

# Assess and Prioritize Health Status Needs/Problems

*Should answer or address these questions...*

- What is the overall health status of the MCAH population?
- What are the population's health problems and needs?
- Which population subgroups (gender, age, ethnicity, insurance/payer) are at the highest risk for the identified health problems?

# Assess and Prioritize Health Status/Problems (cont.)

- Where (geographically) are high-risk groups located?
- Are there trends in data that show that problem is increasing or diminishing?
- How does your community compare to others (federal, state, similar community) over time?

# Assess and Prioritize Health Status/Problems (cont.)

## Purposes of a Prioritization Process

- Creates a systematic, fair and inclusive process
- Focuses decision-making if overwhelmed by many problems
- Challenges partners to critically review data
- Promotes rational allocation of resources
- Documents a rational decision-making process

# Assess Community /MCAH Resources & Strengths/Capacity

- What resources are available in the community? Are there gaps in resources?
- Is the capacity of local health department adequate to meet identified needs?
- What are community's strengths or assets?
- What are priorities among identified problems/needs?

# Analyze Problem & Select Interventions

## Benefits of conducting a formal problem analysis

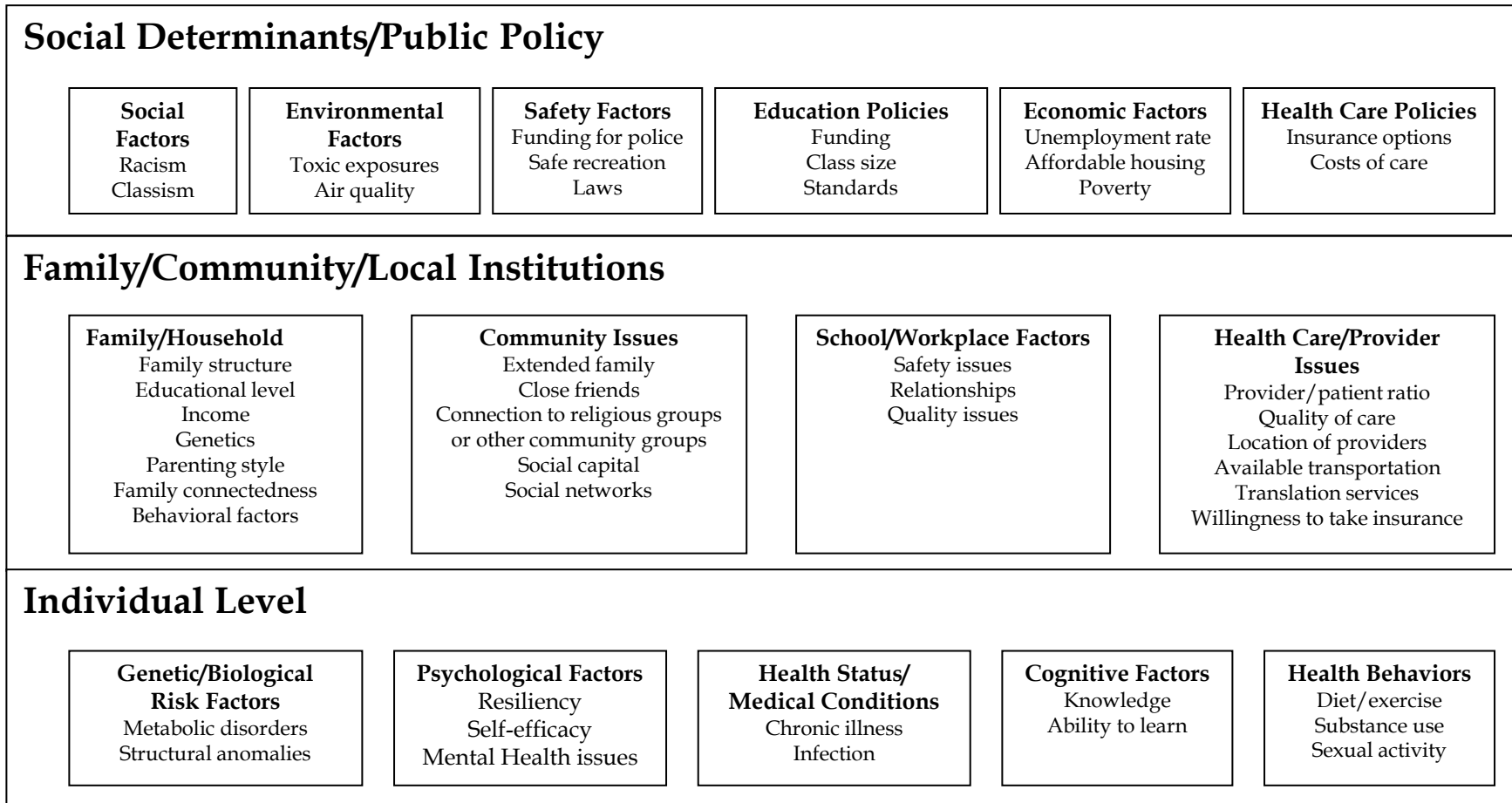
- Provide a Socio-Ecological Framework for addressing public health issues
- Promote awareness of the range of health determinants, and support the rational allocation of limited resources to be utilized the most effectively and efficiently
- Avoid allocation of limited resources in response to “impressions”, anecdotal evidence, or political pressure

# Analyze Problem & Select Interventions (cont.)

## Components of problem analysis

- Examine the epidemiologic data.
- Examine the literature and consult experts about health determinants, including both causal and risk factors, associated with the problem.
- Determine the extent to which these causal and risk factors are active in the community.
- Determine the relative contribution of each identified factor to the problem.
- Identify the interrelationships among factors.
- Determine key causal pathways, the most potentially effective intervention points in pathways and identify effective interventions.

# A Generic Framework for Health Problem Analysis



**Targeted Indicator**

**Identified Problem**

**Consequences**

**Economic, Physical, etc.**

# Identify Effective Intervention Strategies

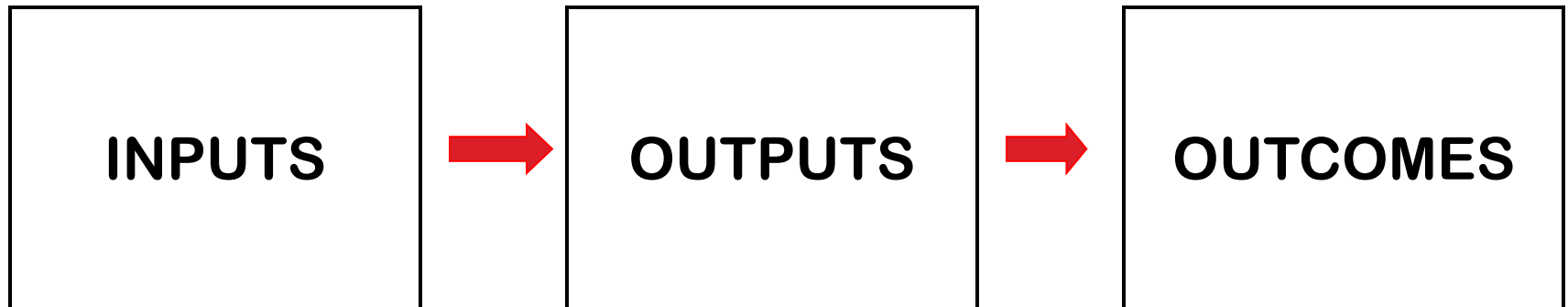
## Intervention assessment involves

- Assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of current programs addressing the problem
- Consulting databases of proven and promising interventions (i.e. Community Toolbox)
- Reviewing health and social sciences literature to identify proven and promising interventions
- Consulting with the target community
- Assessing of the feasibility of implementing the identified interventions



# Using the Logic Model Framework for your Intervention

Problem Statement



**ASSUMPTIONS**  
(e.g., best practices,  
local experience)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



**ENVIRONMENT**  
(external factors that influence outcomes)

# Develop Objectives

## Objectives should be SMART

- **Specific** – identify who will receive the intervention, what will be done and where it will happen
- **Measurable** – what benefit is expected and how much change is expected
- **Achievable** – be sure the objective is attainable
- **Realistic** – it can be achieved given the time and resources available
- **Time-Framed** – identify when or within what period the objective will be achieved