DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

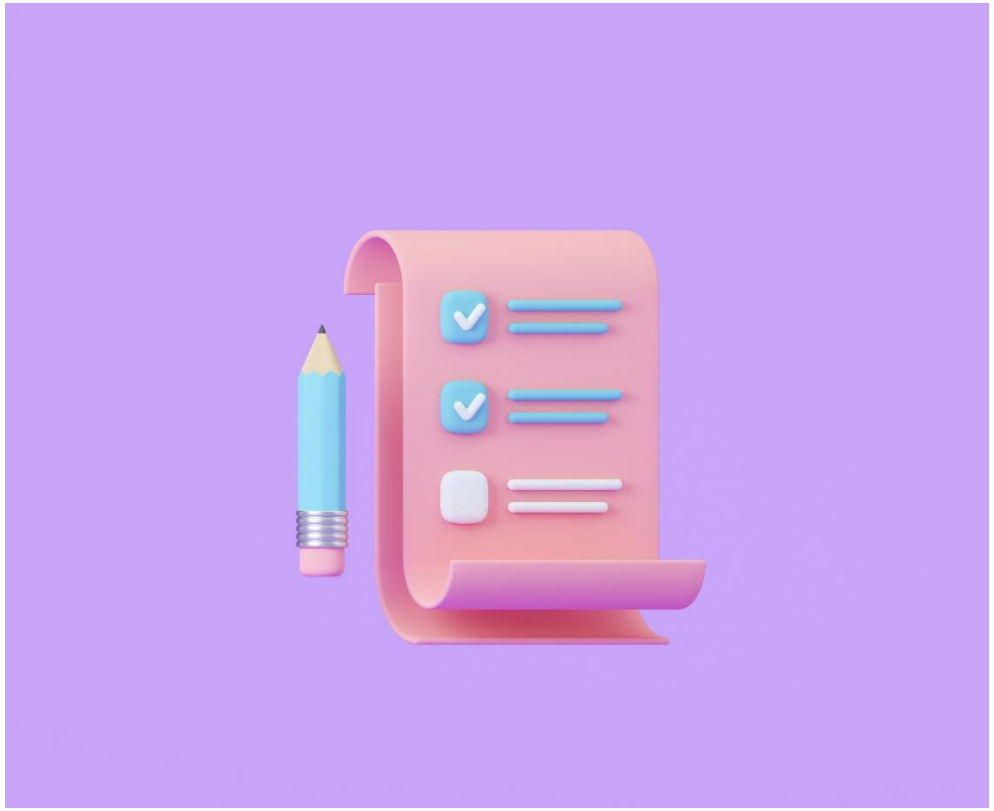
Waiver Reimagine Advisory Committee

Meeting 19: April 24, 2025

Live captions: https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=WRAC

Welcome!

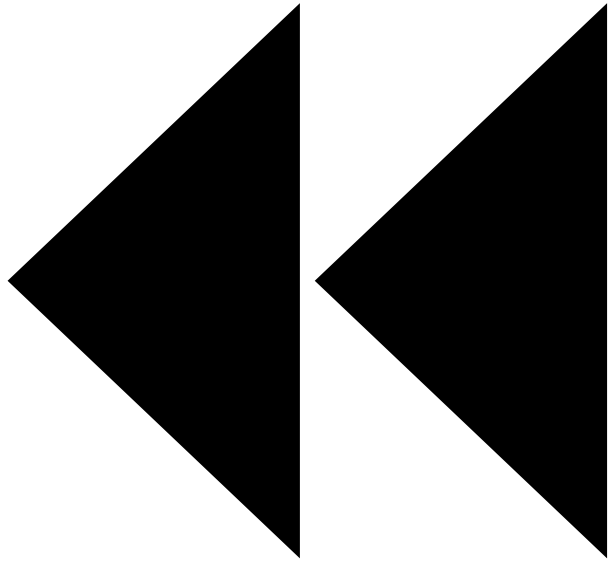
Agenda



Agenda
Welcome & Recap
Feedback from WRAC members
Legislative updates
Waiver Reimagine roadmap
Co-Chair Proposal

Recap of last meeting

- Meeting Facilitation
- Budget Review
- Timeline



WRAC feedback sessions: Key themes

Themes

- Strengths
- Format limitations and tradeoffs
- Scope
- Collaboration
- Suggestions

Strengths

- Passionate, dedicated group of WRAC members
- Lots of useful expertise: lived experience, direct services, managerial, system perspective, etc.
- Opportunities for improvement of the waiver system
- Members feel WRAC should continue

Format limitations and tradeoffs

Challenge	Benefit
Large group size is difficult to navigate	Helpful to have a wide range of perspectives involved
Virtual is challenging	Virtual is more accessible
Bimonthly, two-hour sessions is not much time	Time commitment is doable; not everyone could spend more time on WRAC activities
Length of time between meetings → difficult to keep pace with everything that is going on and maintain momentum	Time commitment is doable

Collaboration

- Concern that there is not a genuine interest by DHS in acting on concerns/ideas from WRAC members.
- Not all members feel free to voice their views. Concerned that they will be disparaged by other members.
- Concern that too much time has been spent on airing grievances and not enough time spent on problem solving.
- Has felt divisive at times.
- Sense that the group needs a significant reset to feel productive again.
- Most agreed that facilitation has not been the issue.

Facilitator suggestions

- Mental reset + collaborative problem-solving training (OCDR could provide)
- One in-person meeting focused on relationship building
- Possible changes to meeting structure:
  - Subgroup meetings between bimonthly meetings
  - Split into topic areas groups and do work independently and then reconvene
  - Longer bimonthly meeting, with WRAC member led sections
- → Tri-chairs of WRAC members to help craft agendas

Thank you again!

Katie Pratt

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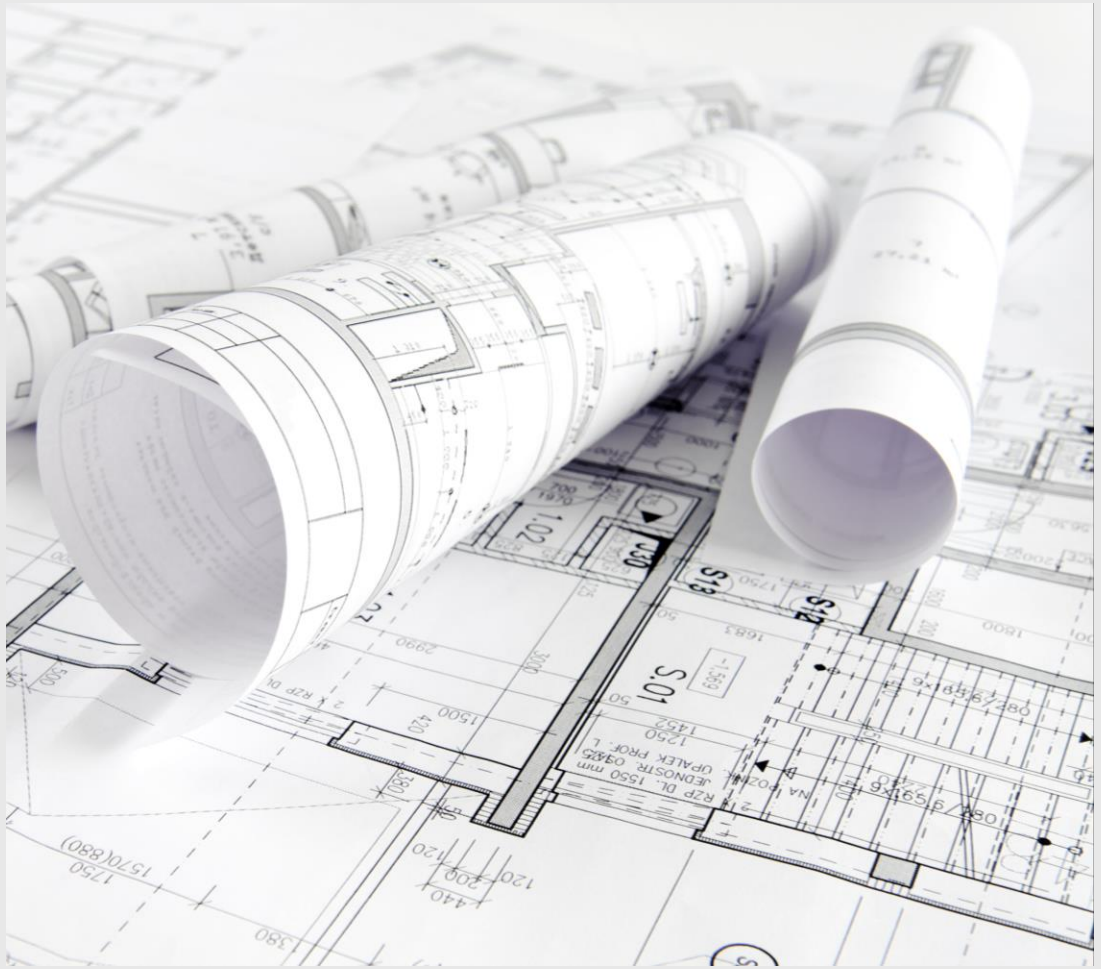
Legislative Updates

- Because of the changing nature of the Legislative Session this update will be given by Heidi Hamilton at the meeting with the most current information we have at that time.

Waiver Reimagine Road Map

- Review Goals
- Review Phases
- Review Work structure



Goals of Waiver Reimagine

Better Access & Flexibility

- Simplify information about services and the process to apply for services so a person and their family can understand, describe and get the services they need.
- Provide complete, accurate and accessible information about all available services, allowing a person to make informed choices and decisions while planning services.

Equitable Access

- Each person across the state, regardless of their county or tribal nation, can access services and funding equitably and eliminate discrepancies based on their disability type or diagnosis.

Self Direction

- Increase self-directed, informed choices and decision making that allows a person who chose consumer-directed community support (CDCS) to have better control by deciding to self-direct all, some or none of their services.

Waiver Reimagine Phases

Phase One - complete

Common service menu across all waivers

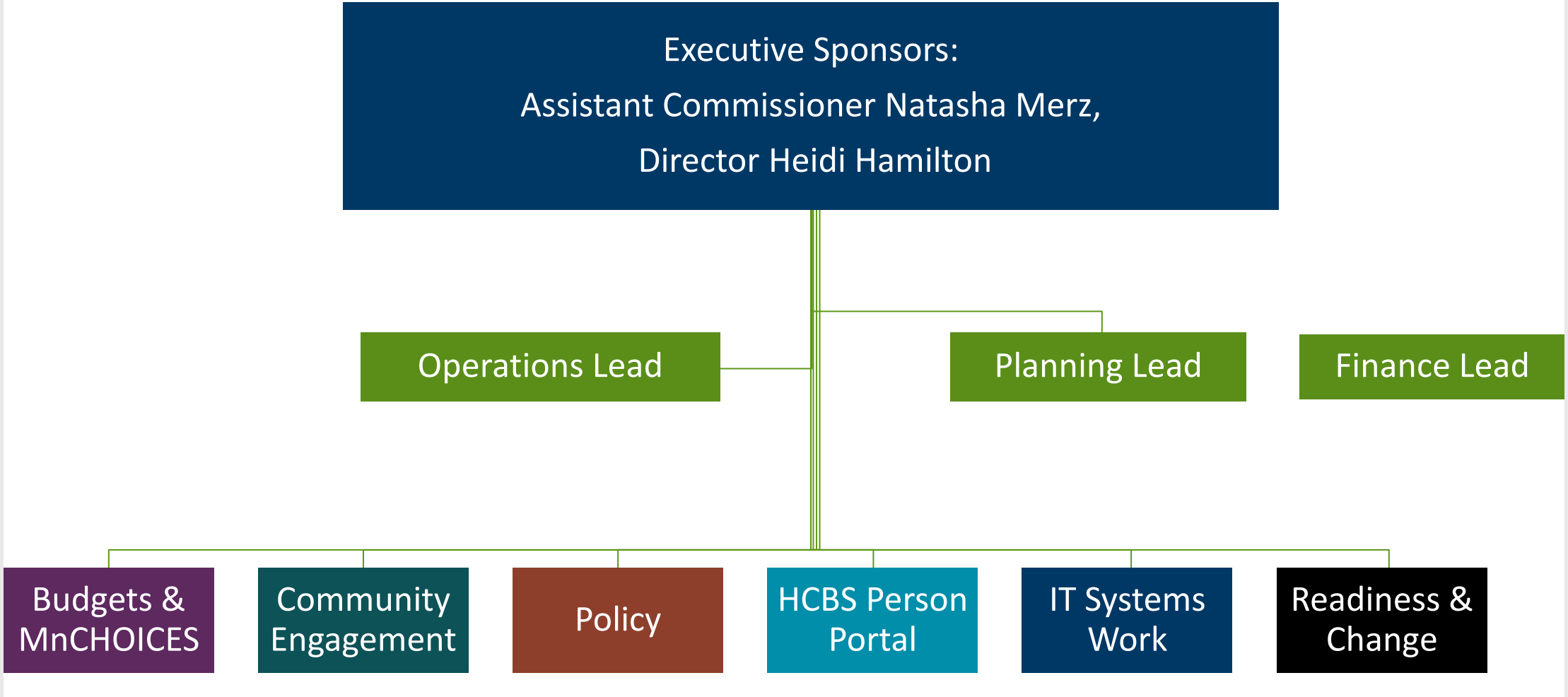
Phase Two – in progress

Two waiver system based on where a person lives and not on their diagnosis

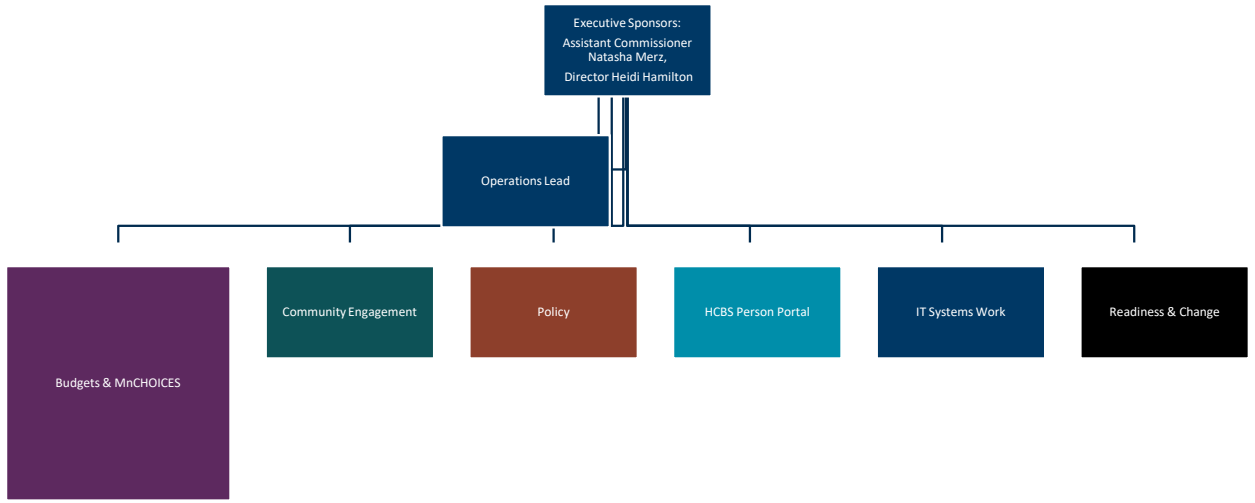
A known and transparent budget based on a person's assessed needs

Informed decision making and increase flexibility to self-direct

Work Structure



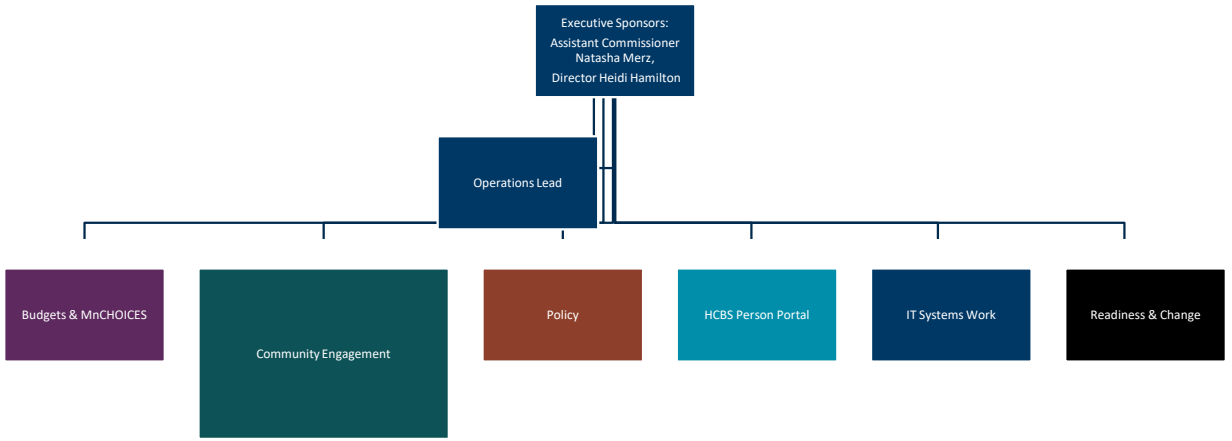
Topic 1: Individualized Budgets & MnCHOICES



Budget development & implementation:

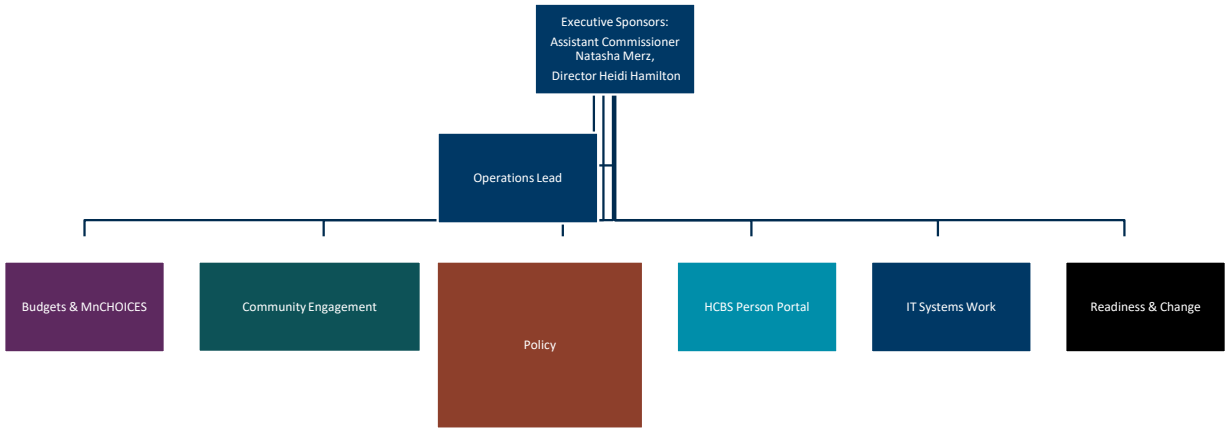
- MNCHOICES data validity and collection
- Budget Recalibration & Analysis
- Test Budgets
- Individualized Budget Implementation

Topic 2: Communications Planning & Community Engagement



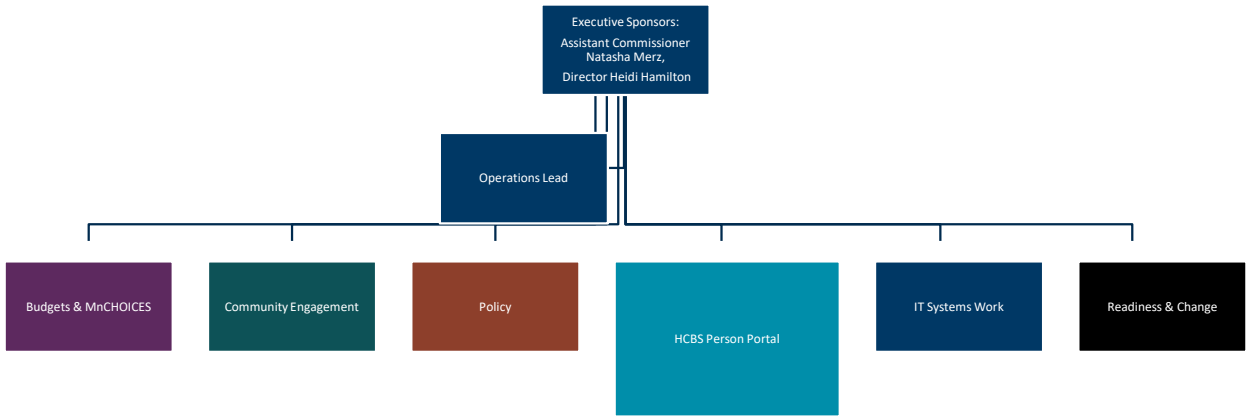
- Communications Planning
- Equity Analysis
- Community Engagement

Topic 3: Policy



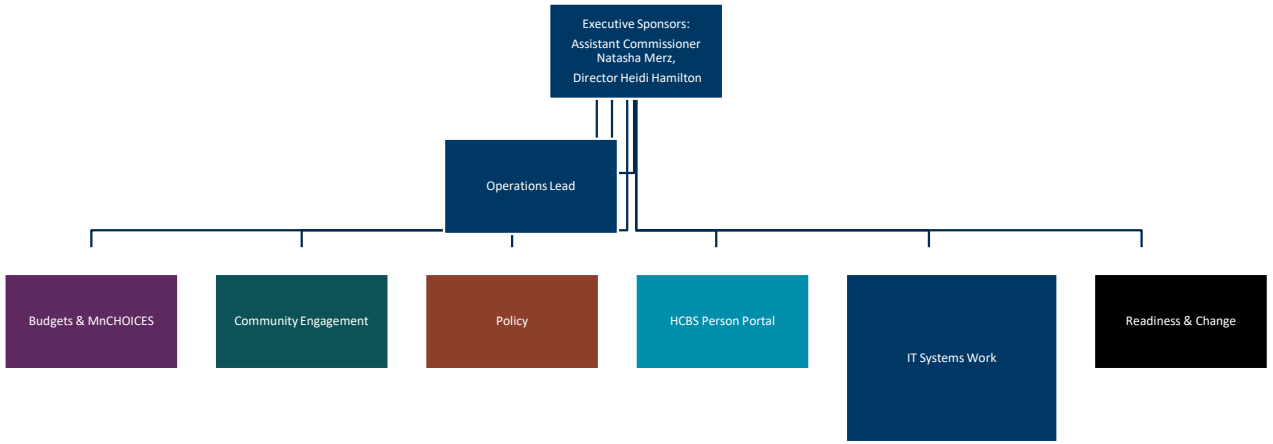
- Identify Policy Areas that need change/ will be impacted
- Implement Policy changes as needed
- Waiver Plan Application / CMS Approval

Topic 4: HCBS Portal



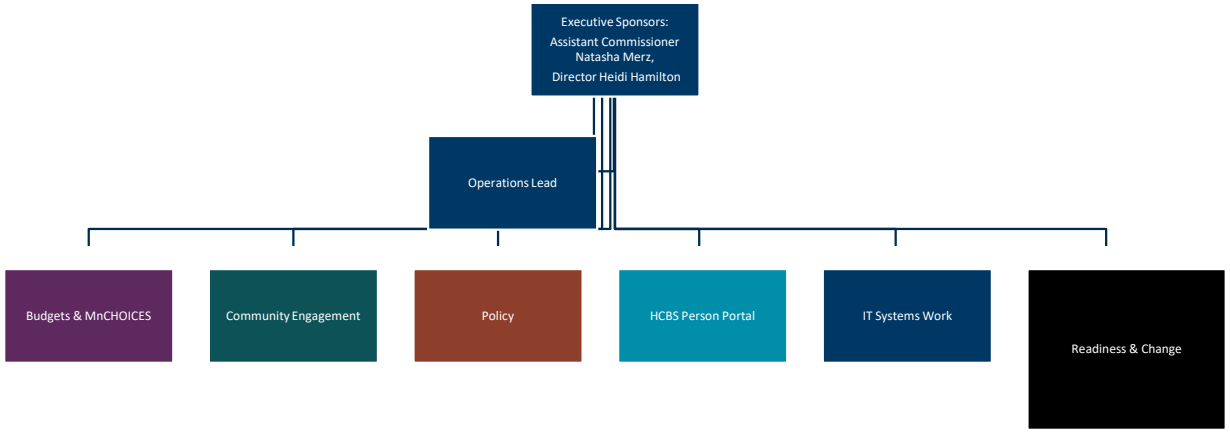
- Requirements Gathering
- Selecting Vendor
- Launch Portal

Topic 5: IT Systems



- Systems development and coordination (MMIS, MnCHOICES, MAXIS, etc)

Topic 6: System Readiness & Change Management



- Help identify training needs
- Data development
- Minimize disruption

Facilitation Proposal

Suggestion

- Meeting co-facilitation & planning between WRAC members and DHS
- Planning between WRAC meetings
- Three (3) Co-chairs of WRAC members to help craft agendas
  - Representing at least two areas
- Discuss nomination process

What’s Next

- Next meeting: Thursday, June 26, 2025

Thank You!

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