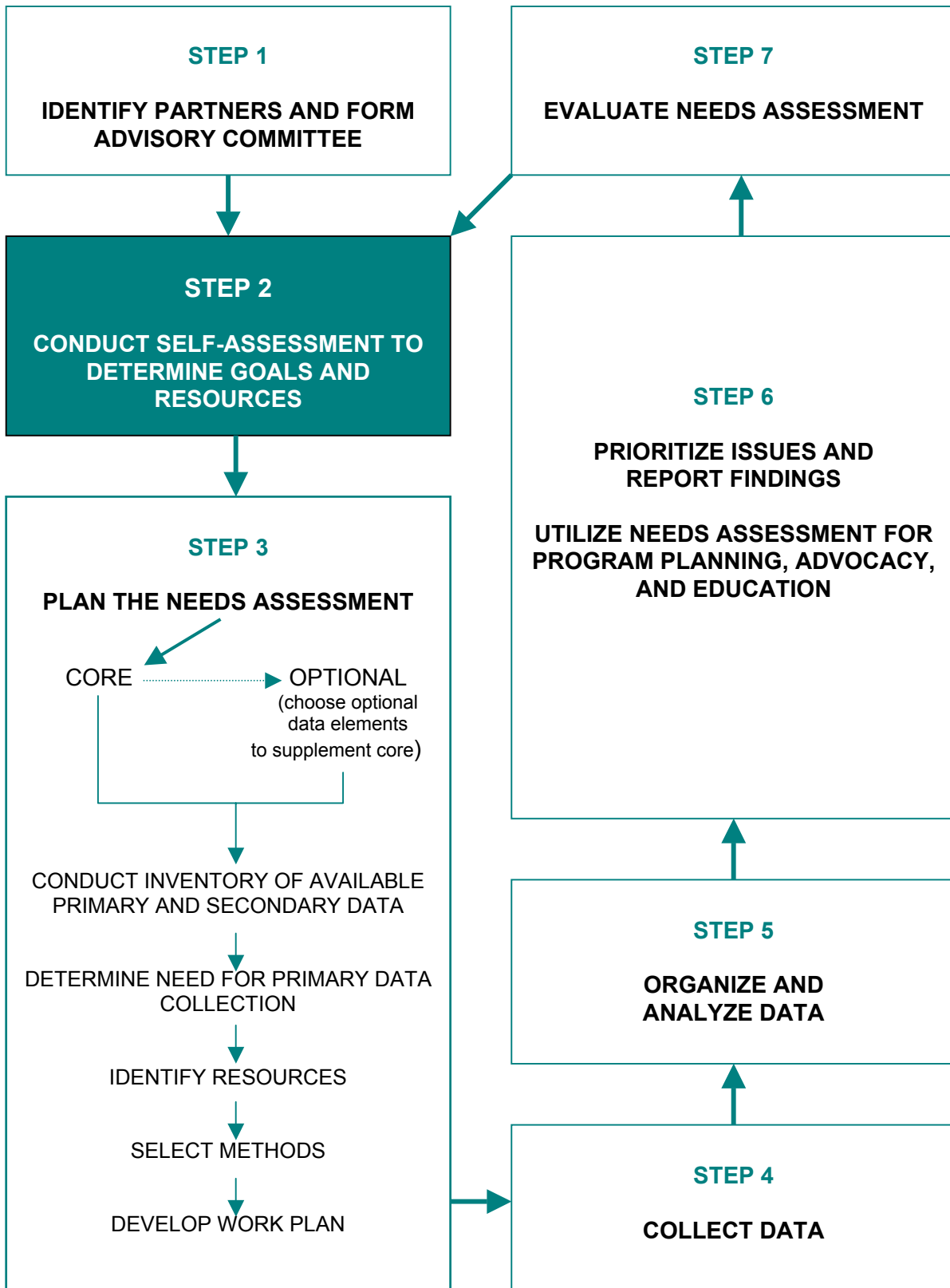


MODEL ORAL HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT



STEP 2: CONDUCT A SELF-ASSESSMENT

Before starting a data collection program or analyzing existing data, it is important to determine your goals or purposes for needs assessment. *Worksheet 2* asks you, with the help of your advisory committee, to consider why you want to conduct a needs assessment and what you hope to gain from it. The worksheet will help you focus on your goals. It not only helps start your needs assessment thinking process, but also will be used as an important evaluation tool throughout this manual. The goals you identify should tell you what factors are likely to influence decisions about your needs assessment plan. For example, if collecting data in a timely fashion is most important, you may select a less rigorous needs assessment method.



Worksheet #2 – Needs Assessment Goals					
TO WHAT EXTENT DO YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH EACH OF THE FOLLOWING THROUGH YOUR NEEDS ASSESSMENT? (circle the most appropriate number for each item)					
	NOT AT ALL		MODERATE		HIGH
Fulfill the requirements of the MCH Block Grant	1	2	3	4	5
Network with other programs / agencies / organizations	1	2	3	4	5
Build a constituency for oral health issues	1	2	3	4	5
Establish baseline data	1	2	3	4	5
Update existing data	1	2	3	4	5
Prioritize programs	1	2	3	4	5
Justify budget (maintenance / expansion / reallocation)	1	2	3	4	5
Increase visibility of program in agency	1	2	3	4	5
Target resources to specific populations	1	2	3	4	5
Fulfill expectations of administration / legislature	1	2	3	4	5
Monitor compliance with legal requirements	1	2	3	4	5
Publish findings in professional journal(s)	1	2	3	4	5
Educate decision makers	1	2	3	4	5
Collect data in a timely fashion	1	2	3	4	5
Collect valid (accurate) / reliable (reproducible) data	1	2	3	4	5
Generalize findings to target population	1	2	3	4	5
Evaluate existing programs	1	2	3	4	5
Other					
	1	2	3	4	5
	1	2	3	4	5