



Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Updates

Bernard Simons, DDA Deputy Secretary

January 27, 2023



Agenda



- **Opening Remarks**
- **New Department of Health Secretary**
- **Federal Program Updates**
- **Program Updates**
- **Administrative Services Updates**

New Maryland Department of Health Secretary

Dr. Laura Herrera Scott is a healthcare leader with expertise across decades in integrating value-based care philosophy with clinical and population health strategies. She is a visionary leader in the health space, spearheading the creation of progressive programs that optimize patient outcomes, improve the quality of care, and advance health equity. Most recently Dr. Scott served as Executive Vice President of Population Health at Summit Health, and as Vice President of Clinical Strategy and Product at Anthem. She also brings MDH experience, she last served in the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene from 2011-2015 as Deputy Secretary of Public Health Services. Dr. Scott is a Veteran of the United States Army Reserves, serving from 1998-2008 as a Major in the Medical Corps. She received a Master's Degree in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University and a Doctor of Medicine from SUNY Health Science Center in Brooklyn, New York. She currently lives in Towson, Maryland with her husband and two children.



Federal Programs Updates

**Appendix K, Waiver Renewal, New DDA Policy
Stakeholder Input Process, Self Direction**

Appendix K Flexibilities and Unwinding

- Meaningful Day Services Exceptions:
 - The requirement that a minimum of six hours of services be provided during a single day is temporarily suspended will end on June 30, 2023.
 - Suspension of the minimum number of hours of Meaningful Day services to be provided during a single day. A provider may bill for the entire day only if they provide the person with, at minimum, three hours of cumulative supports.
 - Clarification: This applies to providers billing in PCIS2 and providers billing in *LTSSMaryland*.
 - Reference:
 - [Appendix K and Executive Orders Flexibilities - January 9, 2023](#)
 - [DDA Appendix K #4 - Exceptions to Pre Authorization and Service Requirements - Revised January 9, 2023](#)

Appendix K Flexibilities and Unwinding

- The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved our request to revise the DDA Appendix K to:
 - Clarify additional reasons for the rate increase due to isolation (for example, the participant is symptomatic, awaiting test results, and discharged from a hospital).
 - Clarify staff training-related flexibilities continue as per the unwinding strategy.
 - Increase reserved category slots.
- CMS is further assessing our request to end the residential retainer payments on September 30, 2022.
 - CMS is considering whether ending the residential retainer payments impacts the state's federal maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement for the public health emergency enhance federal match.

Waiver Renewal

- Current status:
 - MDH's Office of Long Term Services & Supports submitted the DDA Waiver renewal proposals on January 26, 2023
- Next steps:
 - DDA will post track change documents and a stakeholder summary to the dedicated DDA waiver renewal pages next week
 - CMS review and discussions
 - CMS approval
 - DDA will update policies and guidance to align with July 1, 2023 effective date
 - DDA stakeholder information and training related to changes

New DDA Stakeholder Input Process

- The DDA is seeking public input on the following policies:
 - **Assistive Technology**
 - **Environmental Assessment/Environmental Modifications**

Note: Environmental Assessment and Environmental Modifications services are noted in one policy.

- You can access the proposed policies at: [DDA Policy Stakeholder Input Dedicated Webpage](#) on **January 30, 2023**.
- The DDA will also send out a communication on Monday, January 30, 2023 requesting input on these policies.

New DDA Stakeholder Input Process

- Policy Proposals will:
 - Be based on the current approved waiver services
 - For example,
 - Environmental Modifications are currently limited to **\$15,000** every three years
 - The waiver renewal proposal is to increase to **\$50,000** every three years unless otherwise authorized by the DDA
 - The proposed policy reflects the **\$15,000** limit
 - Changes noted in the waiver renewals will be updated next spring prior to the July 1, 2023 implementation date

New DDA Stakeholder Input Process

- Here are some tips for submitting comments:
 - Point to a specific policy section.
 - For example: Definitions, Criteria to be Eligible, Special Service Requirements and Limitations, etc.
 - Suggest specific recommendations and revised language when possible and appropriate
 - If you disagree with part of a policy, suggest an alternative
 - Comment on information with which you agree

New DDA Stakeholder Input Process

- Public comments will be accepted beginning **January 30, 2023 through February 13, 2023.**
- Please submit comments electronically to wfb.dda@maryland.gov or mail them to the DDA Federal Program Unit at 201 West Preston Street, 4th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21201.
- Please include in the Subject Line of your email, “Input on Policy,” and include the name of the policy you are commenting on
 - For example, “Input on Assistive Technology Services Policy.”
- If you have questions or need any accommodations, please reach out to the DDA Federal Programs Policy Lead, Danielle Coles at Danielle.Coles1@maryland.gov.

Navigating to DDA Stakeholder Input Webpage

The screenshot shows the Maryland.gov website. In the top left corner is the Maryland.gov logo. In the top right corner are links for "State Directory", "State Agencies", and a globe icon. On the left side, there is a navigation menu with the following items: "Quick Links", "About DDA", "Recommended Websites", "Policies, Regulations, and Forms" (highlighted with a red arrow), "Services We Provide", "Behavior Supports", "Coordination Of Community Services", "Employment", "Housing", and "Low Intensity Support Services (LISS)". The main content area is titled "DDA Policy Stakeholder Input". Below the title, there is a paragraph: "The DDA is committed to seeking input on policy and guidance proposals from participants, families, Coordination of Community Service agencies, community providers, and advocacy organizations." This is followed by another paragraph: "The DDA will post proposed policies for stakeholder feedback below. Stakeholders will have two weeks to submit their input from the time a proposed policy is posted. The DDA may include specific questions that will help guide our decision making; however, we welcome all constructive feedback for improving our policies and guidance. The DDA will summarize the specific recommendations from the public and responses which will be posted with the final version of the policy or guidance. In the event of emergent policy decisions, this process may not be used at the discretion of the Deputy Secretary." Below this text are three sections: "Policy/Guidance – Coming Soon", "What happens to my feedback? |", and "Stakeholder Groups". The "What happens to my feedback? |" section contains the text: "When the proposal is finalized and published you can find the DDA responses to feedback along with the draft and final guidance on the Archive page". The "Stakeholder Groups" section contains the text: "The DDA frequently forms stakeholder groups to work and advise on policy topics. Visit this section to check for opportunities to participate. The DDA may limit participation in stakeholder groups based on size of the group and role of participants. The DDA may also reach out to stakeholders through other avenues to ensure broad and diverse perspectives are represented."

Frequently Asked Questions

[DDA Frequently Asked Questions - January 24, 2023](#)



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

The Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) receives questions regarding programs, services, processes, and new initiatives directly and during topic specific webinars. These Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are organized into the topic specific categories to help you find those questions and responses most relevant to you. To go directly to a specific section, you can click on the link in the Table of Contents.

This is a live document which will be updated as categories and questions are added and updated. Questions received that are similar in nature were consolidated to best summarize the answers and resources. Questions that are no longer relevant have been moved to an archived document.

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► Issue Date: **03.22.2021**
► Revised Date: **1.25.2023**



Self Direction

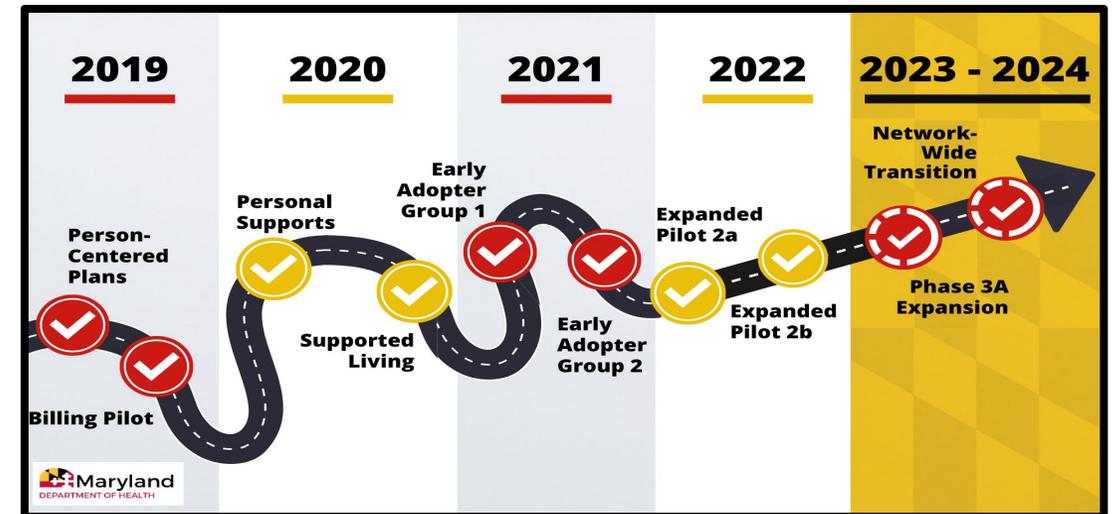
- Financial Management and Counseling Services
 - Participant - onboarded
 - Set up as employer of record, etc.
 - Employee - onboarded
 - Completed a background check
 - All tax withholding forms are submitted (W4 and MW507)
 - Employment Verification is completed (I9)
 - Payment Method is submitted (direct deposit information)

Programs Updates

LTSS Transition-3A, emergency plan requirements, Sole Practitioner Agreement, family forum

LTSS Transition-3A (January - April 2023)

- 35 Providers
 - All services - 26
 - Partial - 9
 - 2,886 PCPs
- February 1st Go-Live Breakdown
 - 11 providers
 - Partial - 3
 - All services - 8
 - 681 PCPs



Emergency plan requirements

- **COMAR 10.22.02.10B** – Specific to DDA residential sites, not vocational or day service sites



- Emergency back up plans required, per waiver
- Collaboration with teams
- Local emergency response plans
- Statewide emergency management partners

Sole Practitioner Agreement

- Streamline process for licensed professionals
 - Health occupation licensing boards: behavioral analysis, psychology, nursing, social work, speech-language pathology, and/or physical/occupational therapy
- Sole practitioner vs. individual provider
- Self direction/Traditional
- Choice
- Oversight
- [Application](#)

Individual & Family Forum

- **Wednesday February 15, 2023**
- Enhance Person-Centered Planning (PCP) process
- Charting the LifeCourse (CtLC) principles
- For more information on CtLC please visit:
[LifeCourse Framework – LifeCourse Nexus \(lifecoursetools.com\)](https://lifecoursetools.com)



Administrative Services Update

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

FY 2024 Community Services Governor's Allowance Summary (Contingent on approval by General Assembly)

- **Proposed FY 2024 Budget = \$1.843 Billion;** includes:
 - An additional \$51M to expand services and reduce the waiting list.
 - \$11.3M for Transitioning Youth to support 541 people.
 - \$910K for Emergency Placements.
 - \$10M for the Waiting List.
 - \$1.5M for the Waiting List Equity Fund
 - \$5.5M for Low Intensity Support Services
 - \$20M to fund provider rate increases for Residential and Meaningful Day services in LTSS and the transportation component

FY 2024 Community Services Governor's Allowance Summary (Contingent on approval by General Assembly)

- “Fight for Fifteen” Rate Increases
 - Funding Included to accelerate the FY 2025 & 26 mandated COLAs

The House Budget Hearing on February 22 will be at 1 p.m.

The Senate Budget Hearing on February 23 will be at 1 p.m.

Provider Invoices



December 16, 2022



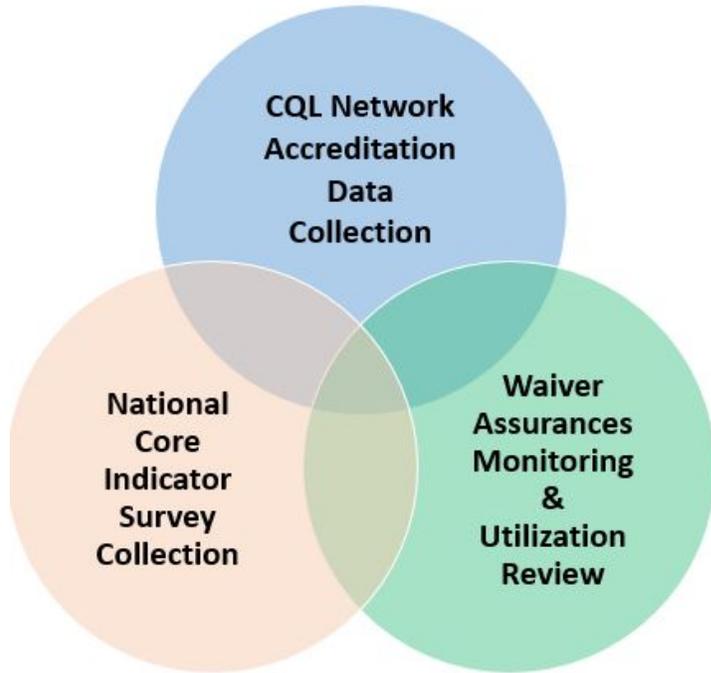
Quality Improvement Organization(QIO) Update

Jennifer Mettrick



QIO Quality Framework

QIO Scope of Work



QIO Data Collection Tools

Targeted Case Management Reviews



Provider Utilization Reviews



Qualified Provider Reviews



Health & Welfare Reviews



CQL Personal Outcome Measures, Basic Assurances & NCI Surveys



LibertyTraks

QIO Data Analytics

Reporting on performance, by quality domains, provider, service types, or region supports data driven quality improvement strategies.

QIO Technical

QIO supports DDA to Select/Implement Strategies that enhance System and Waiver Participant Outcomes

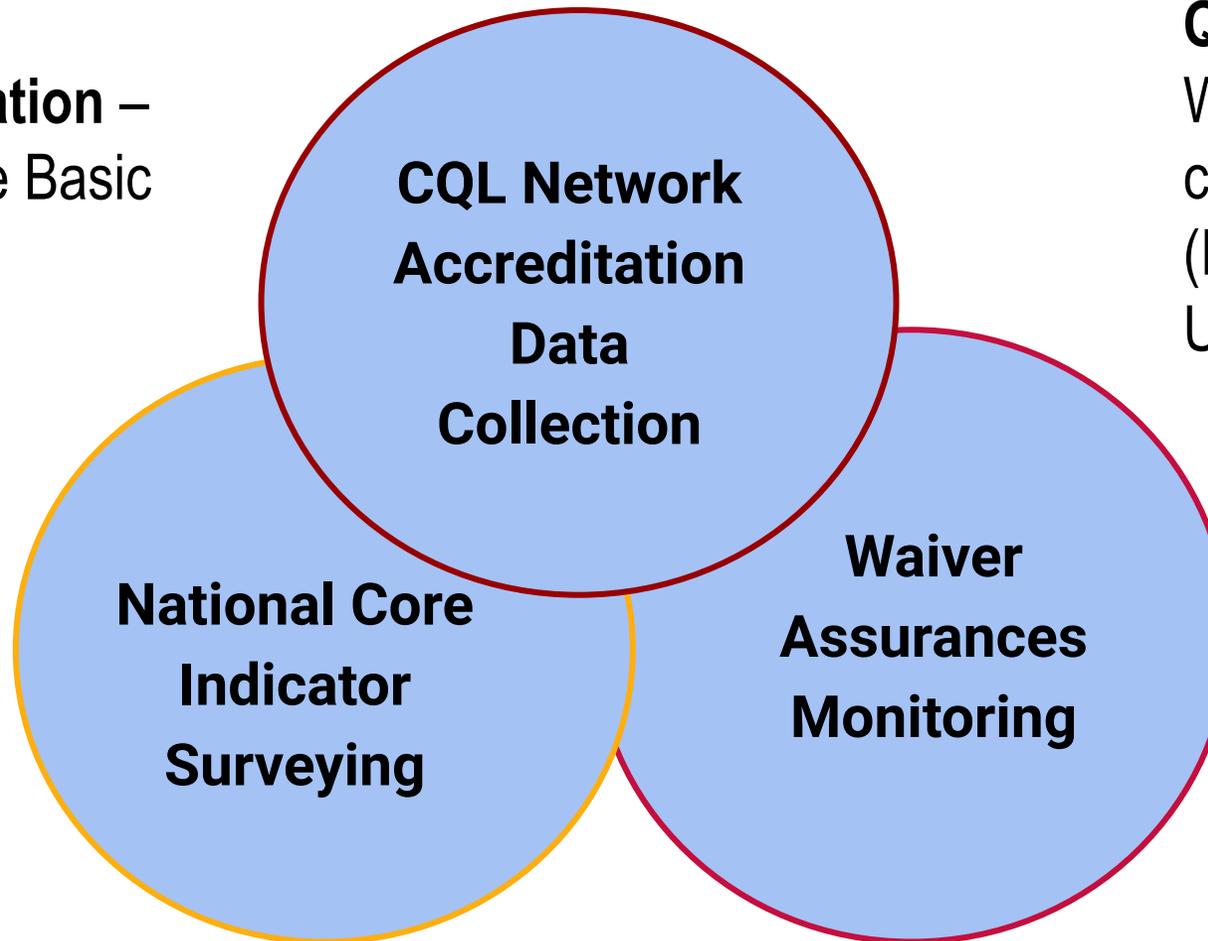
Evaluation of Strategies through Continuous Data Collection



QIO Updates

CQL Network Accreditation –
Upcoming training on the Basic Assurances

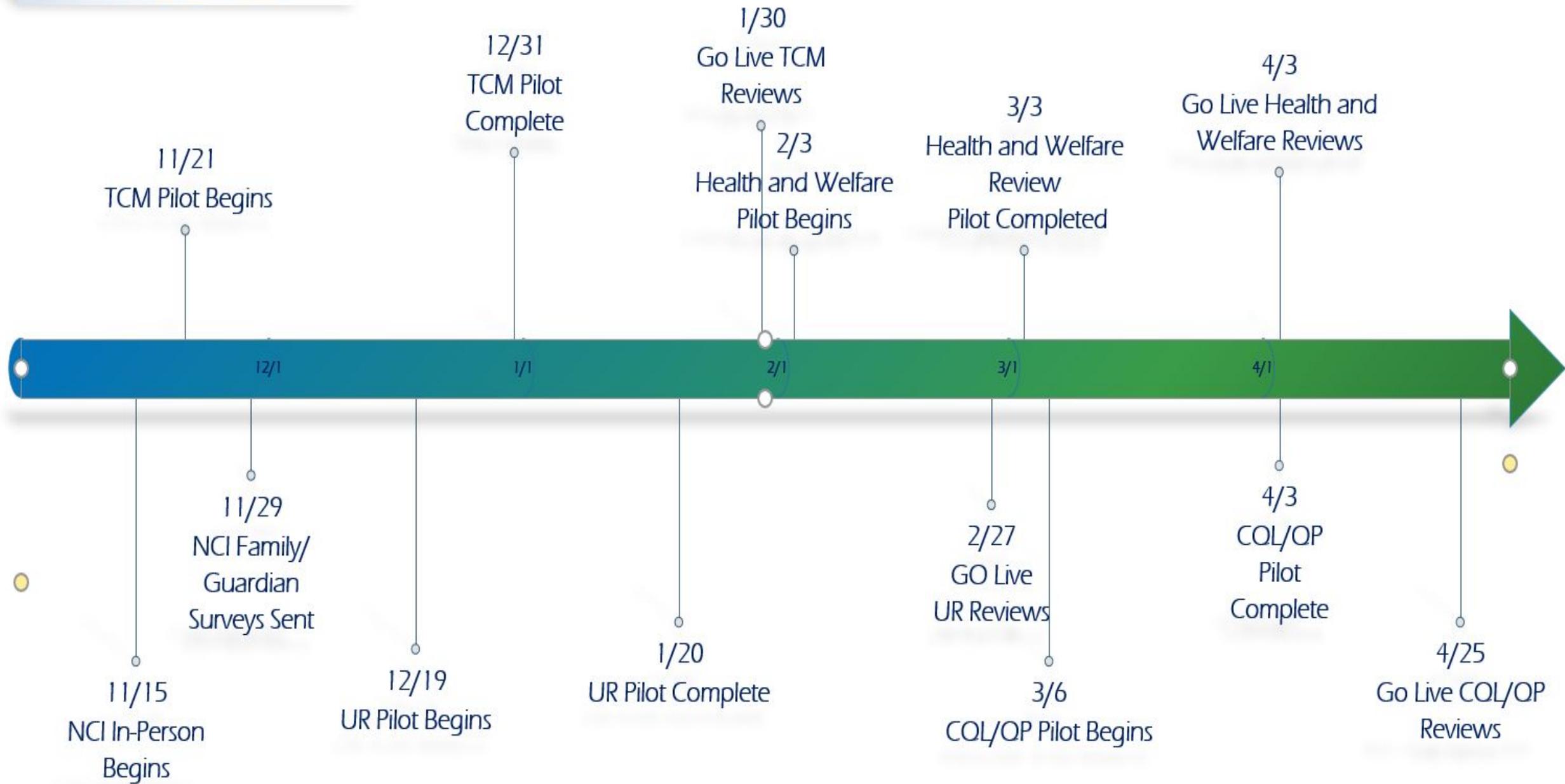
63 Completed and 65 Scheduled NCI Adult Consumer In-Person Surveys and **~400** Family Surveys completed



QIO Collaborative
Workgroup has completed 4 sessions (Focused on TCM & Utilization Reviews)

QIO has completed the **TCM Pilot** and will be ready for Go Live the week of 1/30/23. We also will be completing the **Utilization Review Pilot** in the next two weeks.

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: **February 24, 2023 10:30–11:30 a.m.**

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

Questions

