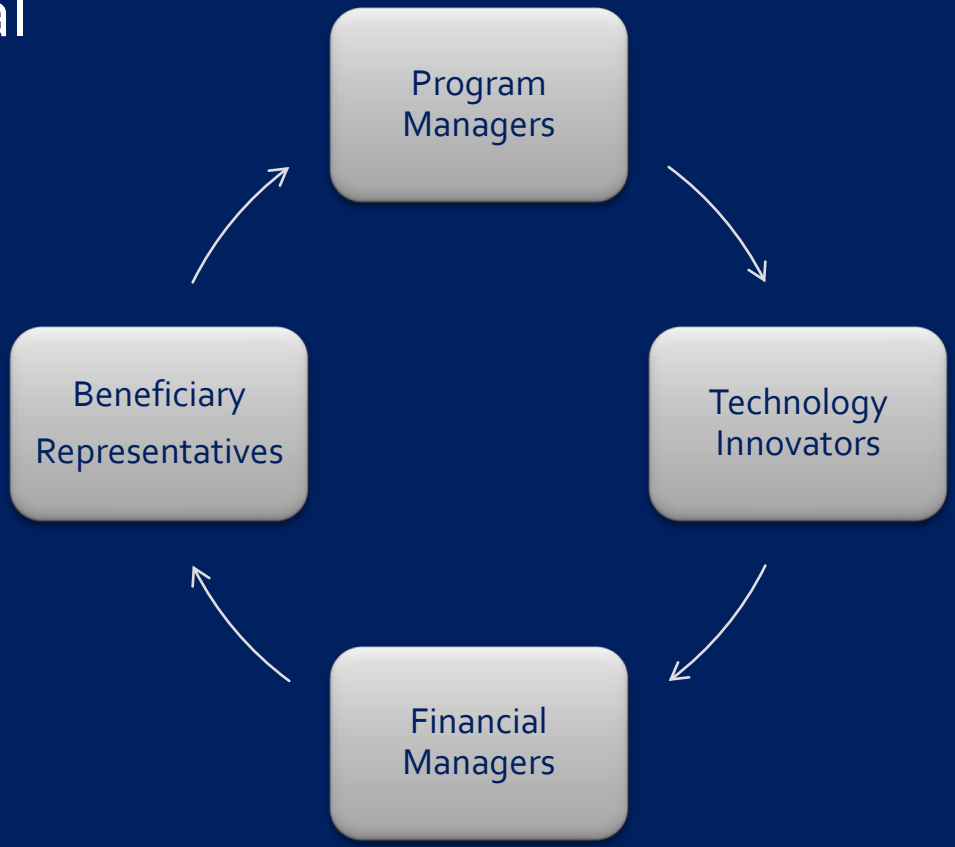
Provided further, That such transfers shall be contingent upon the Director of the Office of Management and Budget determining, in consultation with **an interagency council consisting of representatives of appropriate Federal agencies, States, and other stakeholders**, that the pilot projects address Federal programs that have a substantial State role in eligibility determination or administration or where Federal-State cooperation could otherwise be beneficial; in aggregate, **save at least as much money as they cost; demonstrate the potential to streamline administration or strengthen program integrity; and do not achieve savings primarily by reducing the participation of eligible beneficiaries**:

Provided further, That the interagency council required by the previous proviso shall submit a **progress report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate** not later than March 31, 2010 and semiannually thereafter until the program is completed, including detailed information on goals, objectives, performance measures, and evaluations of the program in general and of each specific pilot undertaken.

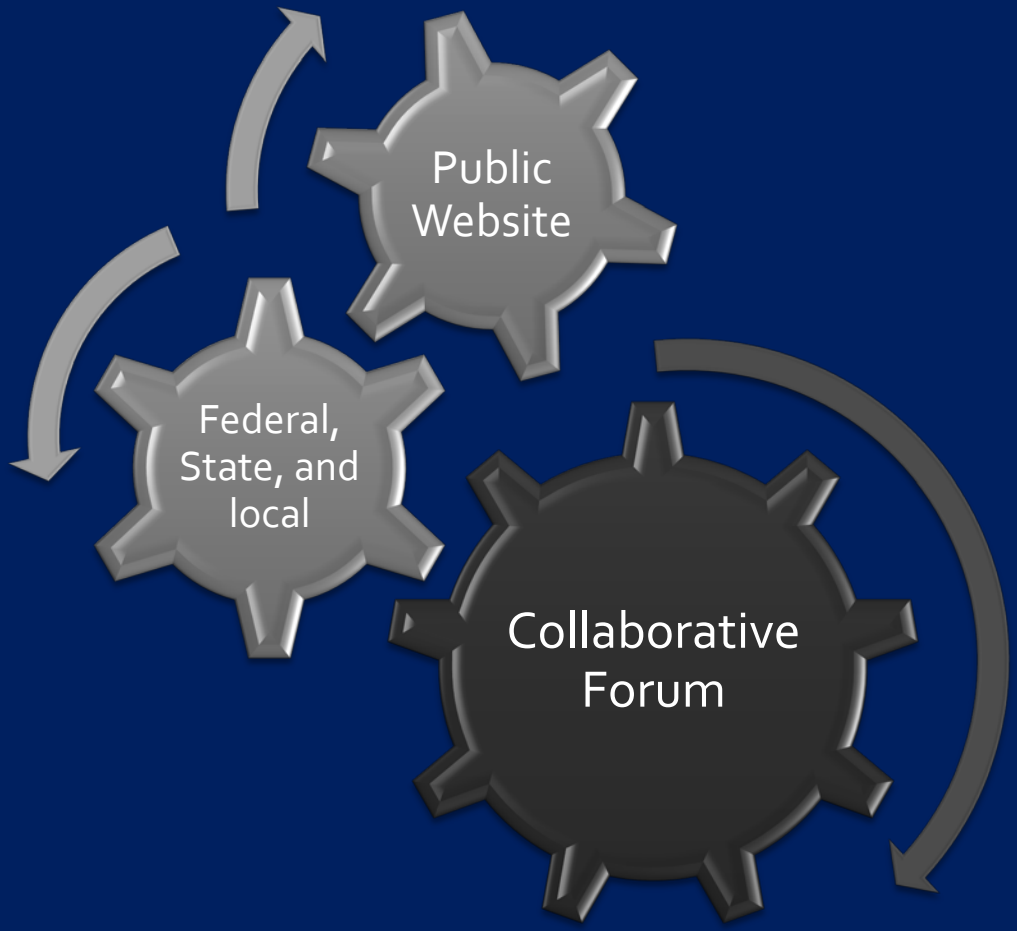
Step 1: www.partner4solutions.gov

Step 2: Collaborative Forum

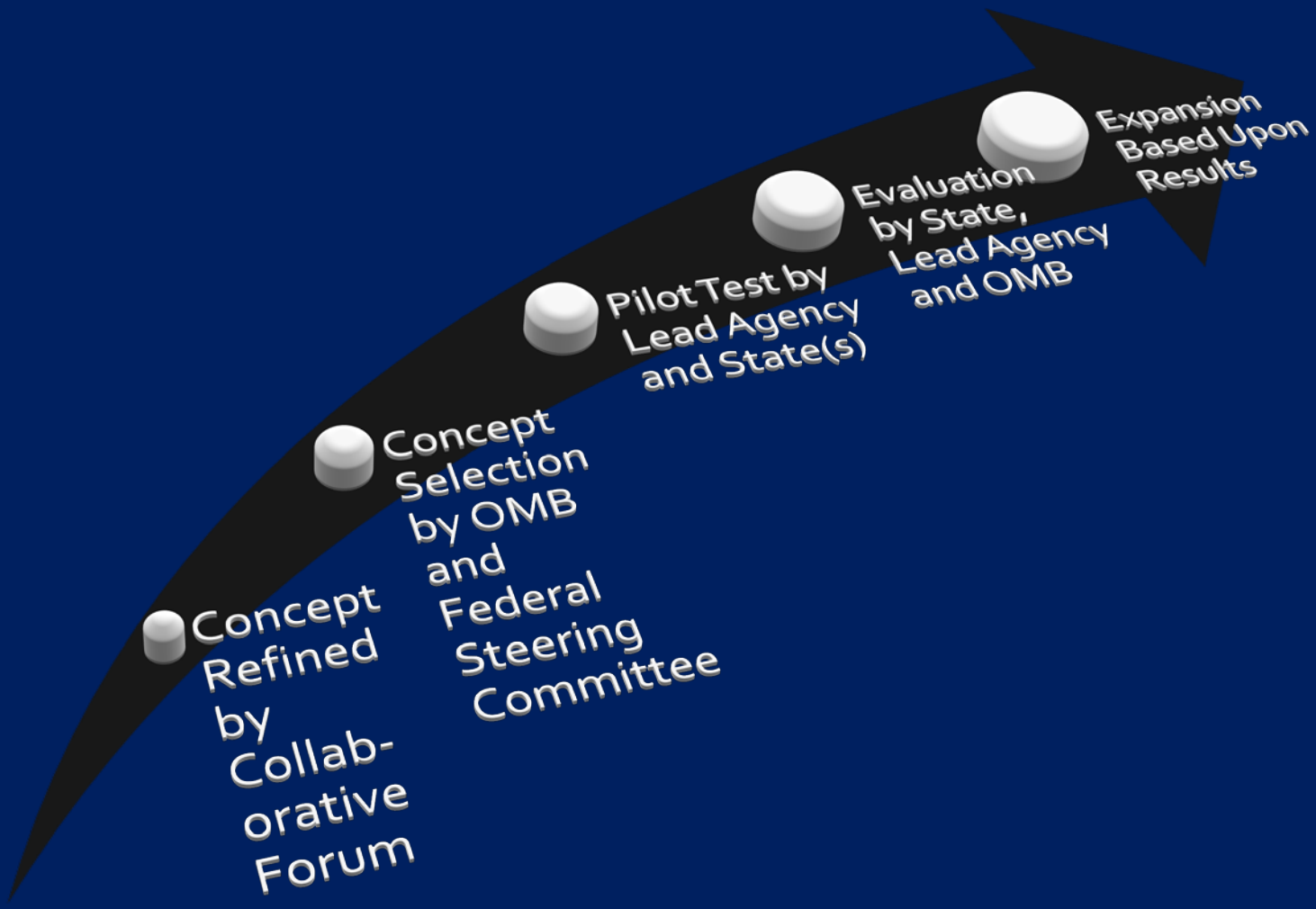
- Role: to solicit and collaborate on potential project concepts
- Members:
  - Federal agencies
  - States
  - Other Stakeholders
    - Advocates
    - Local agencies
    - Foundations
    - Industry
    - State Associations



Step 3: Concept Maturation



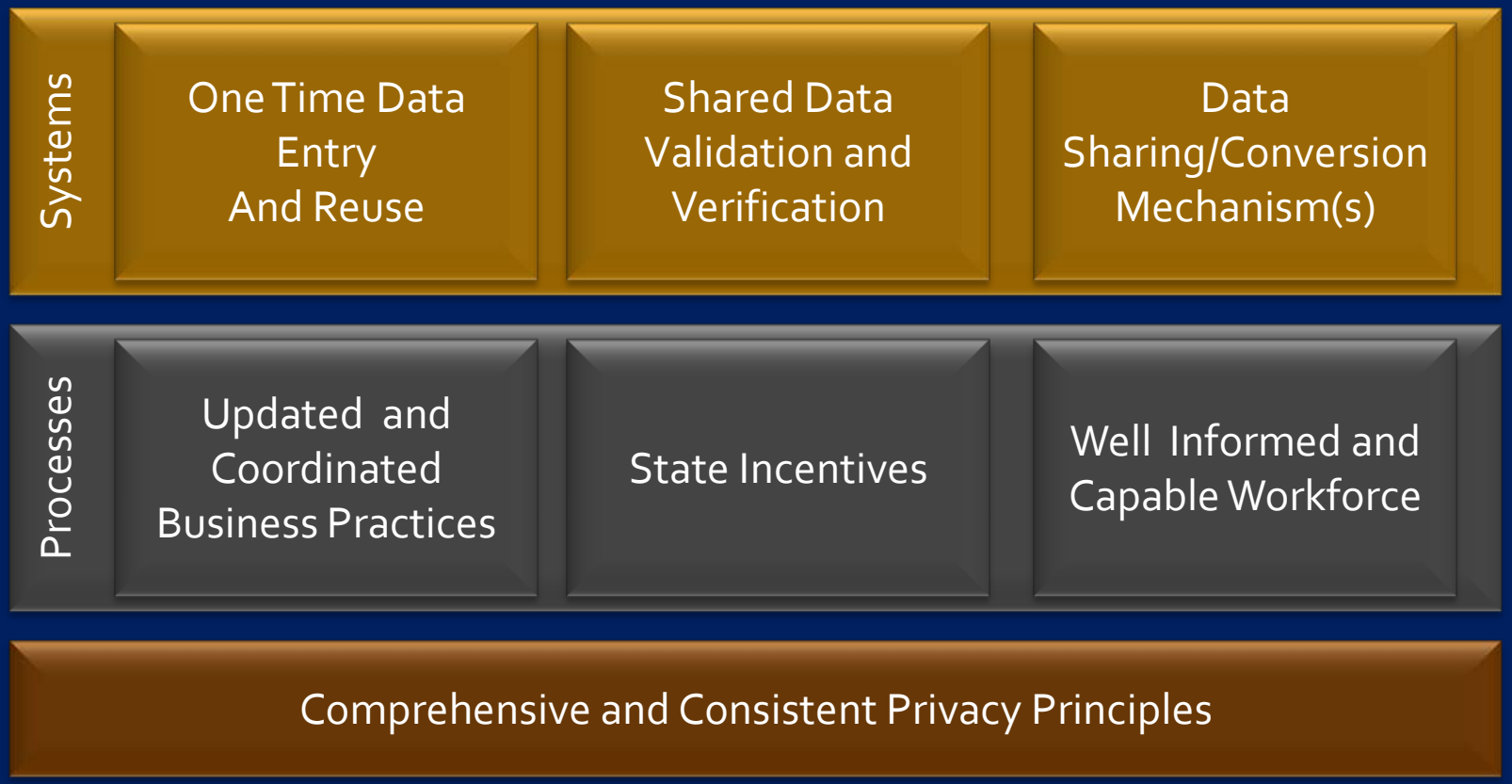
Step 4: Selecting and Funding Pilots



Profile of "Ideal" Concept

- ✓ Solves Elements of Four Key Objectives:
  - Improves Payment Accuracy
  - Improves Administrative Efficiency
  - Improves Service Delivery
  - Reduces Access Barriers
- ✓ Involves Multiple States and/or Communities
- ✓ Bridges Silos
- ✓ Could Expand Nationally if Successful
- ✓ Saves more than it Costs

Concept Target Areas



Examples of Potential Pilots

- Information sharing such as verified income data and wage reporting, documents such as birth certificates, household composition data, etc.
- Shared services such as Medicaid provider profiles accessible by multiple states and/or the public
- Shared delivery platforms such as using State issued benefit cards to deliver EITC and other federal benefits
- Shared debt collection

Evaluation of Concepts

- Does it reduce improper payments for one of the top 11 programs?
- Will it reduce administrative cost or otherwise improve administrative efficiency at the State and/or local level?
- Will it improve service to the participating population?
- Does it improve access to program benefits?
- Is it replicable to other states, regionally or nationally?
- Can it be implemented and evaluated in a reasonable amount of time?
- Is it backed by a sound project management approach and team?
- Can it be done within existing authorities?

What the Fund will not do

- The Fund is not a comprehensive initiative to modernize benefit delivery across all states.
- It will not supplant existing resources that state and federal agencies already spend on program administration.
- It will not interfere with current incentive arrangements that help states improve program integrity for specific programs.
- The Fund does not preempt program statutes.
- Pilots will not be funded that achieve savings primarily by imposing barriers to application or otherwise reducing the participation of eligible beneficiaries.

Next Steps?

- Outreach to States and Associations
- Establish the Collaborative Forum and Workgroups
- Stand up version 2.0 of www.partner4solutions.gov
- Publish guidance to Agencies