



# Optum Behavior Health Care Explorer

Using Zero Distance and Product Tools to Innovate in Healthcare – a Case Study



MAY 3, 2023

# | WHO ARE WE?



**Creg Schumann**  
Product Innovation  
Turnberry Solutions

Informed by a good understanding of building cool technology, Creg was an early adopter and adapter of agile techniques (before there was an agile manifesto). His approach is pragmatic not favoring any single method, tool, framework, etc. It's about understanding the problem and selecting a toolkit appropriate to help learning and solving the problem.

He's learned that there is no one perfect answer in organizational change initiatives – there are choices and experiments to learn from. True change is never managed upon an organization: it's when the conditions and perception within the environment are set for the organization itself to choose to change where lasting change is achieved. Barriers to change aren't the tools, processes, roles – it's the lack of trust, low autonomy, unclear purpose, and ignoring the mastery of one's craft that truly impede meaningful change.

He's been part of large teams / organizations or small teams in many industries and solution spaces. Some of his clients he's worked with on transformation are American Airlines, Disney, Ecolab, US Bank, Wells Fargo, Optum, RBC, and many others.



**Nate Koering**  
Product Strategy  
Turnberry Solutions

When Nathan was 23 he designed his first sales revenue digital tool for his territory, and bang! He was hooked! Ever since, Nathan has brought a passion for pulling together IT, business, operations, marketing and others and working collaboratively to support their achievement through effective tools. Tools that make lives easier, processes that are just enough to enable and not disable, and organizational frameworks that optimize, stabilize, and foundationally support innovation.

A deep background in facilitation, strategic design, design thinking, and some of the most widely used operational technologies in the market, Nathan's approach is to deliver effective and dynamic outcomes with each client and team he works with.



**Jim Christy**  
Director, Member  
Engagement  
Optum

Jim Christy is Director of Member Engagement for the Optum Whole Health Solutions product team. In this role he is responsible for execution of digital member engagement strategy for the Live and Work Well site as well as integrating content into experiences on myuhc and other platforms. This includes Optum's Care Explorer, a personalized tool that helps members identify the most relevant behavioral health and EAP programs, services and providers for them based on their immediate needs.

# THE CASE FOR CHANGE

## SECTION

## ... 1

# | FINDING CARE

What our members were telling us



**OUR MEMBERS DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THEIR BENEFITS, THEY HAD A HARD TIME FINDING THE RIGHT CARE FOR THEM, AND THEY DIDN'T KNOW WHERE TO START.**



I don't know my options. Can't this all be in one place?



Finding care is confusing and frustrating. Tell me where to start.



I don't trust my employer with mental health info.



I just want to talk to someone now.

# | FINDING CARE

What the market is telling us



**HEALTH INSURERS ARE NOT GOOD AT PUTTING THE MEMBER FIRST. THIS MEANS:**

1

## Lack of personalization

Insurers fall short on consistently personalizing member communications beyond greeting them by name

2

## A fragmented user journey

Without a single system/data source insurers lack a complete picture of the member, and don't understand the user journey

3

## Disjointed digital experiences

Prioritizing speed-to-market over usability leads to confusion and more phone calls.

# | CARE EXPLORER

Starting with the member need

## GOALS



Improve satisfaction about process of finding care



Help members understand benefits, including lower levels of care if appropriate



Show that we're listening; demonstrate empathy and build trust

## PROCESS

- Vision grounded in customer research
- Focus on the member problem
- Design sprints with live consumer feedback



**Core strategy  
statement**

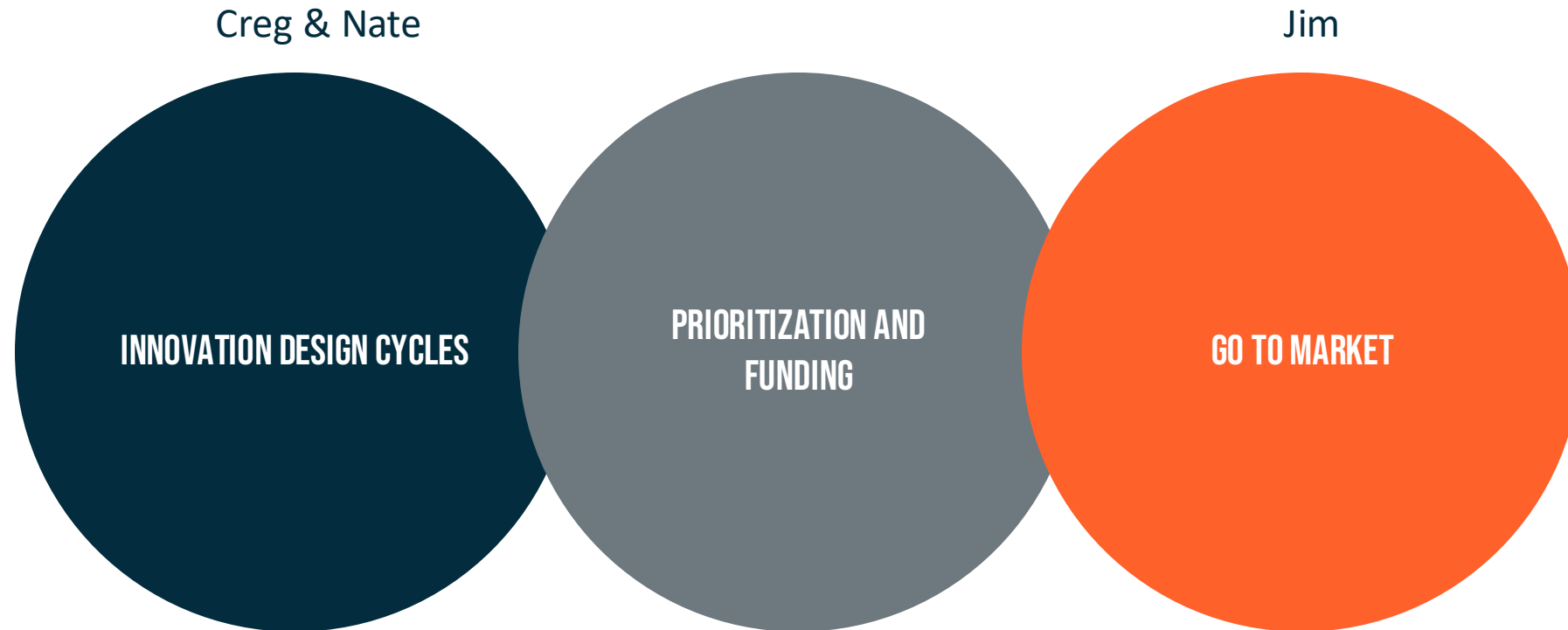
“

*To provide a more valuable and competitive BH client offering, we will create a digital navigation experience that helps members find the benefits and services they need to feel better, improve their symptoms and feel in control.*

”

# | THE JOURNEY

Where did this journey start, and where has it gone to date?



# INNOVATION DESIGN

SECTION

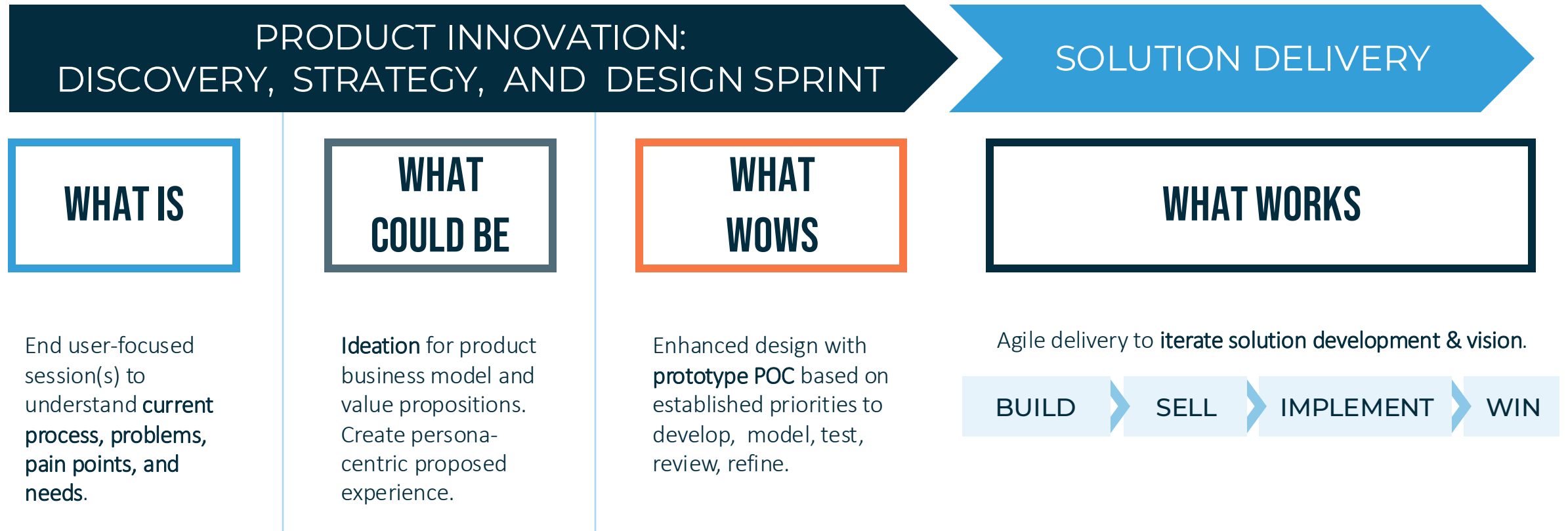
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# ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

What did the innovation journey look like and what was its goal?

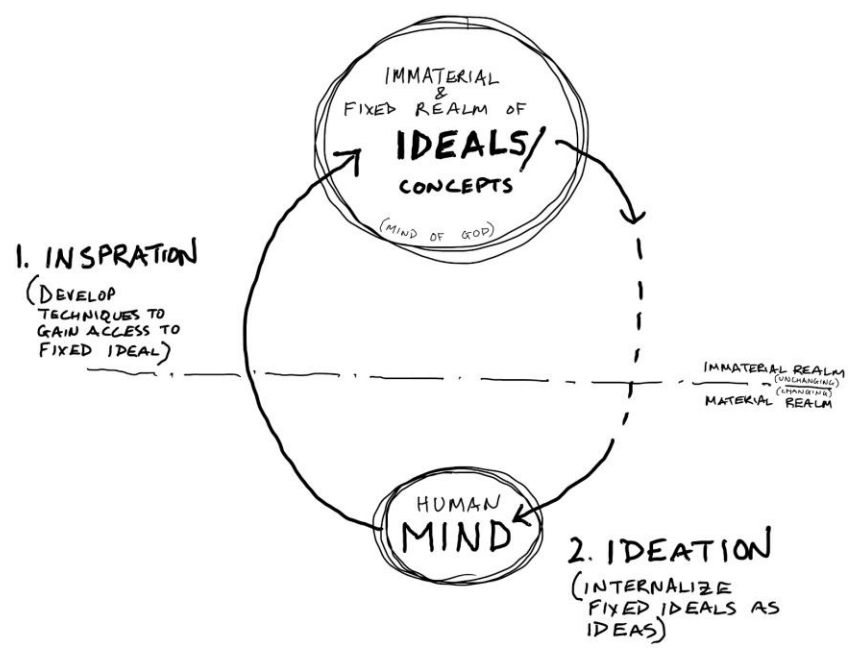
Turnberry partnered with OBH on a 12-week engagement. The initiative combined product strategy, human centered design, and user experience methods to help drive alignment and produce a prototype for digital Member Guided Experience. In addition, the team produced product and market strategy outputs including RFP language to support internal and external alignment.



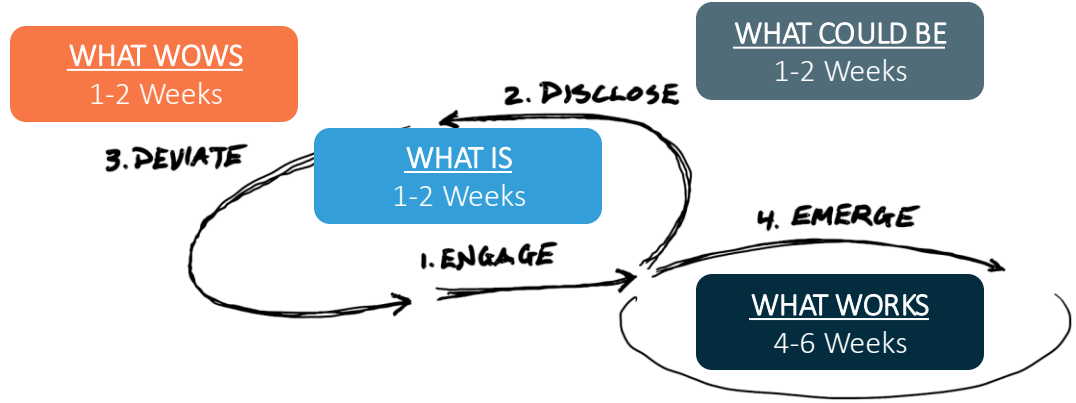
# | WHAT IS INNOVATION?

Innovation is more complex and work than most of us understand. Simple inspiration is NOT enough

## NOT THIS



## MORE LIKE THIS



### INNOVATION

- The new is when change happens that produces a difference.
- There are two types of difference: Difference-in-degree, and Difference-in-kind
- These two forms of difference/change correspond to two distinct forms of Innovation: Developmental and Disruptive.
- Developmental Innovation is incremental, world expanding, quantitative, probabilistic, and improving.
- Disruptive is rupturing, qualitative, possibilistic, and world making.

### INNOVATION DESIGN

- Innovation is production of the genuinely new +
- Design is a process of action towards an outcome =
- Innovation Design is the process for producing the genuinely new.

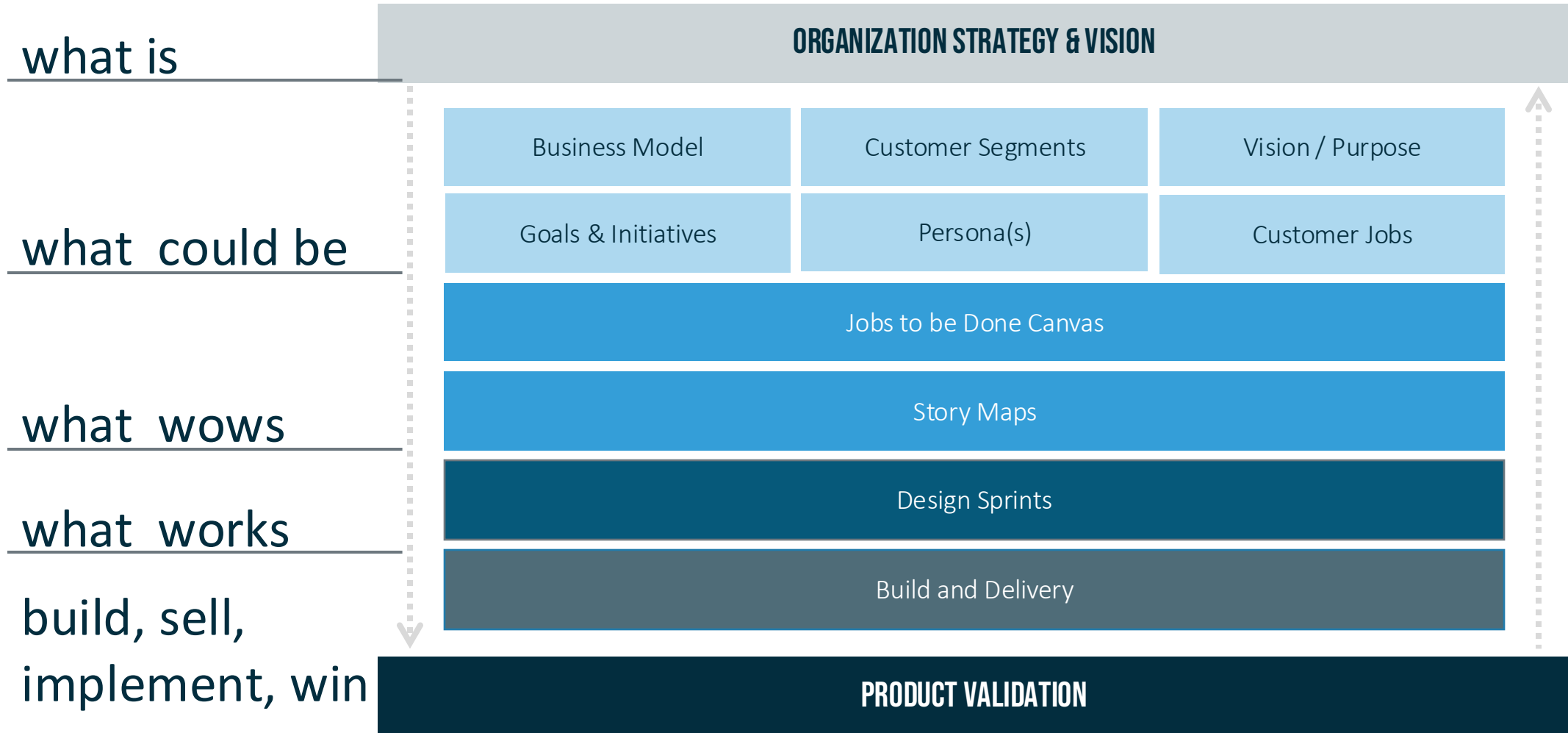
# CASE STUDY

Optum Behavior Health Care Explorer

SECTION

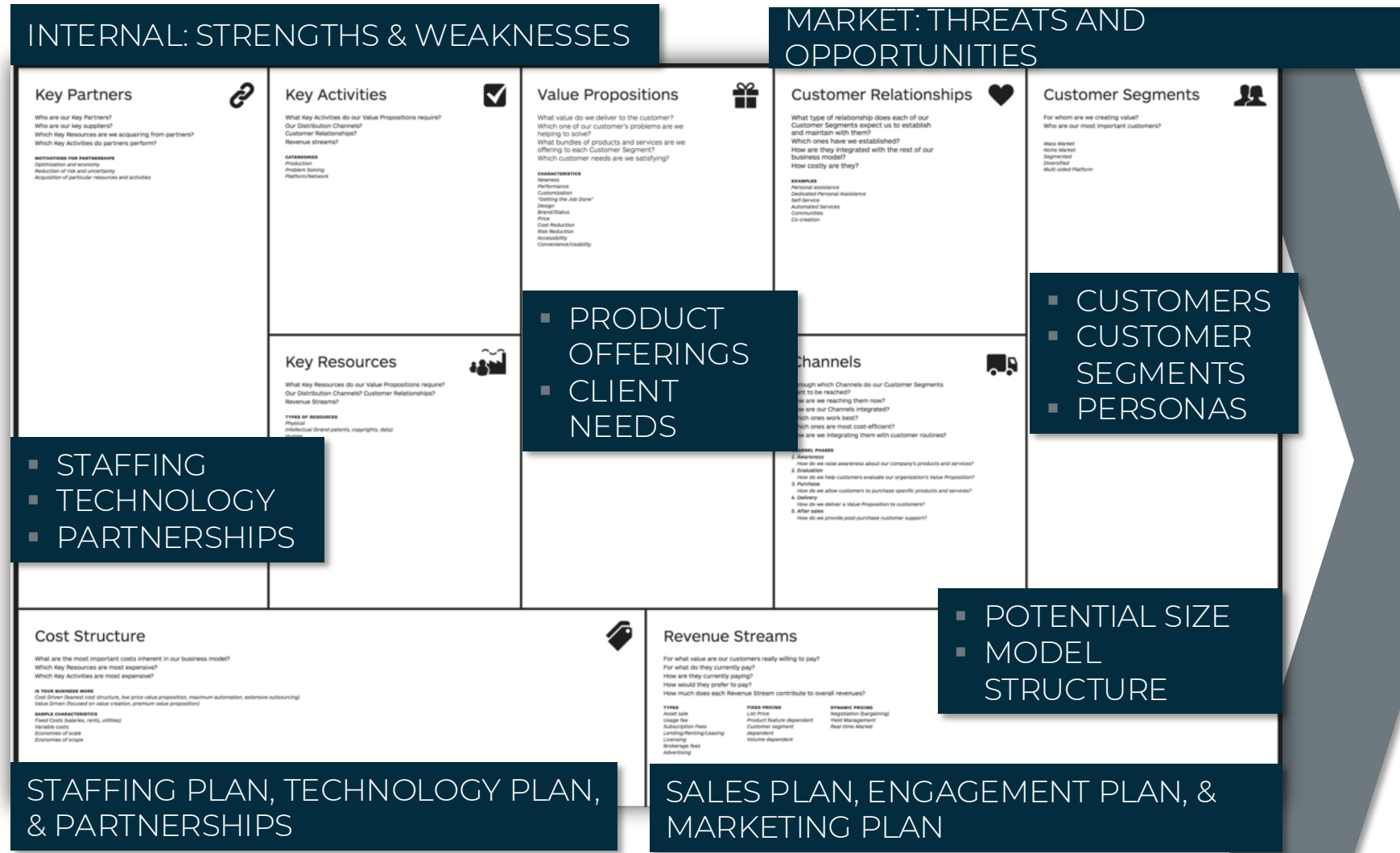
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# | WHAT TOOLS DID WE USE?



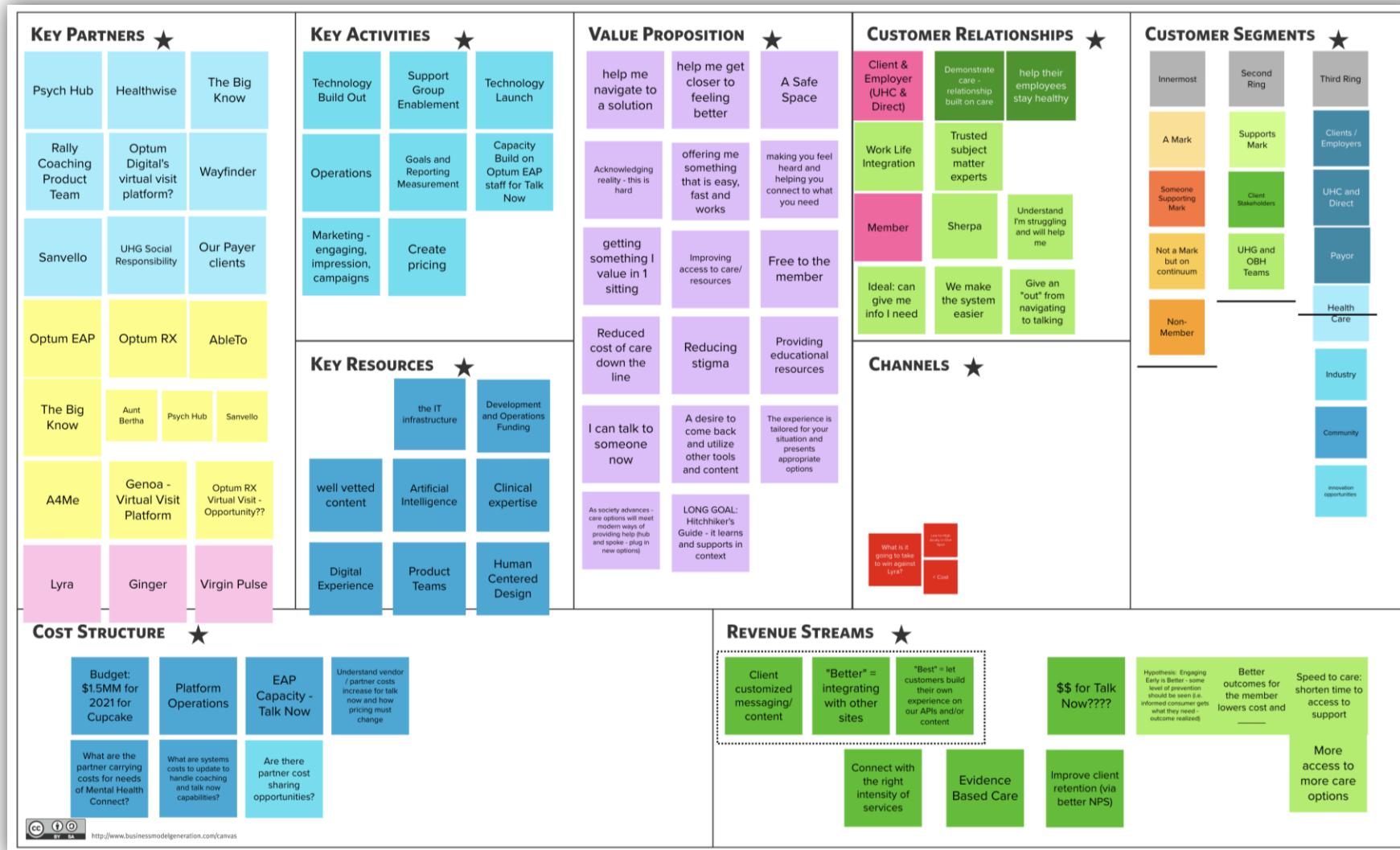
# | BUSINESS MODEL

How does a business model help you understand your strategy?



- SALES PLAN
- STAFFING PLAN
- TECHNOLOGY PLAN
- MARKETING PLAN
- PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS (EXTERNALLY AND CROSS CAPABILITY)

# CARE EXPLORER BMC



# PERSONA WITH EMPATHY



Age: 40  
Gender: Male  
Occupation: Hardware store manager  
Income: \$70K – \$80K  
Education level: Trade school  
Marital status: Married  
Children: One  
Condition(s): Depression, anxiety and alcohol abuse

## Mark, Hand Raisers – Commercial

"I have taken control of my mental wellbeing; it's been hard work, but I think I am doing okay."

### Mark's Behavioral Health Story

In the past Mark has had some trouble with both anxiety and depression leading him to turn to alcohol to mask how he was feeling. Mark slowly began to drink more to deal with his depression and anxiety. He did not want to seek help, he refused to acknowledge that he had a problem despite being confronted by his 15-year-old son. Mark's drinking began to interfere with his family relationships with both his wife and son, he also started having altercations with his coworkers and he was forced to seek help by his employer. Mark went to his primary care physician who prescribed him antidepressants and referred him to an outpatient substance use treatment center. Since then, Mark has started exercising after work which has helped him to stop drinking. Things have smoothed out with his family and he continues to work everyday to keep his mental wellbeing under control.

### Segment Snapshot: Mild Stable

#### Common Conditions:

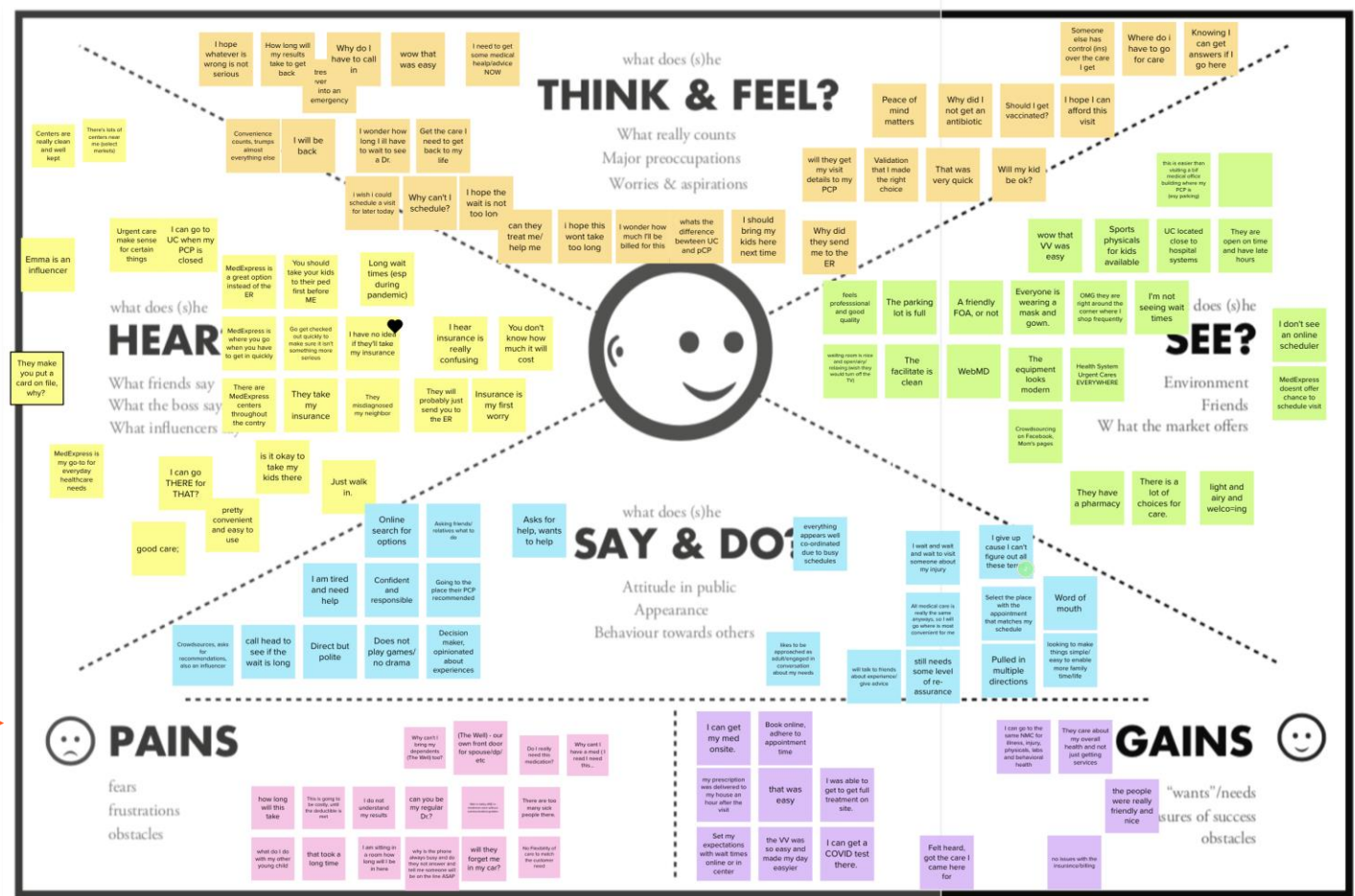
- Depressive disorders
- Anxiety disorders
- Adjustment disorders
- Alcohol & drug use
- Trauma

#### Key Opportunity Spaces:

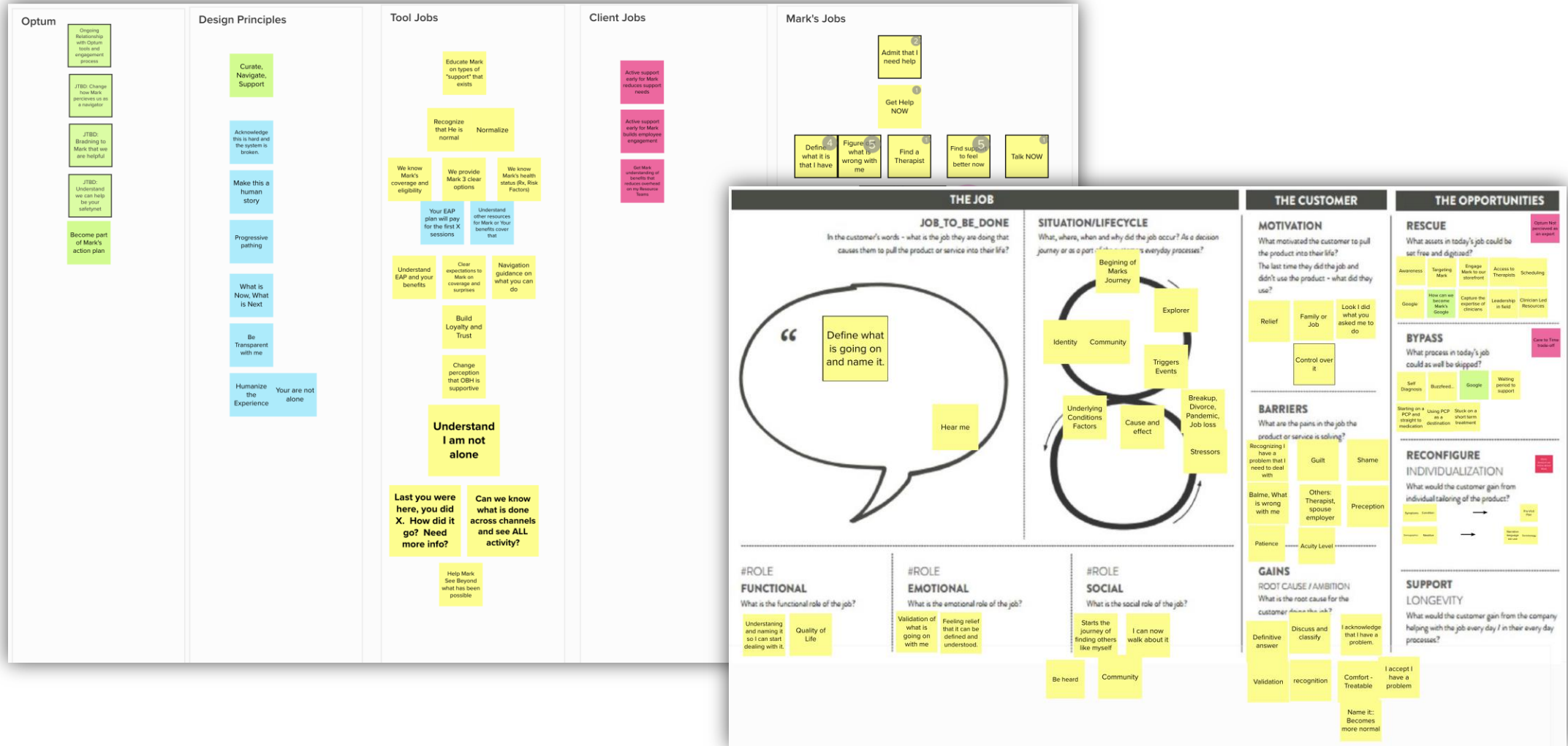
- Provider Search & Fit: Make it easier to find a provider they like & trust
- Insurance Literacy: Help them understand the cost of care & how to finance
- Access: Help them schedule a timely appointment
- Adherence: Ensure they are adherent to their talk & Rx therapies

Diagnosis	Diagnosed
Utilization	Mild mental illness or MIM SUD diagnoses
Population	No access to higher levels of care
% of Member Count	
% of Total BH \$	
% of Total Medical \$	
PMPY BH	
PMPY Medical	

Version 2.1



# | JOBS TO BE DONE



# | ORGANIZING FOR STORY MAPS

Story Maps shown in logical order that a Mark would typically go through experience



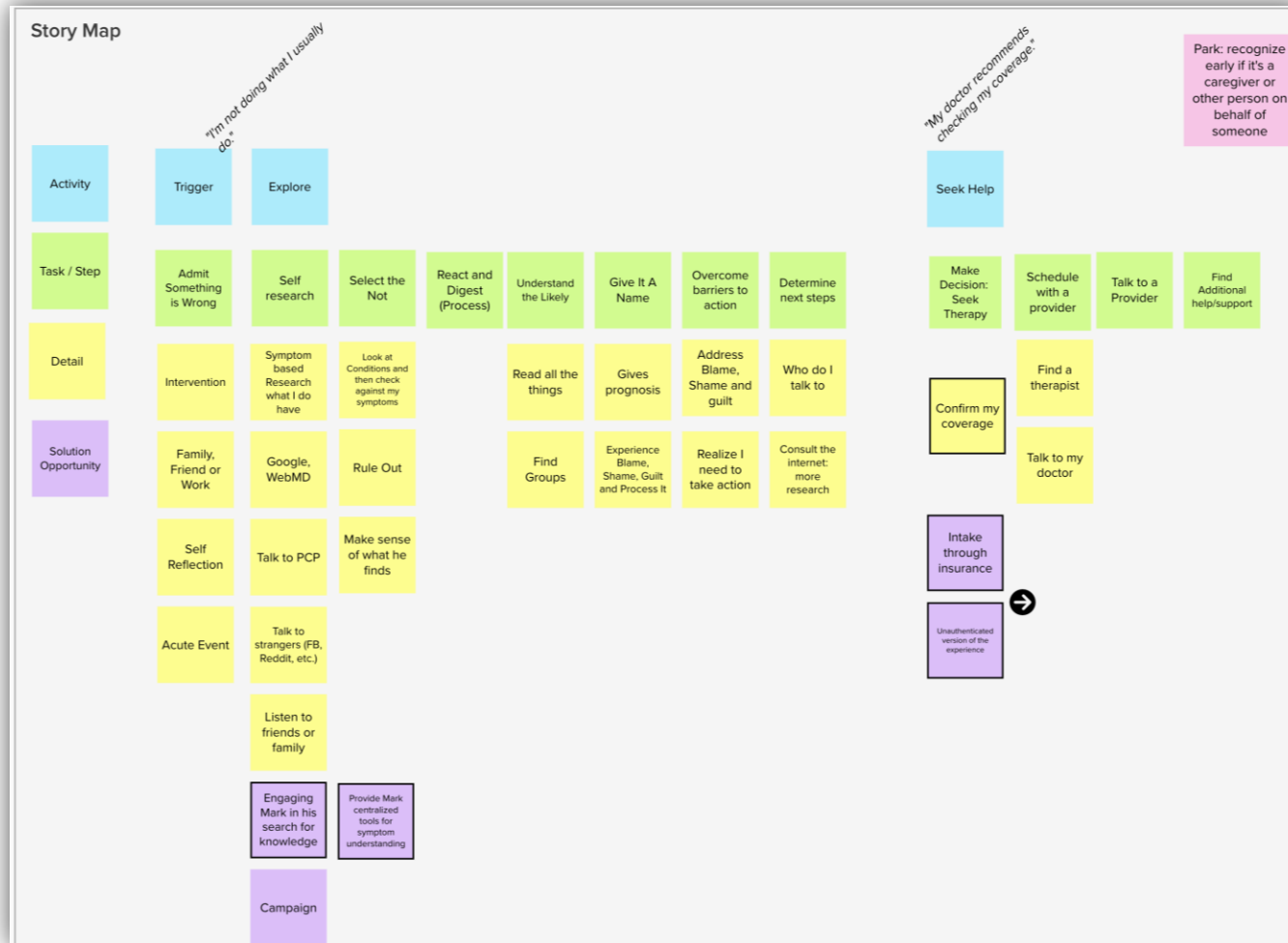
Define what is going on and name it.

Understand Mark and progressively learn about him.

Figure out what care I can get and what my options are.

I want to get ready for my first appointment.

# EXAMPLE STORY MAP



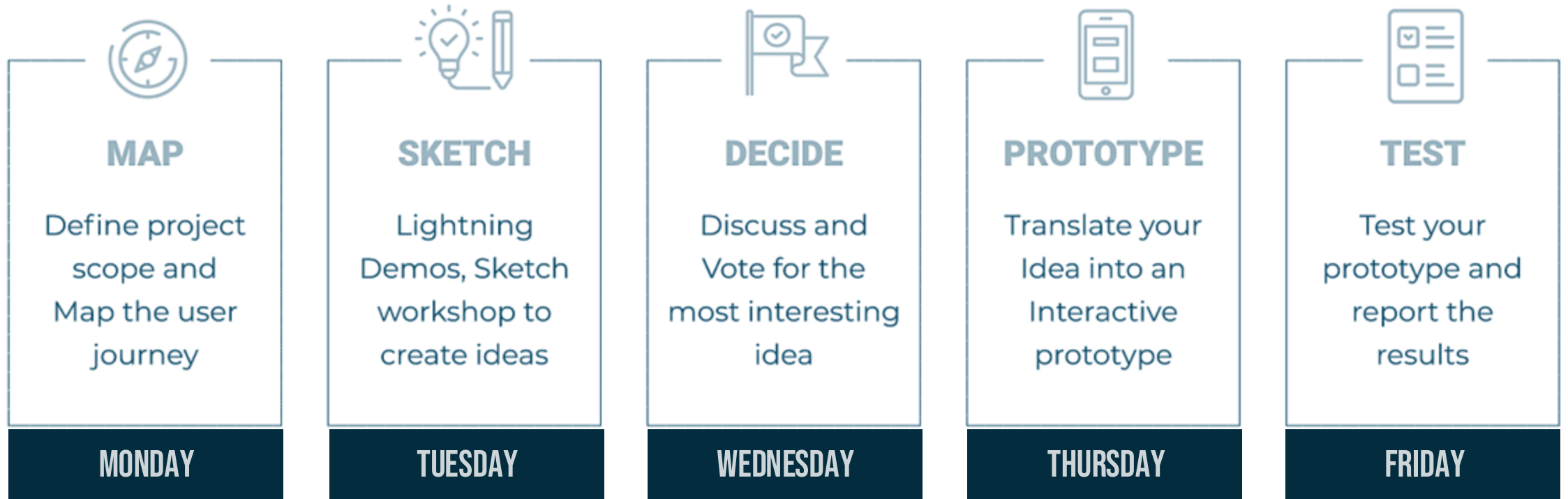
Define what is going on and name it.

This story map represents the trigger that gets Mark to come to our experience:

- Triggering event
- Leads to self-research (Doctor Google)
- Looking to give it a name
- Makes decision to seek help

# | DESIGN SPRINTS

A design sprint is a time-constrained (one week), five-phase process that uses design thinking with the aim of reducing the risk when bringing a new product, service or a feature to the market.



# | DESIGN SPRINTS

Selected experiences from story maps to test viability using a Design Sprint

## design sprints by week

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# | DESIGN SPRINT 1 – THE FRONT DOOR

**DESIGN SPRINT**  
The Front Door

Experiment with the entry / first impression for Mark into his exploration to feel better.

**TEAM**

1. Facilitator 2. Product Manager 3. Designer 4. UX Writer 5. Analyst

**EXPERTS**

1. Client 2. Consultant 3. Designer 4. UX Writer 5. Analyst

**SCHEDULE**

Monday 9:00am-10:30am 10:30am-12:00pm 12:00pm-1:30pm 1:30pm-3:00pm 3:00pm-4:30pm  
Tuesday 9:00am-10:30am 10:30am-12:00pm 12:00pm-1:30pm 1:30pm-3:00pm 3:00pm-4:30pm  
Wednesday 9:00am-10:30am 10:30am-12:00pm 12:00pm-1:30pm 1:30pm-3:00pm 3:00pm-4:30pm  
Thursday 9:00am-12:30pm

**AGENDA**

**1. MAP**  
Introductions  
Review the sprint  
Long-term goal  
Sprint questions  
Ask the experts  
How? What? Why?  
Map  
Begin

**2. SKETCH**  
Workshop  
Pick off the sprint  
Lightning demos  
Share the map  
The four-day sketch  
Begin

**3. DECIDE**  
Art Museum  
Sketch  
Speed critique  
Share your  
Sketches  
Review & negotiate  
Puzzle or all in one  
Final board review  
Storyboard  
Begin

**4. PROTOTYPE**  
Pick the right tools  
Share and prototype  
Build the prototype  
Do a final run  
Storyboarding  
Begin

**5. TEST**  
Customer interview  
Testing script  
Testing score  
Wrap-up  
Storyboarding  
Begin

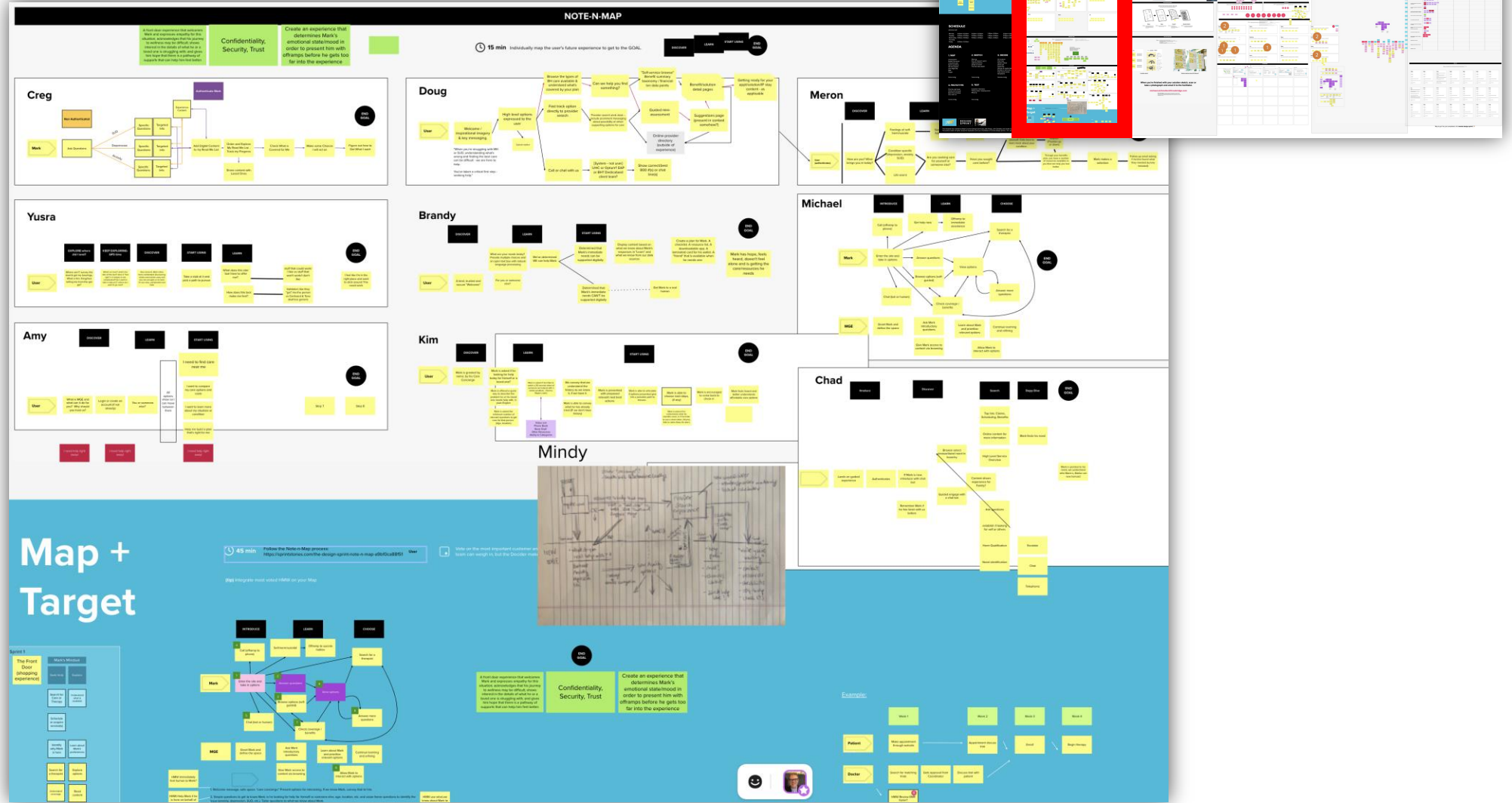
**Map + Target**

**When you're finished with your solution sketch, scan or take a photograph and email it to the facilitator.**  
[michael.sichmeller@threebridge.com](mailto:michael.sichmeller@threebridge.com)

**zero distance**

# | DAY 1 RESULTS

C



# DAY 3 - SKETCHES

1:30 Take about 20 minutes to look at all the concepts silently. Create a heatmap by placing little green dots on ideas that you like. You can vote for your own, of course. There's no limit to the number of dots you can use. After this first round, you and your team will discuss standout ideas in a structured way. Spend 3-5 minutes per sketch.

Personal Health Canvas

We're here for you

What can we help you with?

Personal Health Canvas

Journey and steps to get there

Welcome to...

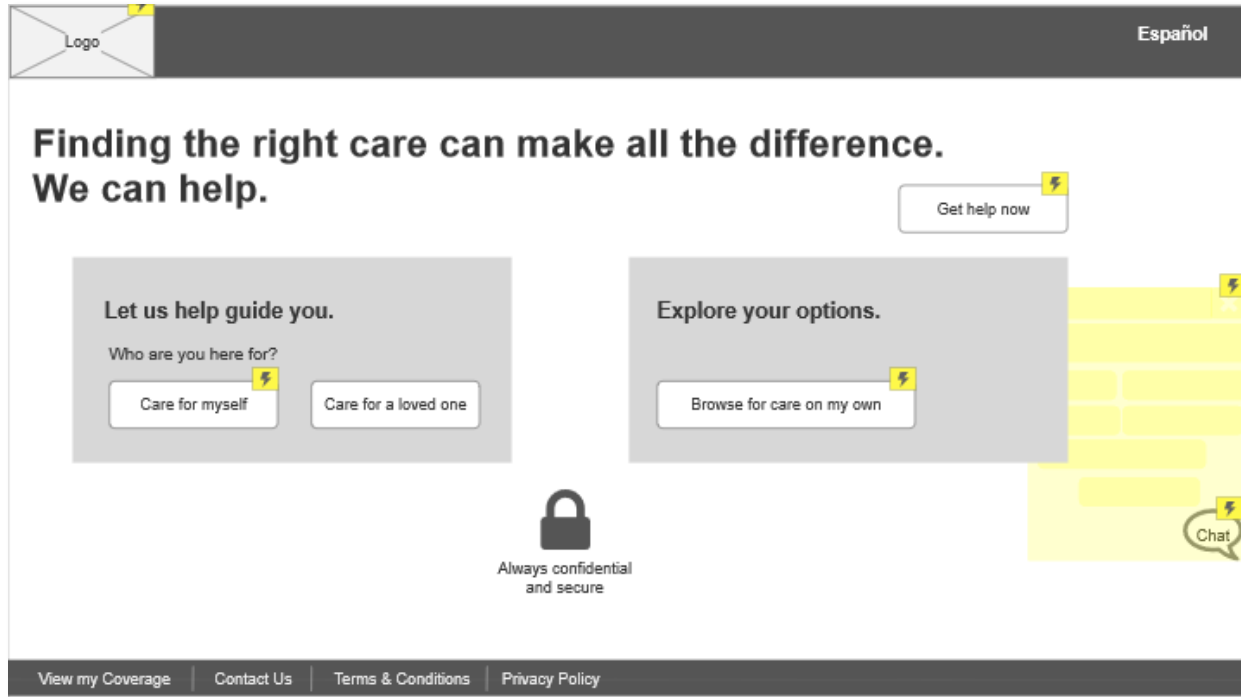
What is our reason for existing?

Create a Profile

Personal Health Canvas

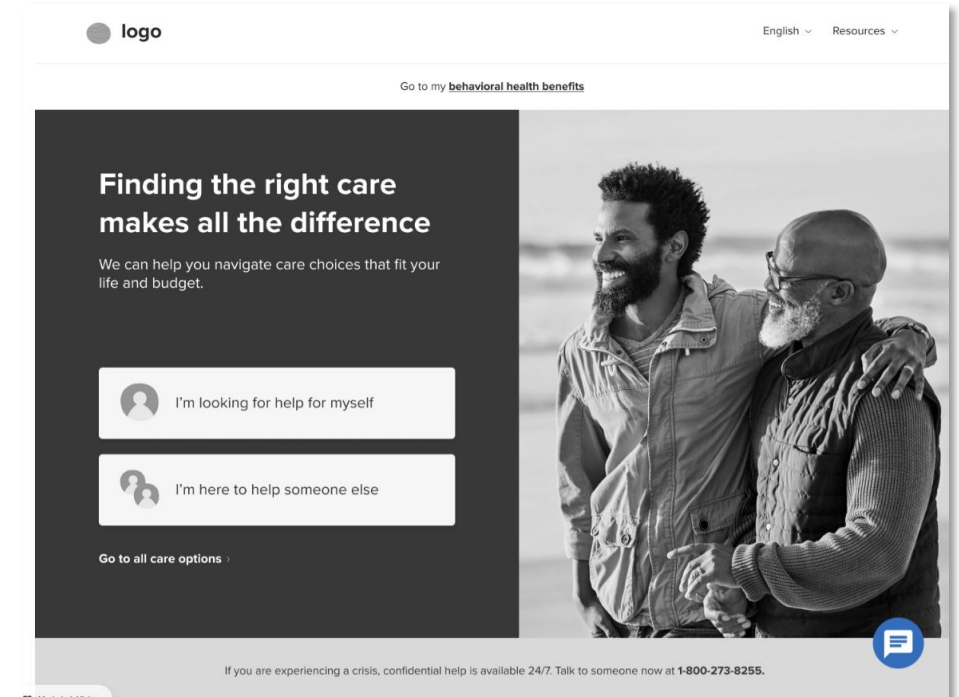
The One Thing

# | DAY 5 – THE RESULTS



## ORIGINAL HOME SCREEN

- Used for testing during design sprint 1 (Not tested to members)
- More fidelity
- Didn't like the look
- Needs a more prominent suicide/emergency hotline or resource



## REDESIGNED HOME SCREEN

- Used for testing during design sprint 2
- Calming imagery
- Hotline at bottom
- Less prominent "Find all care options"

# CARE EXPLORER

What this digital experience looks like

SECTION

...

4

Supporting  
individuals,  
caregivers, and  
family members

< Back

## Welcome Chris,

As someone who works with adults and kids looking to feel better, I know it's not easy to ask for help,

This tool can make it easier to find the right support. We're going to ask you a few questions so we can make the right recommendations and match you with the benefits and resources available to you.

Just like when I see a patient, any information you give here is confidential.



Dr. Yusra Benhalim

I'm here for myself

I'm here for someone else



Understanding  
an individual's  
needs, through  
their eyes

## What are your goals?

Defining your goals can be a good first step. Choose as many as you think apply to you.

Feel less lonely or isolated

Feel less sad

Feel less worried or stressed

Feel less hopeless or  
worthless

Cut back on alcohol or drug  
use

Cope better with stress

Improve relationships

Have more energy and focus

Not sure or none of these

[Skip to all benefits](#)

[Continue](#)

Delivering  
personalized  
care options



Dr. Yusra Benhalim

**Chris,**

Thanks for telling us why you're here. Based on what you told us, here are some recommendations for you.



### Get support with Virtual Coaching

Feel like you need to talk with someone? Connecting with a person can make all the difference. You can talk with a dedicated coach to help you build skills you can use to feel better.

Estimated Cost: \$0-\$20

- Evidence-based tools and techniques. AbleTo was developed with the world's leading experts in cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), and is designed to help you build on your progress each week.
- Dedicated support. Your coach will focus on your specific goals. Get access via phone and in-app messaging.
- Professional advice and guidance to help you feel better day-to-day.

[Get help](#)



### Explore Therapy

Think you can benefit from short-term counseling or a longer-term therapist? We can help you understand what's available for you and how to choose what's right for you.

Estimated Cost: \$0-\$150/Visit

# | CARE EXPLORER EVOLUTION

January,  
2022

## Launch on Live and Work Well

Launched as part of site redesign focused on member-centric interactions



Welcome James,

As someone who works with adults and kids looking to feel better, I know it's not easy to ask for help.

This tool can make it easier to find the right support. We're going to ask you a few questions so we can make the right recommendations — and match you with the benefits and resources available to you.

Just like when I see a patient, any info you give here is confidential.

June, 2022

## Launch on myuhc

Part of BH hub, promoted with major marketing campaign



[Explore all your mental health benefits >](#)

View the benefits covered as part of your health plan.

- Coaching, counseling, and therapy to talk with sor
- Courses and digital tools to support you at your ov
- Parenting and caregiving resources to support sor
- Substance use resources for help on your road to

Q3, 2023

## Call Centers

Care Explorer capabilities and product descriptions available to call center agents

## MyUHC Mobile App

Care Explorer and associated content available on mobile app Mental Health Hub

2023/2024 TBD

## Providers

Ability for PCPs to deliver relevant care options directly to patients in real time

Empowering physicians to be at the heart of health care transformation



As a health care provider, you know that the care delivery environment is changing—rapidly. Significant challenges and market pressures are at play on all fronts.

- Benefit plan sponsors are coping with extraordinary fiscal pressures and demanding more for less.
- Patients are seeking education, value, simplicity and better experience.
- Care providers are expected to deliver greater value, assume more risk and take on more responsibility.

# | WHAT WE'VE LEARNED



## Access

Consistent, moderate traffic on LAWW, based on limited promotion; traffic away from Provider Search.



## Completion

Relatively high completion rates (70-80%) given personal nature of assessment



## Member Feedback

Positive usability testing on trust factor of host, ease-of-use, and relevance of questions



## Opportunities

Deeper breadth of results; more personalization, addressing needs of higher acuity members; flow into provider search; engagement measure

# | DOES THIS WAY WORK?



## FINDS THE PRODUCT YOUR CUSTOMER NEEDS

- Find and explore dark spaces of missed opportunity
- Faster adaptation
- Zero distance to customer
- Introduces real innovation



## EXTENDS BEYOND THE PRODUCT HORIZON

- Increases product sustainability
- Promotes buy-in to product value
- Improve product market fit
- Adjust to market forces



## MINIMIZES THE INITIAL INVESTMENT

- Build it once is cheaper
- Reduces risk
- Build the right product the first time

**FOCUS FORWARD >>**

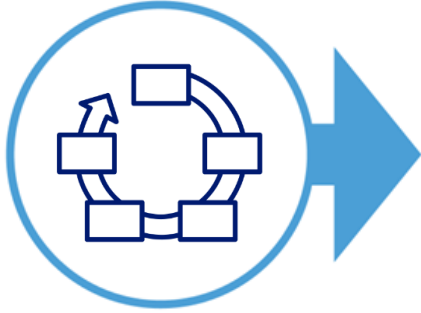


**TURNBERRY  
SOLUTIONS**

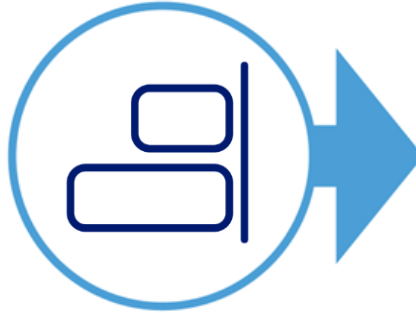
# | APPROACH SUMMARY

Details Regarding Activity Sequencing can be Found [Here](#)

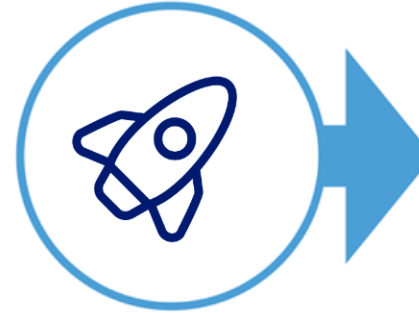
## ASSESS



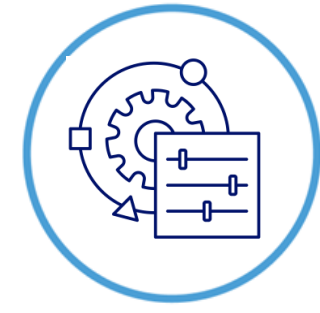
## ALIGN



## ACCELERATE



## EVOLVE



<b>Outcomes</b>	Clarity About the Work Ahead	Gaps Closed, Team Aligned	Remaining Pods Stood Up	Increased Maturity, Cont. Improvement
<b>Activities &amp; Deliverables</b>	McKinsey Doc Review Team-Level Interviews Observing QBR Observe PO Sync Interview SMs Curate Observations with FL Director Alignment Approach SOW	Establish Detailed Training Strategy Establish CF Leadership Coaching Strat. Stand Up Change Mgmt Pod Develop Communication Plan Develop Technical Coaching Approach Evolve Product Toolkit Evolve QBR Approach Rollout Out Additional Pods Prioritized Pod Staffing/Hiring Define Tooling Standards Accelerate Details are Clarified	Apply Learnings from Alignment Rollout ~20 Pods (double-check #) Ongoing CF Leadership Coaching Ongoing Team-Level Maturity Checks Continuous Improvement – OKRs	Scale Back Team Support Team  Expand the Pod Model Ongoing Team, Group & Enterprise Maturity
<b>Duration</b>	~3 Weeks (August)	~3 Months (Sep-Dec)	~4 Months (Dec-Mar)	Ongoing
<b>Investment</b>	~\$45,000	~\$544,000	\$1.5M - \$3.5M	TBD - Monthly Run Rate ~
<b>Assumptions</b>	1FT Product, 1FT OCM, 1PT SP	1PT Education Lead, 1FT Curriculum Development and Delivery, 2FT Product/Agile Coaches, 1PT Leadership Coach, 1FT OCM Coach, 1PT SP, 1FT Engineering Principal, 2 Apprentice Crew	Investment completely dependent on the balance of core team and pod staffing. Rate structure included in SOW and accompanying documentation.	TBD