

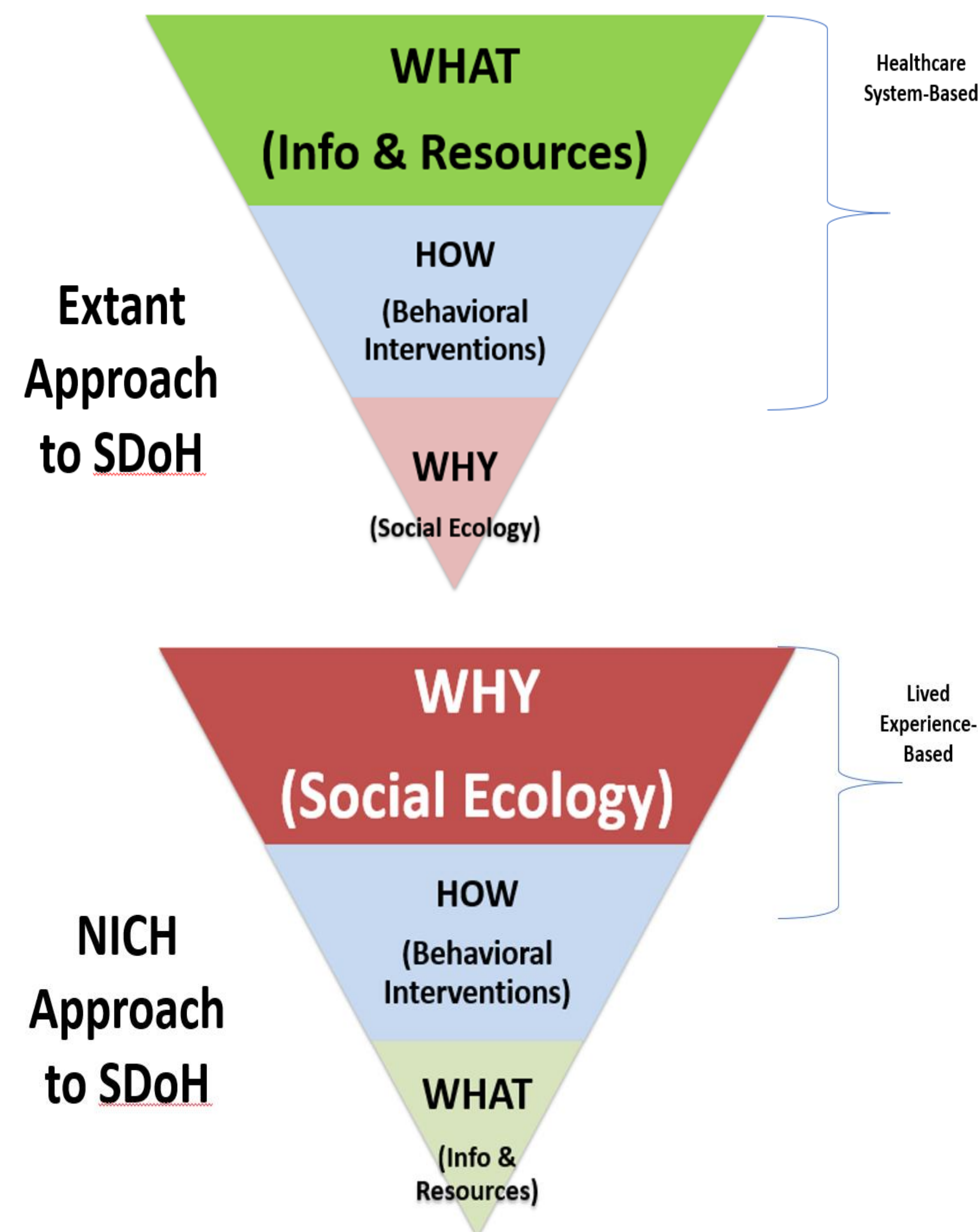
To Contract or Not to Contract?: Paying for NICH to Address the Social Drivers of Diabetes Outcomes

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Background

Social drivers of health lead to health disparities. **Novel Interventions in Children's Healthcare** (NICH) is a community-based program for youth with diabetes who also experience significant social burden.

Methods



Successful contracting with NICH to serve high risk youth with diabetes **goes beyond saving money and reducing costs.**

Other equally important factors to consider around successful contracting of NICH include . . .

- Reducing clinician burnout
- Reducing pressure on the emergency department
- Reducing hospital length of stay
- Decreasing health disparities
- Improving health equity
- Increasing philanthropic support for diabetes



Results



Challenges

1. Diabetes is budget dust in healthcare.
2. Social drivers of health are considered to be best addressed by organizations outside of the healthcare system.
3. Healthcare systems are set up to provide healthcare not care or services around the social drivers of health.

Discussion

Despite significant cost savings for NICH-enrolled youth, not all contractors are solely focused on reducing costs. There are many other outcomes that should be highlighted to potential contractors for NICH services. In addition, there are important challenges that need to be considered when developing programming and care for individuals with diabetes who experience significant social burden.



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