



**Rhode Island Health Care System Planning Cabinet
EOHHS Independent Advisory Council
Joint Meeting**

July 10, 2025

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Welcome & Review of March Minutes

Health Care System Planning Cabinet & EOHHS Independent Advisory Council Joint Meeting Agenda

1) Welcome & Introductions and Review of the May Minutes – Secretary Richard Charest

2) Updates/Strategic Discussion - Assistant Secretary Ana Novais

A. Implementation Priorities from the Foundational Report

- Data Development and Analysis
- Legislative and Budgetary Update - State Legislature & Federal Updates
- Health Related Social Needs - Presentation from Chris Ausura, from the Health Related Social Needs Work Group

B. Long-Term Planning

- Proposal for Year 2 Retreat and RI Health Care System Plan Development
- Ongoing Reporting

3) Other Updates from Cabinet Members and Community Partners/Discussion

4) Public Comment & Closing Remarks – Secretary Charest

Implementation Priorities from the Foundational Report

Data Development and Analysis

Introduction of our FY26 Data Dashboard and Analysis Project

- Initial focus on Primary Care and Hospital Fiscal Transparency
- Subsequent focus on Behavioral Health, Health Related Social Needs, and Nursing Homes
- Introduction of Ena Backus, from Freedman Healthcare (ebackus@freedmanhealthcare.com)

Questions to Cabinet and Advisory Council Members:

- Over the summer, we will be determining the critical dashboard components you think would assist state agencies and Health Care System Planning Community Partner (HCSP) participants in decision-making. What ideas do you have now, to begin this discussion?
- We will be seeking participants for this data planning. Please indicate your interest.

Data Development and Analysis

Introduction of our Health Economics Academic Partner Project

- Initial focus on economic analyses of Foundational Report components
- Plan for prioritization of additional areas of study
- Introduction of some of our key partners from the University of Rhode Island and Brown University

Questions to Cabinet and Advisory Council Members:

- Over the summer, the Office of Health Care System Planning and our academic partners will be firming up research questions – and in the future, there will be opportunities for HCSP participants to help define research questions. What ideas do you have now, to begin this discussion?
- We will be seeking participants for this research planning. Please indicate your interest.

Legislative and Budgetary Update - State

Discussion of some of the key General Assembly legislative and budgetary actions that will affect our health care system and health care system planning in State Fiscal Year 2026.

- What are the outcomes that are most important to your organization?
- What did not pass that you plan to address in the 2026 Legislative Session?
- What do you suggest the Office of Health Care System Planning work on for review in the Governor's budgetary or legislative process for 2026?

Legislative and Budgetary Update - Federal

Updates that participants have to share about the federal budget or legislative process:

- What are you hearing from any national organizations with which you are affiliated?
- Other insights from your federal policy tracking?

Health Related Social Needs Care Model Project Launch

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Prioritized Health Related Social Needs (HRSN) Recommendations

1. Develop refine, and align state structures to oversee, coordinate, assess, promote, and implement strategic actions that will improve Social Determinants of Health (SDOH), with a specific focus on communities with a high prevalence of HRSNs.
2. Refine and apply existing data systems to monitor, inform, and guide decision-making aimed at integrating and delivering services and coordinating care
3. Inventory the specific programs and services being conducted across public state agencies and private organizations/coalitions that screen, assess, and link residents to HRSN services
4. Develop and implement a strategic framework for aligning state resources that promotes collective action, leverages resources across all sources, and streamlines service delivery models, to meet community needs

HRSN Care Model Design Strategy



HRSN Care Model Design Goals

Goal: To convene state and community stakeholders to establish a scalable strategic approach for building a HRSN care model in Rhode Island that:

Allows for consistent, accurate insight into capacity, gaps, access, quality, and impact of HRSN resources

Supports the strategic development, deployment, and alignment of resources where they're needed most to meet the health-related social needs of Rhode Islanders

Ensures the stability and capacity of the HRSN care model, and appropriately aligns that capacity with the other prioritized elements of Rhode Island's healthcare system

Mitigates risks to the HRSN care model through increased visibility and strategic alignment

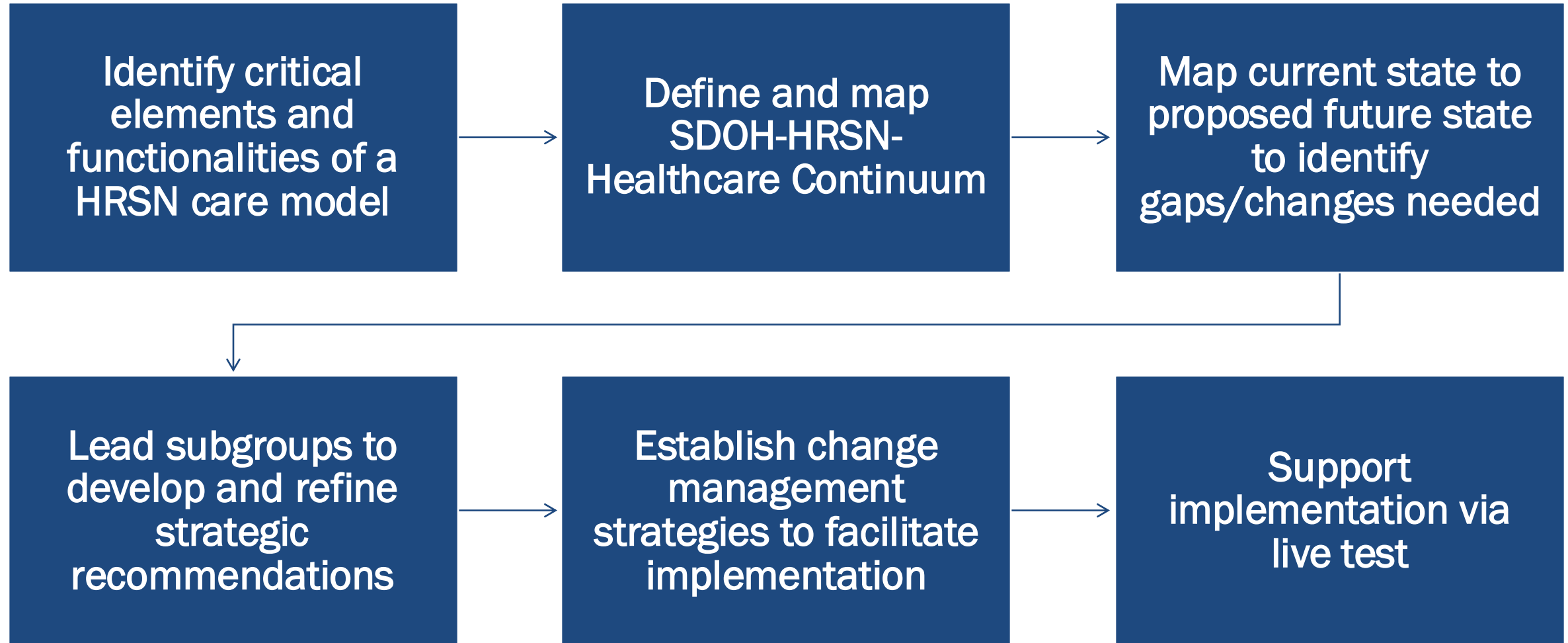
Informs collective actions to address the social, environmental, and economic conditions that create and exacerbate the demand for HRSN services

Care Model Design Team Membership Criteria

EOHHS will convene a team of state and community leaders to establish the strategic framework needed for the development and testing a HRSN care model. Design team members should:

- Have the authority to represent the goals, priorities, and resources being deployed by their organization to meet SDOH, HRSN, and healthcare systems needs
- Have background and experience in systems design, policy development and implementation, and the ability to visualize and articulate complex concepts to drive change
- Represent an agency, organization, or sector that works at the intersections of SDOH, HRSN, and healthcare
- Have established relationships with others working within the SDOH, HRSN, healthcare systems, including SMEs, policy leads, advocates, residents, consumers, providers, and others.
- Be capable of supporting the mapping of financial, programmatic, and data resources on behalf of their respective organization/sector

HRSN Care Model Design Team Outputs



Next Steps

- We are seeking 1-2 representatives from each member of the Cabinet
- Members of the Cabinet and the Advisory Committee are also asked to recommend any external partners who meet the team selection criteria
- A half day HRSN Care Model Design Team kickoff event will be held in late September/early October
- Additional time commitments and activities will be planned during the kickoff

Long-Term Planning Proposal

Long-Term Planning Proposal

The Office of Health Care System Planning is taking the next steps on the Rhode Island Health Care System Plan this summer, preparing for a Fall/early Winter Summit, similar to our November 2024 Retreat.

To create the plan, we will build on the Foundational Plan – for each goal, aligning its problem statements, strategies, recommendations – along with targets and indicators to be measured.

Within each sector, we will ask the public/private Workgroups to reconvene in the Summer and Fall, and affirm these aligned components of the long-term plan.

Other Cabinet and Community Updates/ General Discussion

Public Comment

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