

# Carelon Behavioral Health Provider Town Hall

June 2024



# Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions to Carelon Leadership
- High level overview of project and Carelon
- High level overview of implementation and timeframes
- Supports and Consultation Resources for MD provider community
- Introduction of provider survey to gather provider feedback to modify process and improve the level of service
- Transition email for providers to submit questions that will be collected, reviewed and answered by Carelon and MDH as part of our on-going FAQ's
  - MDHtransitionsupport@carelon.com

# Welcome and Introductions

## Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Deputy Secretaries

Ryan Moran, DrPH, MHSA

Deputy Secretary, Health Care Financing and Medicaid Director

Alyssa Lord, MA MSc

Deputy Secretary for Behavioral Health Administration

# Your National Team Leaders



**Lori Szczygiel**  
Regional Vice President  
National Account Management  
[loriB.Szczygiel@carelon.com](mailto:loriB.Szczygiel@carelon.com)



**Stephanie Clark**  
Staff Vice President  
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**Mike Cantor**  
Director  
Client Implementations  
[mike.cantor@carelon.com](mailto:mike.cantor@carelon.com)

# Your Local Team Leaders



**Drew Pate, MD, FAPA**

Medical Director  
Start date 06/03/2024



**Carla Lester**

Director - Behavioral Health Services  
Start date 06/03/2024



**Donna Shipp**

Director - Network Management  
Start date 01/01/2025



**Sarah Sinnet**

Director - Service Operations  
Start date 06/17/2024



**Brandon Servary**

Account Services Manager, Sr  
Start date 05/13/2024



**Renee White**

Manager II -0 Claims  
Start date 06/17/2024



**Vincent Rosa**

Manager II - Claims  
Start date 06/17/2024

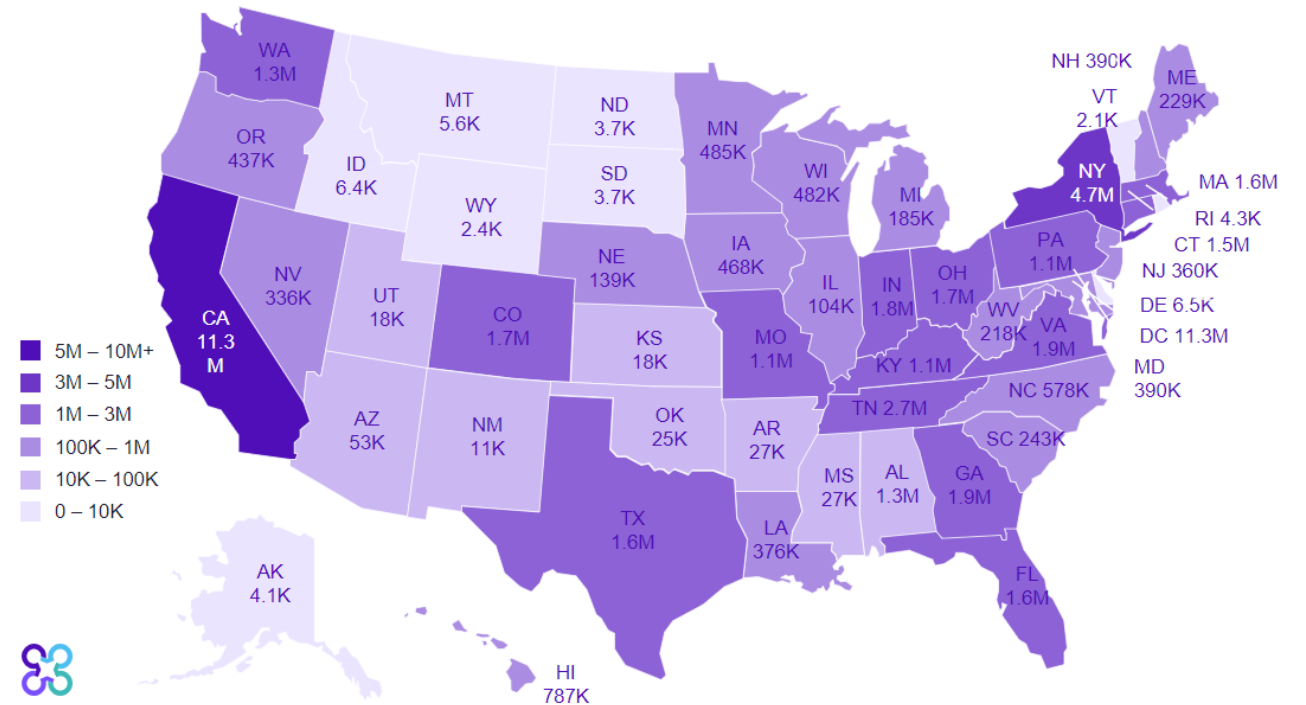
# Nationwide scope

With nearly 200 clients, our services span the U.S. and include Medicaid expertise across the US.

- Lines of business:

- Commercial
- Employer
- Federal Government
- Medicaid
- Medicare
- Public sector
- State agency

Carelon is one of the largest behavioral health organizations in the country and supports millions of individuals locally and globally



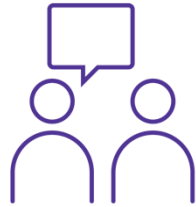
Total membership nationwide

**61.5M+**

\*Internal data, 2023.

# We're here when you need us

We're passionate about helping people navigate the healthcare system. Whether there's a technical issue, a customer service need, or a health challenge, we're there at every touchpoint to answer your questions and offer solutions.



**2.6M** Member and provider queries solved in 2022



**32M** claims processed in 2022



**\$3B+** in payment transactions in 2022

# Maryland Opportunity Overview

## Background

### Current Vendor

Optum (2020 – 2025); Beacon previously held 2009-2019

### Contracting Entity

Maryland Department of Health (MDH) – 2 Divisions (Behavioral Health and Medicaid)

## ASO Services



Utilization management



Care management



Quality improvement



Compliance and FWA



Reporting and analytics



Member services



Provider services



Claims administration

## Members

- 1.7M Members

## Go-Live and Contract Term

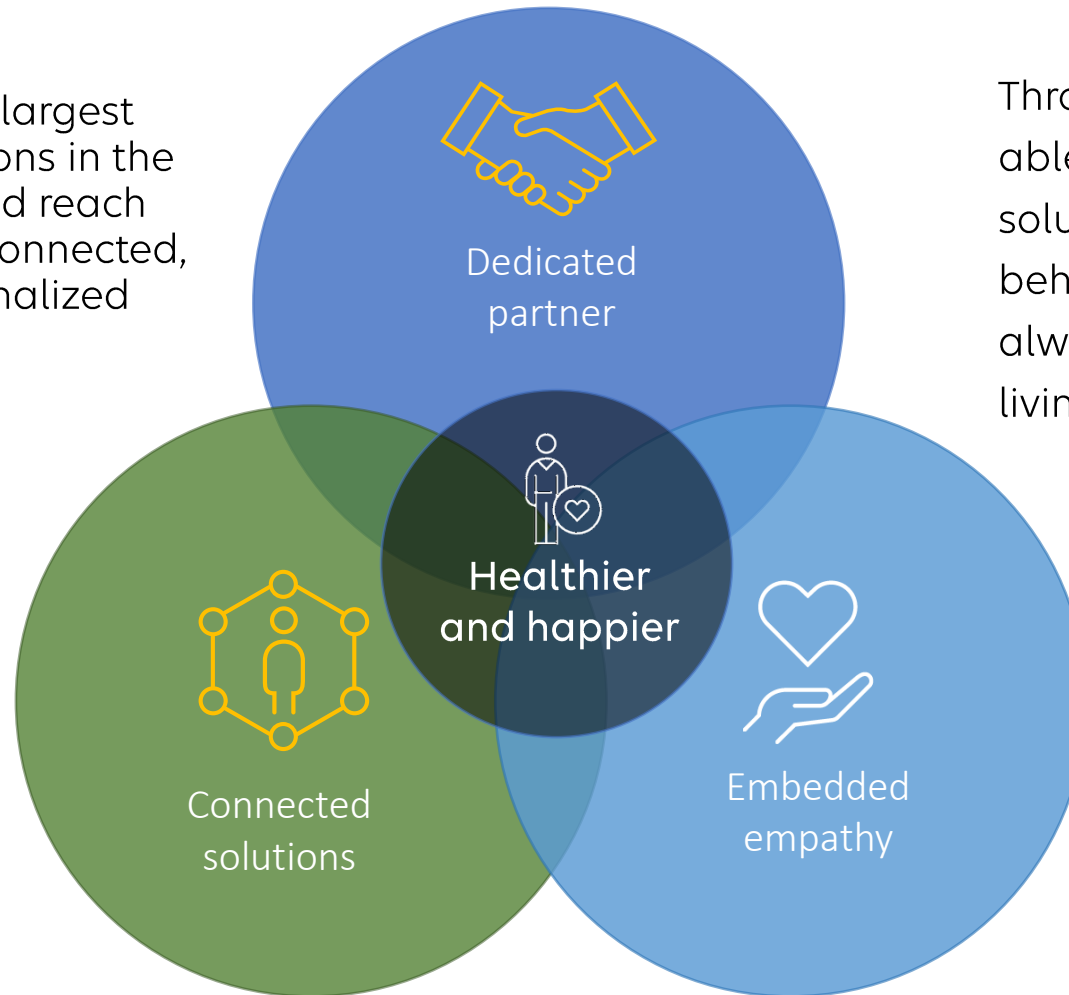
January 1, 2025; 5-year base contract



# Our approach

Born out of one of the largest healthcare organizations in the U.S., our experience and reach enable us to provide connected, integrated, and personalized care.

We partner with all types of providers and health plans so that members can access high quality care when and where they need it.

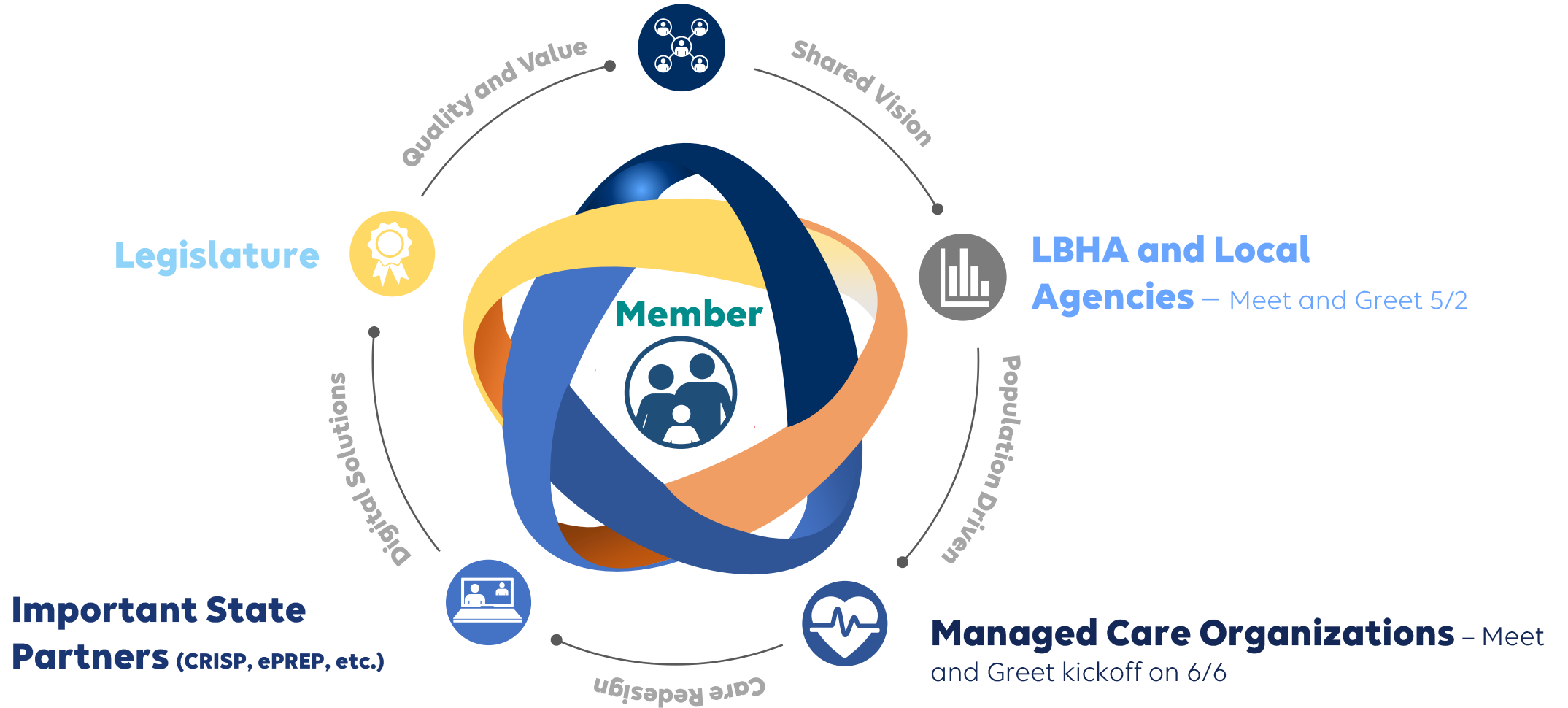


Through these partnerships, we're able to provide connected, effective solutions for a wide range of behavioral health needs. And we always put people first and support living life to the fullest potential.

Carelon Behavioral Health forms lifetime relationships with clients, research partners, community organizations, and providers.

# Stakeholder Engagement – Creating the system together!

**Provider Stakeholders** – upcoming Townhall's 6/3 and 6/4



# How Carelon will support you in the coming months?

- Town Hall Sessions
- Regional Provider Forums
- Provider Training Sessions
- Distribute Provider Alerts
- Partner with Providers for testing
- Develop FAQs from questions sent to [MDHtransitionsupport@carelon.com](mailto:MDHtransitionsupport@carelon.com)
- Feedback sessions on the website and text/chat feature

# What can Providers do to prepare?

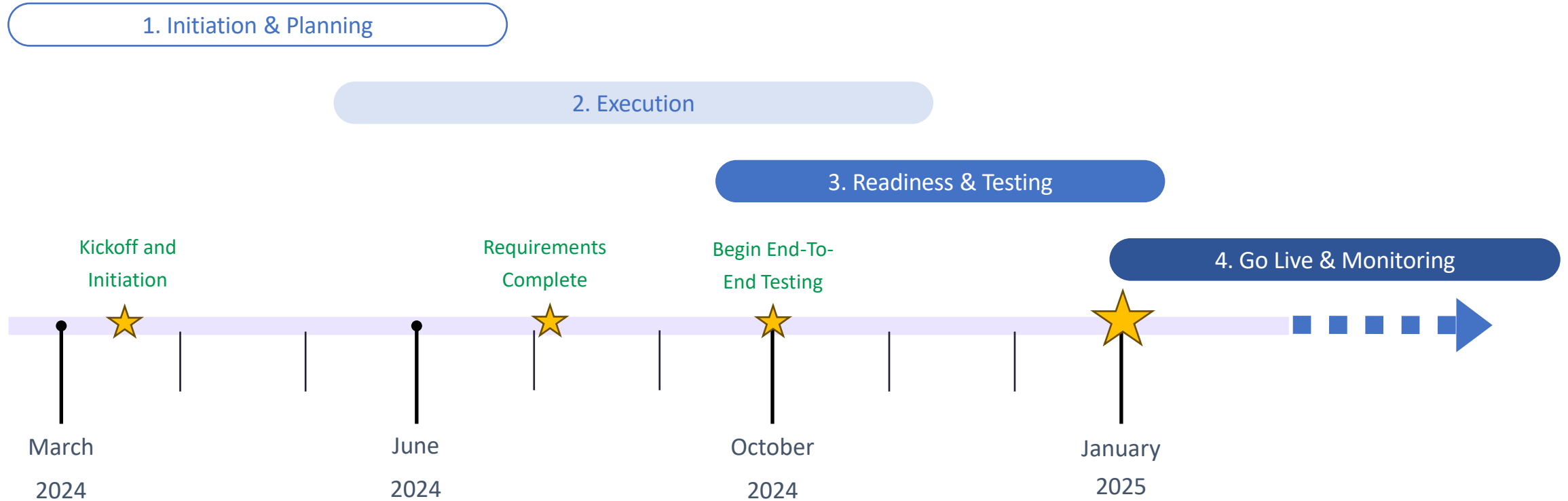
- Update information with MDH and include all individuals to get alerts
  - Optum will email Provider Alerts to announce important information, such as changes within the PBHS, Maryland Department of Health (MDH) announcements, and important regulatory guidance. You should register for Provider Alerts by sending an email to: [marylandproviderrelations@optum.com](mailto:marylandproviderrelations@optum.com). This subject line should read “Provider Alerts” and your email address should be in the body of the email.
- Register for forums and training and submit questions prior to go-live.
- Complete follow up surveys
- Review and understand COMAR Regulations [Pages - COMAR Online \(maryland.gov\)](#)

# How Carelon will support you post implementation?

Develop an infrastructure to support providers in day-to-day operations

- Provider Relations Department to provide training, and answer any billing and claims questions
- Customer Service Department to answer questions and facilitate engagement with ASO staff
- Clinical Department with staff assigned to high volume providers and high need members to facilitate seamless treatment
- Quality and Auditing Department to support excellence in execution and outcomes for those we serve
- Provider Quality Managers (PQMs) to work with providers on performance through data analysis and change management processes

# Implementation Timeline



# Carelon Knows Maryland - Reuse, Rebuild, Reimagine

## ◆ **Reuse** – Utilize and revive previous layouts, programming and tools

- Requirements and design artifacts (BRD's, etc.)
- Benefit configuration (MSAG, BDD, etc.)
- Aspects of EDI connectivity and programming
- Braided Funding

## ◆ **Rebuild** – Bring our enhanced service offerings to improve the system

- New provider data loads through foreign network configuration
- System enhancements
- Master Service Class Grid
- Telecomm setup and artifacts
- Claims Platform - Implementation of Robotic Process Automations (RPA) processes as well as the use of Availity and Edifecs has significantly improved claims accuracy while also reducing cycle time

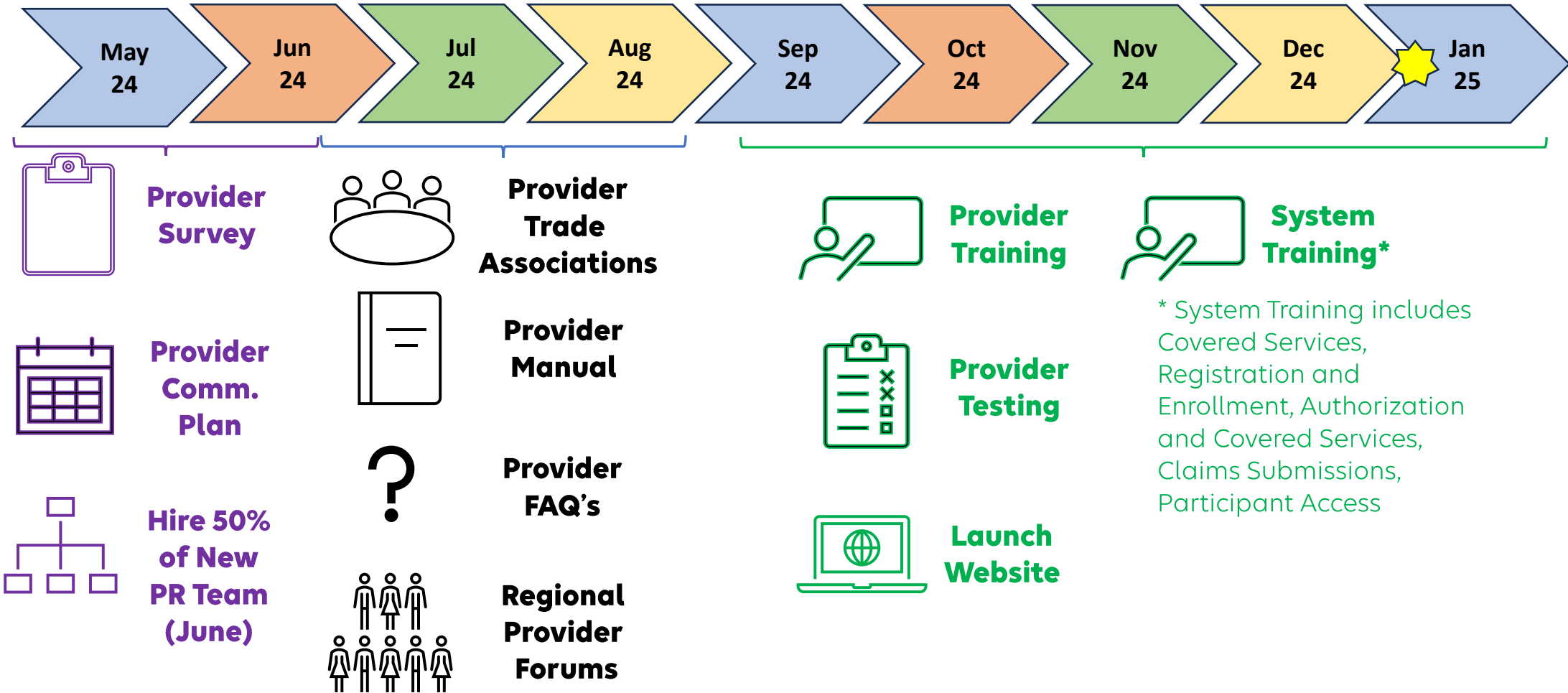
## ◆ **Reimagine** – Solutions and systems that are innovative and exceed expectations

- National expertise and innovation to support the success of the implementation
- Expertise in SIU and Payment Integrity best practices
- New Multipayer and EDI technologies
- Digital Front Door (member & provider)
- PowerBI reporting dashboards

***Approach Ensures A Best-In-Class Implementation***

# Providers Engagement Timeline

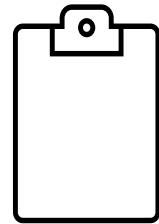
Optimize the participant, provider and stakeholder experience, minimize administration and disruption.





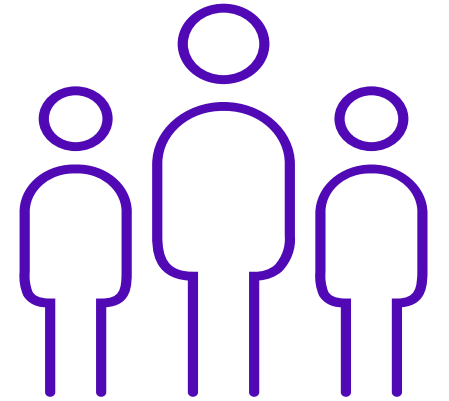
# Providers – Implementation Engagement

- Initial Provider Survey
  - Questions intended to measure the “state of the state” in the provider community for example:
    - How satisfied are you with the overall with the Public Behavioral Health System in Maryland?
    - What is working today that you enjoy and would like the new ASO to retain?
    - What is not working that you would like to see improved?
  - Provides common data point across various provider groups, to measure:
    - Satisfaction with the current system
    - Receptiveness to change
    - Opportunities for improvement
  - Allows us to map out where providers are on the change continuum



# Upcoming Provider Regional Forums

- Draft Agenda
  - Survey Results
  - Initial Provider orientation to Process and Program Expectations
  - Intro to Provider Portal – functionality
  - Testing opportunities and timing
- Suggested Locations (Carelon will reserve space and day of accommodations)
  - Central Maryland: Howard County – Columbia, MD
  - Location: Howard Community College, Gateway Campus Charles
  - Eastern Shore: Wicomico County – Salisbury, MD
  - Location: Chamber of Commerce
  - Southern Maryland: Charles County – La Plata, MD
  - Location: College of Southern Maryland
  - North/Western Maryland: Frederick County – Frederick, MD
  - Location: Frederick Community College



Multiple days and times will be offered for the Regional Forums, including at least one evening offering. A session will be recorded for future training.

# Upcoming Provider Training and Support – November

- Carelon ASO Orientation
- Carelon Systems Training
  - Carelon ProviderConnect Overview
    - ProviderConnect Authorizations
    - Claims Submission Guidelines
    - Medical Necessity Criteria
    - Provider Orientation
    - Cultural Humility and Competency Training
    - Availity Training
- Medicaid and BHA Policy
  - Audit tool training
  - Record documentation training
  - COMAR – MD regs
- Provider Manual

## Post Go-Live

### Behavioral Health Training Live Webinars \*

- Behavioral Health 101
- Social Determinants of Health
- SBIRT: An Evidence-based Approach to Substance Use Intervention
- Managing Cardiovascular and Metabolic Risk for People with SMI
- Referring Clients Between Physical and Mental Health Services
- Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) Best Practices
- Overdose Prevention in Opioid Use Disorders
- ASAM

\*offered with varying frequency

# Questions

[MDHtransitionsupport@carelon.com](mailto:MDHtransitionsupport@carelon.com)