

# The Path Forward for Mental Health & Substance Use

*Improving Access to Effective Treatment*

December, 2019



# Mental Health & Substance Use A Public Health Crisis

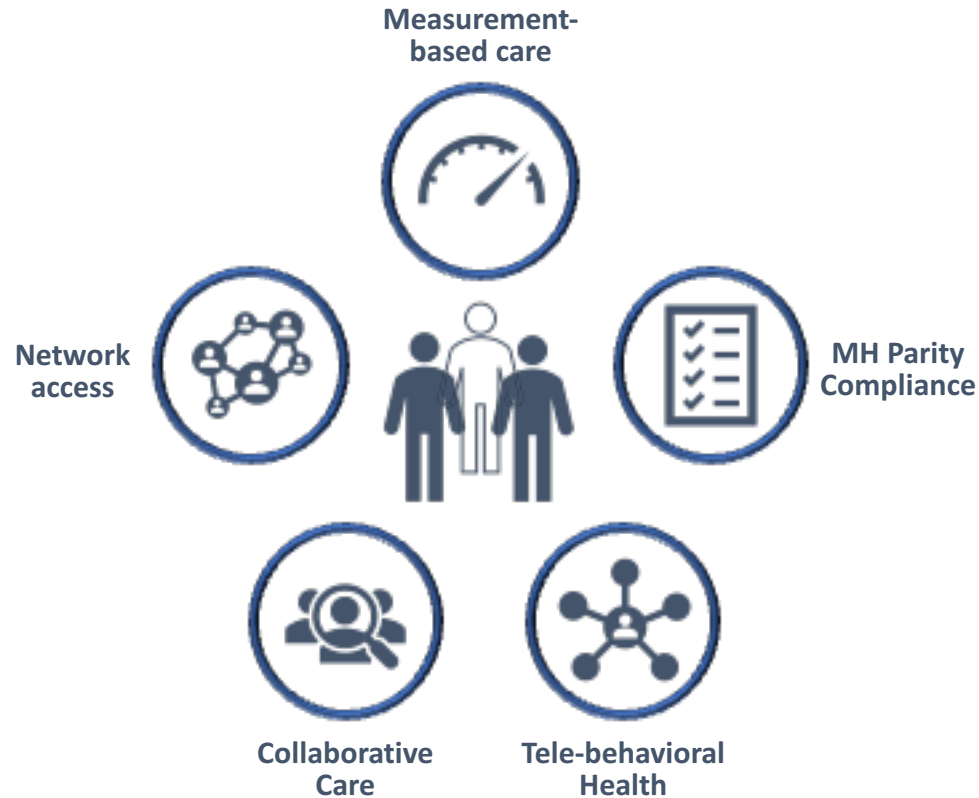
**Societal Impact**  
Suicide rates at record levels  
Opioid deaths up 400%  
Acceptance improving, Access declining

**Workforce Impact**  
Direct impact on performance  
Leading cost of disability  
Multiplier effect on co-morbidities

## FIVE INTER-RELATED OPPORTUNITIES TO STEM THE TIDE OF ACCESS ISSUES

### A **BROKEN** SYSTEM

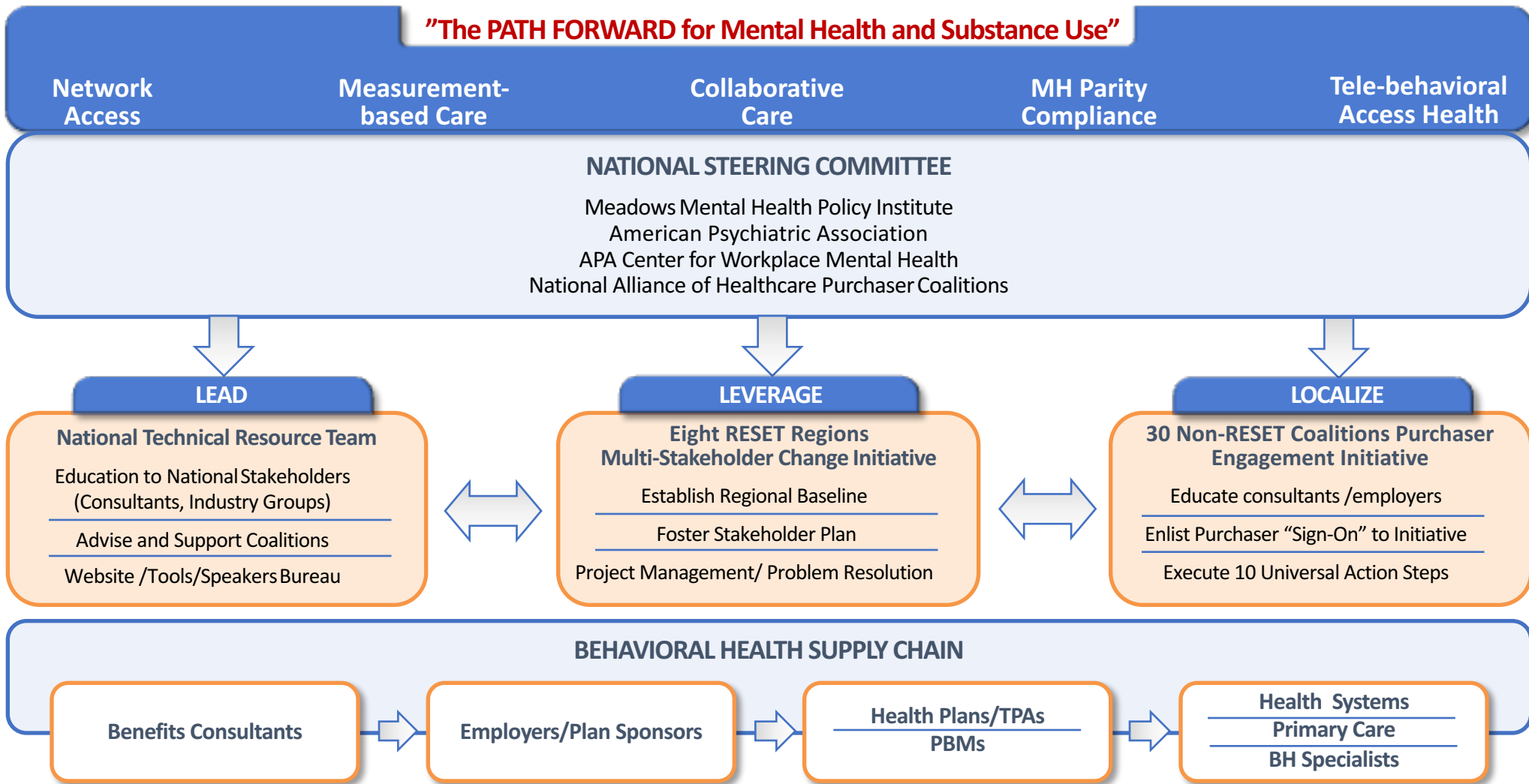
- Phantom networks – difficult to get timely appointments
- Provider shortages, low participation rates
- Most MH medications prescribed by primary care
- No accountability for quality of treatment
- Growing concerns and enforcement of MH parity



### A **REFORMED** SYSTEM

- Reverse declining network participation rates of MH professionals
- Improve quality of care provided and patient outcomes
- Integrate behavioral health screening, coordination and referrals from primary care
- Reduce legacy MH disparities and friction
- Supplement access and integration with virtual care

**"The PATH FORWARD for Mental Health and Substance Use"**



**RESET**

**R**egional  
**E**mployer  
**S**takeholder  
**E**ngagement  
**T**eam

# The Path Forward Partnership

## National and Regional Leadership Supported by Diverse Technical Depth

### Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute

- Nationally recognized for having leveraged resources at a grassroots level—sharing best practices, making resources available, accessing information, building protocol
- Brings together diverse mental health resources and services to identify and affect the policies, practices and recommendations
- Years of deep technical resources and experience in stakeholder collaborations to support The Path Forward as we foster a national vision and approach to deal with ingrained

### APAF Center for Workplace Mental Health

- Collaborates with employers and other key stakeholders to address 1) raising awareness/ending stigma; 2) creating mentally healthy organizational cultures; 3) improving access to MHSU services.
- Closely aligned with policy and practice priorities of the American Psychiatric Association (APA). Recommendations are aligned with the five priorities of The Path Forward project.
- The Center serves as a liaison between the APA and the employer and payer communities to develop strategies to promote improved access to MHSU services.

### National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions

- Only nonprofit, purchaser-led organization with a national and regional structure dedicated to driving health and healthcare value across the country.
- 42 member coalitions representing 45 million Americans and \$300 billion of annual healthcare spend; uniquely situated to “Lead, Leverage and Localize” MHSU change effort
- For the past 3+ years, the National Alliance has been a leader in identifying concerns and opportunities in the MHSU arena, including its landmark 2018 release of National Alliance eValue8 Mental Health Deep Dive Report

