

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Journey to Belonging: Choice and Inclusion

Slides to display during Partners for Planning webinar for self-advocates, families, and caregivers April 24, 2023

Journey to Belonging: Choice and Inclusion

Developmental Services Reform Framework



Vision

People with developmental disabilities are supported by their communities, support networks and government to belong and live inclusive lives.

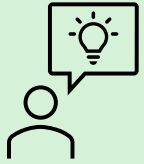
People are empowered to make choices and live as independently as possible through supports that are person-directed, equitable and sustainable.

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/journey-belonging-choice-and-inclusion>

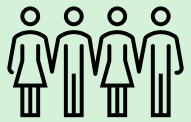
Principles



People receive **support based on their needs**



Supports are **person-directed and flexible**



Services build on the **strengths of people and supports** provided by families, support networks and communities



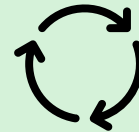
Supports are **proactive and responsive** to people's changing needs across the course of their lives



Services are driven by **evidence, outcomes and continuous improvement**



Services and supports promote **health, well-being and safety**



System is **sustainable**

Commitments:



1

Putting People First

- Proactive and flexible supports **based on people's needs**
- ✓ Person-centred and needs-based funding approach
 - ✓ Better planning and earlier intervention, culturally relevant supports, and reducing barriers across sectors

2

Improving Service Experience

- User friendly services** and modernized service delivery.
- ✓ Application and assessment process improvements
 - ✓ Adopting best practices and innovations

3

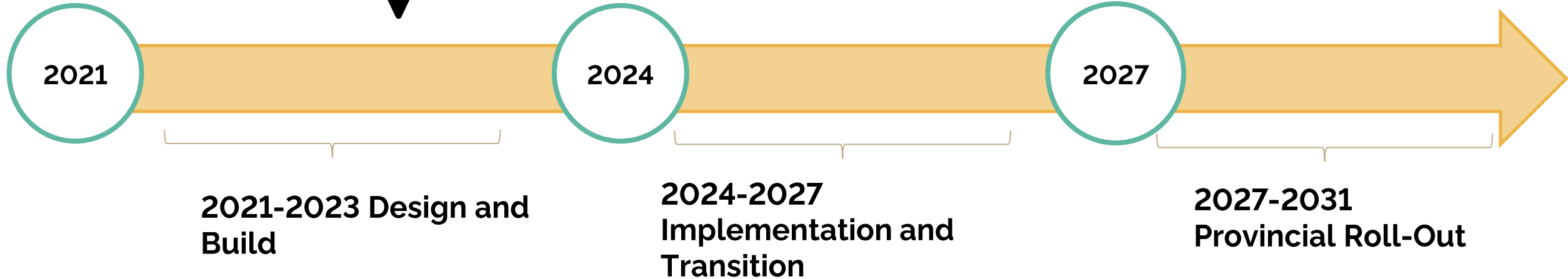
Improving Quality and Accountability

- High-quality supports** that lead to good outcomes for people.
- ✓ Performance measurement and quality framework
 - ✓ Workforce strategy

Where we are now:

- Journey to Belonging will take time to put in place
- We will continue to work collaboratively
- Changes will be introduced gradually
- You will be informed about progress and changes

We are here



How we are working together:



Strategy advice

- Regular meetings with advisory groups

Reference Group

Minister's Table

Communication and progress

- Information sharing and dialogue, e.g.,:

**Conferences,
webinars,
events**

**Associations
and Umbrella
Group Meetings**

**Email
Updates**

Engagement on Commitments and Initiatives

- Different approaches based on the work
- Hear from diverse perspectives, including people with lived experience

Progress to Date – Some Key Highlights

Putting People First

Improving Quality and Accountability



Housing Initiative:

Help people find housing in the community and live more independently



Supports for Families and Caregivers:

Grants to family support networks to build capacity



Passport Program:

Guidelines updated April 1, 2023, changes offer more choice and flexibility



Education and Awareness:

Social media campaign to promote welcoming communities for people with developmental disabilities



Supporting the Workforce:

Modernized core competencies
Recruitment marketing campaign
Leadership training

Education and Awareness Campaign: #SeeMyAbilities

 Ontario Community and Social Services 
@ONSocialService

When you meet a person who has a developmental disability, do your assumptions get in the way?

Start with a conversation. It can help to understand a person's interests, skills, and needs. Learn more: Ontario.ca/SeeMyAbilities



[#SeeMyAbilities](#)



Building more inclusive communities and a stronger workforce

[#SeeMyAbilities](#)


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People who have developmental disabilities want to be active in their communities. Attitudes and assumptions stop their contributions from being seen.

Learn to focus on abilities: Ontario.ca/SeeMyAbilities

[#SeeMyAbilities](#)



Removing assumptions to build more inclusive communities

[#SeeMyAbilities](#)

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When we accept rather than assume, we help build more welcoming classrooms, workplaces and communities.

Including people who have a developmental disability is as simple as getting to know the person.

Ontario.ca/SeeMyAbilities

[#SeeMyAbilities](#)



Creating welcoming communities

[#SeeMyAbilities](#)

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What are we working towards?

A new person-centered funding approach, where funding is **directly linked to people's needs** and people have options for **greater choice and flexibility**.



Future State

People receive support based on their needs - greater equity through individualized funding and budgets tied to people's assessed needs.

There are a variety of ways to reach this future state.

A Skilled Sector Workforce

What we
are working
towards

- Long-term strategy to support a skilled, diverse and professional workforce, that can help people participate in the communities

Proposed Pillars of Workforce Strategy Framework



**Grow and Stabilize the
Workforce**



**Enhance Skills and
Training**



**Modernize Employment
and Workforce Landscape**



**Advance
Professionalization**