

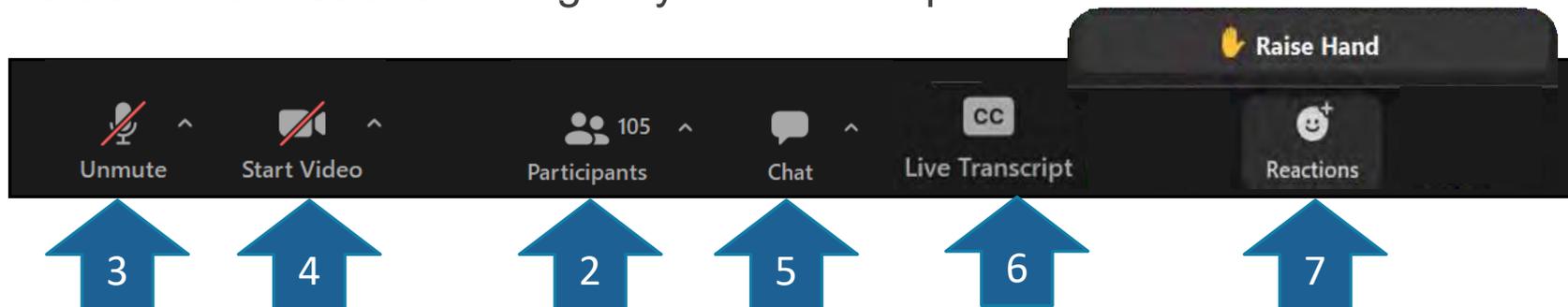


Orientation to “A Path for ME” Needs Assessment

DECEMBER 15, 2022

Housekeeping

1. This meeting will be recorded
2. Personalize your name in Zoom by clicking the dots next to your name in the **Participants** list
3. Please ensure you are **muted** when not speaking. Click **Unmute** to speak
4. If you would like to, turn on your video with “**Start Video**”
5. Use “**Chat**” to share your questions or comments
6. Click “**Live Transcript**” to show subtitles or view full transcript
7. Use ‘**Raise Hand**’ Reaction to signal your wish to speak



Agenda

Welcome and DHHS Staff/Consultant Introductions

Overview of the Needs Assessment and what to expect

Opportunity for Comments, and Questions

Next Steps

Assessment Overview:

Who's involved and Introductions



- ❑ Stakeholders - including members and families, providers, Community Case Managers, advocacy groups
- ❑ The State of Maine Disability system - OADS and MaineCare
- ❑ The developers of the assessment – American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD)
- ❑ The contractor who is delivering the assessment – Maximus
- ❑ Data analysis and stakeholder engagement - Human Services Research Institute (HSRI)

Context: Brief History of the SIS-A in Maine and Moving Forward

A prior SIS Implementation Was Halted in 2016

Lessons Learned:

Need for a robust stakeholder engagement process

- OADS has engaged a stakeholder workgroup in 2021 and ongoing, to review assessment options and contribute to a decision to implement SIS again
- Currently OADS has been engaging often with stakeholders

Need for a conflict-free assessment process

- Maximus has been engaged to conduct this conflict-free assessment

Need to tie a new assessment with innovations in the service system to deliver stakeholder priorities

- Lifespan project is currently being implemented

Need for an initial low-stakes implementation that provides useful information to members and other stakeholders

What is “A Path for ME” and assessment?

“A Path for ME” is our phrase for the Lifespan Project that will use an assessment called the Supports Intensity Scale - Adult Version® (SIS-A®), 2nd Ed. It is developed and maintained by the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD).

The name communicates our intent for the assessment to be a useful planning tool for members. We will discuss the Lifespan Project later in this orientation.

The assessment focuses on what supports people with intellectual and developmental disabilities need, in order to fully participate in community life.

What is “A Path for ME” and assessment?

It measures support needs in the areas of home living, community living, lifelong learning, work, health and safety, social activities, and advocacy activities. It also asks questions specific to exceptional medical and behavioral support needs. The assessment is facilitated by an interviewer, who has been trained and recognized by AAIDD. The member and those who know the person well also participate in the assessment.

Assessment Overview:

For clarification:

- Members' services will not be impacted by completing an assessment**
- They can remain on their waiver program**
- The assessment is to provide good information, help with individual planning, and to assist the State in understanding service needs**



Assessment Overview:

Goals and Benefits



- ❑ Reporting on the types of support a person needs, the frequency, and amount of time per day a person needs support, as well as goals and objectives of the member
- ❑ Increasing consistency and fairness through a 3rd party assessor
- ❑ Increasing data quality by using a reliable and tested assessment tool
- ❑ Generating quality member assessment experiences through strong training and oversight of the interviewers

Assessment Overview:

Goals and Benefits



Benefits for individuals and families:

- ❑ High-quality information to support the Person-Centered Plan**
- ❑ Good information can generate conversations among families and caregivers**
- ❑ Conversations lead to decisions on the right services for the individual, to meet the identified needs and move toward goals and desired outcomes**

Assessment Overview:

Goals and Benefits



Benefits for providers of services:

- ❑ High-quality information about individual needs supports provider planning
- ❑ Better information about high medical and behavioral needs informs resource needs
- ❑ Conversations lead to decisions on the right services for the individual, to meet the identified needs and move toward goals and desired outcomes

Assessment Overview:

Goals and Benefits



Benefits for providers of services:

- OADS will use the aggregate data to inform future program services**
- Providers can make use of aggregated data for planning**

Assessment Overview:

Goals and Benefits

Benefits for the system which will in turn benefit individuals and families:

- Learning about the needs of the individuals we serve first through the assessment, then use the data to determine how service innovations will impact and improve the system and member outcomes**



Assessment Overview:

Connection with Lifespan Project



❑ What is the Lifespan Project?

- ❑ A single program which is simple and clear
- ❑ A program which serves the entire lifespan of the membership with services attuned to different needs across the lifespan
- ❑ Support for self-direction, and community inclusion
- ❑ Implementation of innovation and innovative service options

Learn more about it at: OADS website under “About Us”, “Initiatives” menu.

Assessment Overview:

Connection with Lifespan Project



- ❑ The “Path for ME” assessment will be a required step in individual participation in the Lifespan project and program.
- ❑ Data from the assessment will be used to produce a system needs profile and will inform a Lifespan Project/Program design
- ❑ Data analysis will be shared with stakeholders

Assessment Overview:

When is this happening?

- ❑ **Notifications for scheduling will begin at the beginning of 2023**
- ❑ **We are expecting assessment to begin in the spring of 2023**
- ❑ **The data from the assessments will be then analyzed during 2023 and presented and discussed later in 2023**



Assessment Overview:

What to expect
before the
assessment?



- ❑ **Members will receive a notification that they are eligible for an assessment through email or the mail**
- ❑ **A scheduler from Maximus will reach out to set the date/time, and invite those from the referral form provided to Maximus**
- ❑ **Those attending must know you and understand the member's needs and priorities**

Assessment Overview:

What to expect
during the
assessment?



For each item on the SIS-A, the interviewer will ask:

- **How often is support needed?**
- **How much support is needed?**
- **What type of support is needed?**

Assessment Overview:

What to expect during the assessment?

- ❑ Those who attend the assessment are called respondents and includes the waiver member as much as possible.
- ❑ Respondents will talk about the types of supports the member needs to be successful. Respondents attend for the whole the assessment. It can take 2 to 3 hours.
 - ❑ Accommodations and flexibility foremost for members and families
 - ❑ This is quality time for good conversations and clarity on member needs for success



Assessment Overview:

What to expect
after the
assessment?

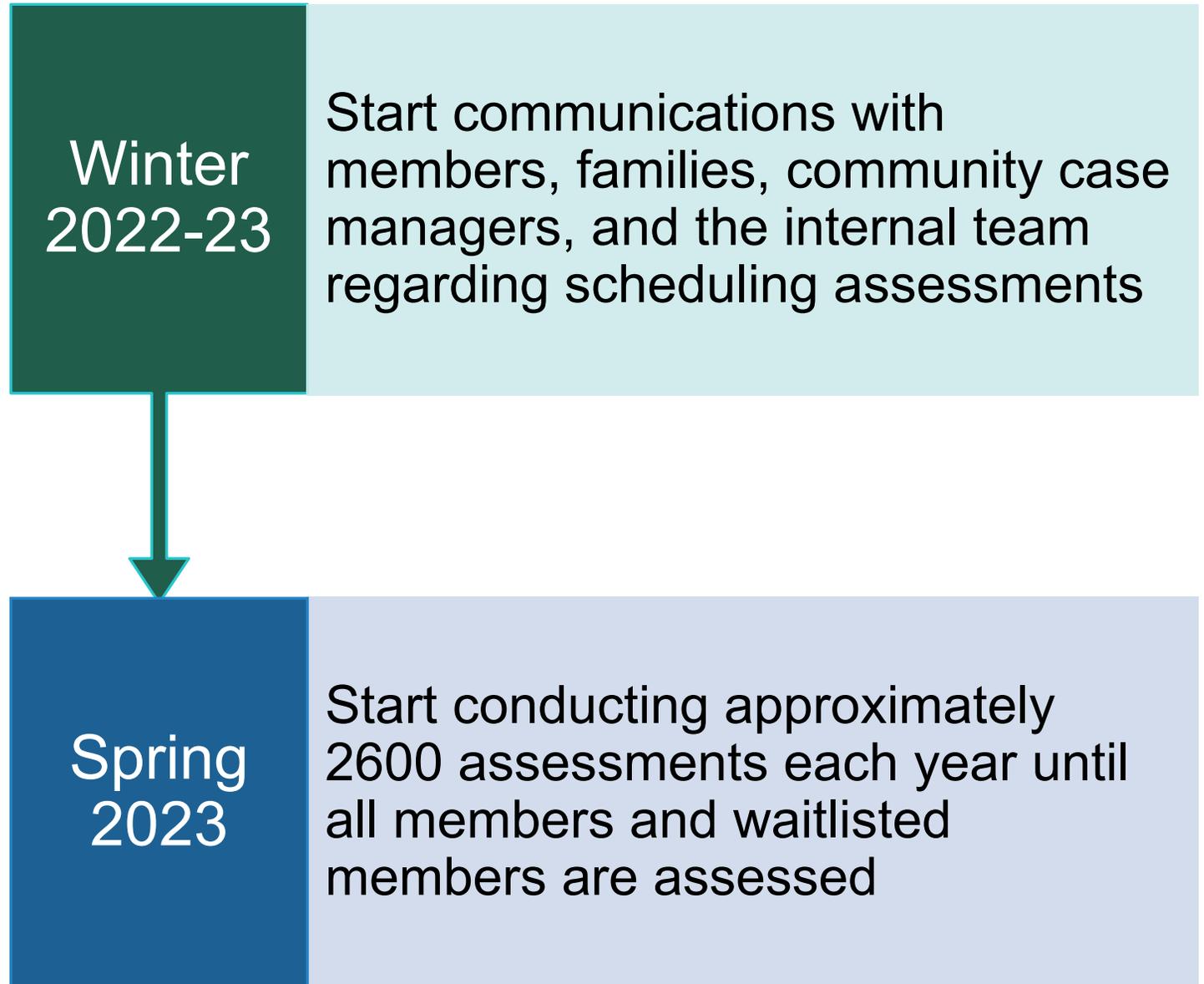


Members will:

- Get their SIS-A results by e-mail or by mail.**
- Get ready for their Person-Centered Planning meetings.**
- Have their Person-Centered Planning meetings.**

Learn more about the “A Path for ME” assessment at the OADS website under “About Us”, “Initiatives” menu.

Next Steps: Outreach to members, families and Community Case Management



Next Steps:

Analysis and Stakeholder Engagement

Spring
2023

Collect and analyze data to inform Lifespan services using a “Path for ME” Needs Assessment and a Visioning Process



Summer
2023

Produce a written Lifespan Concept Paper and release for public comment

Practice Assessments

OADS and Maximus need to train qualified assessors for Maine.

Members and unpaid support people (up to 2) will qualify for a \$100.00 prepaid credit card for their time.

To register to support the training of assessors, please use this form: <https://forms.office.com/g/zyztWVydmc>

Or send email to the project email:
OADS.NAProject@maine.gov

Comments and Questions

Please use the raise hand feature to comment

You may also type comments in the chat

Feel free to pose questions that you think should be included in a “Frequently Asked Questions”

Follow-up questions or comments can be sent to

OADS.NAproject@maine.gov



Thank you!
