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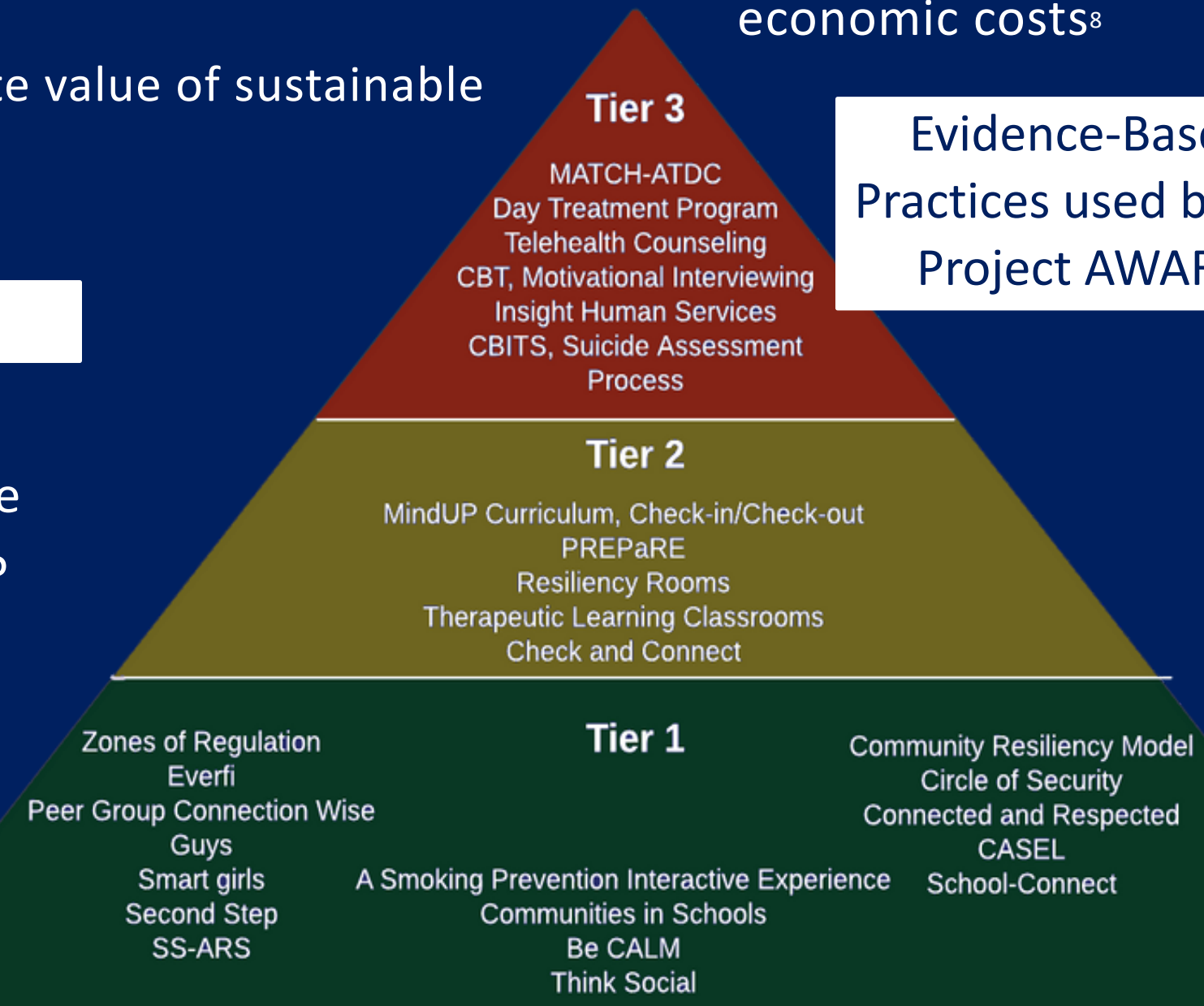
BACKGROUND

- Suicide is a leading cause of death among adolescents (especially for vulnerable groups, e.g. LGBTQI+ persons)^{2, 5-6, 9, 12}
- North Carolina Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education), funded by SAMHSA, is a Multi-tiered System of Supports (MTSS) program which includes evidence-based practices for public school student mental health⁴
 - Tier 1: Promotion
 - Tier 2: Prevention
 - Tier 3: Intervention
- Of the 60+ national Project AWARE grantees, none have done an economic evaluation
 - Results may utilized to illustrate value of sustainable funding to policy makers

STUDY OBJECTIVES

In North Carolina schools that have implemented Project AWARE, do the program's benefits exceed its costs?

REFERENCES



Evidence-Based Practices used by NC Project AWARE

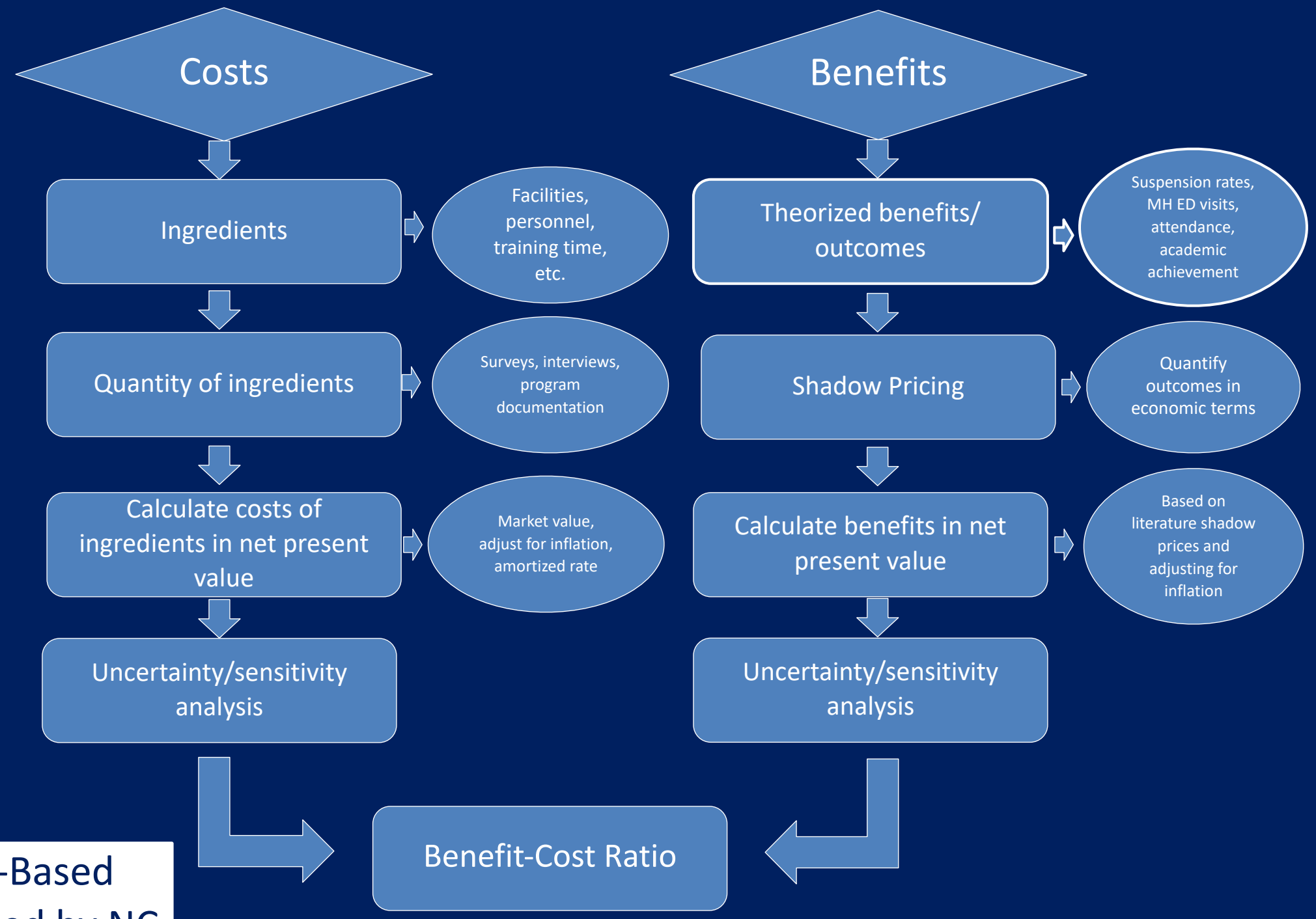
METHODS

COSTS

- Personnel, facilities, training, and materials^{7-8, 11}

BENEFITS

- Use outcomes such as suspensions and mental health related ED visits and translate to economic costs⁸



PROPOSED OUTCOMES

We hypothesize that:

- The benefits of NC Project AWARE will exceed the costs of the program
- The results can help to inform legislative decision-making
- We can advance the current literature around conducting economic evaluations of school mental health programs