



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES

Jackie Neurohr
START Project Consultant

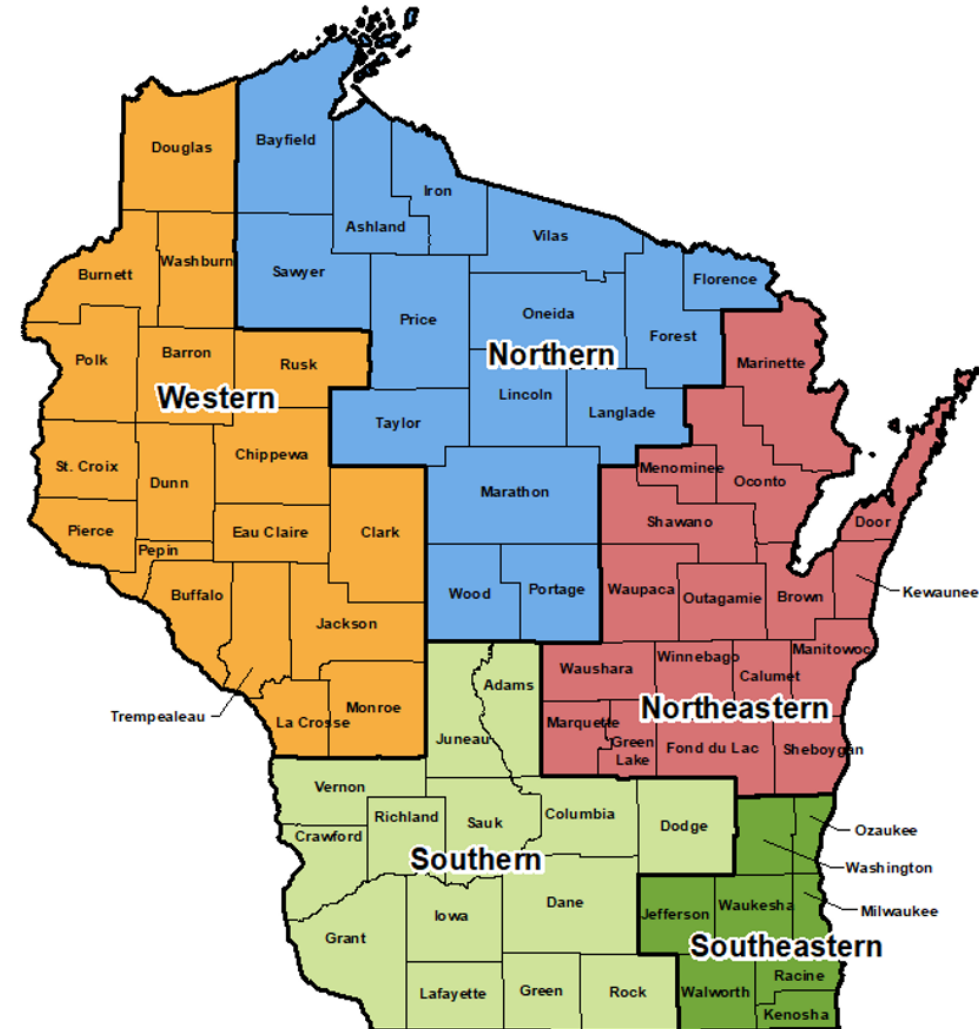
September 14, 2023

START Initiative Work Group

Improving the Service System for
People with Intellectual and
Developmental Disabilities and
Mental Health Needs

Welcome START Work Group!

What part of Wisconsin are you from?



Welcome

Gynger Steele
Administrator
DCTS



Welcome

Bill Hanna

Deputy Medicaid Director
DMS



Related DHS activities

- Medicaid reimbursement for 24-hour Mobile Crisis Teams
- ARPA funds
 - 5% increase to providers
 - ARPA HCBS grants
 - Medicaid HCBS rate reform (residential and supportive home care rates)
 - Direct workforce reform and analysis (State of the Workforce surveys, WisCaregiver Careers, WisCaregiver Connections)

History of START Phase 1

February 2022

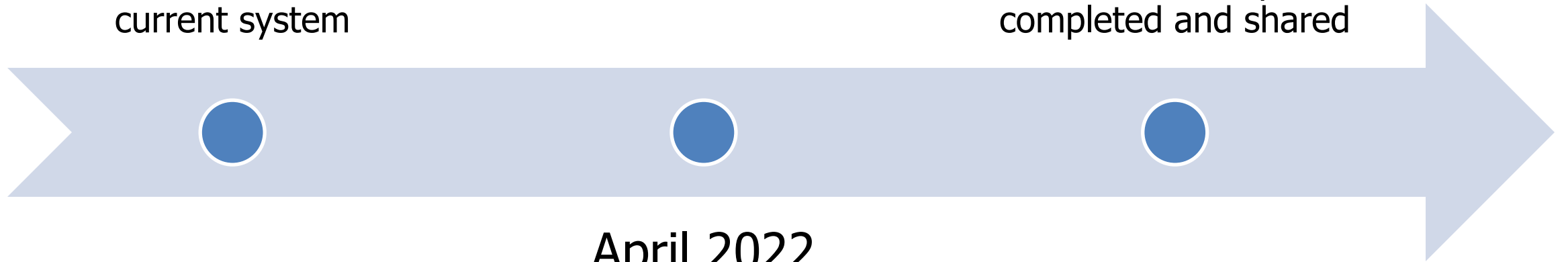
Contracted with the National Center for START to evaluate current system

July 2022

START Scan report completed and shared

April 2022

Professional learning community and data collection completed



START Scan findings

1. Improve crisis services
2. Expand training and education of providers
3. Increase availability of outpatient and preventative mental health services
4. Improve coordination between service systems
5. Improve supports for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and mental health needs so they have a better quality of life

START Scan findings (cont.)

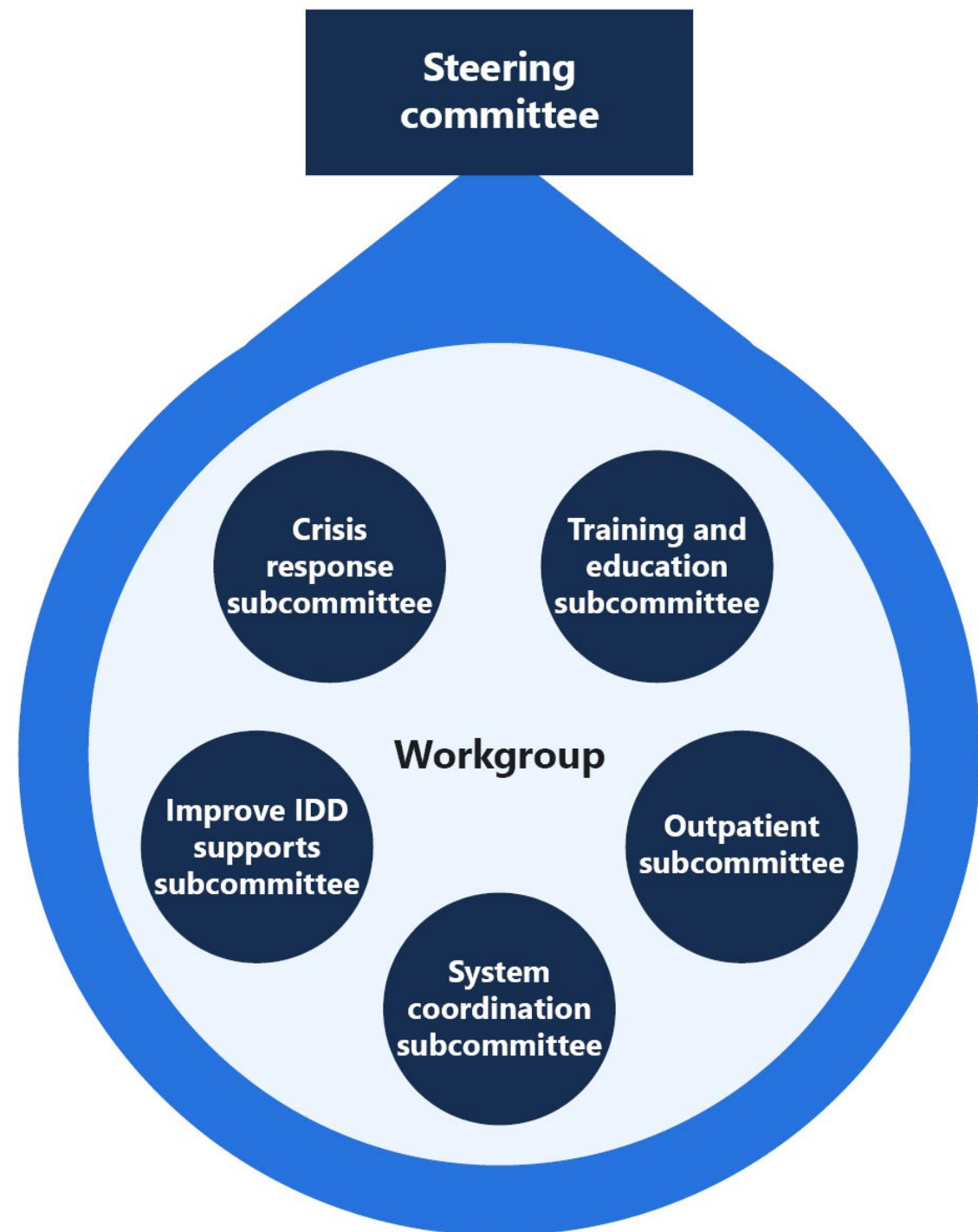
- START Scan findings were expected
- Issues are complex
- Collective responsibility among DHS and statewide partners needed to facilitate change
- System change will take time



START Initiative Phase 2

What is happening now?

START Initiative Team structure



START teams

- **Steering Committee:** Guides and champions the START Initiative work
- **Subcommittees:** Creates prioritized action plans for each of the five START Scan themes
- **Work Group:** The work group is a large, diverse group of partners. It includes IDD-MH system partners. It also includes staff from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Work Group member roles and responsibilities

- Stay up to date on the project
- Give feedback on the START Scan themes as needed
- Ensure all voices are heard during the project
- Attend a kick-off and a wrap-up meeting

Subcommittee 1: Improve crisis services

Steering Committee Facilitators	Affiliation
Joanette Robertson	DHS
Tom Bailey	Parent/Guardian
Gerri Vanevenhoven	Rural county

- **START Report findings:** People with IDD and mental health service needs report a lack of crisis intervention services in the community. There is a lack of mobile crisis supports in the state, resulting in an over-reliance on local police departments, emergency departments and state hospital admissions.
- **Committee updates**

Subcommittee 2: Expand training and education of providers

Steering Committee Facilitators	Affiliation
Julie Shew	DHS
Cindy Bentley	Self-advocate
Colleen Rinken	Mental health provider

- **START Report findings:** Lack of capacity within the service system to meet the mental health needs of individuals with IDD resulting in an increased reliance on crisis services. Respondents across constituency groups reported that a lack of providers with training in IDD-MH limited crisis planning and family education and support before the need for crisis services arise.
- **Committee updates**

Subcommittee 3: Increase availability of outpatient and preventative mental health services

Steering Committee Facilitators	Affiliation
Nicole Labinski	DHS
Lynn Karges	Parent/Guardian
Jeremy Kral	Urban county

- **START Report findings:** The need to increase access to community-based outpatient mental health services for individuals with IDD in Wisconsin. While over two-thirds of survey respondents (67%) reported access to some mental health services, only 14% reported services worked well for individuals with IDD-MH.
- **Committee updates**

Subcommittee 4: Improve coordination between service systems

Steering Committee Facilitators	Affiliation
Ann Lamberg	DHS
Leslie Stewart	Advocacy agency
Jen Harrison	MCO/IRIS

- **START Report findings:** Cross-system collaboration and coordination was not specifically addressed in the online survey, however, it emerged as a major theme within the focus groups and family caregiver interviews. Focus group participants pointed to a widely disparate system of county services and the lack of clearly defined roles within IDD and MH systems as barriers to integrated and timely care.
- **Committee updates**

Subcommittee 5: Improve supports for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities and mental health needs

Steering Committee Facilitators	Affiliation
Dan Kramarz	DHS
Jeff Kaphengst	Residential provider

- **START Report findings:** The need for greater access to ordinary IDD services for people with IDD-MH. Families report that opportunities that focus on emotional well-being are needed such as employment, social/recreational activities, and all elements of community inclusion.
- **Other updates**

START Initiative timeline

September

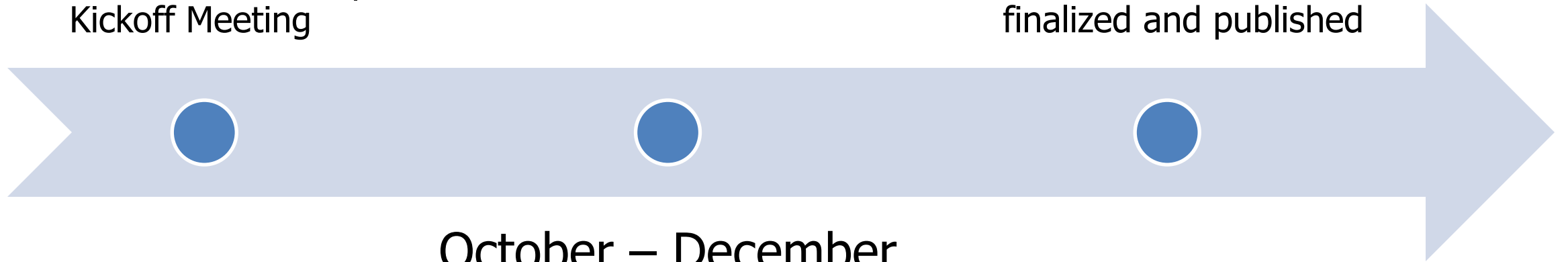
- Subcommittees formed
- START Work Group Kickoff Meeting

December 2023 – Early 2024

- Report with recommendations finalized and published

October – December

- Subcommittees meet to create recommendations
- Work group provides feedback to subcommittee recommendations



Next steps



START Steering Committee engage with START Work Group to get input and feedback and identify proposed priorities



Draft action plan and schedule for proposed priorities



Hold wrap up meeting with Work Group



Draft report and complete review and approval process



Publish report

Questions?



Adjourn

- Thank you for participating today!
- Next meeting: TBD
- www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dms/start.htm