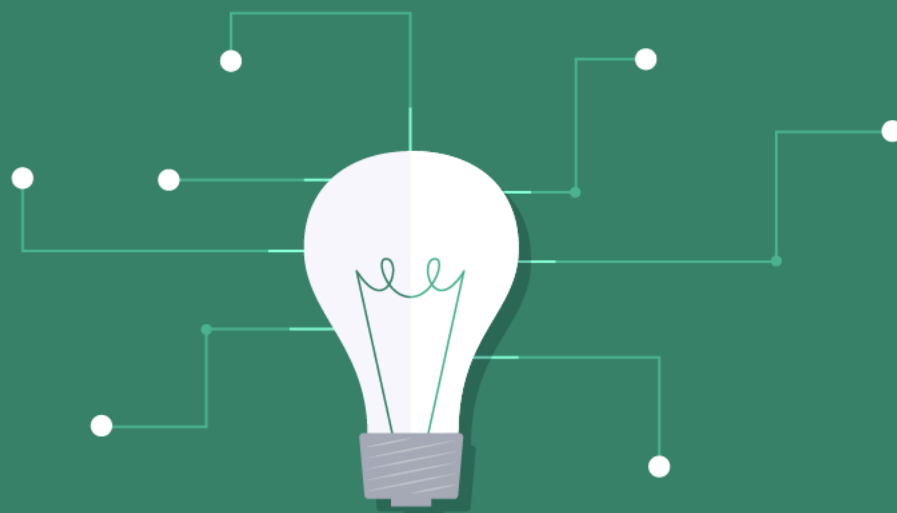




Navigating Changes to Federal Data

- **Baron Rodriguez**, Executive Director, Data Integration Support Center, WestEd
- **Carrie Welton**, Senior Policy Strategist, Trellis Strategies
- **Bryce McKibben**, Senior Director of Policy and Advocacy at The Hope Center at Temple University
- **Carrie Klein**, Associate Vice President, SHEEO



Data Integration Support Center

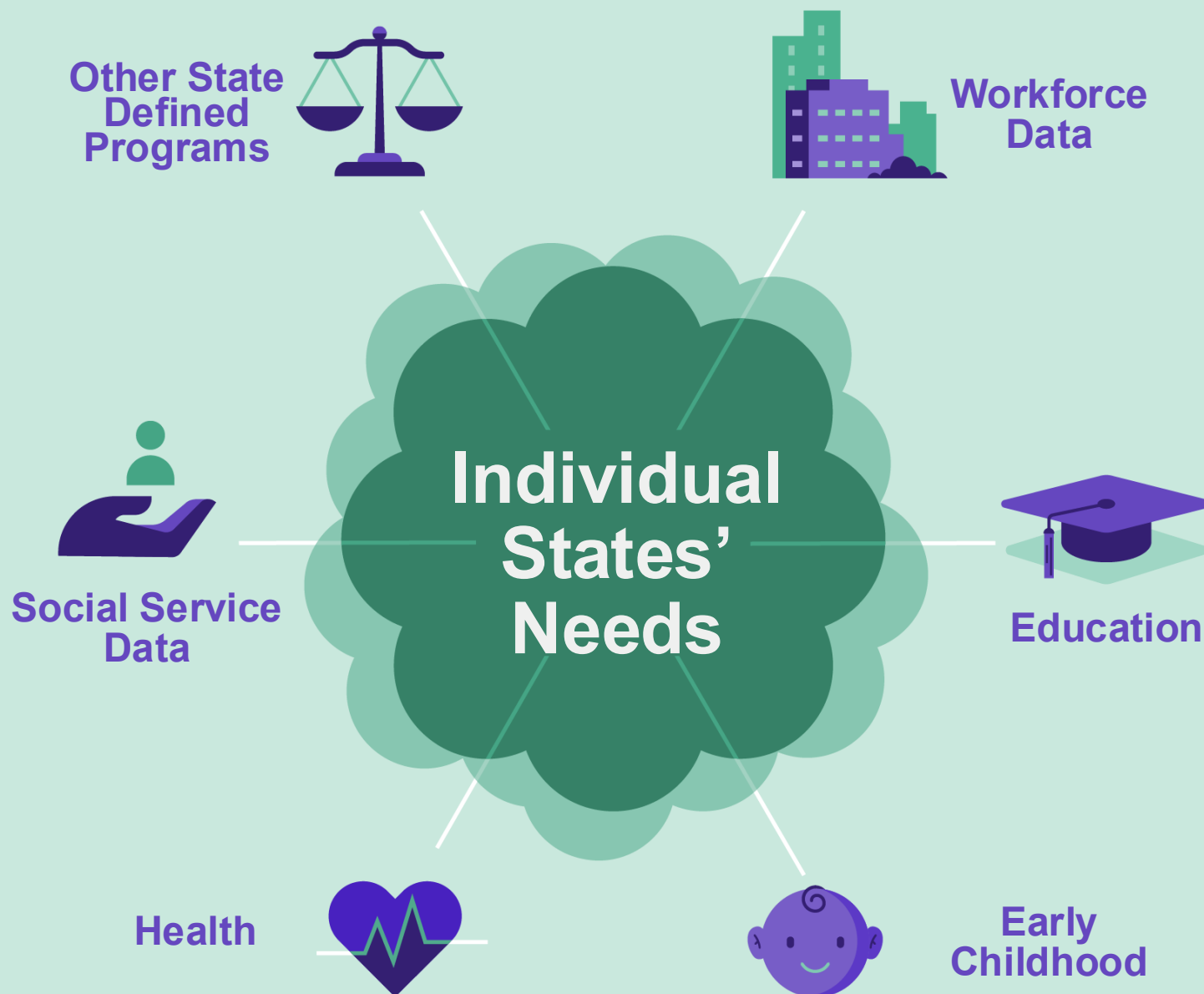
at WestEd



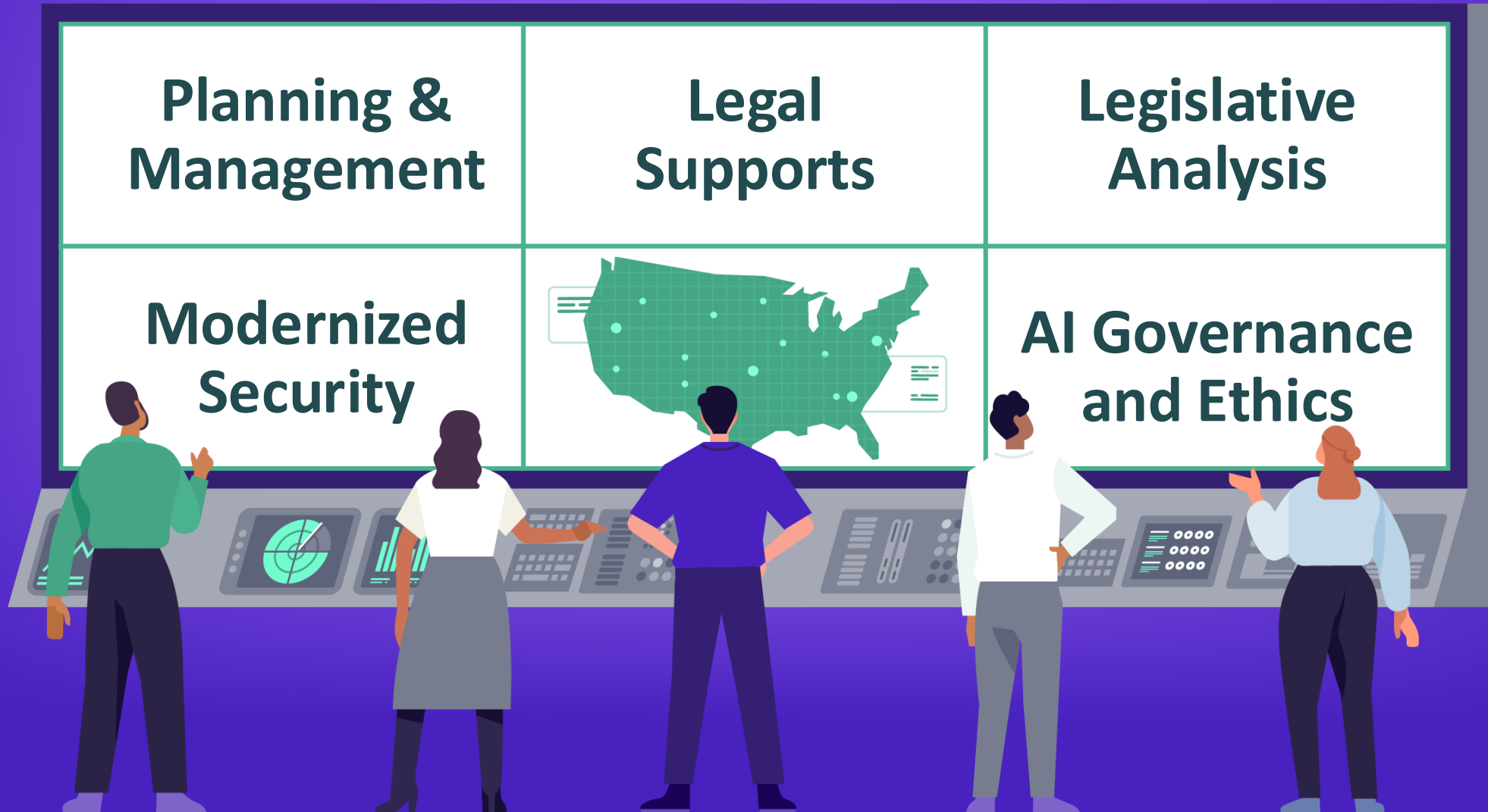
WestEd 



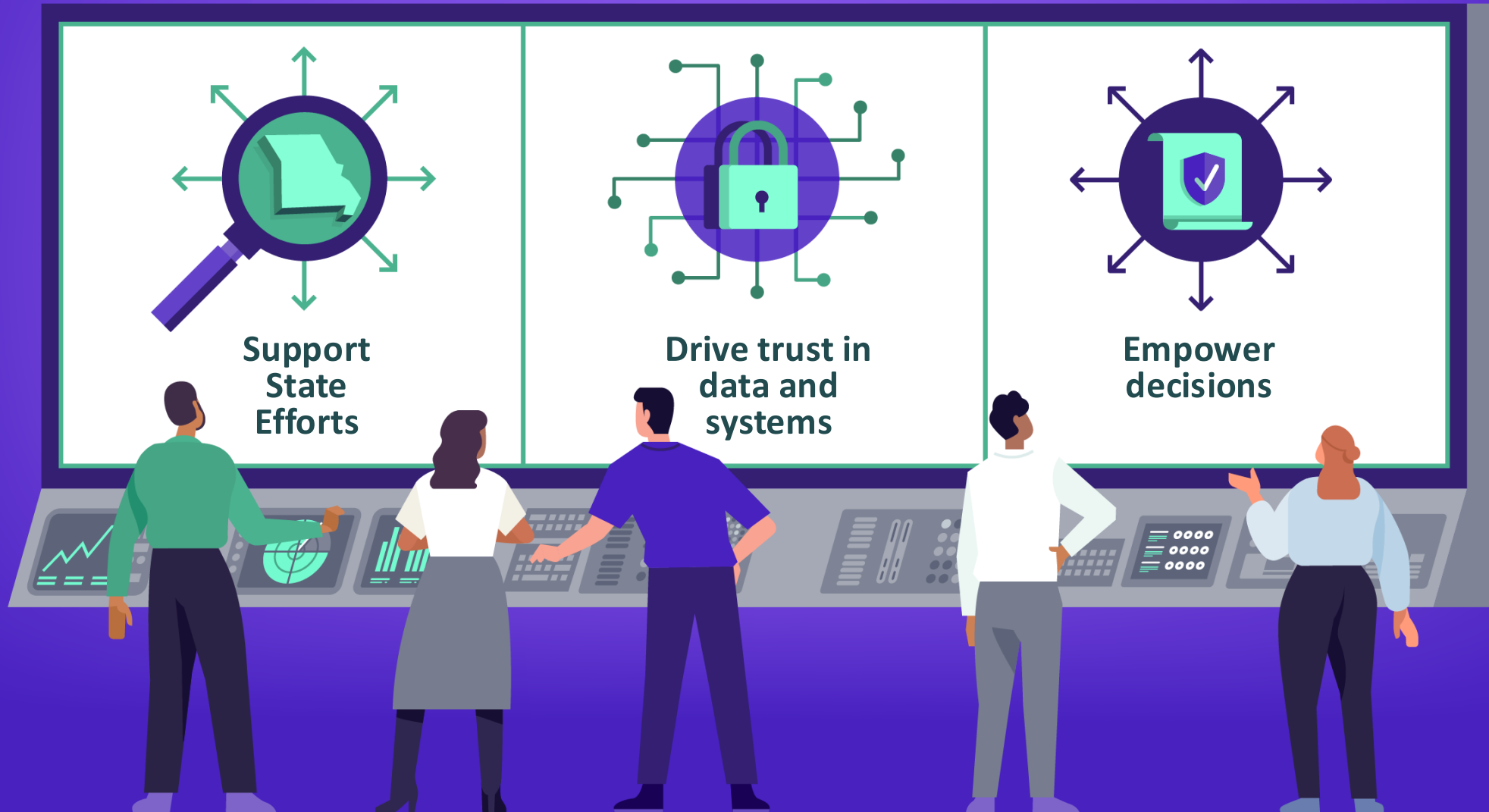
Strategic Data Focus Areas



Our Approach



Pathways to Success



FSA's Guidance: Impact on Integrated Data Work

Baron Rodriguez, CIPP/E

WestEd/DISC

Executive Director, DISC



DISC Use of Federal Student Aid Data Resource

DISC guidance (GENERAL-24-129) clarifies rules for FAFSA data use, covering FERPA, HEA, and Privacy Act compliance for state agencies and IHEs.

<https://disc.wested.org/resource/fsa-faq/>



Key Clarifications

Guidance outlines:

- Use for research and transactions
- Which law applies (FERPA/HEA)
- Written agreements/consent requirements
- Allowable third-party uses



Allowable Use Cases

Key Use Cases

FAFSA data may be used for:

- **Aid application, award, administration**
- Monitoring & audits
- **Reporting & statistics (e.g., IPEDS)**
- Research under FERPA/HEA exceptions
- Third-party disclosures (with agreements)

Consent usually required for external
redisclosure

Executive Summary



- ✓ FAFSA data use is governed by HEA, FERPA, and the Privacy Act; rules depend on data source & control.
- ✓ Permissible uses include aid administration, compliance monitoring, reporting, research (under strict rules).
- ✓ Community colleges and agencies may evaluate workforce outcomes with safeguards and agreements.
- ✓ De-identified data can be shared, but creation must follow legal access rules.
- ✓ Best practices: written agreements, data security, incident response, annual reviews, prohibit redisclosure.
- ✓ Compliance requires a culture of privacy + security, not just technical safeguards