

Developing One Statewide System of Services and Supports



EHDI Meeting 2020 – Kansas City, Missouri

- ❖ **Karen Hopkins**, Director of Statewide Educational Services – Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- ❖ **Roy Fowler**, Director of Part C and Part B 619 – Maine Child Development Services
- ❖ **Anne Banger**, Maine Newborn Hearing Program- Maine CDC
- ❖ **Darlene Freeman**, Maine Hands & Voices

Learning Objectives

- ❖ Participants will be able to identify three strategies for implementing one statewide approach to EHDI
- ❖ Participants will be able to identify three strategies for supporting families through 1-3-6
- ❖ Participants will be able to identify three ways that one coordinated statewide system can lead to successful outcomes

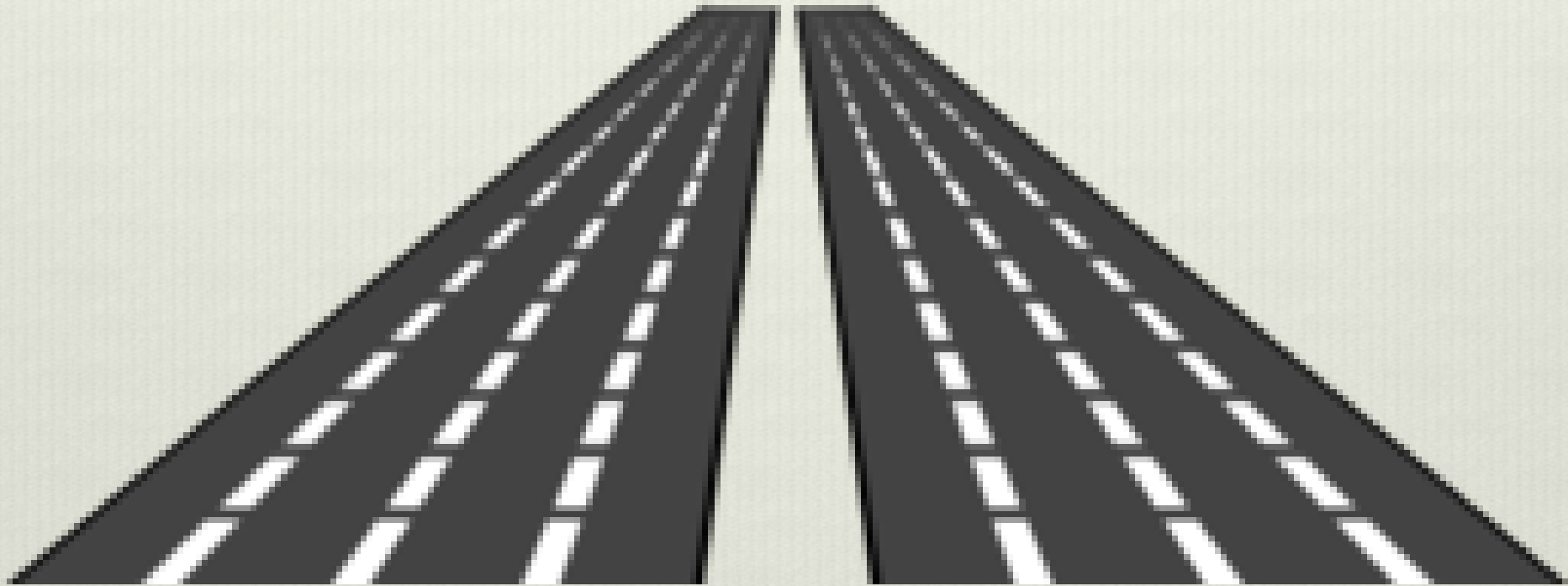
Who we are.....

- ❖ Maine EHDI
- ❖ Maine Hands & Voices
- ❖ Maine Child Development Services - Part C and Part B 619
- ❖ Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

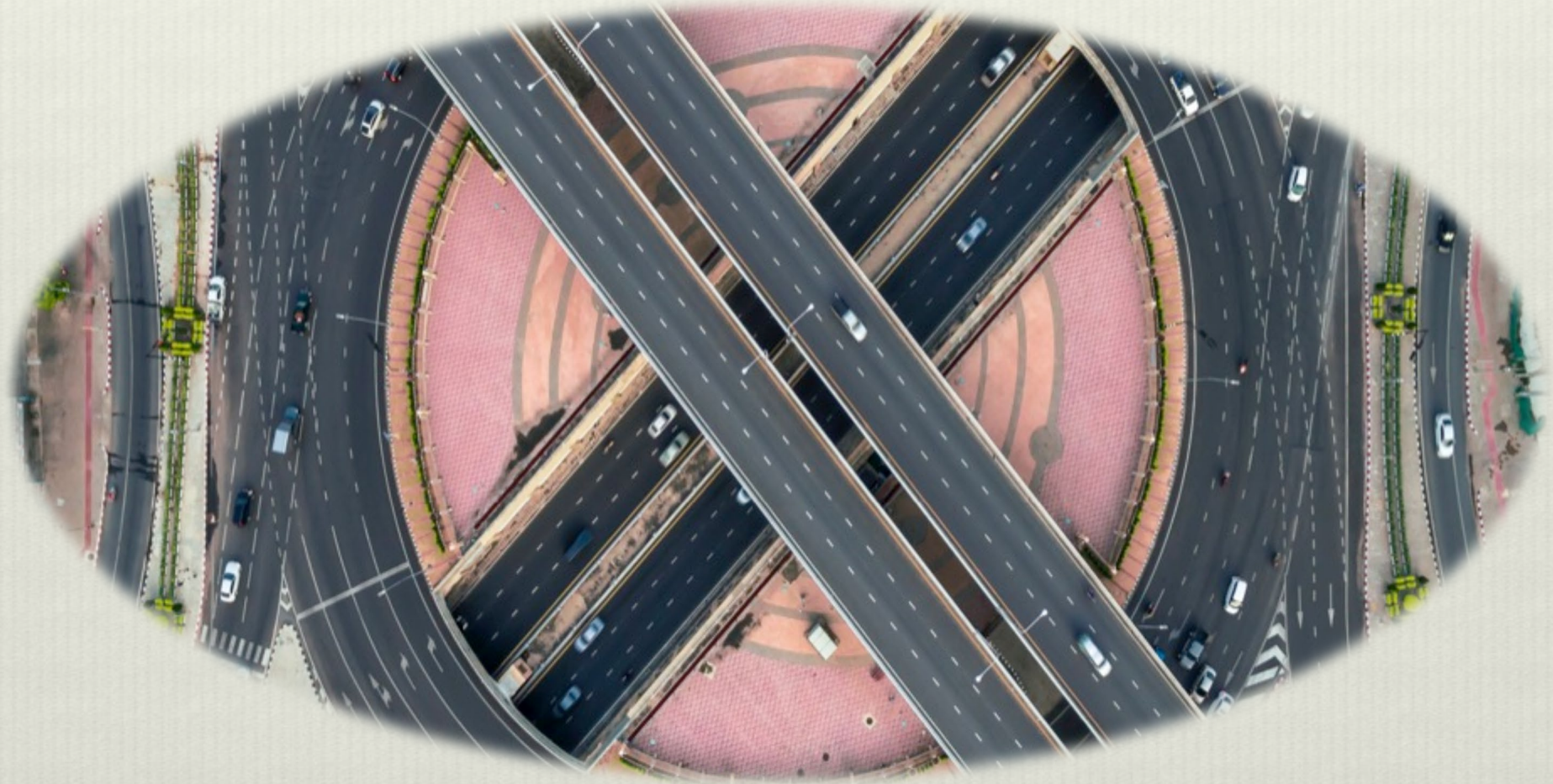
We invite you on our journey.....



Parallel Services



Parallel.....Overlapping.....Sometimes in Circles....



Sometimes we crashed.....







The journey begins.....





SLOW

The Family's Journey



Supporting Families Through the Screening Process



Maine Newborn Hearing Program- Maine EHDI

- Decisions to prioritize family support
- HRSA funding
 - ❖ Parent Consultant
 - ❖ #1 Priority - Establish Hands & Voices Chapter

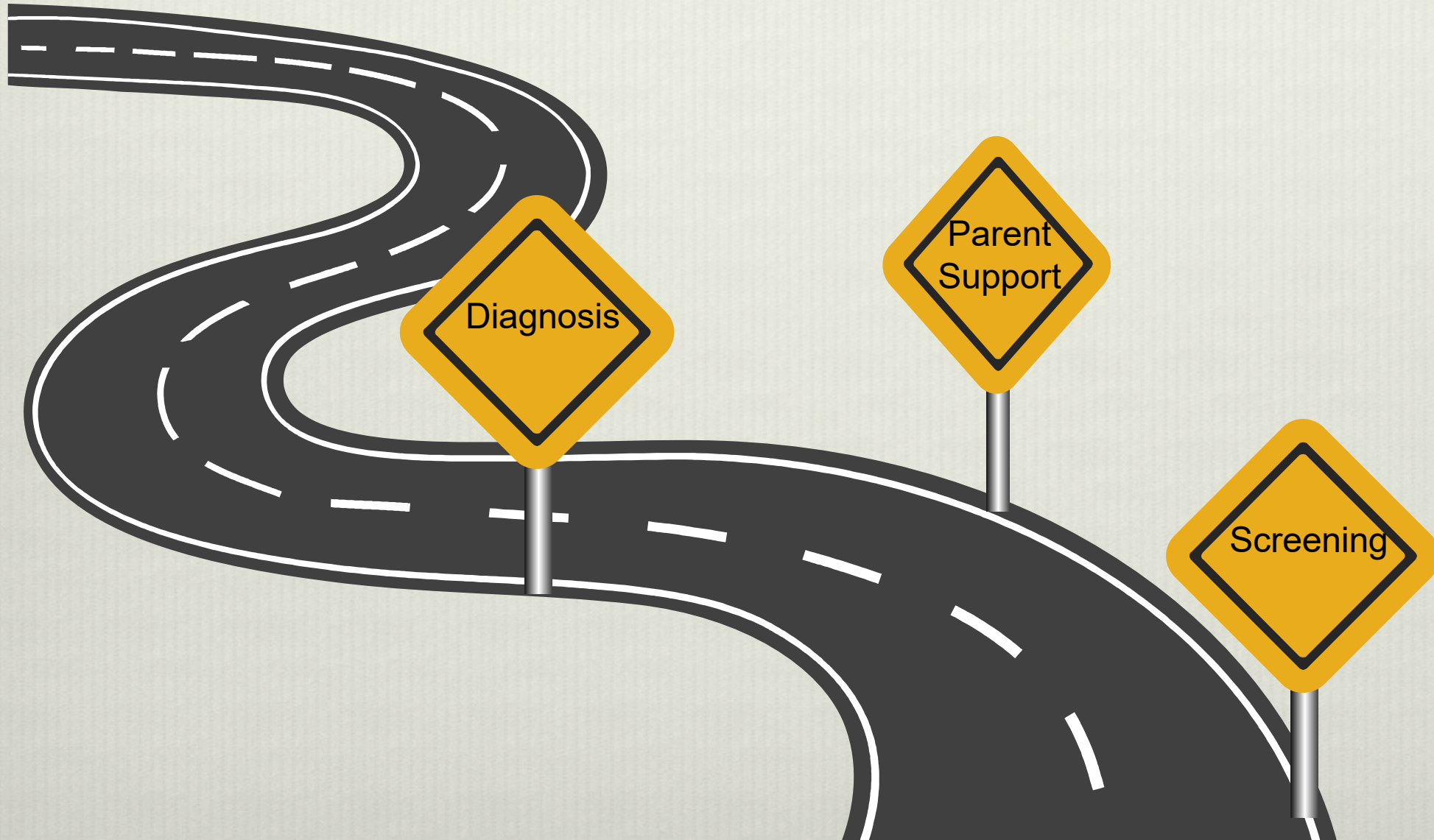


The Family's Journey





The Family's Journey



Collaboration Paved The Way!



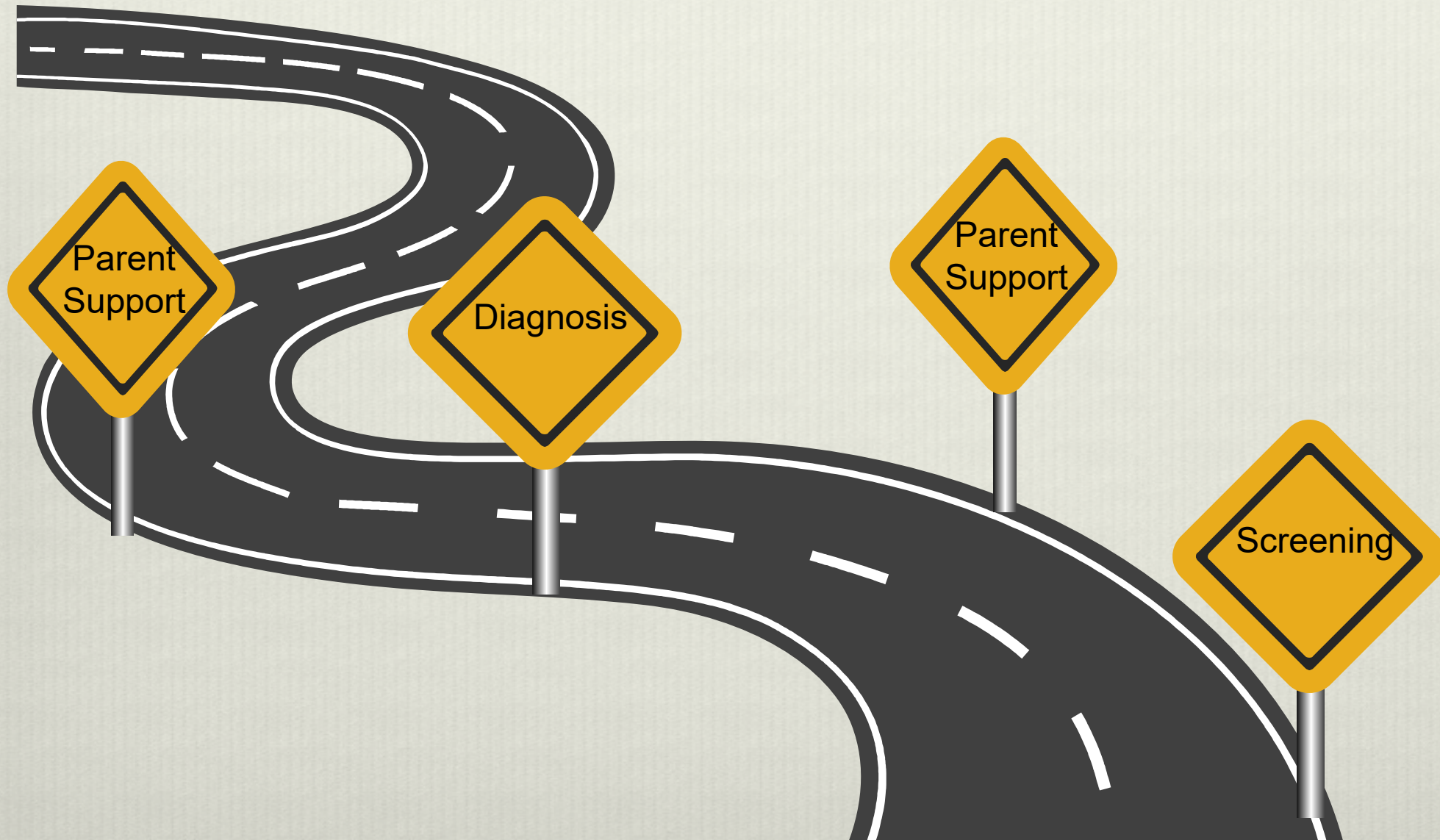
- Flow Through Money from DHHS to MECDHH to Contractors
- Team formed
 - MECDHH
 - EHDI
 - Parent Consultant
 - Follow Up Coordinator
 - Audiologist

Initial Focus

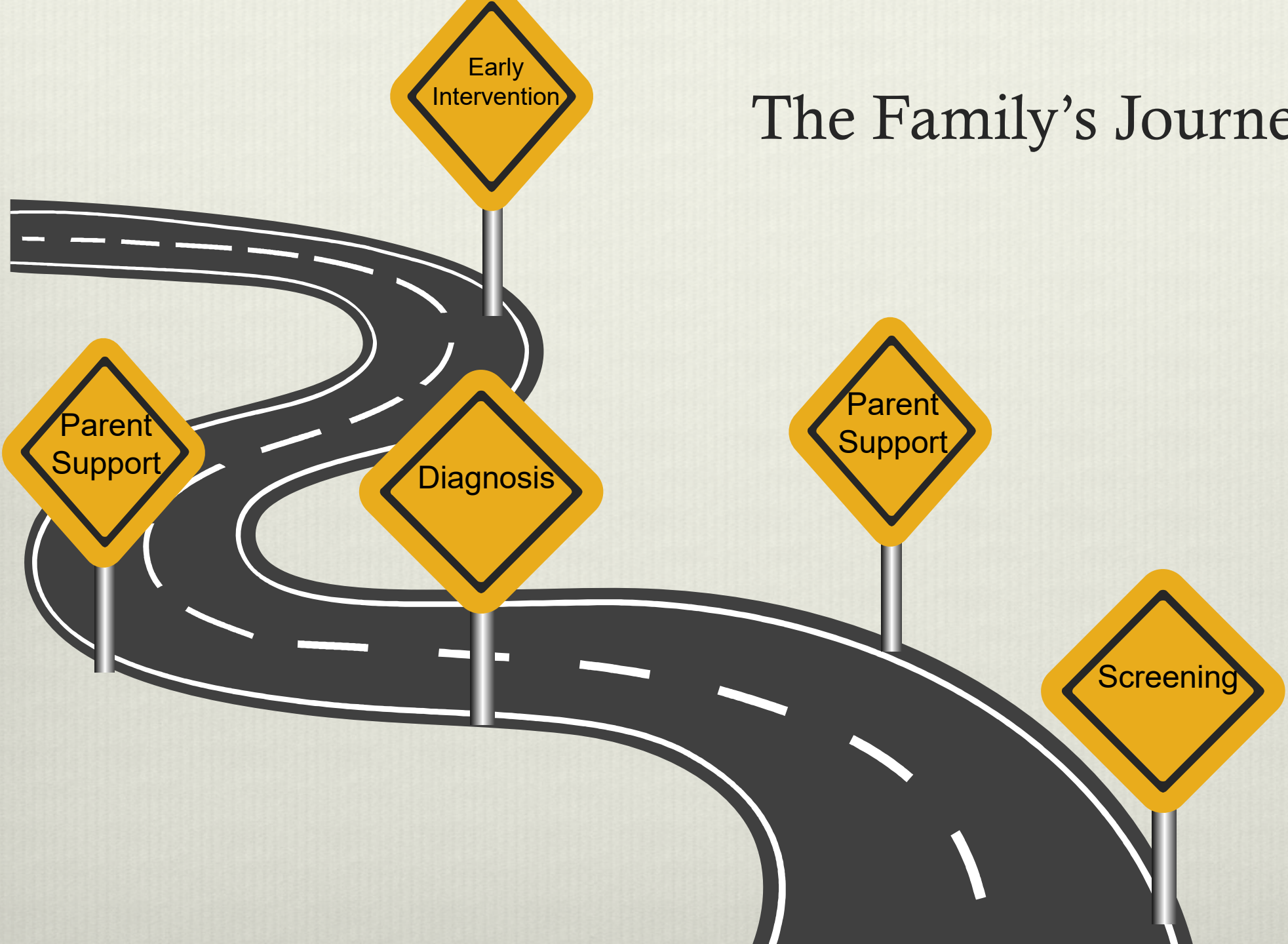
- ❖ Screening
- ❖ Follow Up



The Family's Journey



The Family's Journey

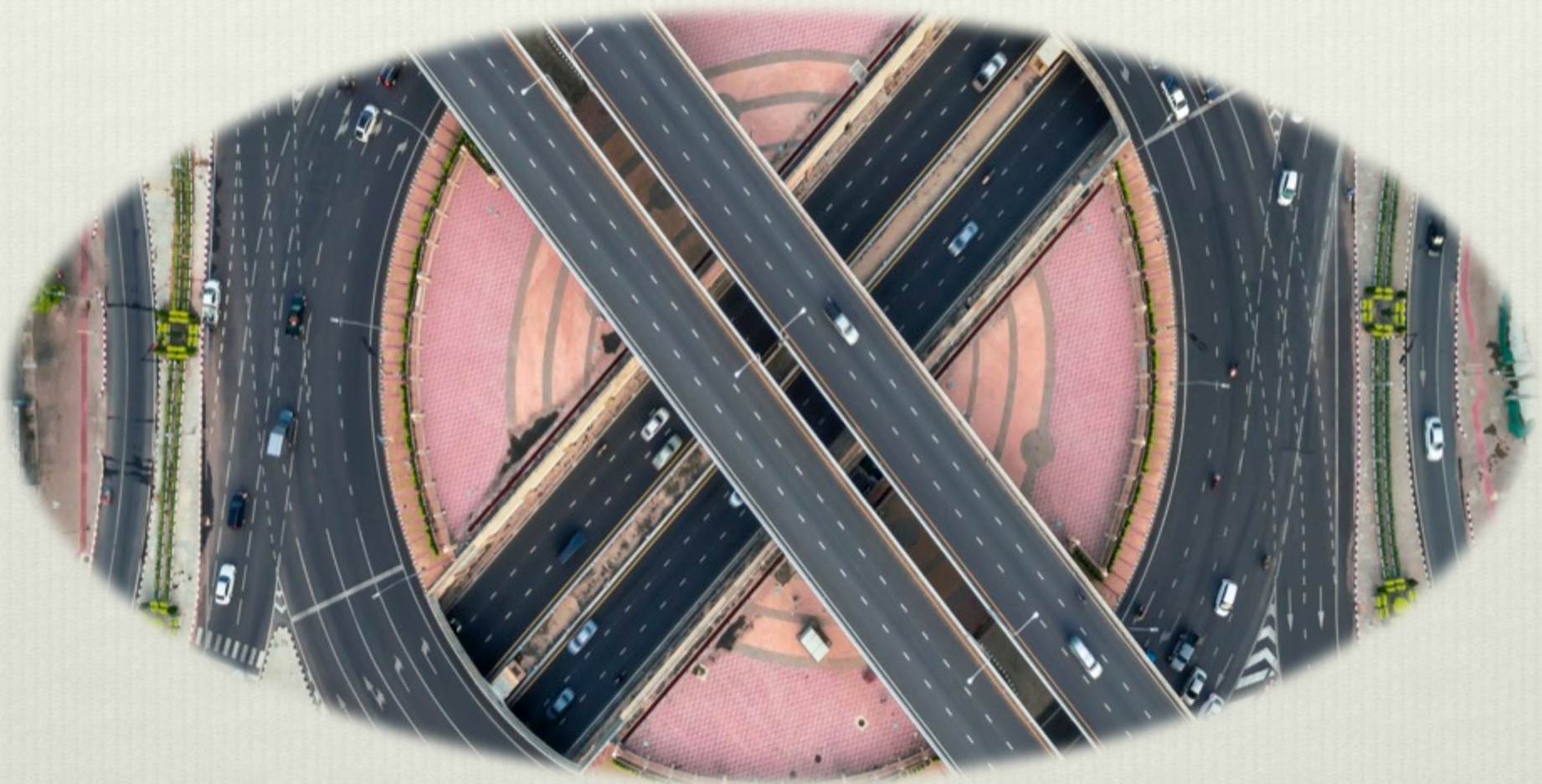


Common Themes of Frustration



MECDHH Director had varying roles –

- EHDI Advisory Board
- H&V Board
- MECDHH Programs – Part C Connection



Early Intervention in Maine





SLOW

**PROCEED
WITH
CAUTION**

Development of the Memorandum of Understanding: Part C and MECDHH

Two state agencies

- History and connections
- Change in leadership

Meetings

Facilitator

Identifying issues

Agreeing to disagree

Focus on commonalities

- Shared perspective
- Developing a joint process

Understanding roles



Purpose

“To develop one family-centered early intervention program for families who have deaf or hard of hearing children in Maine.”



MOU components

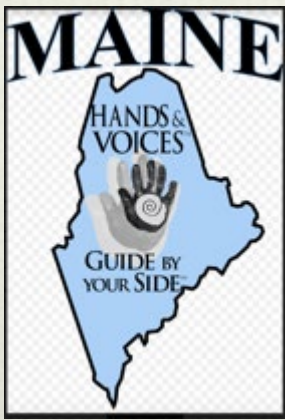
- ❖ Early Intervention Teacher of the Deaf assigned to each regional site
- ❖ Deaf and hard of hearing children will have an early intervention Teacher of the Deaf on their team
- ❖ All families will have the opportunity to learn about all communication approaches
- ❖ Early Intervention Teachers of the Deaf will be embedded into the Part C Process

New Roadblocks

Lack of :

- Consistent Parent to Parent Support
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Engagement
- Early Intervention Providers
- Consistent Assessment Process
- Transition to Part B





Guide By Your Side

- ❖ Collaboration – EHDI and MECDHH supported Family Engagement
- ❖ HRSA Funded by EHDI



New MOU

Hands & Voices Programming Embedded

- Parent to Parent Support
- Deaf/HH Guide Program

Deaf Mentor Programming

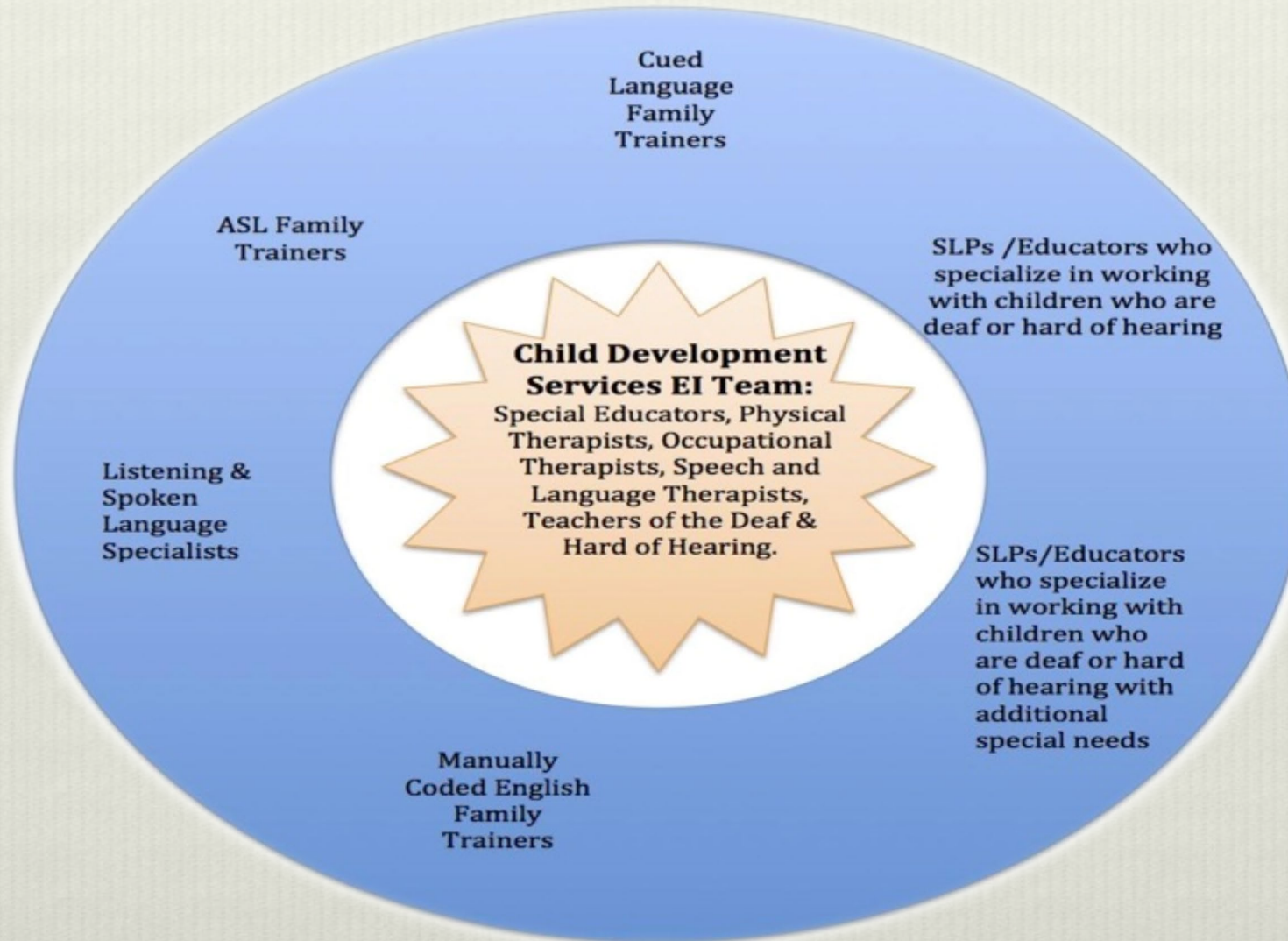
Community of Practice of Early Intervention Providers Established

MECDHH Contracting with All Early Intervention Providers





Community of Practice







**TURN
AROUND**

Back to our Team

- EHDI Coordinator
- MECDHH Director of Statewide Services
- Loss to Follow Up Coordinator
- Parent Consultant
- Audiologist



MECDHH - Maine's HRSA Grant Recipient

Supporting EHDI

- Positions funded
- Collaboration around Education

Keeping programs alive

Strategies for Supporting & Prioritizing Family Engagement

- Guide By Your Side – Parent to Parent Support
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Engagement



HRSA Grant Collaboration

Positions Given to EHDI from MECDHH

- Parent Consultant
- Audiology Consultant

Statewide Audiology Support

Statewide Audiologist – Part C, EHDI & MECDDHH

Liaison between audiologists

Audiology Workgroup



Collaboration Continues

- ❖ Team meetings monthly
- ❖ Updates
- ❖ Sharing resources
- ❖ Grant Goals
- ❖ Work plan Collaboration
- ❖ Discussing conflicts or roadblocks



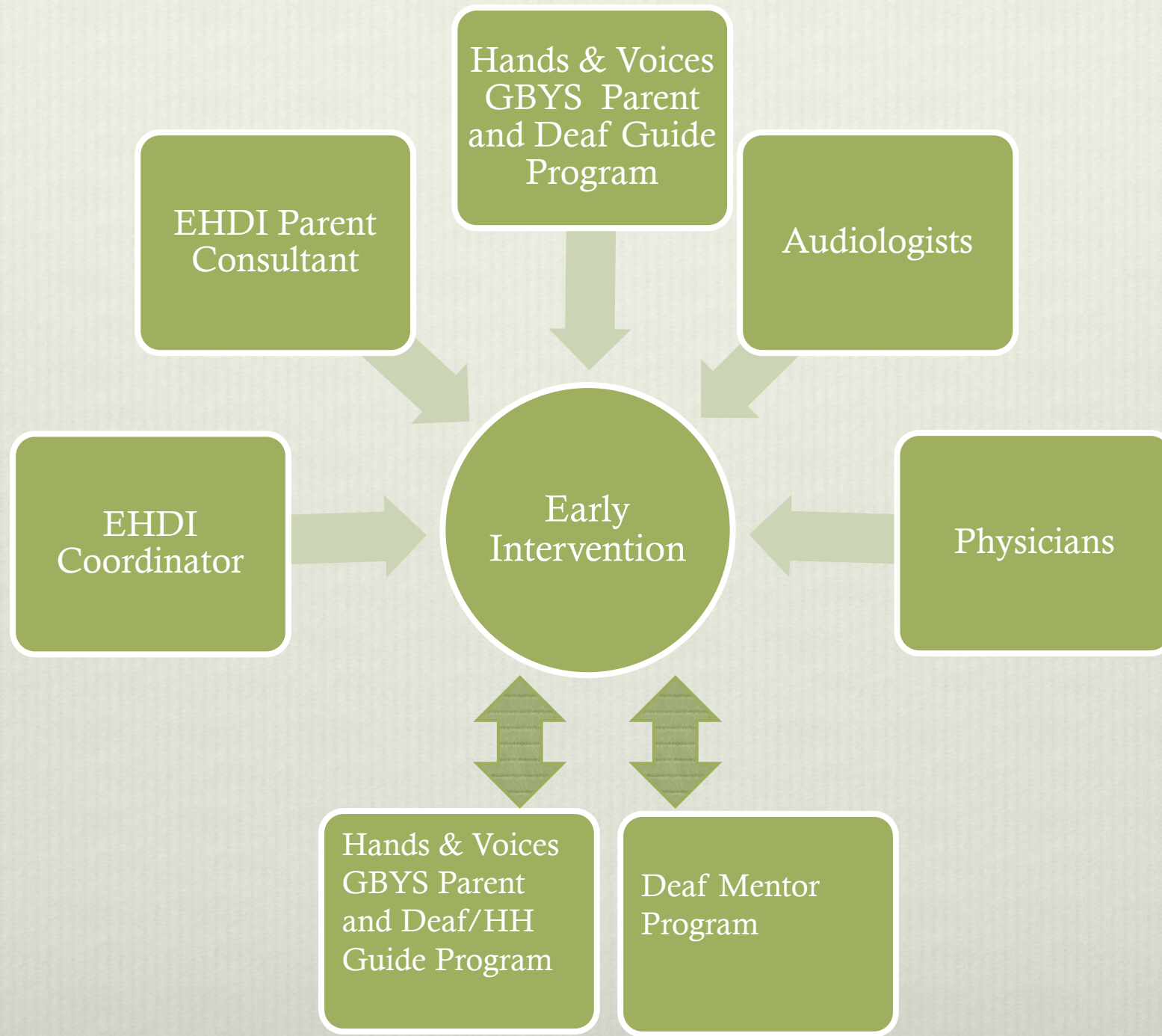
EHDI data – Early Intervention data

- Team recognized need for more collaboration to document Part C enrollment
- Team needing to understand other perspectives
reasons why data may not come in as quickly as possible
- Understanding each other's systems, processes
- Other factors in other organizations/processes that impact success of others
- Added Part C Director to discussions



Finding the balance







Family Visit with Early Intervention

Communication Opportunities Exploration Process:

Maine has a formal statewide family centered process of initial support for families that focuses on:

- Attachment and bonding
 - Information sharing
 - Communication opportunities exploration
 - Meeting Parent and Deaf/HH Guides
-
- **Collaborative Approach**
 - MECDHH, Part C, Parent and Deaf Guides
 - Reporting back to EHDI



Early Intervention Process

Process leads to a Communication and Language plan

- Families identify communication approach
- Communication/Language plan written in family's handwriting
- Communication opportunities journey explained
- Support from Parent and Deaf/HH Guides

Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) Written

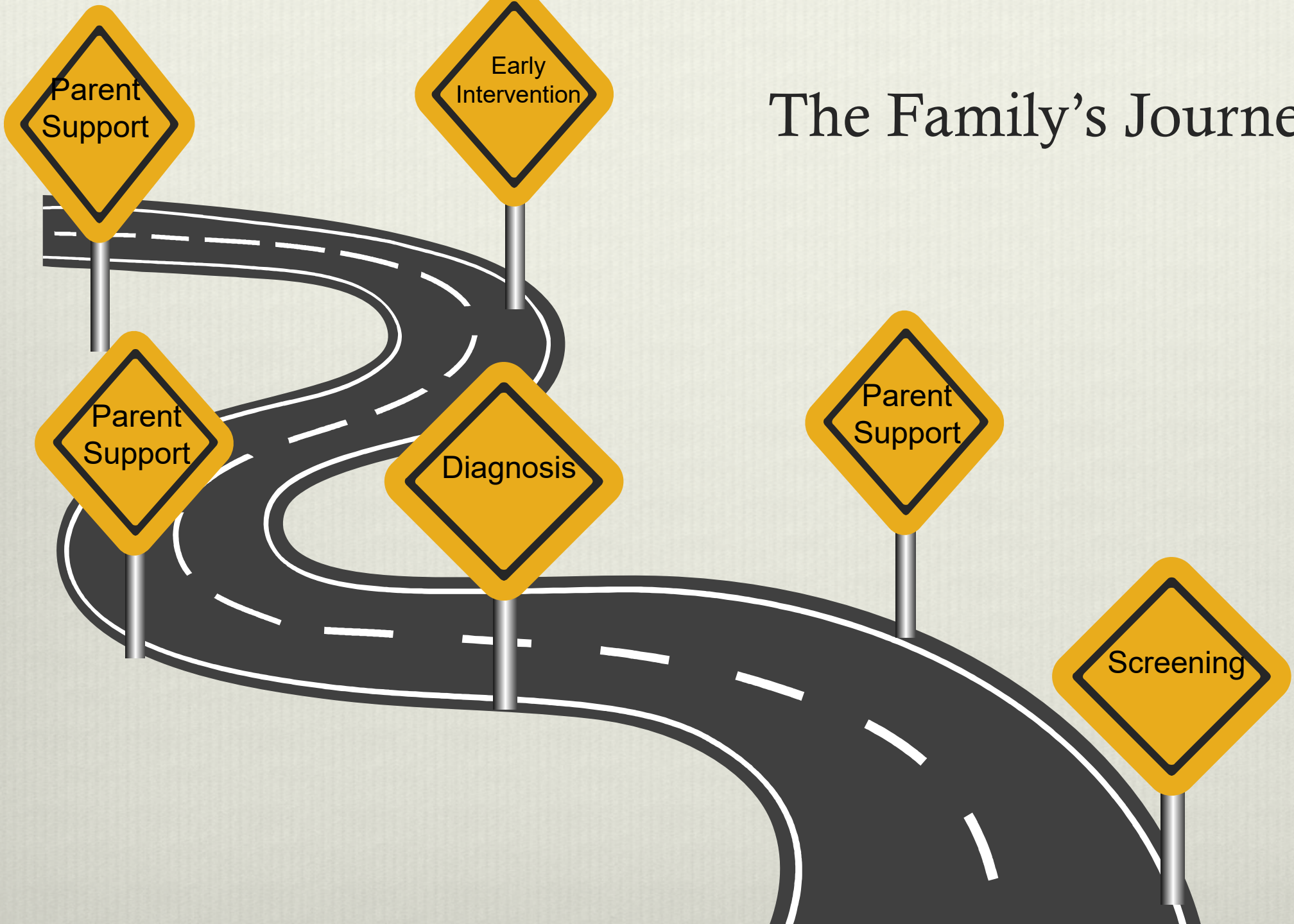
- ☞ Family outcomes
- ☞ Most appropriate providers
- ☞ Deaf/HH inclusion



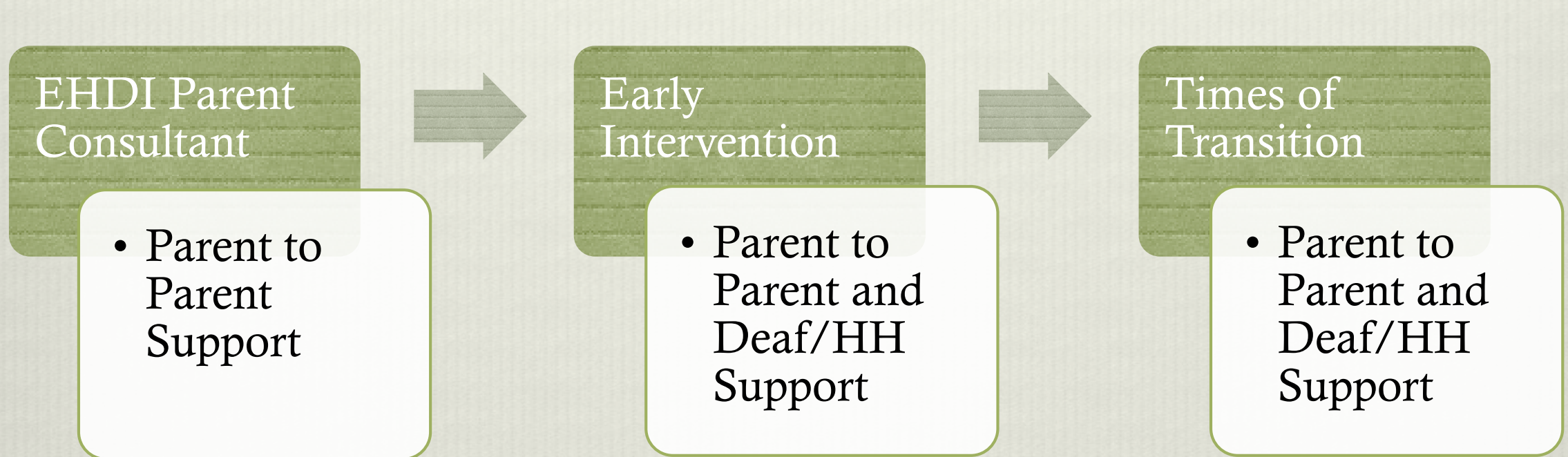
Collaboration with Parent Guides, Early Intervention and Maine EHDI



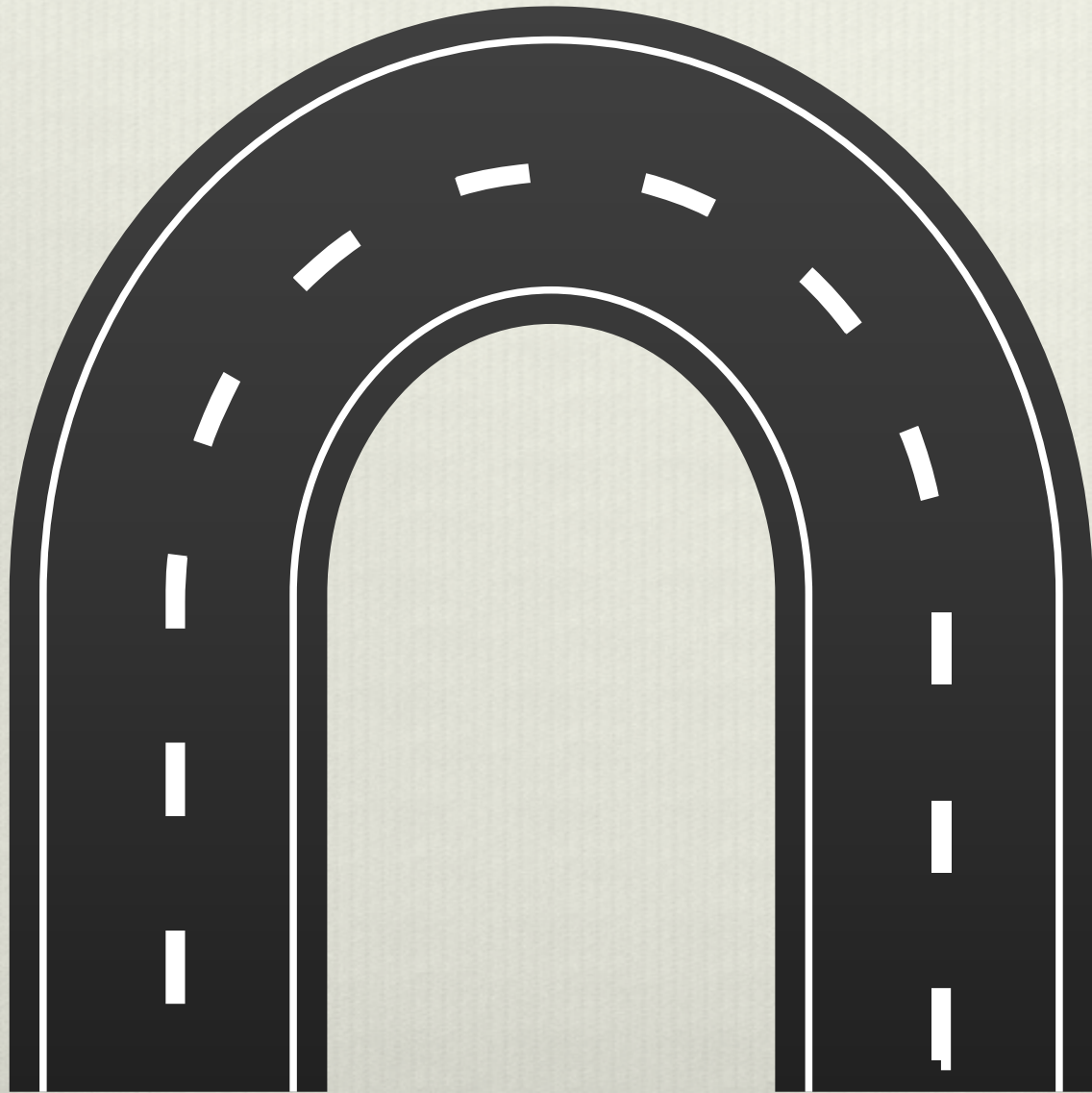
The Family's Journey



Windows of Opportunity for Referrals for Parent and Deaf/HH Guide Support



In the family journey, sometimes a complete U-Turn is embraced



What will their future be in your state?



How can you build a statewide system?



Start with what is in place already.....

Who are the EHDI players in your state?

- EHDI Coordinator
- Part C System
- EI providers
- Parents
- Deaf/Hard of Hearing Adults

Find your “experts”

Find your “open minded team”

- Build a team that will be the first point of contact
- **Traintrain....and train some more**
 - All Communication opportunities
 - Deaf/HH and Parent perspective
 - Cultural sensitivity
 - Hearing levels
 - Adult learning
 - Home visitation



Accept that this is a journey and a motto of “trial and error” is needed

- Start small
- Sometimes facilitators help
- Bring all perspectives to the table
- Be open to change
- Set up regional focus groups
- Be ready for several meetings
- Set short term and long range goals



Next Steps for Maine

Recognizing the need to collaborate even more

- HRSA Grant
- CDC Grant
- Program Collaboration
- Data Sharing – Focus on EI data
- MOU
- Deaf Plus Focus



Next Steps:

Needs Assessment

- Family Input

Training

New app, videos and communication opportunity visuals

- Physicians
- Early Interventionists
- Audiologists



Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning.”

Benjamin Franklin



A word cloud centered around the word "PERSEVERANCE". The word "PERSEVERANCE" is the largest and most prominent, written in a bold, serif font. Surrounding it are various related terms in different sizes and orientations, including "purpose", "dedication", "tenacity", "stamina", "patience", "achieve", "goals", "commitment", "strong", "achieve", "success", "doggedness", "endurance", "iron will", "goal", "persistence", "work", "steadfast", "grow", "stamina", "dedication", "grow", "patience", "stay the course", "success", "iron will", "endurance", "hard work", "persistence", "commit", "doggedness", "difficult", "stamina", "dedication", "grow", "patience", "stay the course", "success", "iron will", "endurance", "hard work", "persistence", "commit", "doggedness", "difficult", "stamina", "dedication", "grow", "patience", "stay the course", "success", "iron will", "endurance", "hard work", "persistence", "commit", "doggedness", "difficult".

Questions?



Karen Hopkins
karen.hopkins@mecdhh.org

Darlene Freeman
darlsfree@myfairpoint.net

Roy Fowler
roy.fowler@maine.gov

Anne Banger
anne.banger@maine.gov