



**YREACH**

YREACH (YMCA Recognizing Extending  
Aligning Community Horizons)

**YMCA Immigrant Services**

*Building healthy  
communities*

# YREACH

- ✓ Settlement and Language support to immigrants and refugees outside of HRM
- ✓ Awareness Raising and creating Welcoming Communities



# Nova Scotia Office of Immigration - Funder



Funds Program

Monitors Outcomes

## Priorities

long term desired outcome = successful retention and integration

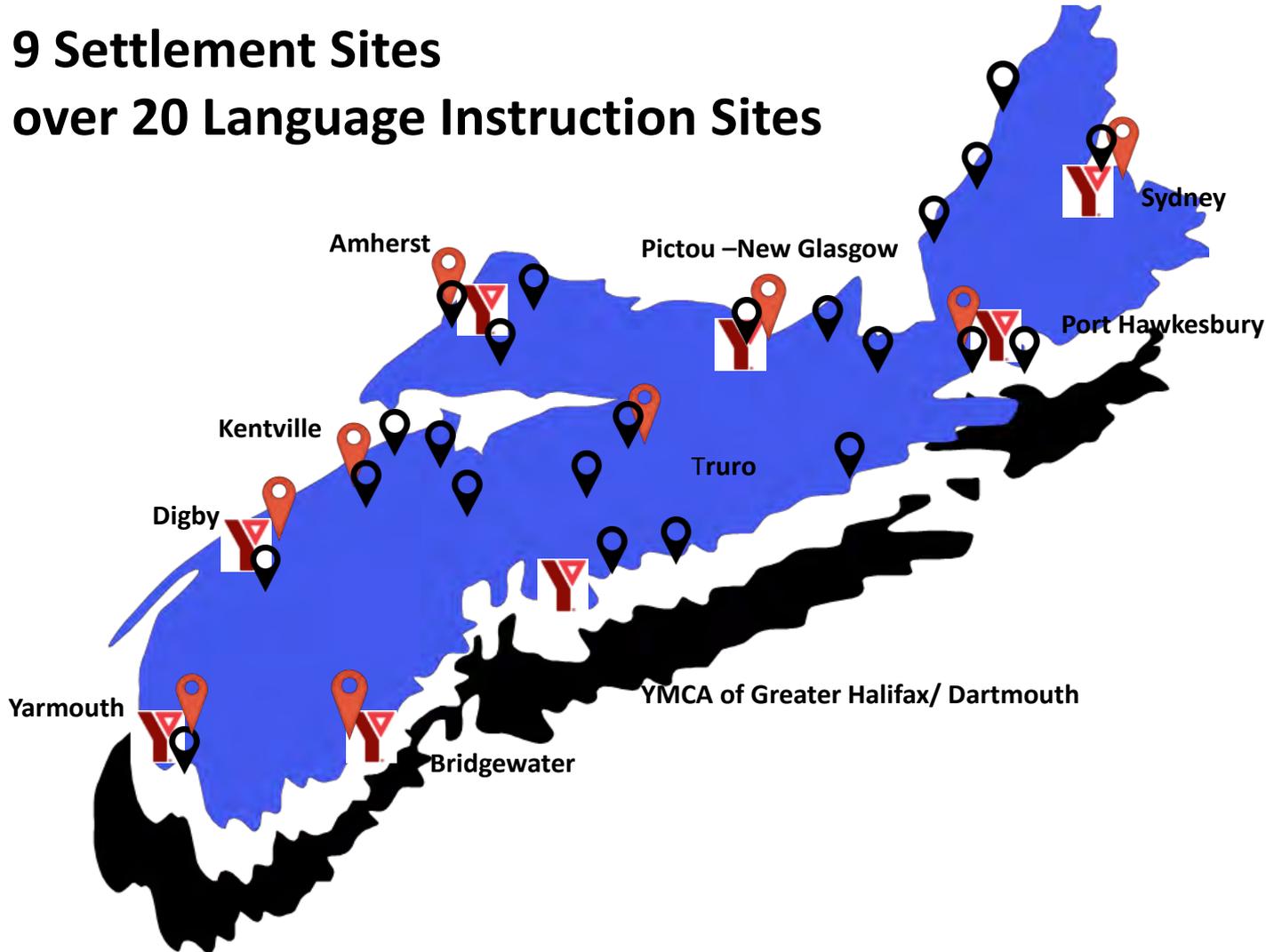
- Build on existing community resources and services
- Have significant geographical scope and broad impacts for immigrants in Nova Scotia
- Show extensive collaboration from a wide variety of organizations and partners



# YREACH Sites in Nova Scotia

 9 Settlement Sites

 over 20 Language Instruction Sites



# CHALLENGES & BARRIERS



# Challenges & Barriers (General)

Language

Unemployment  
Loss of status & income

*Loneliness & Isolation*

***Racism***

**Weather**

Accessing Health  
Care

***No social network***

*Finding  
Housing*

Lifestyle change



# Challenges & Barriers (Youth)

**Making friends**

Language

Unemployment

Loss of status & income

*Doing well in  
school*

**Parental  
Conflict**

*Loneliness & Isolation*

*Racism*

**Bullying**

**Balancing Cultural  
Identities**

Accessing Health  
Care

**Weather**

**Shifting familial roles**

*Finding  
Housing*

*No social network*



# Challenges & Barriers (Smaller Centers)

## Transportation

Language

*Doing well in school*

*Loneliness & Isolation*

*Making friends*

*Not feeling welcome*

Balancing Cultural Identities

Unemployment  
Loss of status & income

**Fewer Employment Opportunity**

**Bullying**

**Parental Conflict**

**Racism**

Less Diversity

**Limited EAL & Settlement Services**

*Limited Access to services and resources (i.e. food, interpretation etc)*

Accessing Health Care

**Weather**

Lifestyle change

*No social network*

Shifting familial roles

*Finding Housing*



# Our Approach

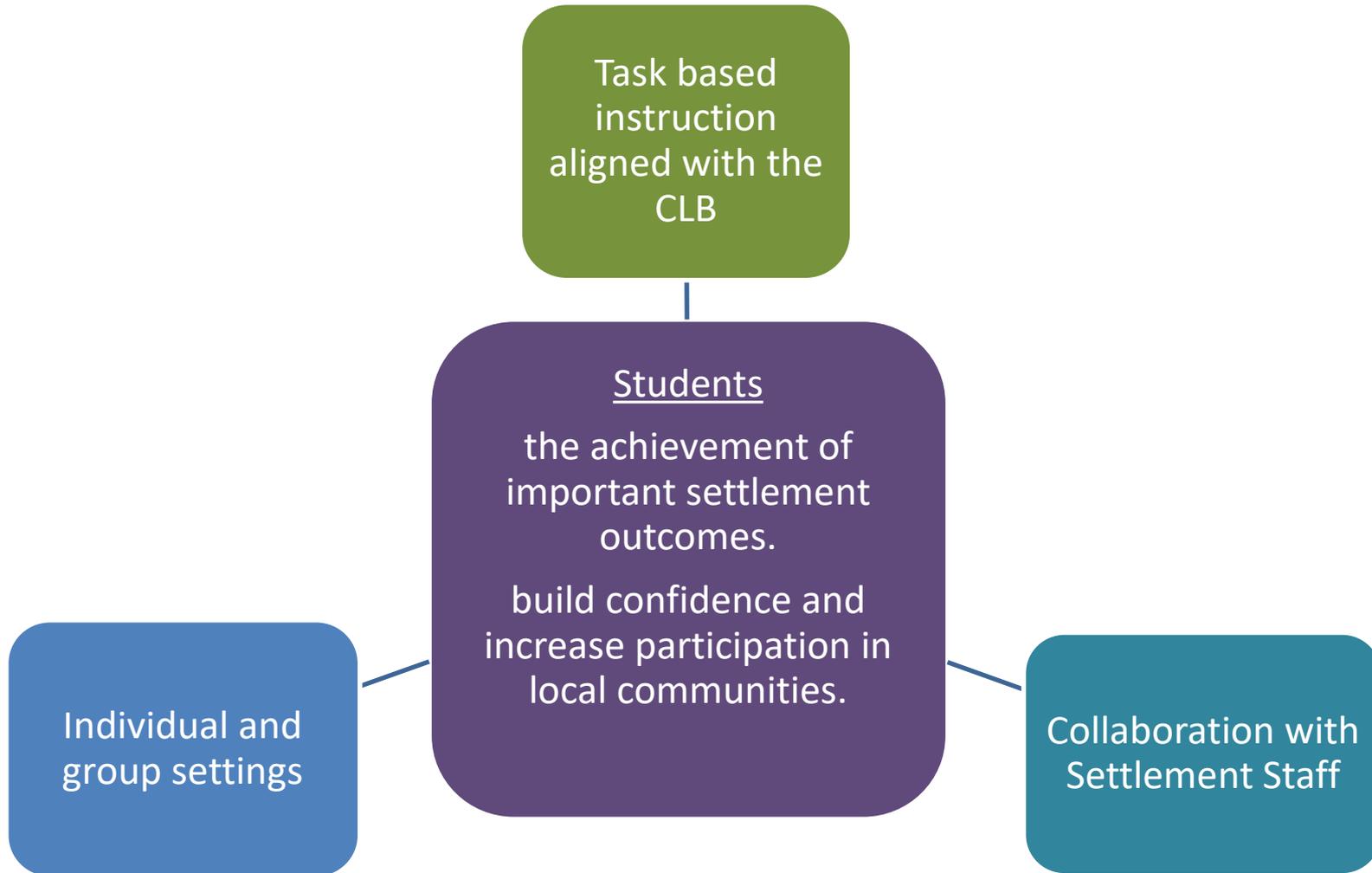
Client Focused and Place Based - engaging clients where they are, at times that accommodate their availability.



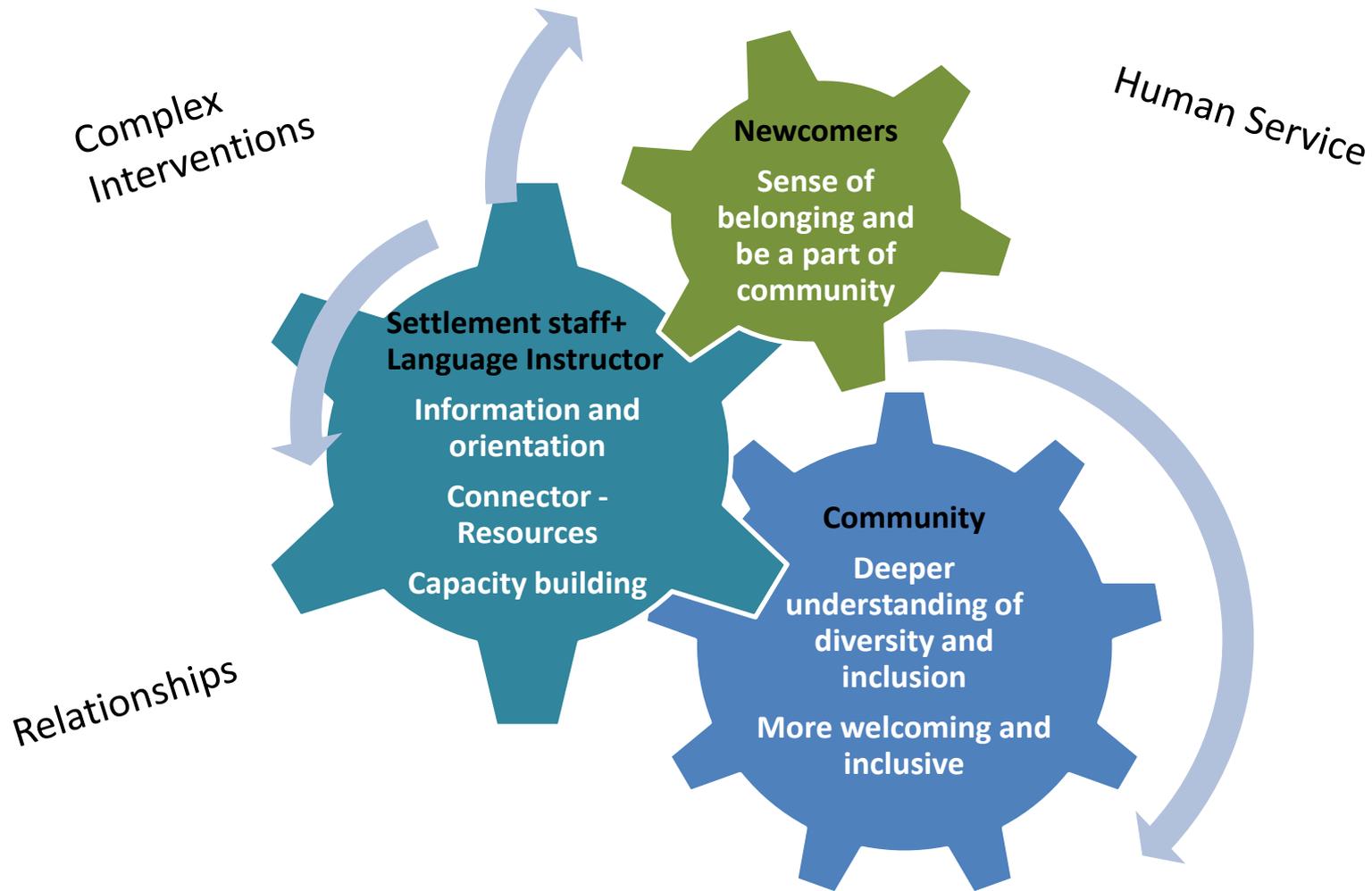
# YREACH FOCUS – Settlement Program



# YREACH Language Services



# YREACH Focus



# ACTION IDEAS



# Welcoming Communities

## What are some of the benefits?

- ✓ Skilled workers for employers
- ✓ Immigrant entrepreneurs developing their own businesses and employing others.
- ✓ Increased population and diversity
- ✓ Gaining a reputation as a great place for newcomers to live.
- ✓ Having a diverse society has the power to open minds and influence the future in positive and exciting ways.



# Welcoming Communities

- ✓ Newcomers engage in local organizations and activities, often as volunteers.
- ✓ The children of newcomers enter our education system, where they develop skills and knowledge that, in turn, contribute to our economy.
- ✓ Newcomers bring investment opportunities and connections to local markets.
- ✓ Newcomers bring new ideas, new perspectives and new voices of optimism.



**Nova Scotia Office of Immigration**



# Thank you

For more information contact:

Nadine Lauren

YReach Settlement Staff – Digby, Fundy & Clare

1043 Hwy #1

Cornwallis, Nova Scotia B0S 1H0

Tel: 902-638-9622

Cell: 902-249-0150

[nadine.lauren@halifax.ymca.ca](mailto:nadine.lauren@halifax.ymca.ca)

