

Pennsylvania Perinatal Quality Collaborative

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**PA PQC Virtual Session**

April 17, 2024

# Continuing Education Information

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In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by the University of Pittsburgh and The Jewish Healthcare Foundation. The University of Pittsburgh is jointly accredited by the **Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME)** and the **American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)**, to provide continuing education for the healthcare team. **1.0 hours are approved for this course.**

As a Jointly Accredited Organization, University of Pittsburgh is approved to offer social work continuing education by the **Association of Social Work Boards' (ASWB)** Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organizations, not individual courses, are approved under this program. State and provincial regulatory boards have the final authority to determine whether an individual course may be accepted for continuing education credit. University of Pittsburgh maintains responsibility for this course. Social workers completing this course receive **1.0 continuing education credits.**

# Disclosures

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# Disclaimer

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# Agenda

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1. **Welcome** – Sara Nelis, RN, PA PQC Project Manager, Jewish Healthcare Foundation
2. **Quality Improvement & Change Management** – Jennifer Condel, SCT(ASCP)MT, Manager of Lean Healthcare Strategy and Implementation, Jewish Healthcare Foundation
3. **Q&A** – Facilitated by Jennifer Condel, SCT(ASCP)MT
4. **Wrap-up and Next Steps** – Sara Nelis, RN, PA PQC Project Manager, Jewish Healthcare Foundation

# Learning Objectives

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- Describe a systematic approach to building quality improvement cycles for implementing PA PQC initiatives.
- Discuss approaches for managing quality improvement change in healthcare teams for PA PQC initiatives.



# Quality Improvement & Change Management

JENNIFER CONDEL, SCT(ASCP)MT

MANAGER, LEAN HEALTHCARE STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION

# Definition of Quality Improvement



“In health care, quality improvement (QI) is the **framework** we use to **systematically improve the ways care is delivered to patients.**”



**Processes** have characteristics that can be measured, analyzed, improved, and controlled.



QI entails continuous efforts to **achieve stable and predictable process results**, that is, to reduce process variation and improve the outcomes of these processes both for patients and the health care organization and system.



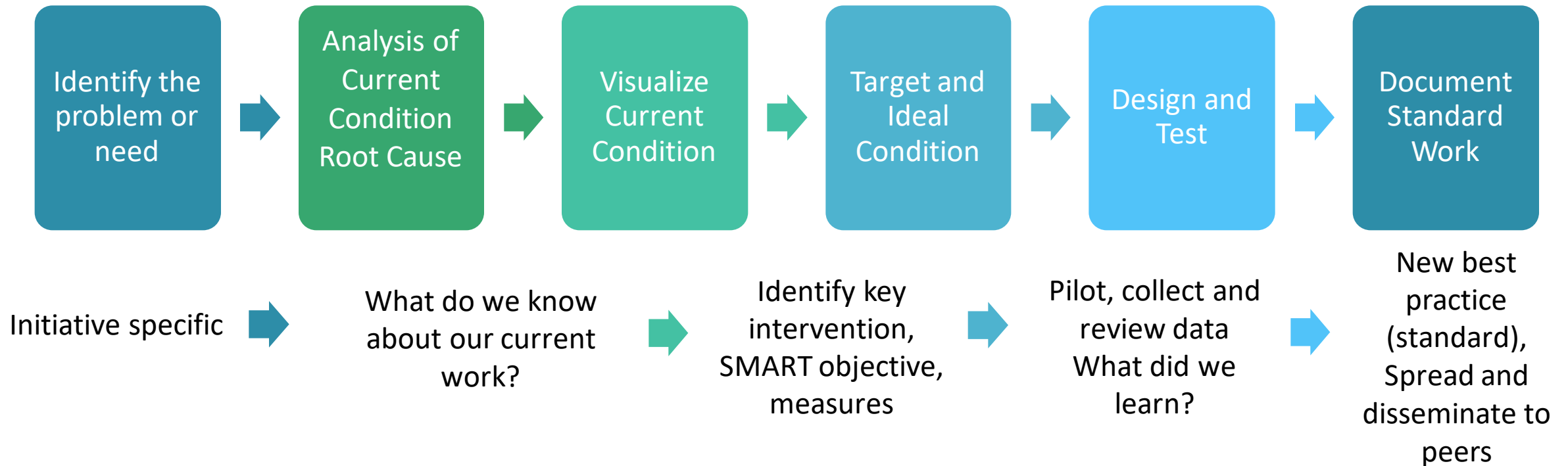
Achieving sustained QI **requires commitment from the entire organization**, particularly from top-level management.”

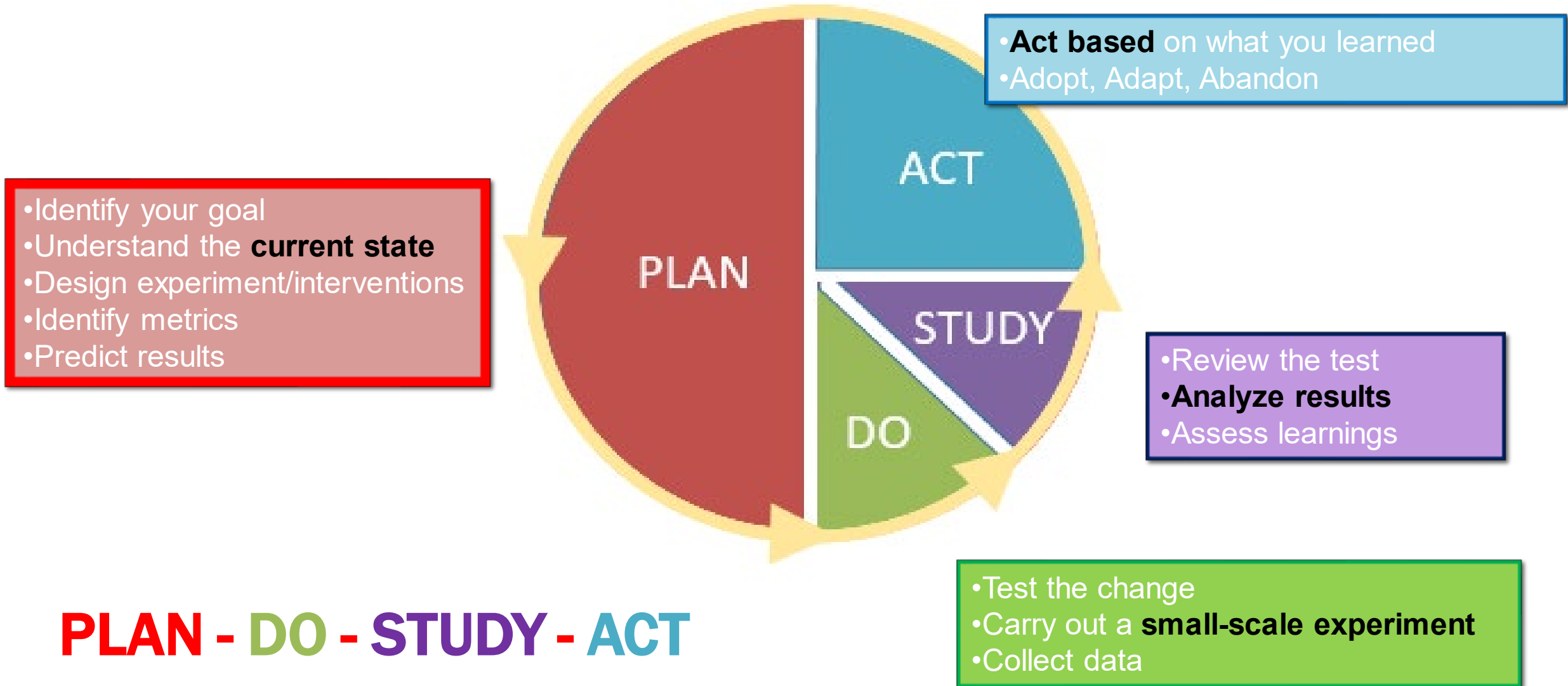
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality: <https://www.ahrq.gov/ncepcr/tools/pf-handbook/mod4.html>



# QI Project Plan Framework: Overview

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# PLAN - DO - STUDY - ACT

## Principles and tools

# PDSA Thinking: The Foundation of Quality Improvement



An approach to **standardizing** problem solving



A way of **engaging and organizing teams** to continuously identify and act upon opportunities for improvement

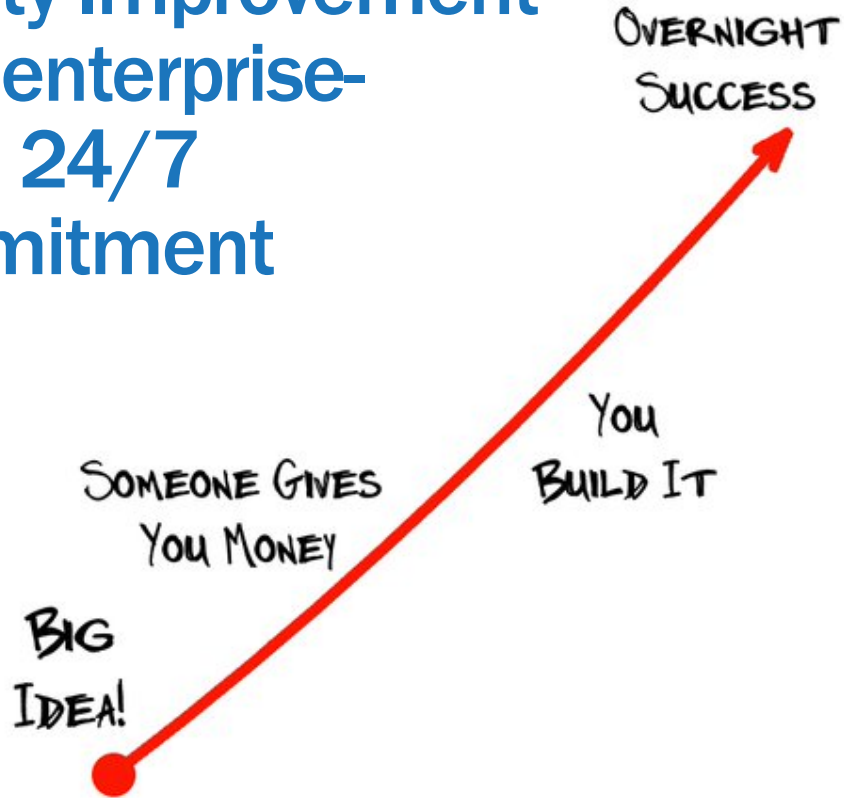


Applied to **process changes** as well as **behavior changes**, and to problems big and small

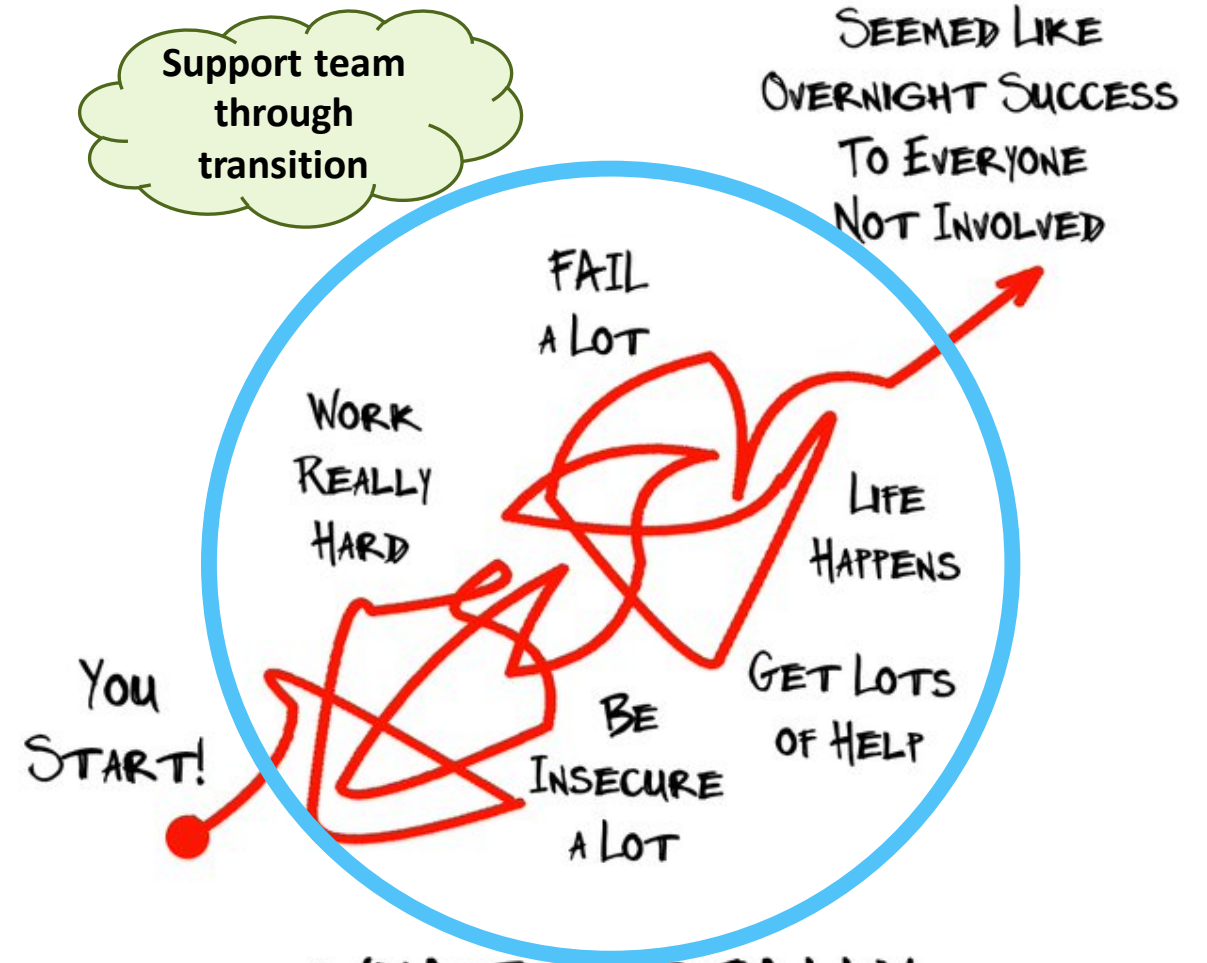


Supports **deep examination** of problems

# Quality Improvement is an enterprise- wide, 24/7 commitment



WHAT PEOPLE THINK  
IT LOOKS LIKE...

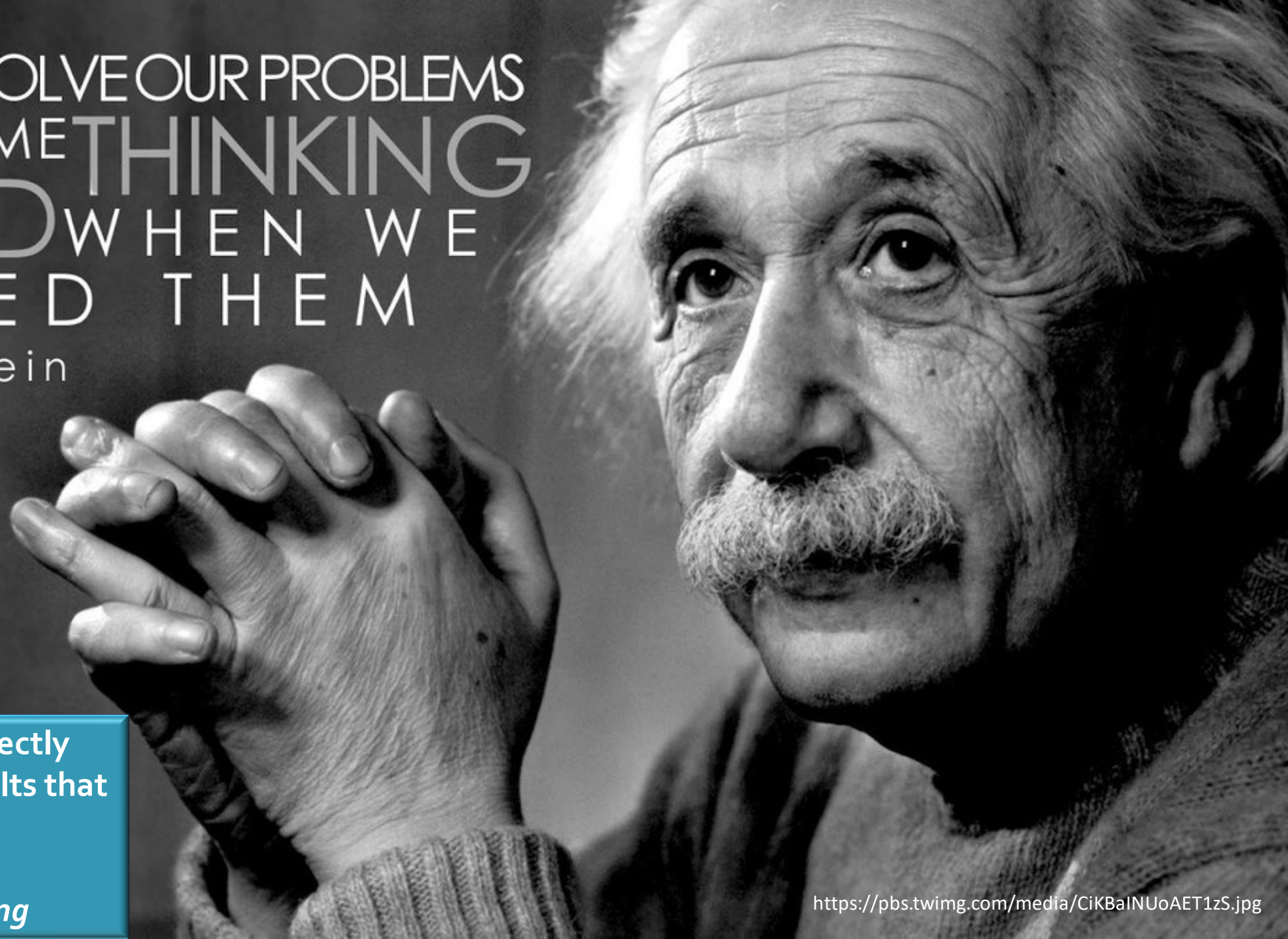


WHAT IT REALLY  
LOOKS LIKE...

Matt Gubba @MattGubba Jul 7, 2016

WE CANNOT SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS  
WITH THE SAME THINKING  
WE USED WHEN WE  
CREATED THEM

- Albert Einstein



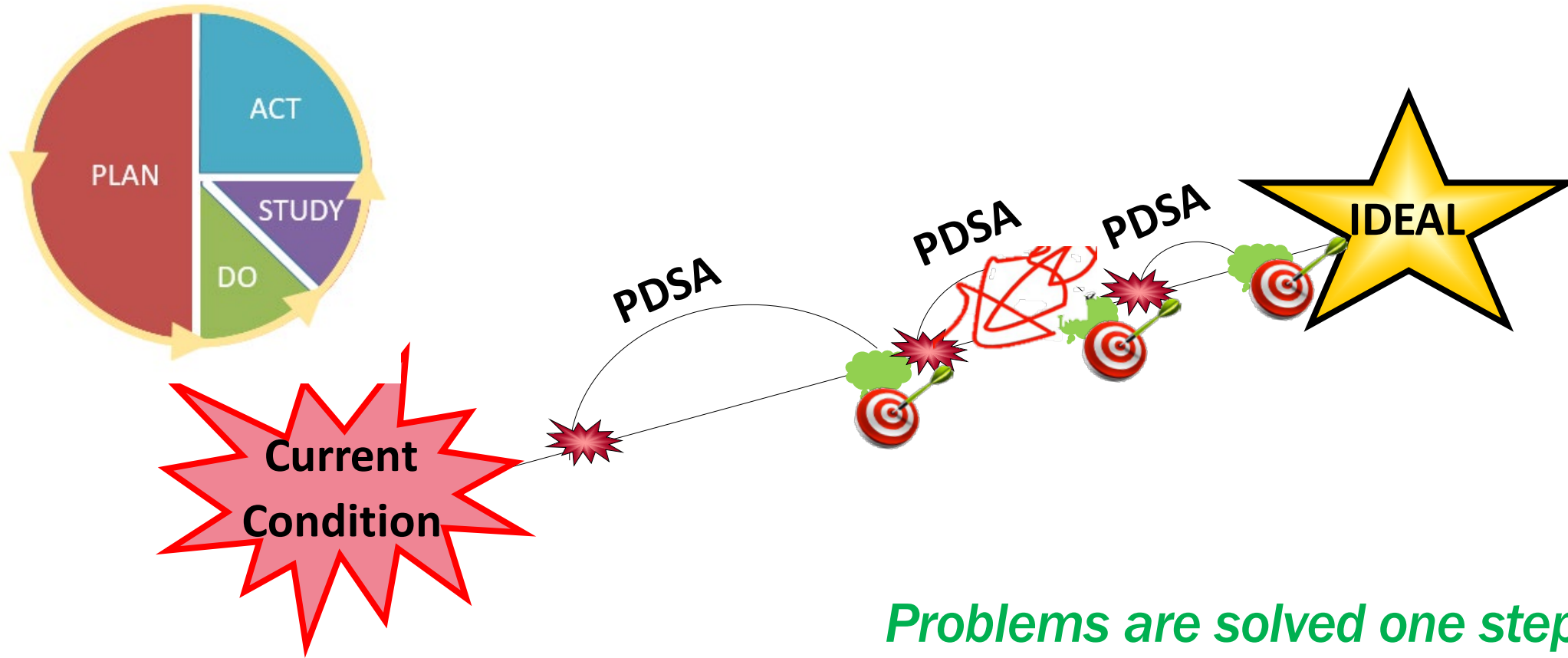
"Every process is perfectly  
designed to get the results that  
it gets."

- *W. Edwards Deming*

<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/CiKBaINUoAET1zS.jpg>



# PDSA Thinking is Iterative and Continuous

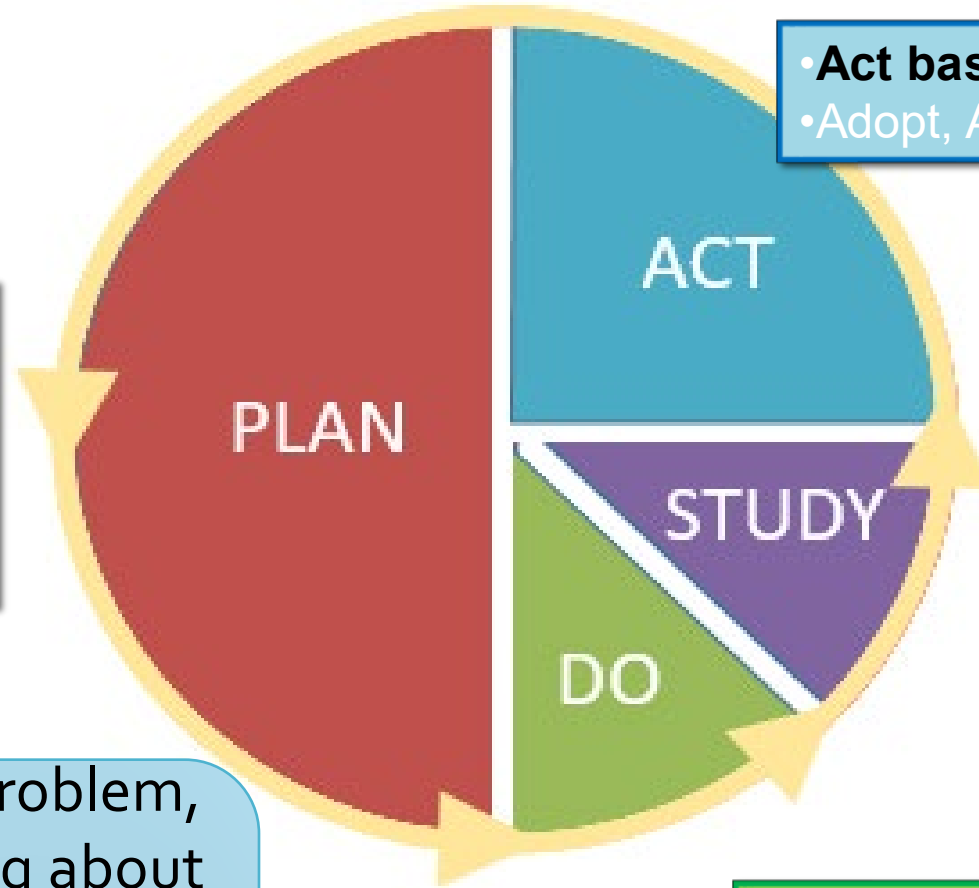


*Problems are solved one step at a time  
– each attempt gets you closer to  
success*

- Identify your goal
- Understand the **current state**
- Design experiment/interventions
- Identify metrics
- Predict results

“If I had an hour to solve a problem, I’d spend 55 minutes thinking about the problem and 5 minutes about solutions.”

*-Albert Einstein*

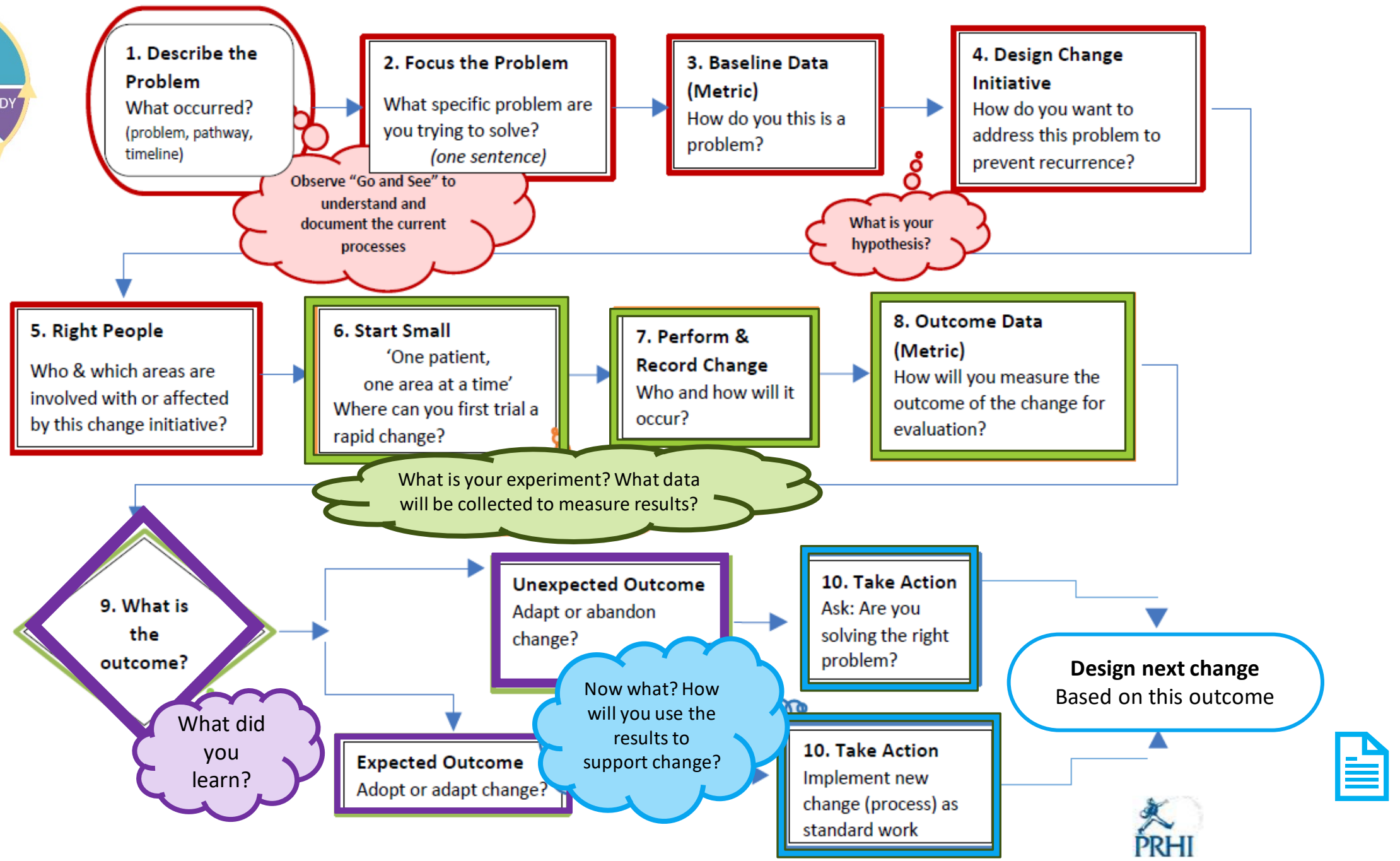


- **Act based** on what you learned
- Adopt, Adapt, Abandon

- Review the test
- **Analyze results**
- Assess learnings

- Test the change
- Carry out a **small-scale experiment**
- Collect data

# Flow Chart for Problem Solving Thinking (PDSA)





# Simplify Goals

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Start goals with a verb:

- Increase
- Decrease
- Reduce

A stylized, glowing blue brain with white text overlaid. The brain is rendered with a translucent, wireframe-like texture, showing the intricate folds of the cerebral cortex. The text is centered over the brain, with each word of the SMART acronym on a new line.

Are your goals SMART?

Specific

Measurable

Attainable

Relevant

Time bound



# Set Targets and Envision Success

PLAN

**Specific**



- **What exactly are you going to do for whom?**

*Example: increase referral completion rate for OUD patients by 25% in 3 months*

**Measurable**



- **Is it quantifiable? Concrete criteria for measuring progress and reaching objective**

*Example: identify team members to design a referral loop protocol to share with the department team for review within 45 days*

**Attainable**



- **Is the objective achievable? Realistic and possible for your team to reach in the time frame and resources**

*Example: designated team will meet every two weeks to refine protocol for implementation in 45 days*

**Relevant  
(Realistic)**



- **Does this objective impact the desired goal or strategy? Align to your program plan**

*Example: implementing a defined referral loop protocol for OUD patients will increase the ability to effectively refer patients to meet their care needs and close the referral loop*

**Time-bound**



- **When will this objective be accomplished? Be specific and reasonable**

*Example: in 3 months, the new referral loop protocol will be implemented and monitored for 3 months to determine sustainability*

# Defining the Problem Approach

## Problem

- What is the problem or need?
- How do we know this is a problem?
- Why is it important to solve

## Scope

- Who is experiencing the problem?
- Where is the problem occurring?
- When and how often is the problem happening?

## Team

- Who owns the problem (Executive in Charge)?
- Who has an interest in the problem (Stakeholders)?
- Who can make decisions about the problem (Management)?
- Who is directly involved in the problem (Front-line)?

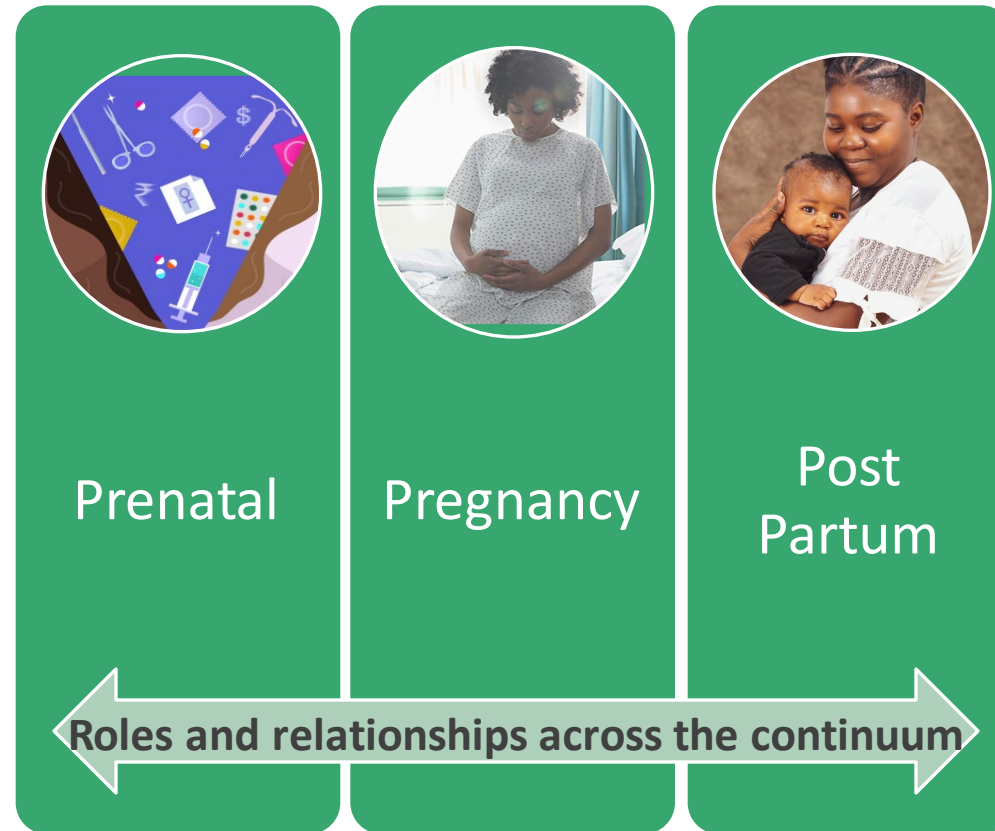
PLAN



# Visualizing the Work: Maternal Care Community

Processes of how care is received, delivered and managed

Place in the birthing biosphere



Elements to show how we work differently

Roles in addressing maternal health inequities

# An Organized Approach to Quality Improvement

## PLAN - DO - STUDY - ACT

- Identify your goal
- Understand the **current state**
- Design experiment/interventions
- Identify metrics
- Predict results



### PA PQC Goal

- Increase the percent of hospitals with a *protocol to close the loop* on the referral status with the post-discharge services and supports from **30% to 50%**

### What is your Current State or Condition?

What is your healthcare team's protocol to close the loop? Do you have a defined process (standard work)?

What is your healthcare team's data for closing the loop on referrals to discharge services and supports?

Where is this data located and how is it collected?

# PLAN - DO - STUDY - ACT

## PA PQC Goal

- Increase the percent of hospitals with a *protocol to close the loop* on the referral status with the post-discharge services and supports from **30% to 50%**

- Identify your goal
- Understand the **current state**
- Design experiment/interventions
- Identify metrics
- Predict results



## Healthcare Team SMART Objective *Examples:*

### Healthcare Team Project Plan SMART Objective:

Establish a referral process with one social service organization (X) based on **Plans of Safe Care** within the next 6 months.

### Healthcare Team Project Plan SMART Objective:

Increase the number of social service organizations with established referral processes from one organization to three based on **Plans of Safe Care** within the next 9 months.

# Examining Your Current Condition



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DIRECT OBSERVATION AND  
ANALYSIS





# Do you have Standard Work?

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**Standard work is the foundation of continuous improvement.**

**We can't improve a process unless we know how it happened in the first place.**

**Create, Stabilize, Improve**

# The Power of Observation...

Go and See!



- **Watch how work is *actually occurring***
  - Capture events as they unfold
  - Is the process working the way it is intended?
- **In-depth and detailed understanding** of current state vs. standard work
  - Roles and responsibilities
  - Crosses silos
- Helps to **tell the story** (patient and staff)
  - Gives context to the numbers
- New eyes to see
  - Impacted by perspectives, experiences, expectations—**focus on the facts**
- **Prevents** jumping to solutions
- Solves the **right problem**

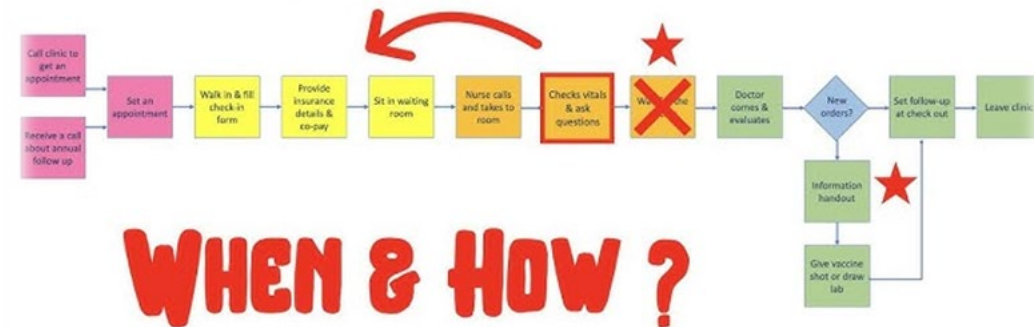
“You can observe a lot just by watching.”  
-Yogi Berra

# Understanding Your Current Condition



MAKING IT VISUAL

## PROCESS MAPS



# Benefits of Process Mapping

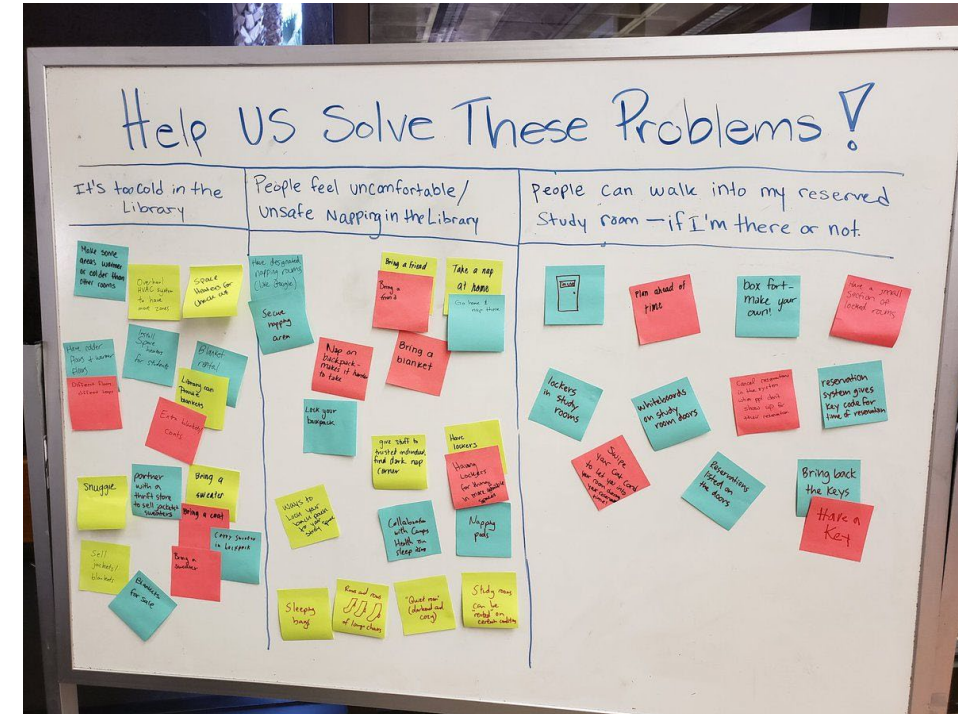
Unites a team in improvement (explore complicated processes)

Explores work across departments (learn about each other's work)

Identifies opportunities  
for improvement  
(working & not  
working)

Generates a deeper understanding of the work

Creates a visual document



# An Organized Approach to Quality Improvement

## PLAN - DO - STUDY - ACT

- Identify your goal
- Understand the **current state**
- Design experiment/interventions
- Identify metrics
- Predict results



### PA PQC Goal

- Increase the percent of hospitals with a *protocol to close the loop* on the referral status with the post-discharge services and supports from **30% to 50%**

### What is your Current State or Condition?

*Example:* our healthcare team does not have a defined protocol to close the loop.

What does the team want to do to address this current state?

Who needs to be on the team?

Problem

- What is the problem or need?
- How do we know this is a problem?
- Why is it important to solve

Scope

- Who is experiencing the problem?
- Where is the problem occurring?
- When and how often is the problem happening?

Team

- Who owns the problem (Executive in Charge)?
- Who has an interest in the problem (Stakeholders)?
- Who can make decisions about the problem (Management)?
- Who is directly involved in the problem (Front-line)?

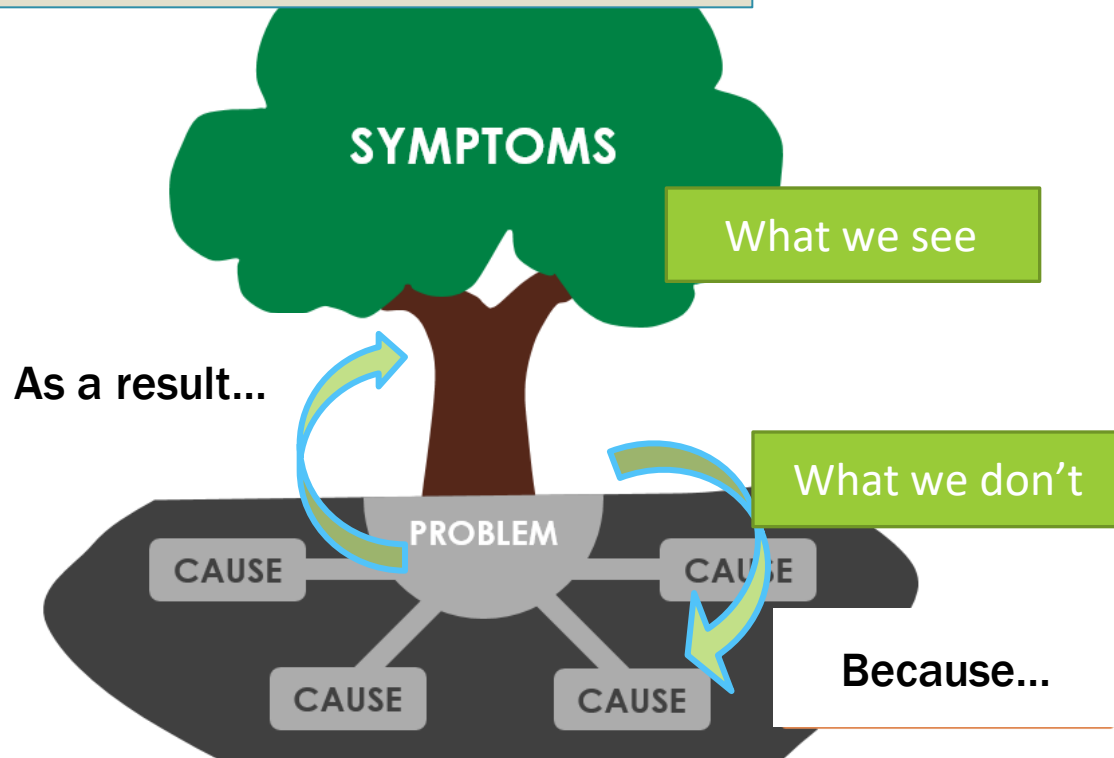


# Root Cause Analysis

Deep examination

# Root Cause Analysis: Key Points

Addressing symptoms will allow continued *recurrence* of the problem



Addressing the root cause aims to *eliminate* the problem

**Listen** to the people on the front lines, especially staff and consumers

**Explore** each suggestion, rather than judging it

**Identify** the causes of the problem not the symptoms

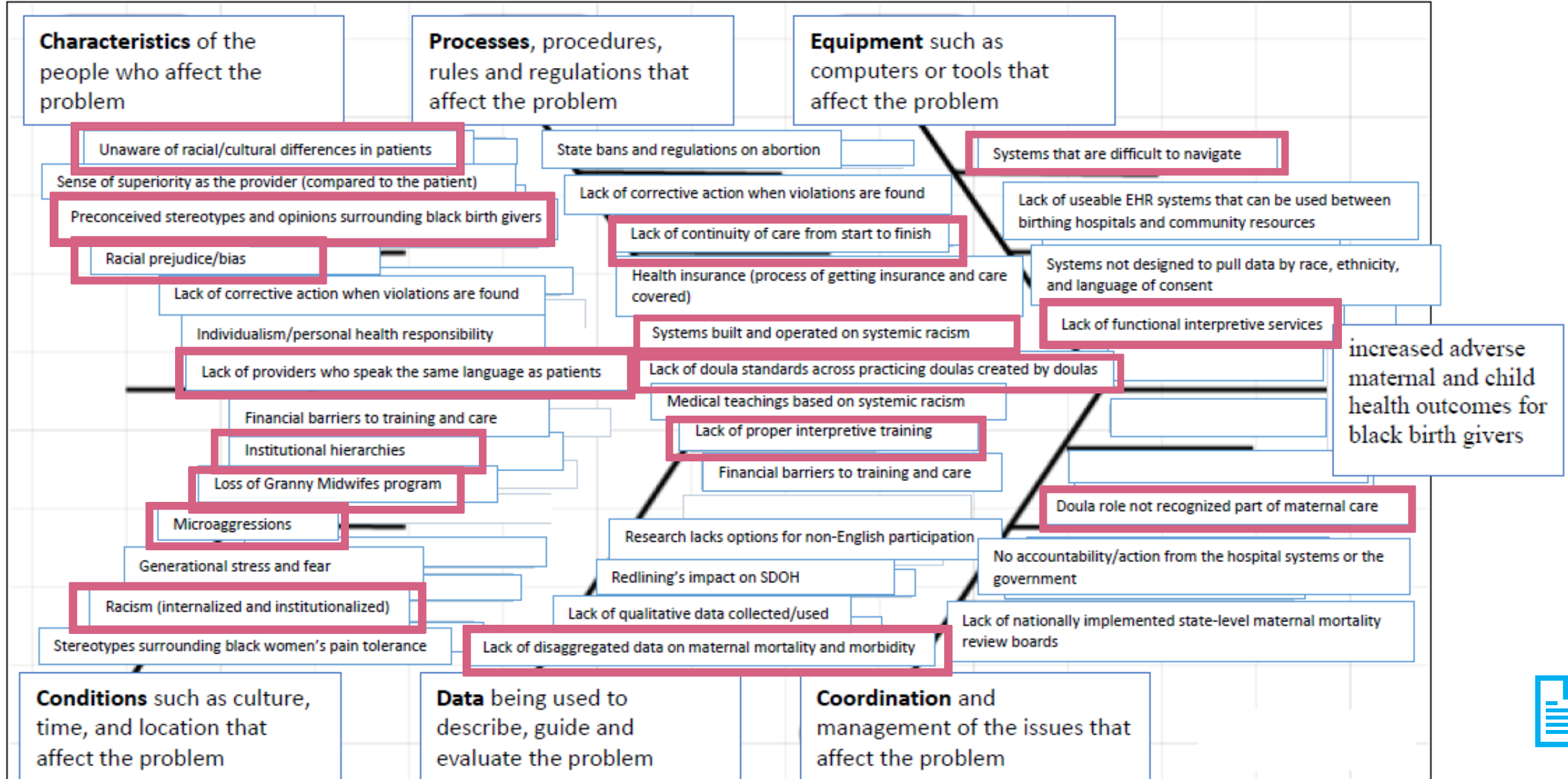
Tools: fishbone diagram, 5 WHY's

**WHY, focus on the process**, not the people

**Constructive not punitive**



# Root Cause Analysis: *Example*





# We Need Data!

# Where do I start?



# What do I collect?



VALUE

# How do I analyze it?



# Data Dilemmas

# Data: Measure Change for Improvement

**Outcome Measures-** *what is your ultimate goal?*

- The voice of the customer (patient, staff).
- Reflects the problem you are trying to address.
- Describes how your overall system is performing.

**Process Measures-** *how will you get there?*

- Steps logically linked to outcome of interest.
- Addresses how key parts of the system is performing.

**Balancing Measures-** *how impacting upstream and downstream?*

- Describes what happens to the system as processes and outcomes have changed.
- What are the unintended consequences or alternate explanations?

*How will we know the change is an improvement?*



Pennsylvania Perinatal Quality Collaborative

*Maternal Opioid Use (OUD) Process Measures  
and Specifications*

*Maternal Opioid Use (OUD) Survey  
(Structure Measures)*



# Data are essential to each step in the process improvement journey.

## Example: SUD Screening Rate

*Substance use screening for pregnant patients is 80%, <90% goal*

*20% of pregnant patients are not screened for substance use*

*Staff are unaware of the missed substance use screenings*

*Timely identification and data for staff of missed substance use screenings*



*New standard work document implemented across four hospital campuses; system substance use screening rate of 90%*

*New standard work document created for substance use screening process*

*Last three months, missed substance use screening for pregnant patients decreased by 10%, increasing overall screening rate to 90% goal*

*Revise process and electronic prompts for substance use screening at point of care producing timely data*

# An Organized Approach to Quality Improvement

## PLAN - DO - STUDY - ACT

### PA PQC Goal

- Increase the percent of hospitals with a *protocol to close the loop* on the referral status with the post-discharge services and supports from **30% to 50%**

### Example:

Healthcare Team Project Plan SMART Objective:  
Establish a referral process with one social service organization (X) based on **Plans of Safe Care** within the next 6 months.

What is the test of the change the team will pilot?

Establish an **action plan** with clearly defined responsibilities, roles, due dates, and expected outcomes



- Review the test
- **Analyze results**
- Assess learnings

- Test the change
- Carry out a **small-scale experiment**
- Collect data



# Action Planning



Action Item (What Will Happen)	By Whom (Team Member/Role)	Target Date	Status	Outcomes (Results/Barriers)
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What do you plan to do (roadmap)?

*Each line is a specified activity*

The diagram illustrates a roadmap where a grey road leads from the bottom left towards a blue box labeled 'Goal' at the top right. Four colored boxes labeled 'Activity' are positioned along the road: a green box on the left, an orange box slightly higher and further right, a blue box below the green one, and a purple box further right and higher, closer to the goal.

Designate a team member and their role for each activity

Determine a due date for each activity

Track progress toward the due date for each activity

NOT STARTED

IN PROGRESS

BEHIND SCHEDULE

NEEDS ADDRESSED

COMPLETED

Indicate the findings for each activity

*Clearly identify any barriers to achieving the designated activity*

# Action Planning

Activity outcome  
and any barriers



Specified  
Activity

Action Item (What Will Happen)	By Whom (Team Member/Role)	Target Date	Status	Outcomes (Results/Barriers)
Share current data with healthcare team at staff meeting	Jen/ Unit Director	4/1/24	In process	
Establish 30-day plan to implement pilot	Sue/ Team Lead	4/10/24	To begin after 4/1/24 staff meeting	
Share pilot results with healthcare team at staff meeting	Sue/ Team Lead	5/1/24	To share at 5/1/24 meeting	
Create new standard work document	Jane/ Nurse Educator	5/1/24		
Determine 60-day plan for spread & dissemination to four campuses	Jen/Unit Director	6/1/24		



# An Organized Approach to Quality Improvement

## PLAN - DO - STUDY - ACT

### PA PQC Goal

- Increase the percent of hospitals with a *protocol to close the loop* on the referral status with the post-discharge services and supports from **30% to 50%**

### Example:

Healthcare Team Project Plan SMART Objective:  
Establish a referral process with one social service organization (X) based on **Plans of Safe Care** within the next 6 months.

What did the team learn from the pilot?

Establish an **action plan** to implement and monitor new standard work

- **Act based** on what you learned
- Adopt, Adapt, Abandon





# Action Planning

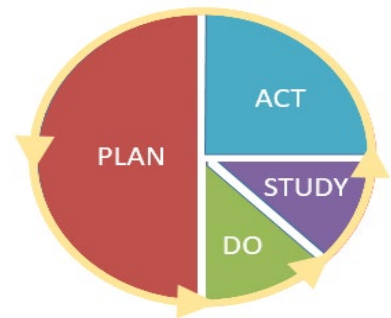
ACT

Activity outcome  
and any barriers

Specified  
Activity

Action Item (What Will Happen)	By Whom (Team Member/Role)	Target Date	Status	Outcomes (Results/Barriers)
Share current data with healthcare team at staff meeting	Jen/ Unit Director	4/1/24	In process	Determining data location and retrieval
Establish 30-day plan to implement pilot	Sue/ Team Lead	4/10/24	To begin after 4/1/24 staff meeting	
Share pilot results with healthcare team at staff meeting	Sue/ Team Lead	5/1/24	To share at 5/1/24 meeting	All staff potentially unavailable for meeting due to conflict
Create new standard work document	Jane/ Nurse Educator	5/1/24		
Determine 60-day plan for spread & dissemination to four campuses	Jen/Unit Director	6/1/24		





**Change Worksheet**

Site Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Initiative: \_\_\_\_\_

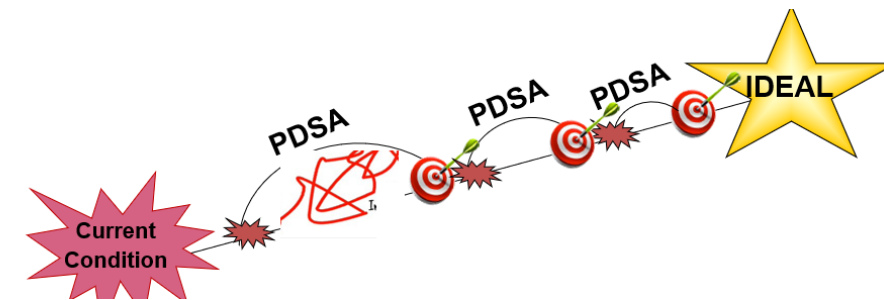
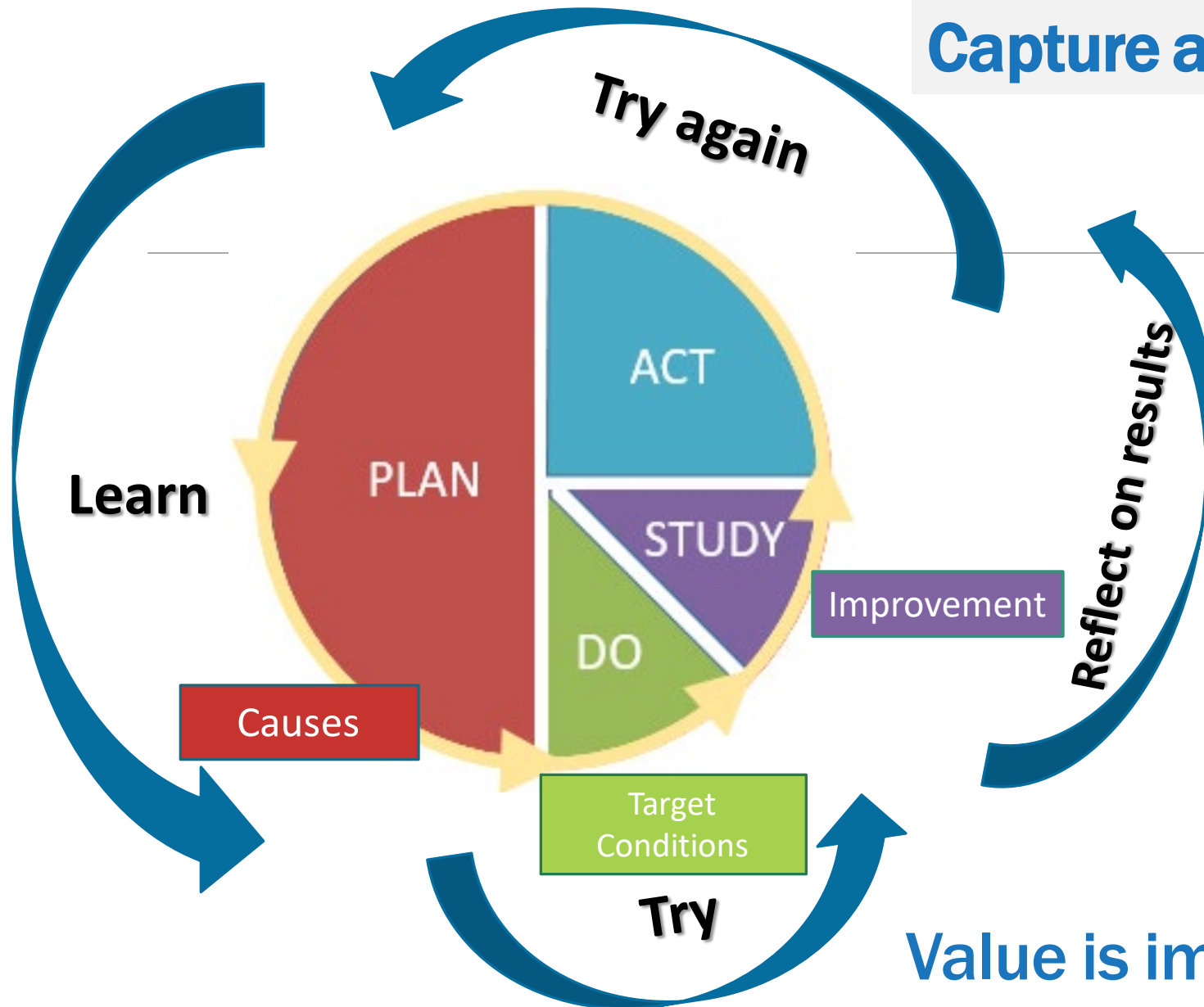
Date Started:	Before (Current State)	After (Outcome)
People Involved:	Description (or Drawing):	Description (or Drawing):
Areas Involved/Affected:		
	How do you know this is a problem (include any explanatory baseline data)?	How do you know this change helped (include any post-change data)?

Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Outcome:    ☐ Adopted    ☐ Adapted    ☐ Abandoned  
Form completed by: \_\_\_\_\_



**Capture and document your QI work!**

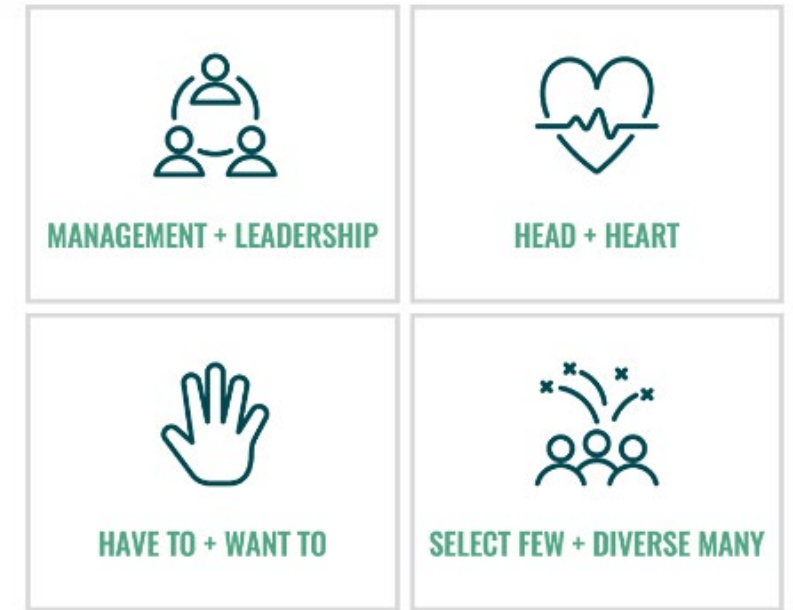
**Tell the story!**



**Each PDSA gets you closer to success**

**Value is improved one step at a time**

# Change Management

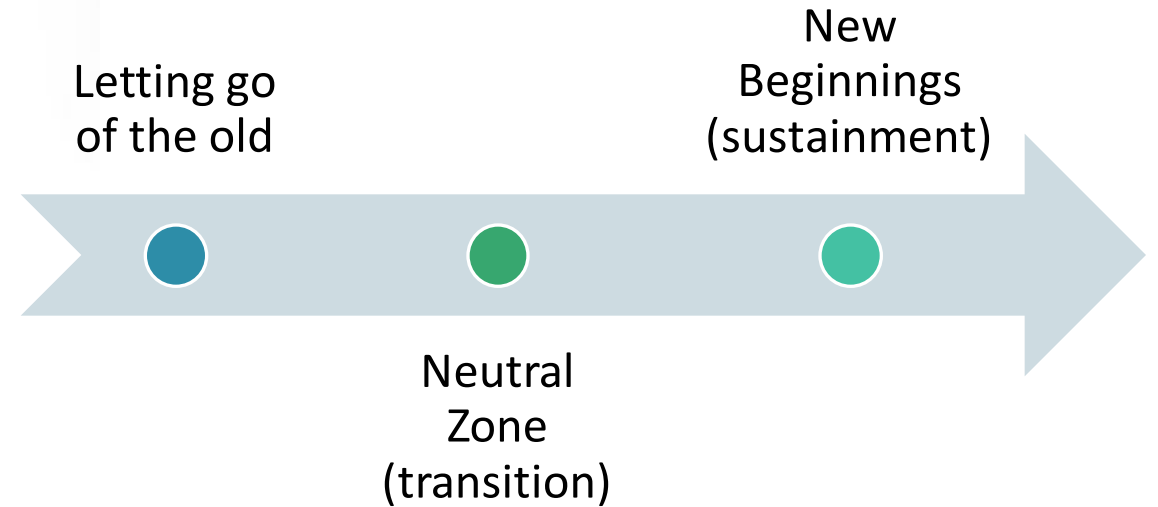


## Dr. John Kotter The 4 Core Change Principles

represent the mindsets, attitudes, and leadership behaviors needed to drive change

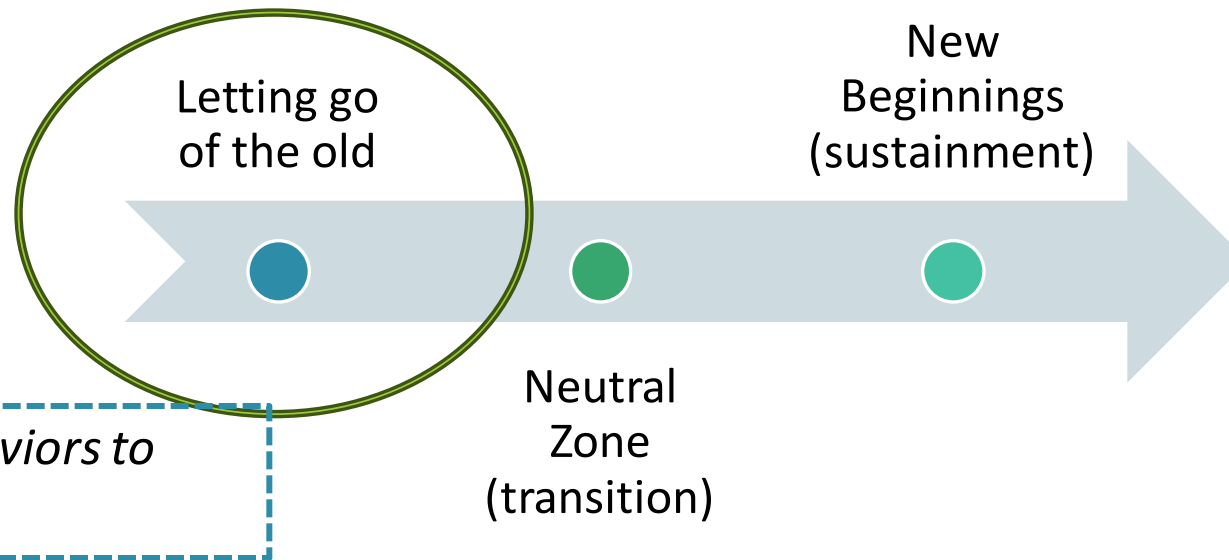
[https://www.kotterinc.com/methodology/?gad\\_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjw5v2wBhBrEiwAXDDoJUEN\\_\\_2mWug3UIMd1UvBtmr7UMQEUGEI9xTZv8rmKP2EK8XA77CtHRoC8dAQAvD\\_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds](https://www.kotterinc.com/methodology/?gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjw5v2wBhBrEiwAXDDoJUEN__2mWug3UIMd1UvBtmr7UMQEUGEI9xTZv8rmKP2EK8XA77CtHRoC8dAQAvD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds)

# Dr. John Kotter



[https://www.kotterinc.com/methodology/?gad\\_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjw5v2wBhBrEiwAXDDoJUEN\\_\\_2mWug3UIMd1UvBtmr7UMQEUGEI9xTZv8rmKP2EK8XA77CtHRoC8dAQAvD\\_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds](https://www.kotterinc.com/methodology/?gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjw5v2wBhBrEiwAXDDoJUEN__2mWug3UIMd1UvBtmr7UMQEUGEI9xTZv8rmKP2EK8XA77CtHRoC8dAQAvD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds)

# Change Management: Supporting Transition

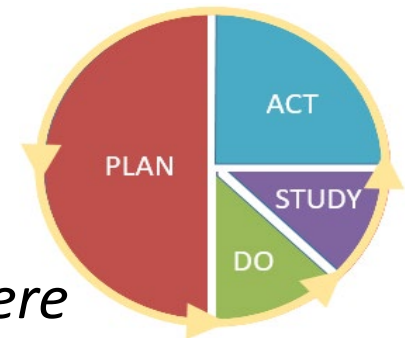


Recognize that resistance is normal

Explore and understand the resistance

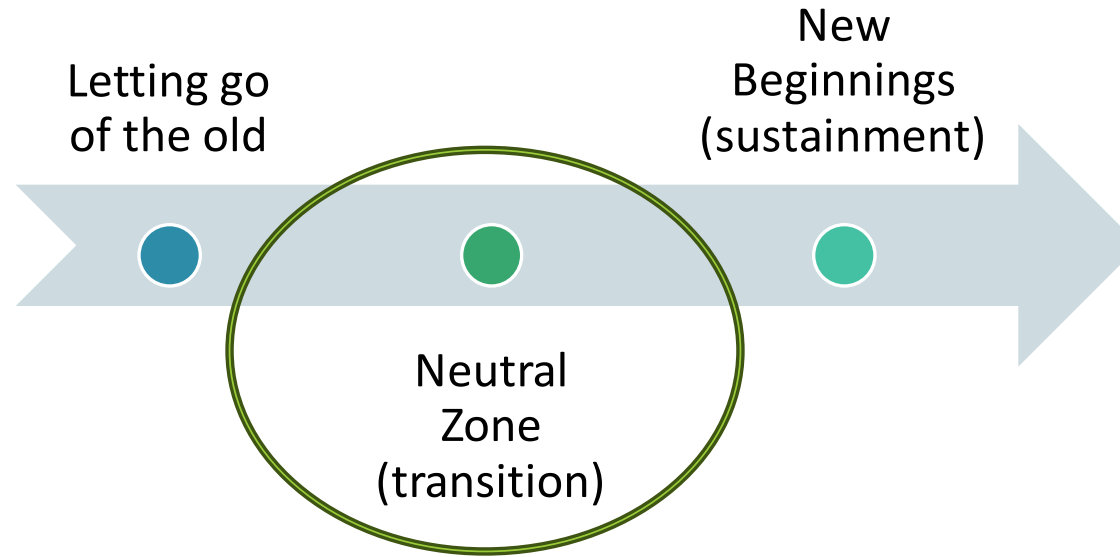
Validate the resistance

*Capture information about the way things were*





# Change Management: Supporting Transition

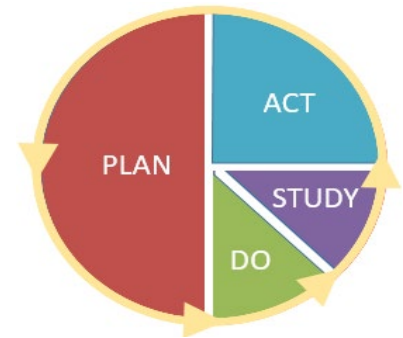


*Don't rush the change*

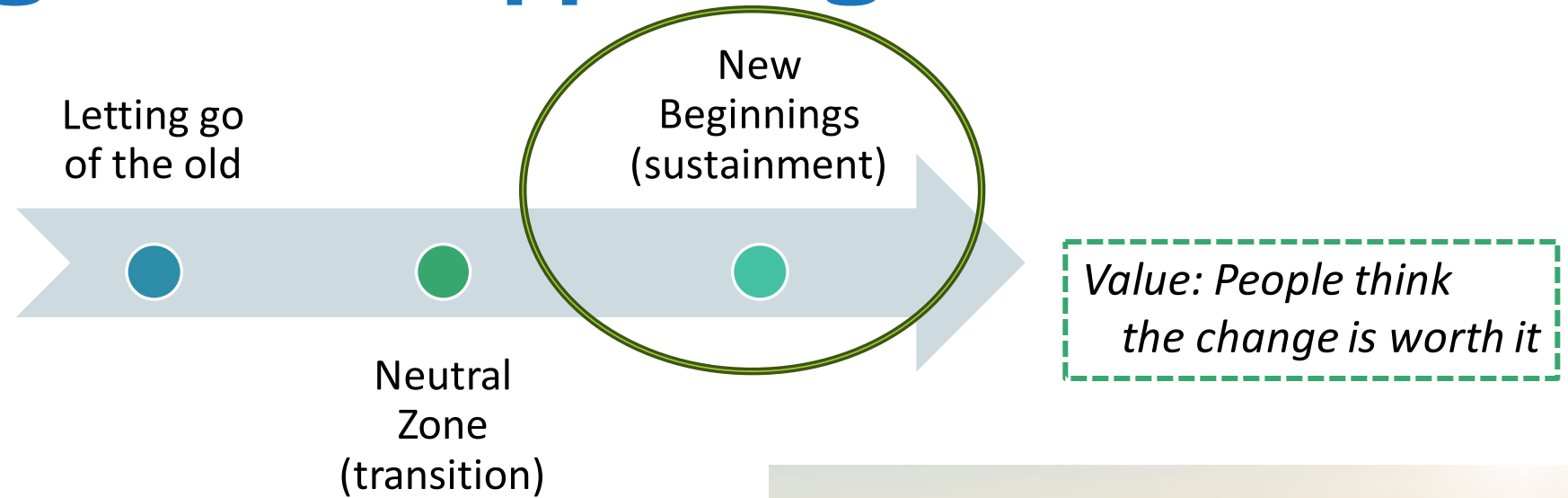
*Keep communication open*

- *Share knowledge & learnings*

*Confidence: People believe they can change*



# Change Management: Supporting Transition

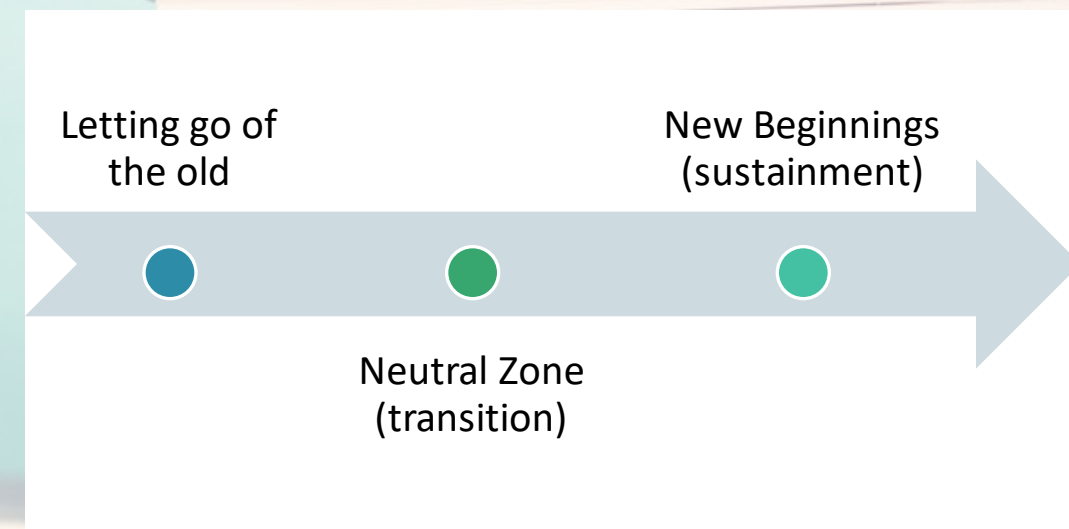
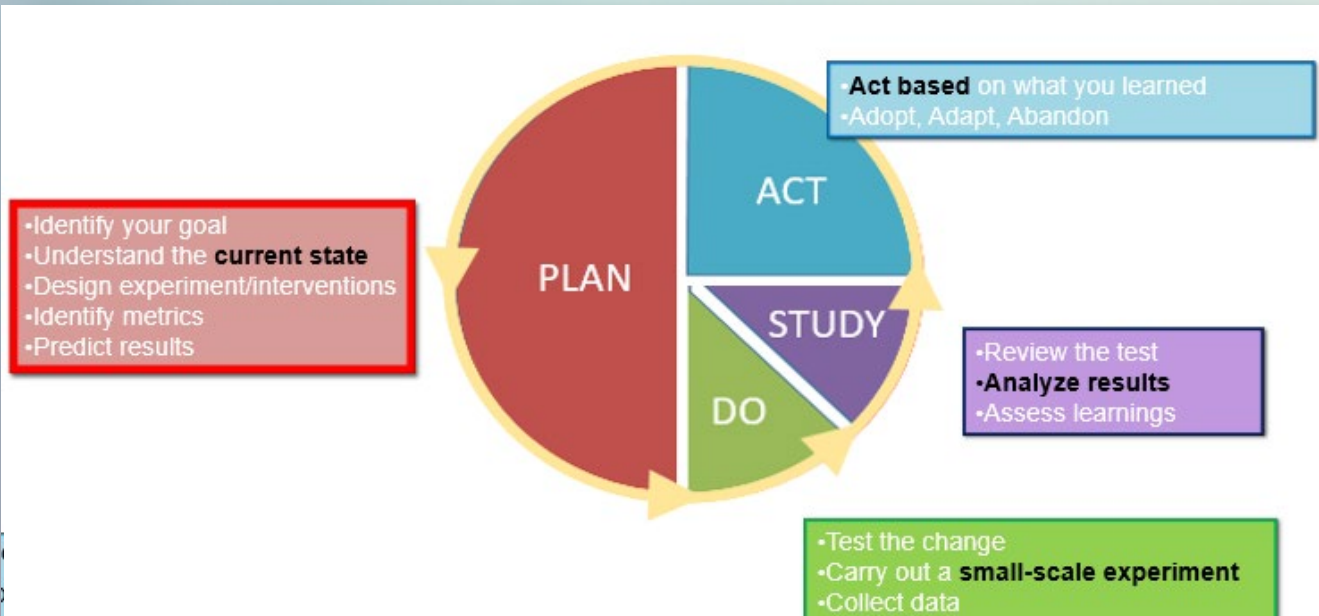


*Celebrate the accomplishments*

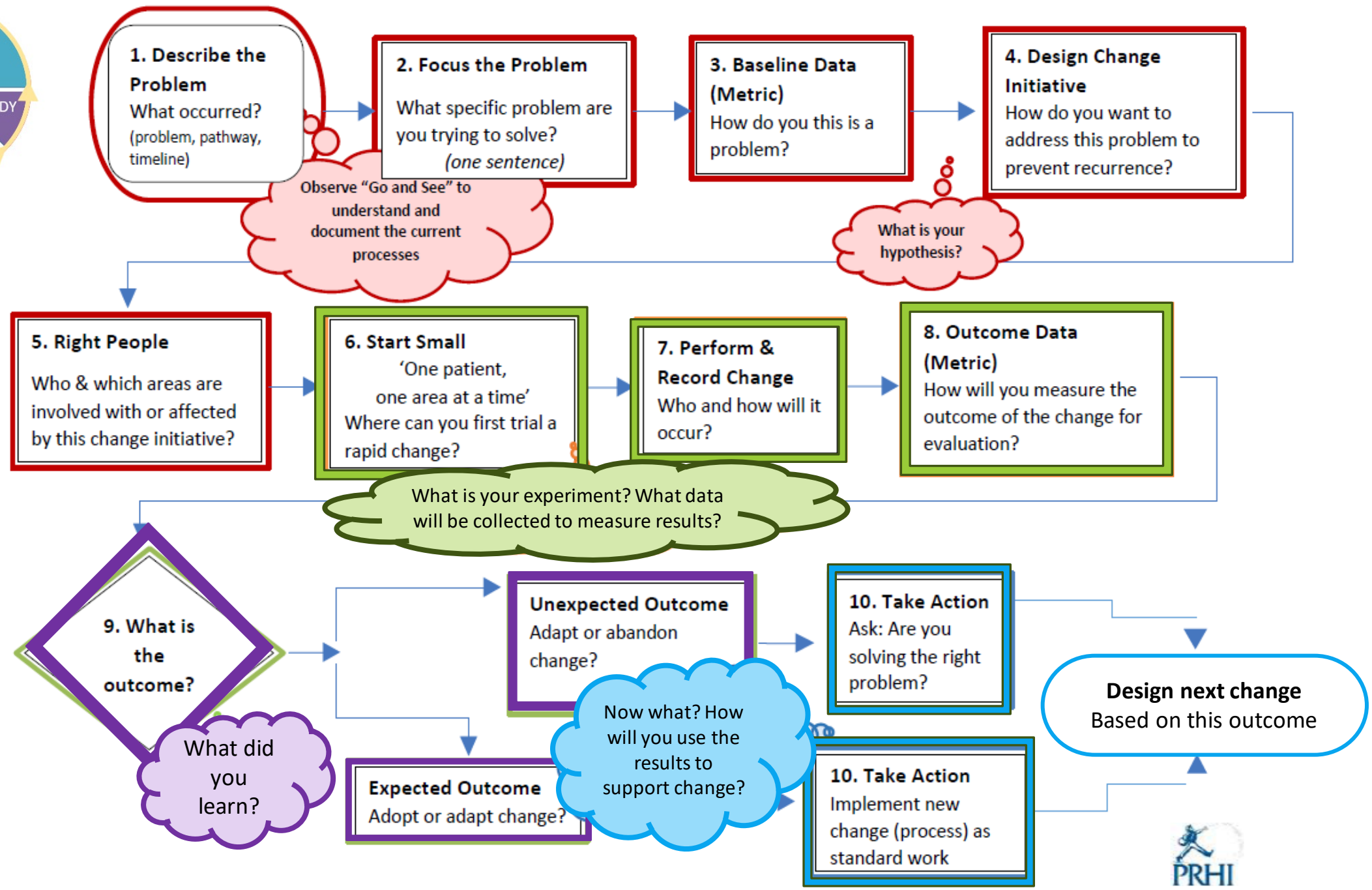
- *Share knowledge & learnings*
- *Don't let things go back*
- Keep communication open*



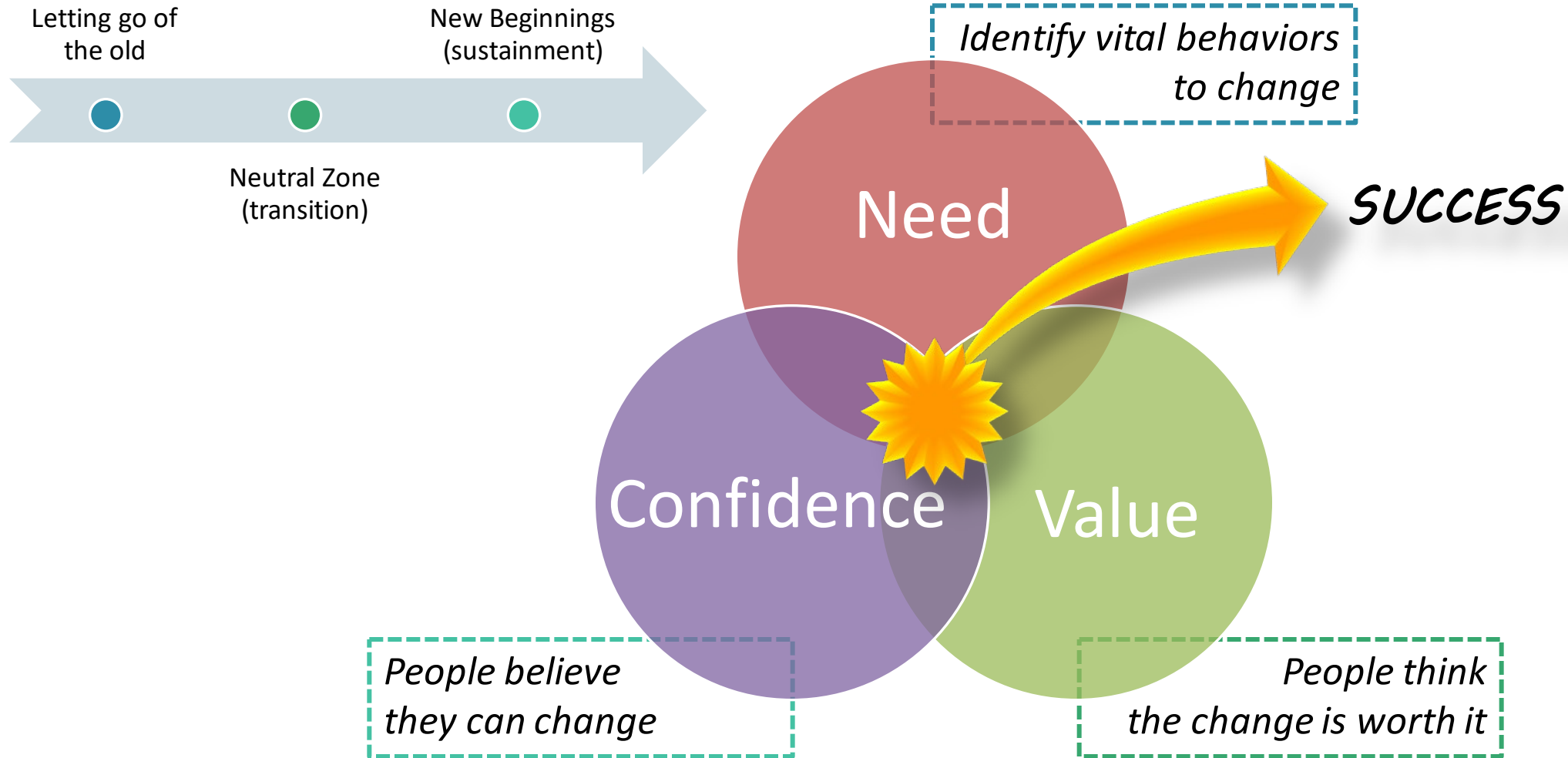
# Summary: Quality Improvement & Change Management



# Flow Chart for Problem Solving Thinking (PDSA)



# What Makes Change Successful?







# Q&A

Facilitated by PA PQC Quality Improvement Coaches



# Wrap-Up

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SARA NELIS, RN

# Upcoming Learning Sessions

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**JUNE 27**

***TBD***

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Zoom

**JULY 25**

**Motivational  
Interviewing**

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Zoom



# Focus Areas for April 2024-March 2025

Maternal Opioid Use Disorder, Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome, Maternal Sepsis, Safe Sleep. Each focus area includes strategies and goals to reduce racial/ethnic disparities.

Learn about the  
Initiatives

Access Session  
Materials

<https://www.papqc.org/>

05.22.24

SAVE THE DATE

# Annual In-Person Meeting

Harrisburg, PA



Pennsylvania Perinatal Quality Collaborative



# PA PQC QI Coaches

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**Kristen Brenneman,**  
MSN, RN  
Quality Improvement  
Facilitator, Jewish  
Healthcare Foundation



**Lisa Boyd, BA**  
Program Associate,  
Jewish Healthcare  
Foundation



**Jennifer Condel,**  
SCT(ASCP)MT  
Manager, Lean Healthcare  
Strategy and  
Implementation, Jewish  
Healthcare Foundation



**Karena Moran, PhD**  
Improvement  
Optimization Advisor,  
Geisinger Health &  
NEPaPQC



**Maureen Saxon-Gioia,**  
MSHSA, BSN, RN  
Nurse Project Manager,  
Jewish Healthcare  
Foundation

# Credentialing Guidelines:

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**PLEASE** complete the electronic evaluations by Wednesday, April 24th:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XH6ZQ3R>

Please indicate on the evaluation which CEUs you are requesting:  
CME, CNE or Social Worker credits.

1. The UPMC Center for Continuing Education will follow up with you, via email, after Wednesday, April 24th to notify you about how you can claim your credits.
  - ☐ To prepare, we recommend you create an account with UPMC CCE via this website <https://cce.upmc.com>.





# Thank You!

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[www.papqc.org](http://www.papqc.org)

[papqc@whamglobal.org](mailto:papqc@whamglobal.org)