



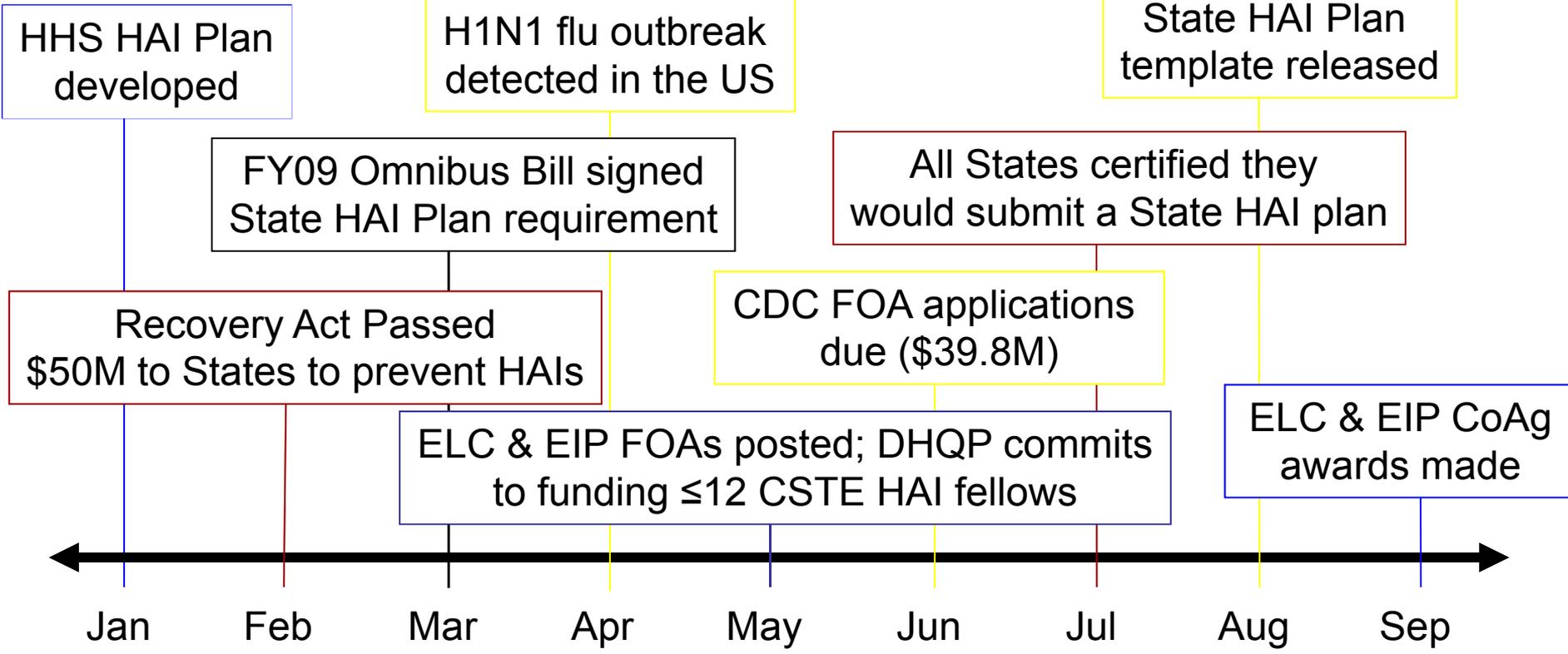
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act  
Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC)  
for Infectious Disease Program  
Healthcare-associated Infections (HAIs)  
Grantee Meeting

*Joni Young*

October 19-20, 2009



# What a year this has been...



# 2009



# HHS Action Plan



In January 2009, the Department of Health and Human Services released the HHS Action Plan to Prevent Healthcare-Associated Infections (<http://www.hhs.gov/ophs/initiatives/hai>).

## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Tuesday, January 6, 2009

Contact: OPHS Press Office  
(202) 205-0143

### HHS Issues Action Plan to Prevent Health Care-Associated Infections

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) unveiled a plan that establishes a set of five-year national prevention targets to reduce and possibly eliminate health care-associated infections (HAIs).

Health care-associated infections are infections that patients acquire while undergoing medical treatment or surgical procedures. These infections are largely preventable.

The Action Plan to Prevent Health Care-Associated Infections lists a number of areas in which HAIs can be prevented, such as surgical site infections. The plan also outlines cross-agency efforts to save lives and reduce health care costs through expanded HAI prevention efforts.

"This plan will serve as our roadmap on how the department addresses this important public health and patient safety issue," HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt said. "This collaborative interagency plan will help the nation build a safer, more affordable health care system."

The plan establishes national goals and outlines key actions for enhancing and coordinating HHS-supported efforts. These include development of national benchmarks prioritized recommended clinical practices, a coordinated research agenda, an integrated information systems strategy and a national messaging plan.

The plan also identifies opportunities for collaboration with national, state, tribal and local organizations.

HHS intends to update the plan in response to public input and new recommendations for infection prevention. The plan, and instructions for submitting comments on the plan, can be found online at <http://www.hhs.gov/ophs>.



# Recovery Act

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- Create and save jobs
- Spur economic activity and invest in long-term economic growth



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# Recovery Act (cont'd)

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The Prevention and Wellness Fund section of the Recovery Act provides funding to the Office of the Secretary (OS) of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) **to be provided to States as an additional amount to carry out activities to reduce healthcare-associated infections.**



# State HAI Plan Legislation



On March 11, 2009, the President signed the 2009 Omnibus bill, thereby enacting funding for most of the Federal Government.

## Fiscal Year 2009 Omnibus Bill:

- Requires states receiving Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant funds to certify that they will submit an HAI plan to the Secretary of HHS not later than January 1, 2010
- State plans will:
  - Be consistent with the HHS Action Plan
  - Contain measurable 5-year goals and interim milestones for preventing HAIs
  - Be reviewed by the Secretary of HHS with a summary report submitted to Congress by June 1, 2010



# Recovery Act for HAIs: Intent and Background



- Requires merit-based selection of recipients
  - Deliver programmatic results
  - Achieve economic stimulus
- Prevention and Wellness Fund
  - U.S. healthcare infrastructure, healthcare costs
  - \$40 million to CDC for HAI
    - Eligibility limited to “States”
    - \$35.8M through ELC/ \$4M through EIP
- The purpose of the Recovery Act HAI supplement is to address the HHS Action Plan by using the existing ELC cooperative agreement to build and sustain state programs to prevent healthcare-associated infections.





# Recovery Act for HAIs: ELC Program



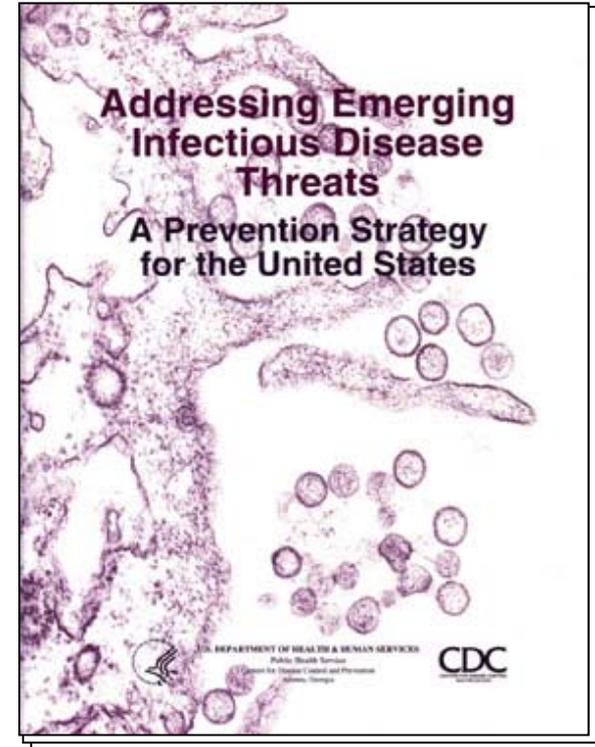
- Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) Program
  - The purpose of the program is to assist eligible public health agencies improve surveillance for, and response to, infectious diseases by
    - (1) strengthening epidemiologic capacity;
    - (2) enhancing laboratory practice;
    - (3) improving information systems; and
    - (4) developing and implementing prevention and control strategies.



# ELC Foundation



- 1995: ELC was initiated in as part of CDC's National strategy, "*Addressing Emerging Infectious Disease Threats*" to improve surveillance for reportable infectious diseases by providing technical and financial assistance to state health departments.
- 1998: Extended the ELC to all states and large local health departments.
- ELC Focus: Naturally occurring infectious diseases, drug-resistant infections, and electronic reporting of surveillance data.



Key Goal: Strengthening collaboration between lab, epi & information systems within grantee jurisdictions.



# ELC Program Components

- General Epi, Laboratory and Health IT
- Foodborne Diseases
- West Nile Virus
- Influenza
- Lyme Disease
- Antimicrobial Resistance
- Prion Disease
- Border Infectious Disease Surveillance (BIDS)
- Recovery Act
  - Healthcare Associated Infections
  - Vaccine Effectiveness





# Recovery Act Funding: ELC Activities (\$35.8M)



## A: State HAI program

- State HAI plan and State HAI coordinator
- Multidisciplinary committee for State HAI program
- Report to CDC on progress in HAI prevention

## B: Expand NHSN

- NHSN state coordinator
- Training for hospitals in state and NHSN expansion
- NHSN reporting on HHS targets
- Validation studies in hospitals in state

## C: State Prevention Collaboratives

- Training for hospitals in state
- Linkage to other HHS and private sector initiatives
  - AHRQ, CMS
- Reductions in HHS Prevention targets



# Opportunity & Impact

- Rapid development and expansion of state-based efforts on HAI prevention
- Develop and expand HAI prevention expertise in State Health Departments
  - where currently there are many mandates
- Strengthen collaboration with HHS and HHS agencies—AHRQ, CMS
- A model for population-based prevention of healthcare safety challenges
- Prevent infections, reduce deaths





# Operations

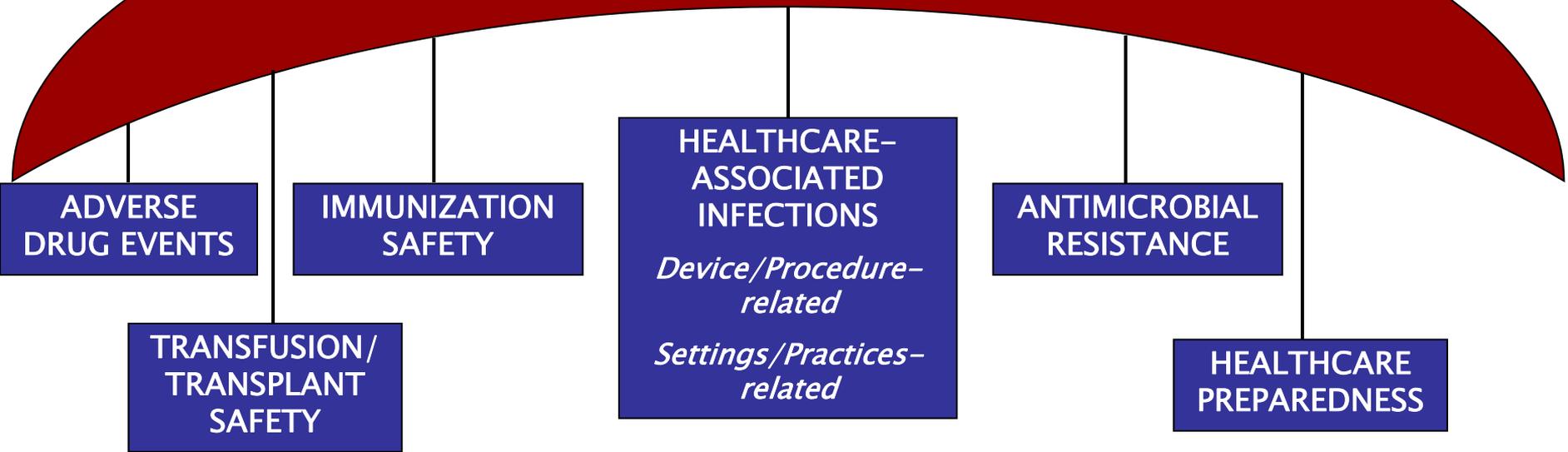




- CDC Recovery Act Coordination Unit
  - Responsible for oversight of CDC Recovery Act-funded activities
  - Located in CDC, Office of the Director



# Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion

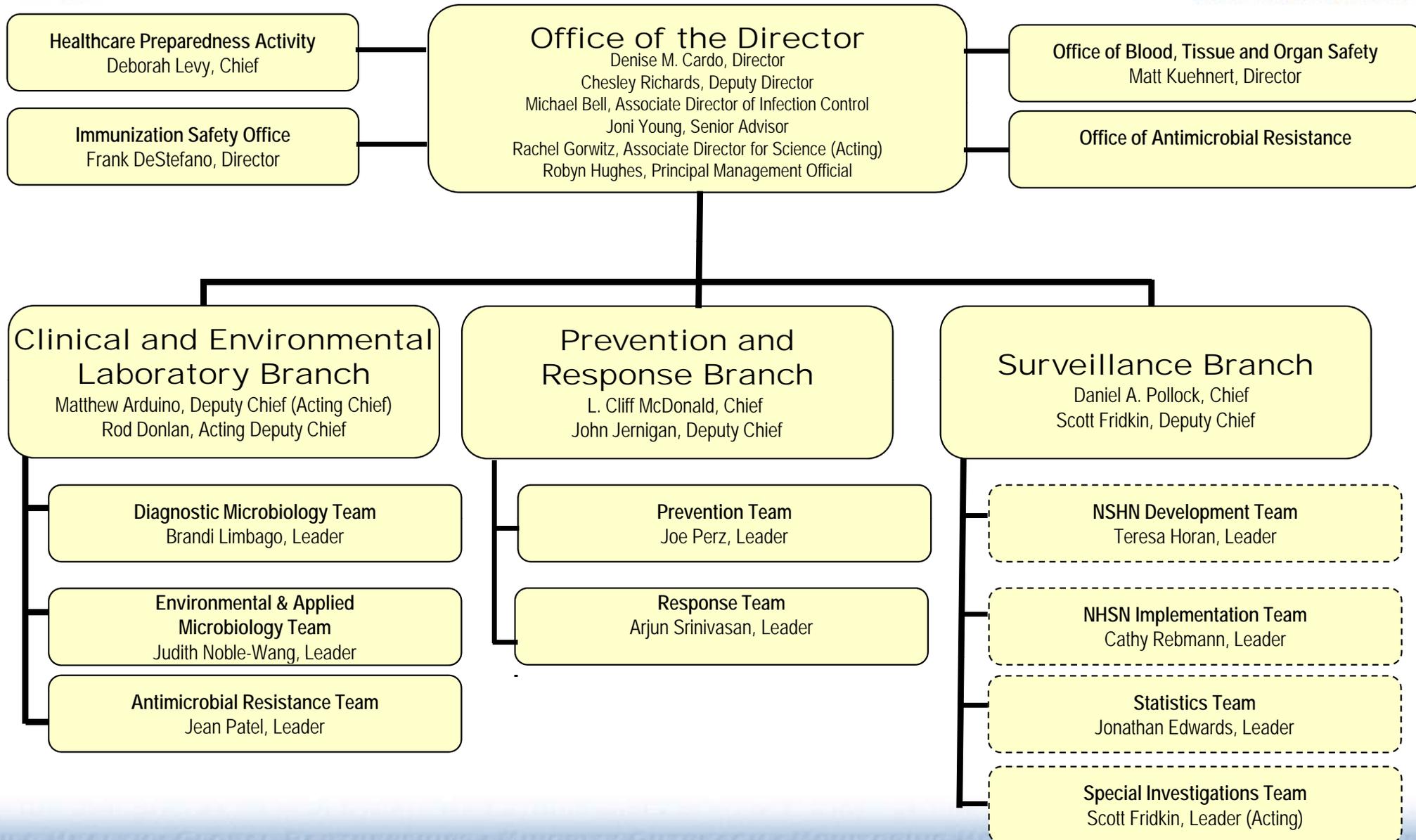


## *Working through . . .*

- Outbreak Investigations
- Surveillance
- Prevention Recommendations
- Intervention Implementation
- Research
- Laboratory Quality Management Systems
- Collaborations and Partnerships



# Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion

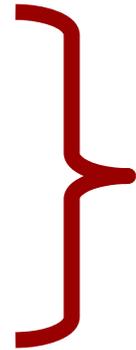




# Recovery Act HAI ELC Cooperative Agreement Management



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Ramona Bennett

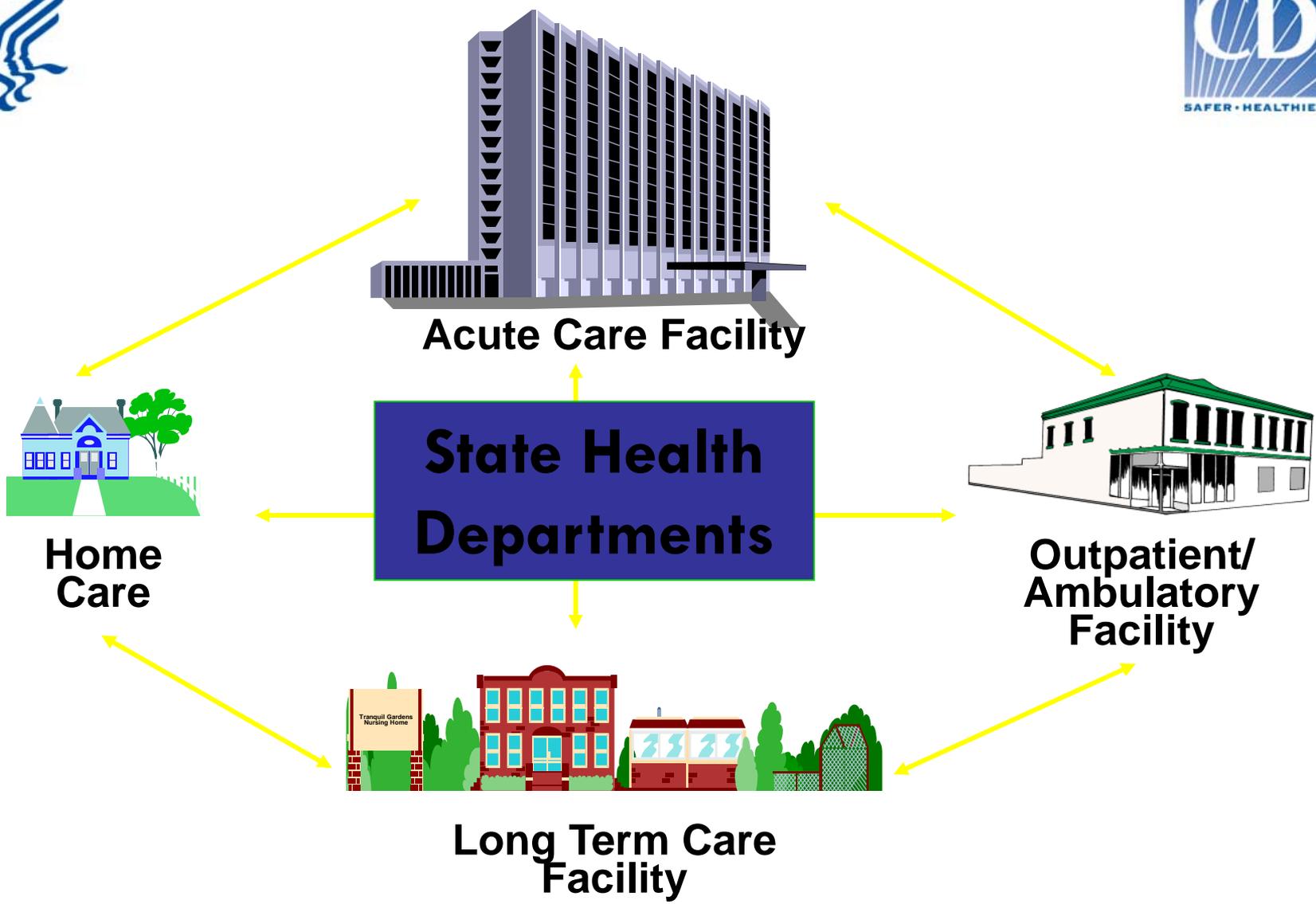


**DHQP Programmatic Support**

Alvin Shultz



**DEISS Cooperative  
Agreement Support**





No one can whistle a symphony. It takes an orchestra to play it.

– H.E. Luccock