THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Introducing The Needs Portal

www.needsportal.com

Elinam Dellor, PhD
Bridget Freishtler, PhD

The Ohio State University, College of Social Work

Acknowledgements: Public Children Services Association of Ohio (US Department of Justice/OH Attorney General 2019-VOCA-132234677)

Elinam Dellor, PhD
Senior Researcher
Dr. Dellor conducts research on the short and long-term consequences of child abuse and neglect. A key area of interest is the effect of early life trauma on adult behavior and health. Her expertise is in trauma-related physiologic processes as mediating pathways to adult chronic health conditions. Her research focuses on the feasibility of collecting chronic stress biomarkers among child welfare involved families and caregivers with a focus on the HPA-axis (hair for cortisol) and immune system (dried blood spots for C-reactive protein) activity. She also studies the use of internet technology in linking vulnerable families to social, behavioral and health services.

Bridget Freisthler, PhD
Professor and Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development
Dr. Freisthler's expertise is in studying how substance use affects parenting, particularly child abuse and neglect. Her research focuses on how drinking and drug use contexts (e.g., where a person drinks or uses drugs) affect abusive and neglectful parenting practices. She uses geographic information systems (GIS; mapping) to identify those contexts and to develop preventive interventions. She is particularly interested in how the substance use environment (e.g., alcohol outlet and medical marijuana dispensaries) is related to a variety of harms, such as child maltreatment. She is currently focusing efforts on reducing child maltreatment among families misusing opioids.

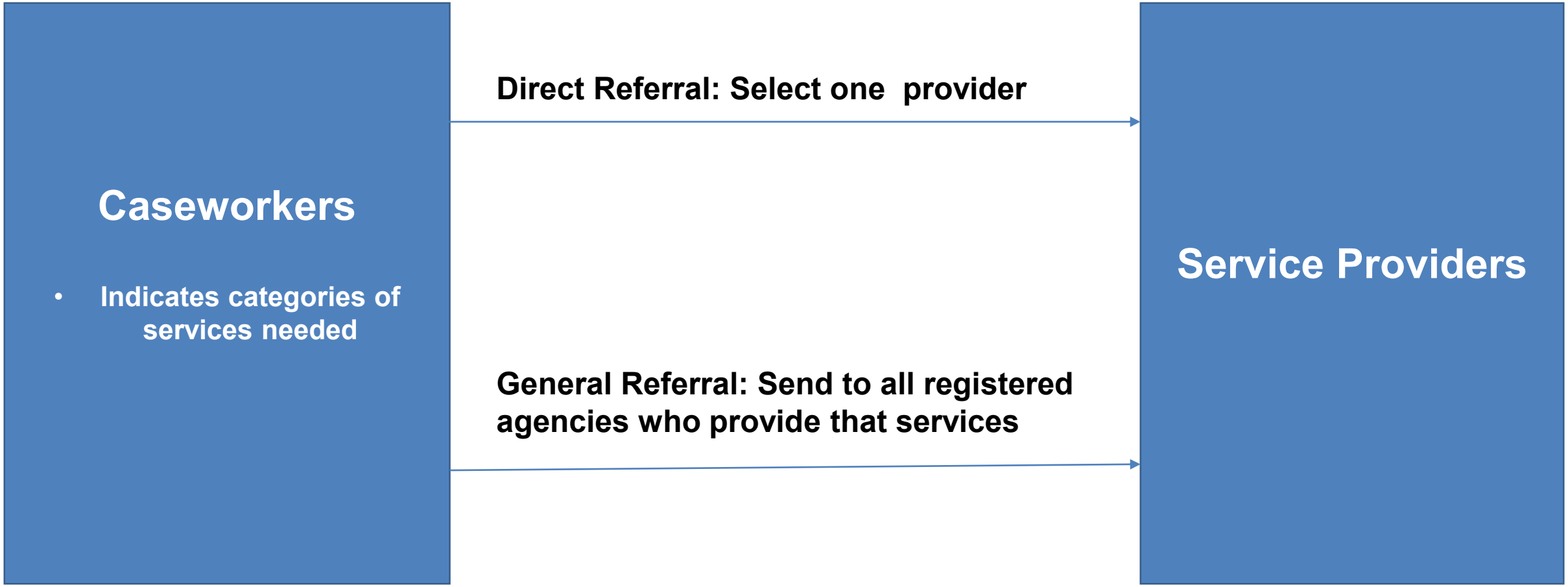
What is the Needs Portal?

- Resources referral
- Management information system (MIS)

Motivation: Linkage Barriers

- How to you typically refer clients to services?
- From clients' perspective, what are some common barriers for service linkage?
- From your perspective, what are some common barriers to service linkage?

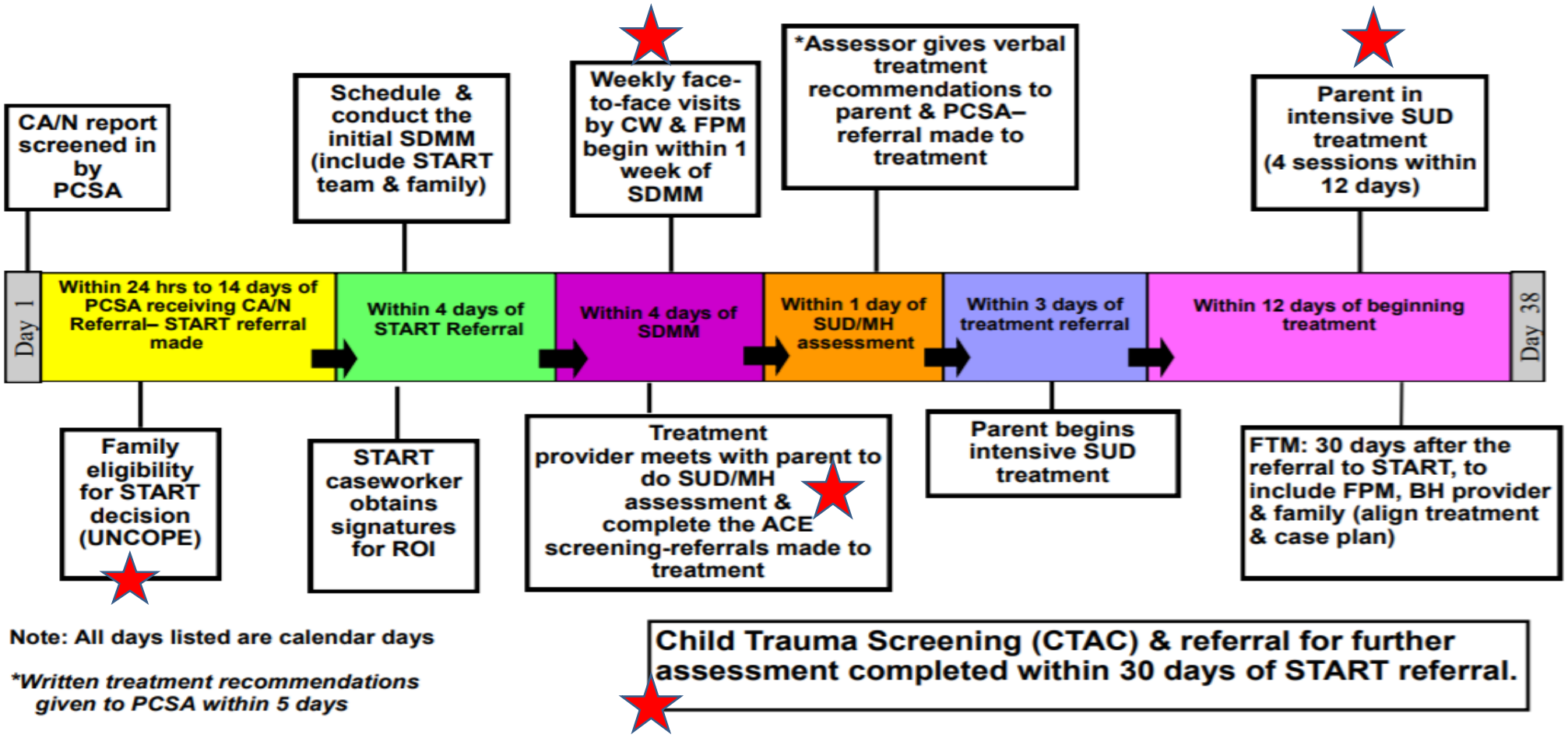
How it works: Resources Referral



*Permissions Vary

Ohio START Timeline

Initiation of a START Case– 38 Days

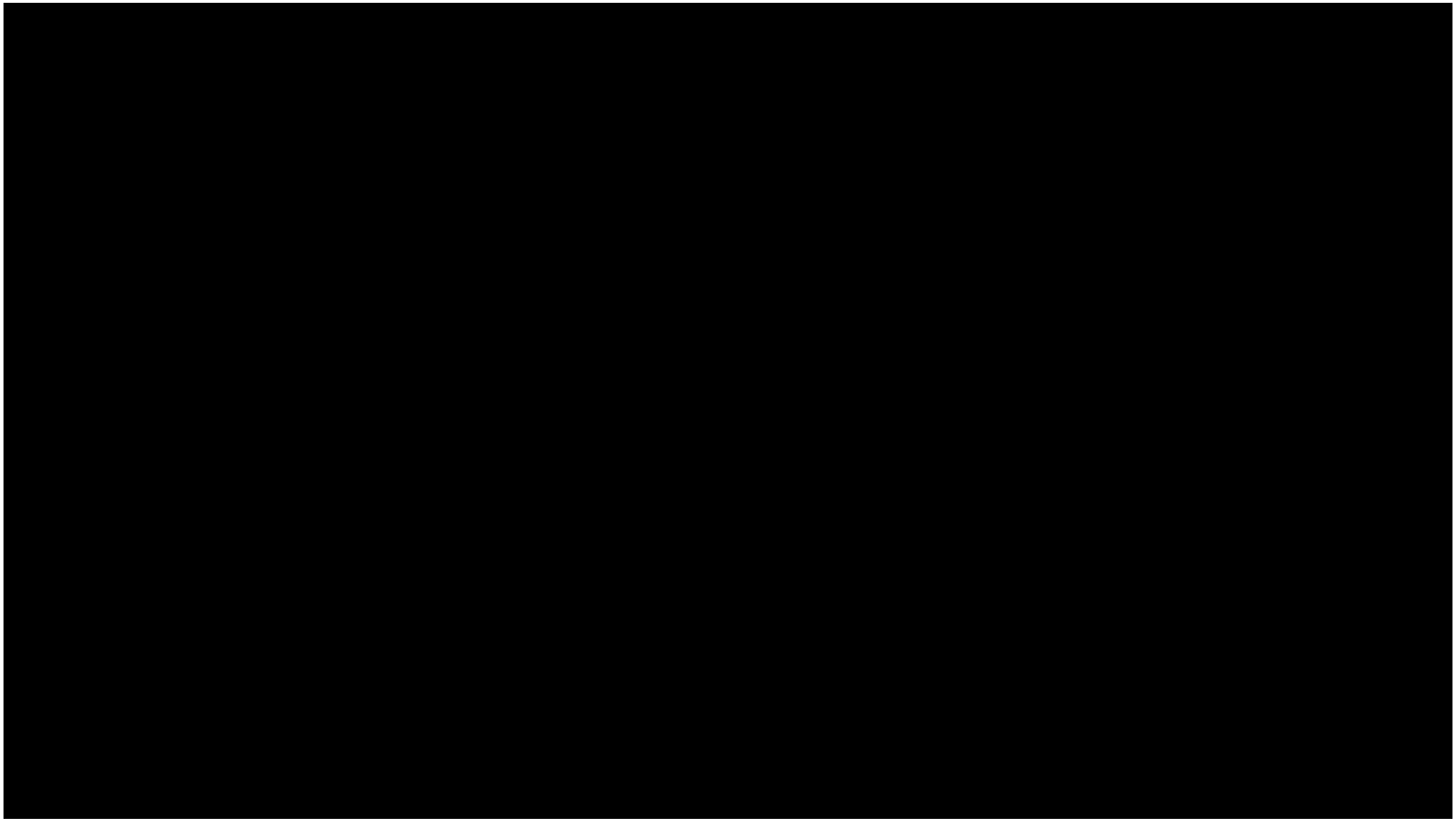


Note: All days listed are calendar days

**Written treatment recommendations given to PCSA within 5 days*

Child Trauma Screening (CTAC) & referral for further assessment completed within 30 days of START referral.

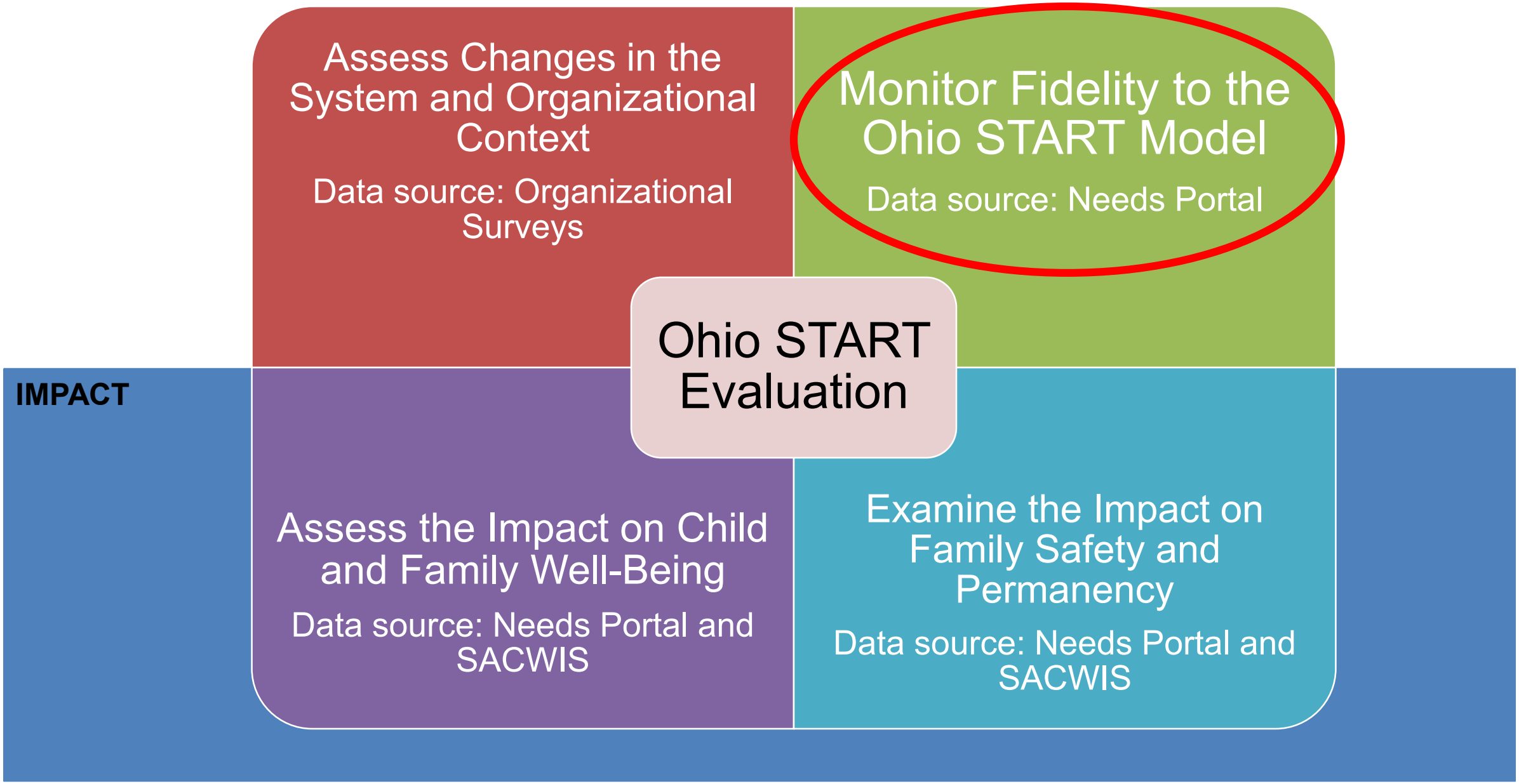
Rev 3/10/20

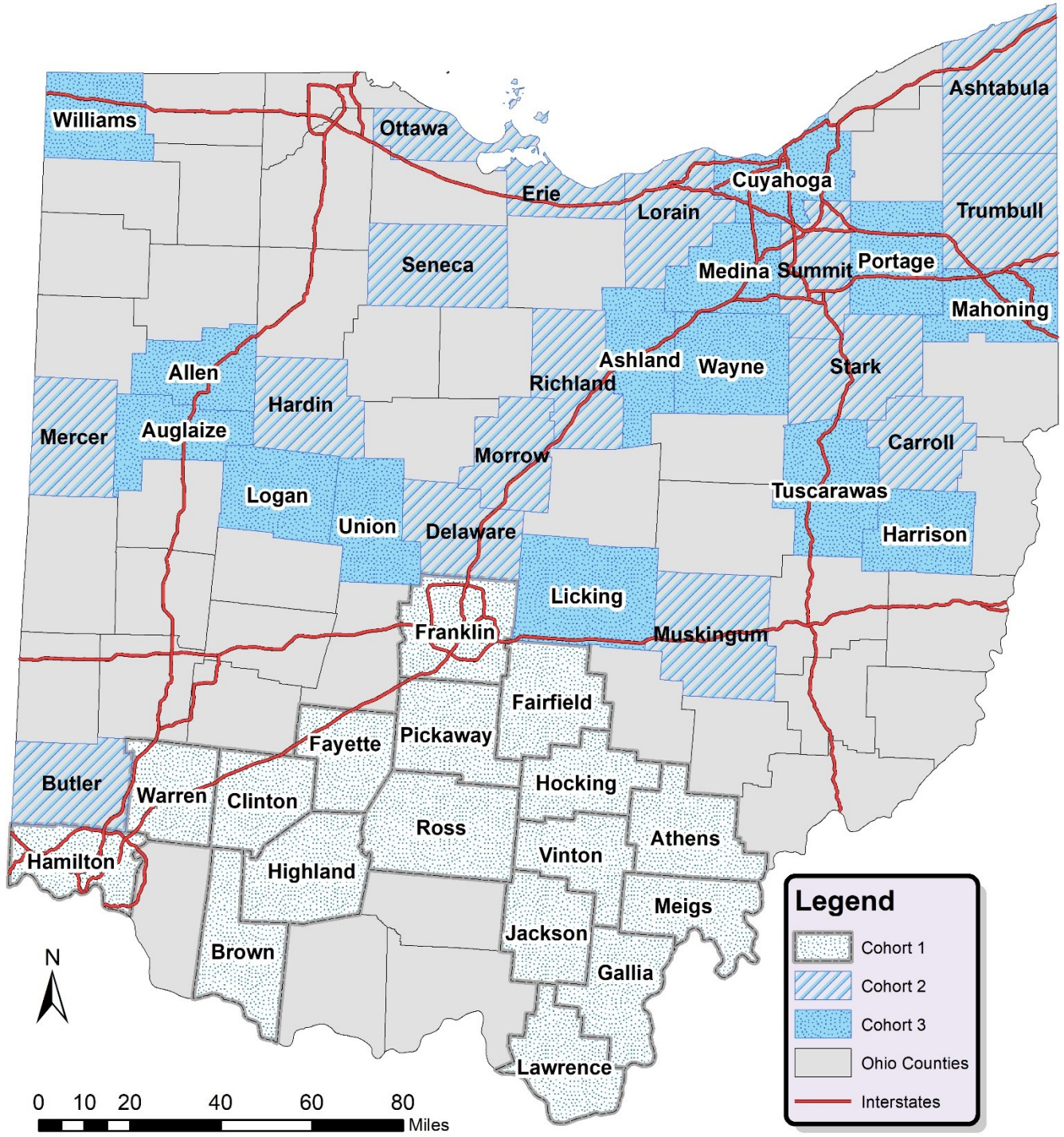


How it works:
Management Information System (MIS)

- Generate reports for users
- Export raw data
- Front facing data dashboard

IMPLEMENTATION




Williams
Ottawa
Ashtabula
Erie
Cuyahoga
Lorain
Trumbull
Seneca
Medina
Summit
Portage
Mahoning
Allen
Ashland
Wayne
Stark
Richland
Hardin
Mercer
Auglaize
Carroll
Morrow
Tuscarawas
Logan
Union
Delaware
Harrison
Licking
Franklin
Muskingum
Fairfield
Fayette
Pickaway
Butler
Warren
Clinton
Hocking
Ross
Athens
Hamilton
Vinton
Highland
Meigs
Jackson
Brown
Gallia
Lawrence
N
0 10 20 40 60 80
Miles
Legend
Cohort 1
Cohort 2
Cohort 3
Ohio Counties
Interstates

Data Dashboard

https://u.osu.edu/ohiostart/evaluation/dashboard

Summary of Research

- Use of Needs Portal very helpful for new caseworkers
- Veteran workers use Needs Portal when traditional networks unable to find a provider
- Provides empirical support for lack of service availability among certain types of needs (e.g., housing) or in particular locations

Thank you!

OhioSTART: https://u.osu.edu/ohiostart/evaluation/dashboard/

EPIC: https://u.osu.edu/epic/

Contact Info:

Elinam Dellor: Dellor.1@osu.edu

Bridget Freishtler: Freisthler.19@osu.edu

needsportal@osu.edu