



Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Updates

Bernard Simons, DDA Deputy Secretary

March 31, 2023



Agenda



- **Opening Remarks**
- **DD Awareness Month-Governor's Proclamation**
- **Federal Program Updates**
- **Program Updates**
- **Operations Updates**
- **Liberty Updates**

DD Awareness Month-Governor's Proclamation

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH
MARCH 2023**

WHEREAS, We believe in a Maryland which recognizes the unlimited potential for all our citizens, including those with developmental disabilities, to live, work, and thrive in our communities; and

WHEREAS, Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month is an opportunity to recognize the importance of ensuring inclusive environments with equal access to communication, education, employment, housing, transportation, and public accommodation; and

WHEREAS, Maryland supports those with developmental disabilities to make their own decisions, live where and with whomever they choose, and receive the support they need to be successful, productive, and independent community members; and

WHEREAS, We are changing Maryland for the better by promoting equality of opportunity, access, and choice for Marylanders with developmental disabilities. We are committed to the promise of a Maryland in which all people with developmental disabilities have the knowledge, opportunity, and influence to make a difference in their lives and the lives of others.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim MARCH 2023 as DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens and recognize that our communities are stronger when everyone participates.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 14 day of March
Two thousand and twenty-three

Wes Moore
Governor

Anura Miller
Lt. Governor

Susan C. Lea
Secretary of State



Federal Programs Updates

**Appendix K, Waiver Renewal, Medicaid Check-In,
Transitioning Youth, DDA Policy Stakeholder Input and
Self Direction**

Appendix K Flexibilities - Residential Retainer Days

- The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved the DDA's Appendix K amendment to end Appendix K-related residential retainer days on January 1, 2022.
 - Effective January 1, 2022, providers who have not accessed Appendix K retainer payments or have exhausted Appendix K retainer payments may access retainer payments as stipulated in the Community Pathways base waiver.
 - The DDA is updating the DDA's Appendix K guidance memos, At A Glance documents, termination chart and website to reflect these changes.
 - Questions related to retainer payments should be directed to your Regional Office.

Appendix K Flexibilities and Unwinding

- The DDA will be conducting a webinar on **April 21, 2023** from noon to 1:30 p.m. regarding the unwinding of the remaining DDA Appendix K flexibilities. To register for the webinar please use this [link](#).
- During the webinar, we will also highlight flexibilities that will continue under the DDA-operated Medicaid Waivers.

Waiver Renewal

- Current status:
 - MDH responded to initial clarifying questions from CMS
 - The MDH Office of Long Term Services & Supports updated the waiver portal with information CMS requested be included
- Next steps:
 - CMS approval
 - The DDA will post updated track change documents
 - The DDA will update policies and guidance to align with the July 1, 2023 effective date
 - The DDA will share stakeholder information and training related to changes

Medicaid Check-In 2023

- MDH Statewide outreach and communication strategy, March 2023 - April 2024
- Key Objectives:
 - Encourage Medicaid participants, including DDA-funded participants, to update their contact information
 - Generate awareness of the redetermination process statewide using various communication and media strategies

Medicaid Check-In 2023

- Current information:
 - [MDH Facebook Post](#)
 - [Campaign Landing Page](#)
 - [Medicaid Check-In 2023 - Participant Information](#)
 - [Medicaid Check-In 2023 – Provider Information](#)
 - [DDA’s Medicaid Check-In 2023 communication March 14, 2023](#)

Medicaid Check-In 2023

- Important actions to take today:
 - Create a [myMDTHINK](#) account if you do not already have one.
 - **MDTHINK** is Maryland's system that includes direct access to your Medicaid eligibility status, letters and notices.
 - Make sure your [myMDTHINK](#) account has your **current** mailing address, phone number, email or other contact information.
 - Once you establish your account, you can access your Medicaid case details, and manage your account information like updating your contact information.
 - Please note that you must have an email address to create a [myMDThink](#) account.
 - If you do not have an email address, you may create one with help from a family member, coordinator of community services or provider of your **land** choice.

Medicaid Check-In 2023

You can follow these steps to review or update your contact information:

- To review or update contact information online, log in to your account at mydmthink.maryland.gov and review or update your address, phone number and email.
- If you do not already have an account, you can create an account at mydmthink.maryland.gov by clicking on “create account.”
- You can also call the DHS Call Center at 800-332-6347. Help is available in more than 200 languages. People who are deaf and hard of hearing can use Relay service.
- You can also call or visit your local [Department of Social Services](#) or your [Local Health Department](#).

Medicaid Check-In 2023

- CCSs, participant teams, and DDA providers can assist people with setting up and accessing their [myMDTHINK](#) account if the person does not already have an account.
- In June/July 2023, CCSs and DDA providers will also be able to see the redetermination date when checking the Eligibility Verification System (EVS) for Maryland Medical Assistance.
- Reference: www.emdhealthchoice.org
 - If you have questions regarding this new feature, please email your questions to: mdh.eMedicaidMD@maryland.gov.

Transitioning Youth (TY)

Transitioning Youth (TY) 23*	
Aged out/graduated	<u>June 2022</u>
TY funding eligibility	<u>Beginning July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023</u>
Critical Date:	*The MA Waiver Application must be submitted no later than <u>June 30, 2023</u> in order to be considered for TY funding

*Note: There are exceptions for Autism Waiver (AW) TY under the AW Appendix K. The flexibility allowed TY21 & 22 to temporarily remain in the AW. These youth would be considered as part of the TY23 group.

Transitioning Youth - Fiscal Year 2024

Transitioning Youth (TY) 24	
Aged out/graduated	<u>June 2023</u>
TY funding eligibility	Beginning July 1, 2023 - June 30, <u>2024</u>
Critical Date:	<p>*The MA Waiver Application <u>cannot</u> be signed or submitted before May 15, 2023</p> <p>*The MA Waiver Application must be submitted no later than <u>June 30, 2024</u> in order to be considered for TY funding</p>

DDA Stakeholder Input Process Update

- Policies out for stakeholder public input:
 - [Family and Peer Mentoring Supports](#)
 - [Transition Support Services](#)
- Next policies to be issued for stakeholder input:
 - Live In Caregiver Supports
 - Remote Support Services
- Final policies are published on the [DDA archive webpage](#) with final track change documents, stakeholder input summary, and issued in [PolicyStat](#):
 - Assistive Technology
 - Environmental Assessment/Environmental Modifications
- Reference: [DDA Policy Stakeholder Input](#) webpage.

Self Direction - FMCS Electronic Billing



- It is important to reach out to your Financial Management and Counseling Services (FMCS) agency for assistance if you do not have access or have challenges accessing your FMCS Agency's web portal.
- The FMCS portals include the ability to electronically submit time and invoice for non Electronic Visit Verification services.
- The FMCS portals also include information related to expenditures paid to date so people can manage and stay within their authorized budget.

Self Direction - FMCS Contacts



- GT Independence
 - Customer Service Line: 1-877-659-4500
 - Customer Service Email: customerservice@gtindependence.com
 - Raquel Barbour: RBarbour@gtindependence.com
- Public Partnerships
 - Customer Service Line: 833-660-2509
 - Customer Service Email: PPLMDDDA-CS@pcgus.com
 - Chantielle Tally: ctally@pcgus.com
- The Arc Central Chesapeake Region
 - Customer Service Line: 1-866-252-6871
 - Customer Service Email: FMSParticipants@thearcCCR.org
 - Karen Bradbury: kbradbury@thearcCCR.org

Self Direction - MDH Contacts



- Monica Hariri, MDH FMCS Program Manager
 - monica.hariri1@maryland.gov
- Kristi Culbreth, DDA's Statewide Coordinator of Self-Direction
 - kristina.culbreth@maryland.gov
- Jonna Krabill, DDA's Eastern Shore Regional Office SDS Lead -
 - jonna.krabill@maryland.gov
- Ola Otuyelu, DDA's Central Regional Office SDS Lead -
 - olasubomi.otuyelu@maryland.gov
- Tia Henry, DDA's Southern Regional Office SDS Lead -
 - tia.henry2@maryland.gov
- Cara Buckman, DDA's Western Regional Office SDS Lead -
 - cara.buckman@maryland.gov

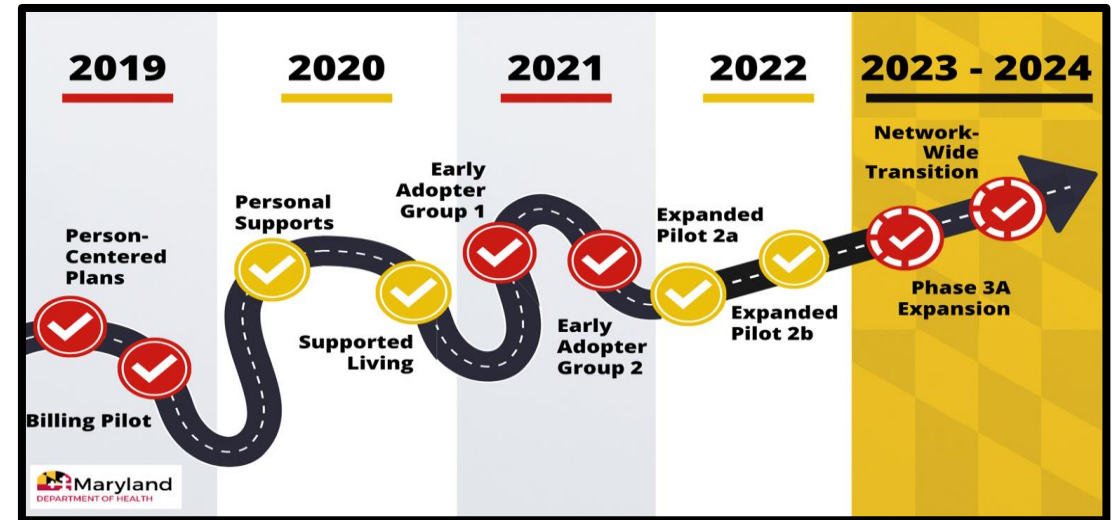
Programs Updates

LTSS transition, LTSS enhancements, Ongoing CSR compliance, PCP enhancements, Employment and Technology 1st updates

LTSS Transition

- Successful 4/1 Go-Live
- Successful 3A transition
- Scoping is complete for 7/1
- LTSS transition survey
- Providers scoping through 12/1
- As of 4/1:

Active Providers: 237	April 2023 Projection
All-In	83/35%
Partially In	108/46%
No Billing	46/19%



LTSS Enhancements

- CCS Monitoring forms (manual creation)
- Provider Portal Updates
 - CSQ view
 - Contribution to Care view

Ongoing Community Settings Rule (CSR) Compliance

- CSR final guidance and Community Settings Questionnaire (CSQ) are posted on our website: [Pages - HCBS Transition Plan \(maryland.gov\)](https://www.maryland.gov/Pages-HCBS-Transition-Plan)
- CSQ is a collaborative process
- DDA Validation
- CSR/CSQ Training



Person-Centered Planning (PCP) Enhancements

- CCS/Provider Kickoff
 - Save the date
- Champions
- Implementation Committee formation



Employment and Technology 1st Updates

- “Tech Tuesdays” webinar series
- Joint DDA/DORS training
- Job development enhancements
- Meaningful Day Services survey
- Employment 1st Committee Outcomes: [Pages - Employment Services \(maryland.gov\)](#)

Operations Update

**FY 2024 Governor's Allowance Summary, Provider
Invoices, Liberty Healthcare Updates**

FY2024 Rate Calendar

- Rate tables will be updated and shared shortly after the budget has been approved
- July 1, 2024
 - Mandated 4% COLA
 - FFS Rates
 - Adjustment to Meaningful Day Transportation Component based on RRAG
 - Increase to Meaningful Day funding percentage
- FY 25 & 26 Accelerated COLAs

Competitive Grants

Grant Application Submission is closed.

Revised Timeline:

- May 15, 2023 - Award letters
- July 1, 2023 - Funding will begin



December 16, 2022



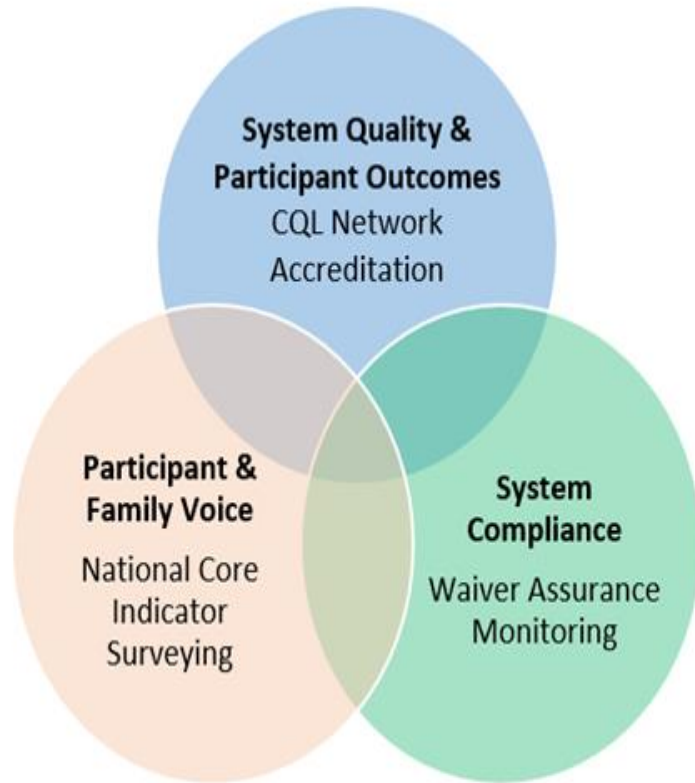
Liberty Updates on System Performance and Person Centered Excellence Evaluation Activities

Jennifer Mettrick



Evaluating System Performance and Person-Centered Excellence

Core Components



QIO Data Collection Tools



QIO Data Analytics



QIO Technical Assistance to DDA



Evaluation of Strategies through Continuous Data Collection



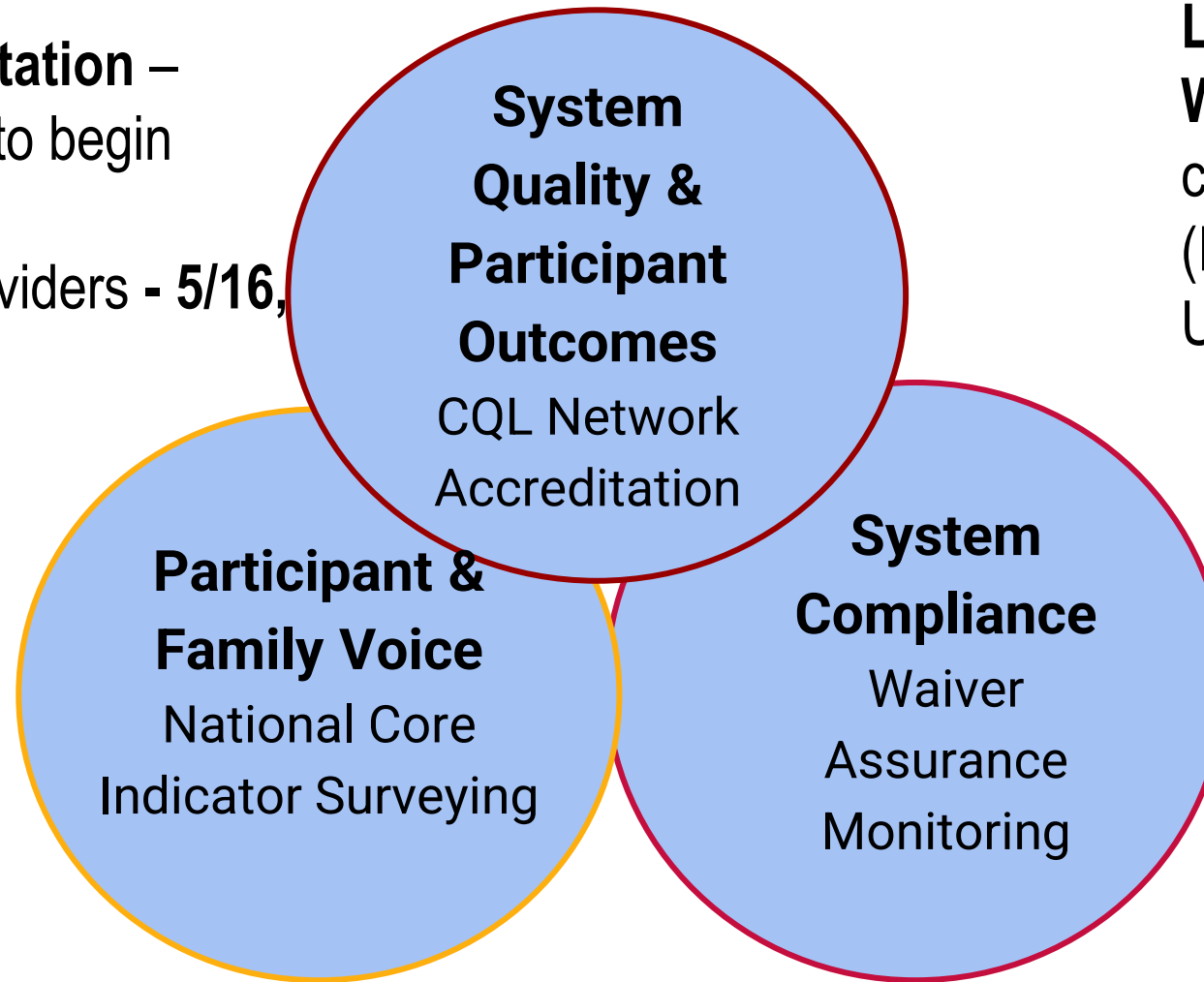
Liberty Updates

CQL Network Accreditation –
Basic Assurance **Pilot** to begin
4/18/23

BA Training for all Providers - **5/16,**
5/17, 5/18, 5/23, 5/24

267 DDA participants
have shared their voice
in the **NCI In-person**
survey

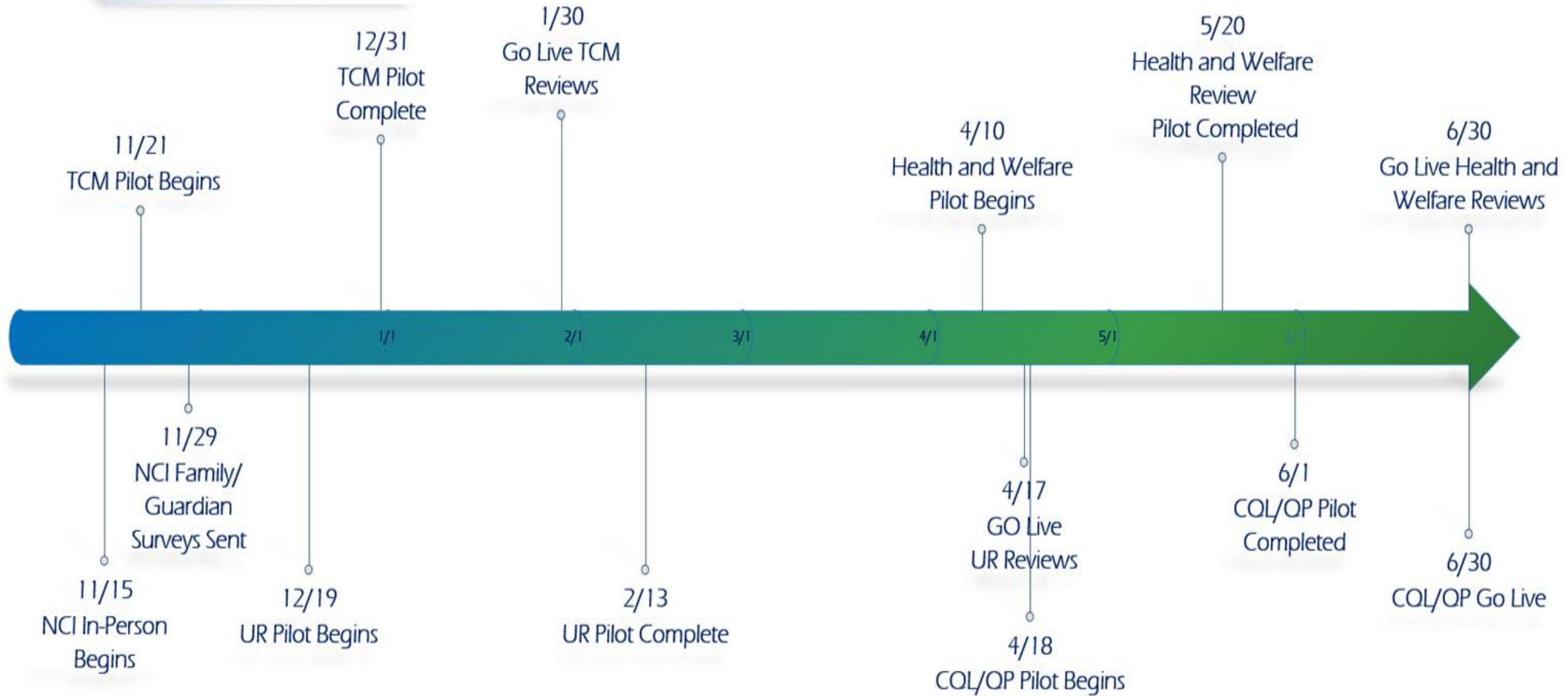
Over 630 family
members have
completed the mailed
NCI survey



Liberty Collaborative Workgroup has completed 6 sessions (Focused on TCM & Utilization Reviews)

Liberty has completed **51% of TCM reviews** for the review period. Liberty will begin **Utilization Reviews** with Service Providers on **4/17/23**

Proposed Maryland QIO
Reviews Rollout Schedule





**For additional Questions? Email
Jennifer.Mettrick@libertyhealth.com**

Upcoming Monthly Webinars

To register for Monthly Webinars with Deputy Secretary Bernie Simons:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7056441753881626381>

Next webinar:

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Questions

