

Program Evaluation and Analysis of Community-based Services for Behavioral Health, Disability, and Aging Needs in Iowa

Presentation for the Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council

Thursday, July 14, 1-2 pm CT



Agenda

/ Introductions

/ Background, key players, and guideposts of the work

/ Evaluation approach

/ Brainstorming

1. What does a well-functioning community-based services (CBS) system look like?
2. In what ways does Iowa's system for CBS work well?
3. In what ways does Iowa's system for CBS not work well?

/ Wrap-up with Q&A



Introductions





Nice to “Meet” You



Jessica McNab
Deputy Project Director



Kimberly Aguillard
Advisory Committee Facilitator



Jody Schimmel Hyde
Evaluation Lead



Background, Players, and Guideposts



Background

- / In the fall of 2021, Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) issued a call for a contractor to help the state conduct a **systemwide evaluation of community-based services (CBS)**
 - Focus: Iowans with disability, aging, and behavioral health needs
 - Funding: At least two years, with the possibility of two additional years
- / **DHS awarded a contract to Mathematica and its partner, The Harkin Institute**





Schedule of Activities





Guideposts for Redesigning CBS across the State





Evaluation Approach



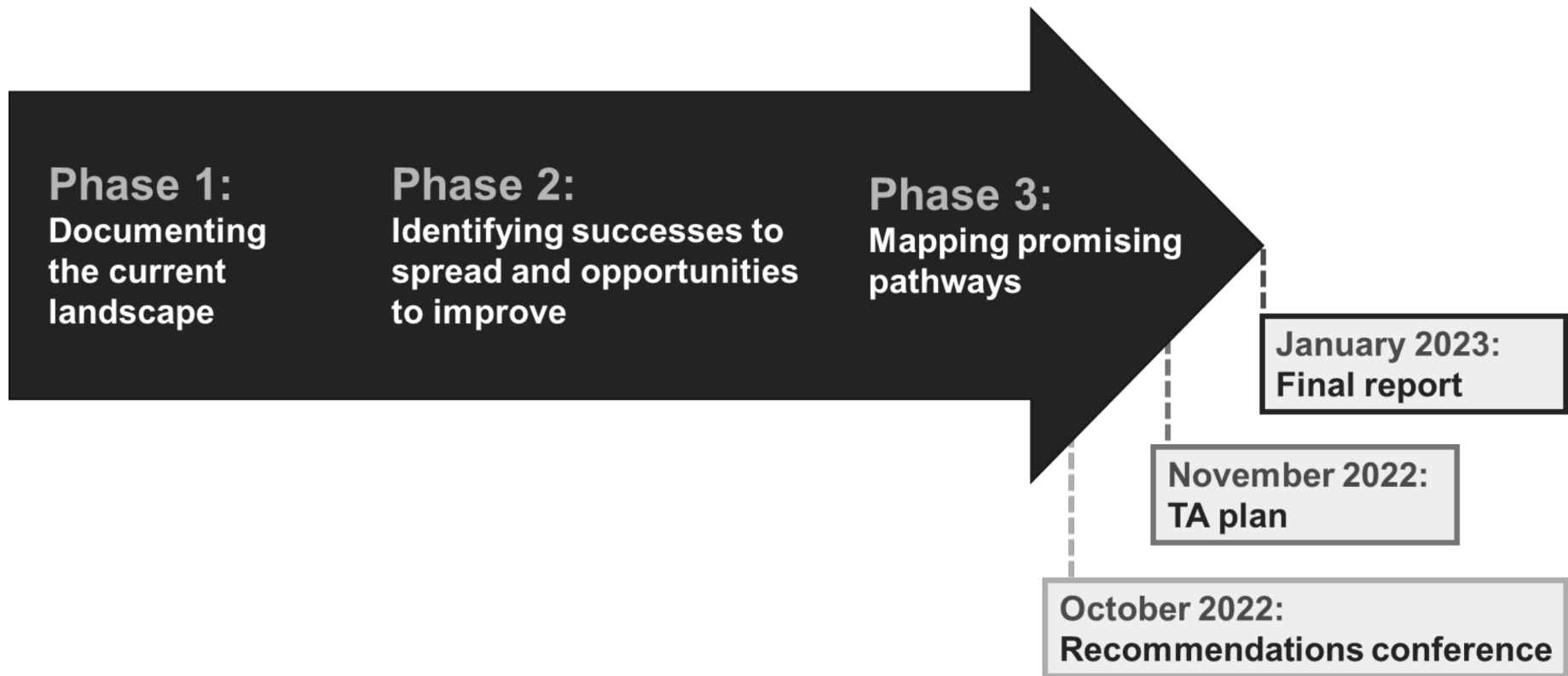
Purpose of the Evaluation

/ Through the systemwide assessment of CBS, we will:

- Understand how Iowa DHS can improve equitable access to high-quality services through Medicaid and other programs
- Identify gaps and inequities in services and opportunities to reduce inefficiencies
- Provide recommendations to improve service delivery



Phases of the Evaluation





Workstreams Supporting the Evaluation

Policy and
program review

- Review Iowa's policies relevant to CBS for behavioral health, disability, and aging services
- Interview Mental Health and Disability Services (MHDS) program administrators and others knowledgeable about CBS in Iowa
- Identify best practices and system changes in other states

Quantitative data
analysis

- Analyze Medicaid data to understand use of CBS among people enrolled and on waiver waiting lists, like variation by location, age, disability type, waiver enrollment status, and facility use

Engaging invested
Iowans

- Facilitate an advisory committee of people with lived experience in accessing or providing CBS in Iowa
- Host listening sessions throughout the state to incorporate diverse perspectives
- Analyze data from an online feedback form, as another strategy to gather feedback from the community

Practical
recommendations
and
implementation of
TA



Current Priority Areas of Analysis

Barriers to CBS

Home- and community-based services (HCBS)
Medicaid waiver design

Facilitators and barriers to transitions between community and institutional settings

Policy, program, and procedural incentives for facility and community care

Entry onto waivers

Services available on waivers

Waiver waitlist policies

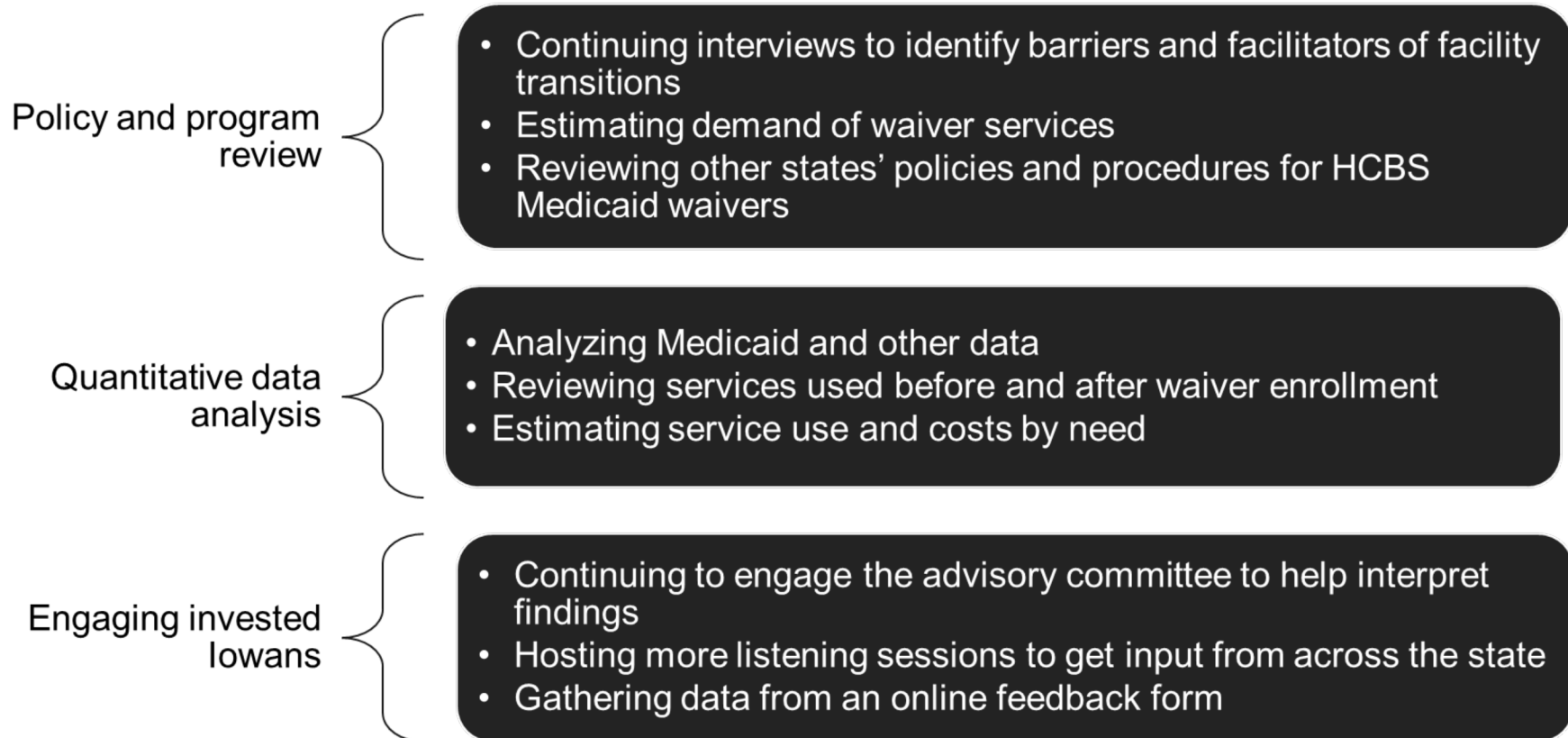


Highlight of Learnings

- / There is misalignment in services and spending across waivers**
- / Waitlist data suggests Iowa's waiver waitlist population has more than doubled since January 2019, while the number of people served on a waiver has stayed consistent**
- / Consumers experience a reactive system, particularly as they transition in and out of facilities**

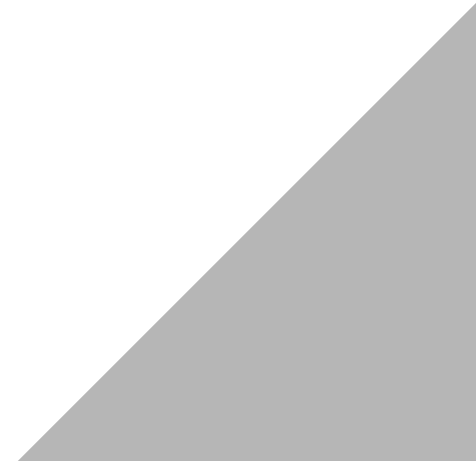


What's Ahead this Summer for Workstreams





Brainstorming





What Do You Think? (1)

1. What does a well-functioning CBS system look like in Iowa?



What Do You Think? (2)

2. In what ways does Iowa's system for CBS work well?



What Do You Think? (3)

3. In what ways does Iowa's system for CBS not work well?



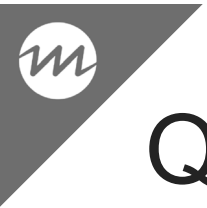
Wrap-up





How Can You Get Involved?

1. Check out the Iowa DHS project webpage for updates: <https://dhs.iowa.gov/CBSE>.
2. The webpage includes a comprehensive overview of the project.
3. Consider participating in a listening session.
4. Provide feedback online through the online feedback form, anonymously.



Questions





Thank You!



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