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SERVICES

"Indiana children will live in safe, healthy and supportive families and communities."

Research and Evaluation
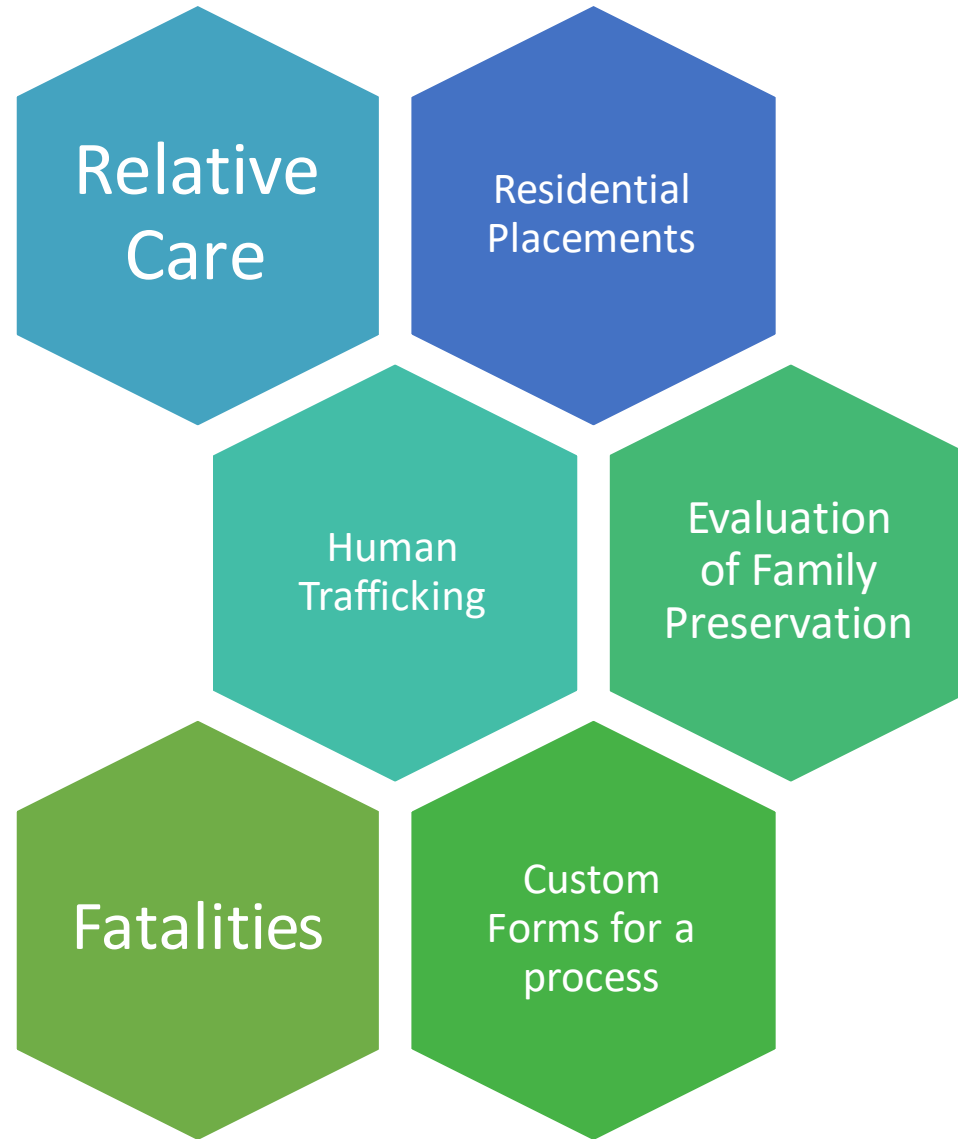
Aubrey Kearney, Brian Goodwin

Distinguishing Purpose

- Less operational

- More specific questions

- More actionable findings

Project Examples

Project Examples

What barriers are there to relatives becoming licensed foster parents?

Relative Care
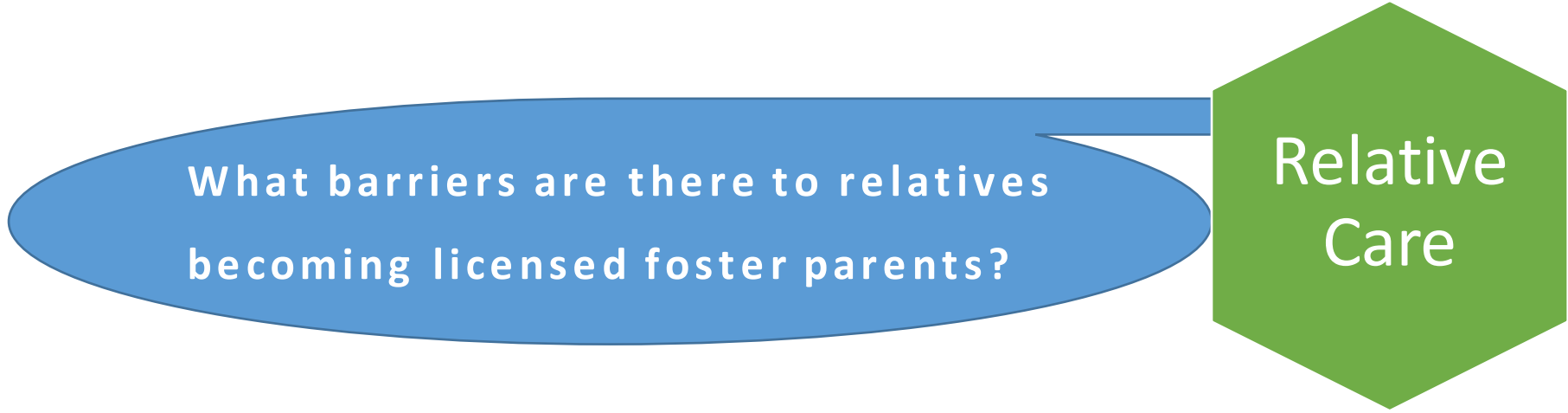
Residential Placements

Human Trafficking

Evaluation of Family Preservation

Fatalities

Custom Forms for a process

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Relative Care

What barriers are there to relatives becoming licensed foster parents?

- Administrative Data

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Relative Care

What barriers are there to relatives becoming licensed foster parents?

- Administrative Data
- Consult with stakeholders

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES

Relative Care

What barriers are there to relatives becoming licensed foster parents?

- Administrative Data
- Consult with stakeholders
- Explore qualitative data collection

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Example Evaluation: Family Preservation Services

What is Indiana Family Preservation Services? What is its goal?

Why are we evaluating the program?

Who are the "customers" of Family Preservation Services?
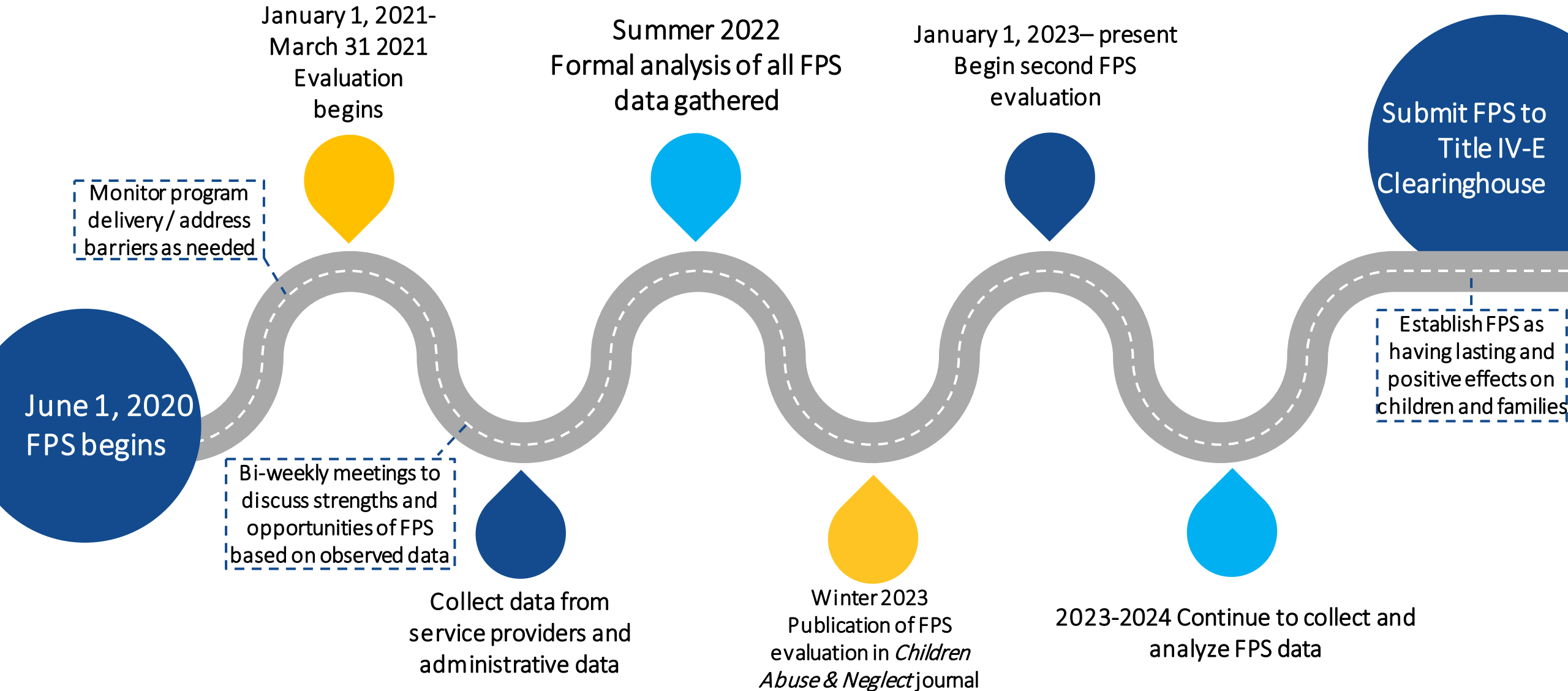
- ⭐ Families
- ⭐ Caseworkers
- ⭐ Providers

Evaluation of Family Preservation Services (FPS)

January 1, 2021-
March 31 2021
Evaluation
begins

Summer 2022
Formal analysis of all FPS
data gathered

January 1, 2023– present
Begin second FPS
evaluation

Submit FPS to
Title IV-E
Clearinghouse

Monitor program
delivery / address
barriers as needed

June 1, 2020
FPS begins

Establish FPS as
having lasting and
positive effects on
children and families

Bi-weekly meetings to
discuss strengths and
opportunities of FPS
based on observed data

Collect data from
service providers and
administrative data

Winter 2023
Publication of FPS
evaluation in *Children
Abuse & Neglect* journal

2023-2024 Continue to collect and
analyze FPS data

Evaluation of Family Preservation Services (FPS)

Quantitative Analyses

- **Data Sources**:
  - Administrative Data
  - Provider survey

- **Methodology**:
  - Track outcomes for approximately 1,000 families referred to FPS
  - Use data to determine if program is operating according to FPS service standard
  - Determine if FPS has positive effects on children/families

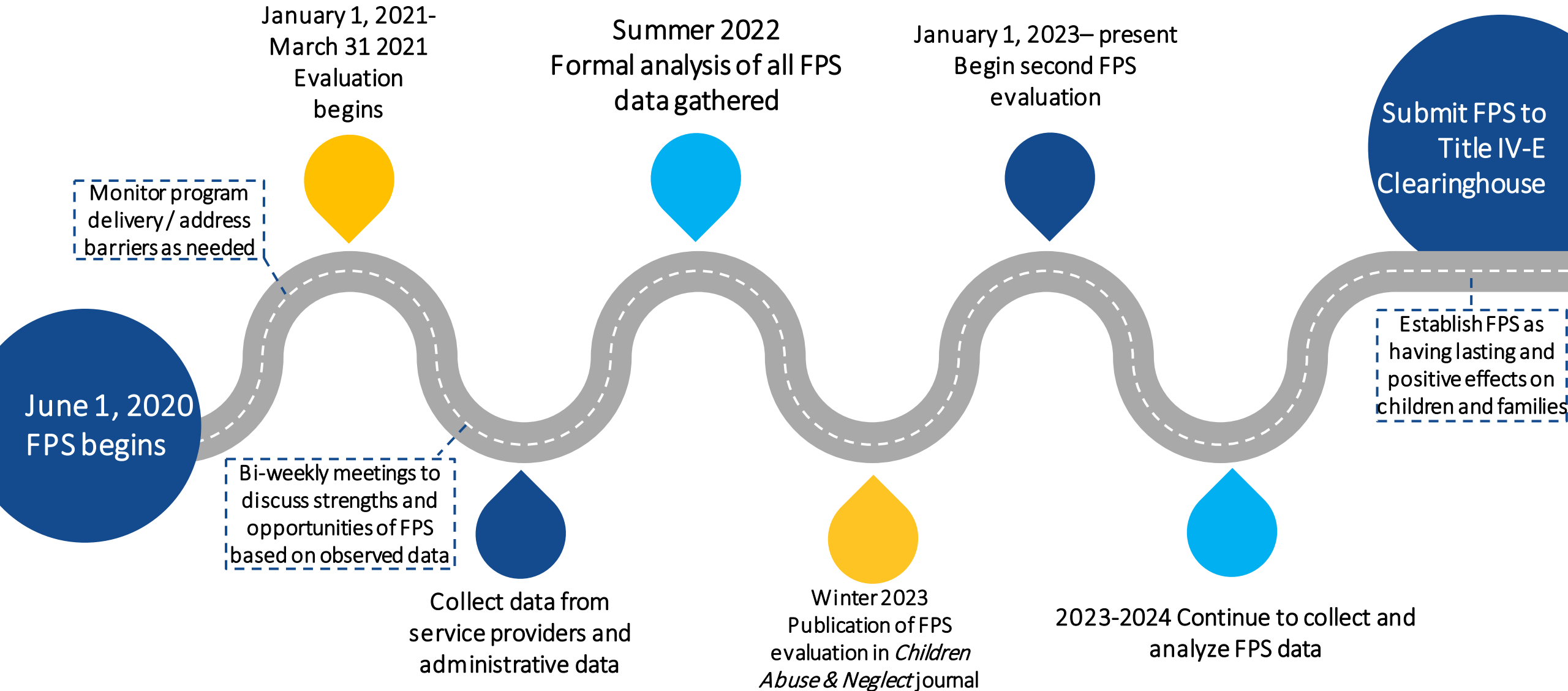## Qualitative Analyses

- **Data Sources**:
  - Service Provider Interviews
  - Caseworker Survey
  - Caseworker Interviews

- **Methodology**:
  - Understand the perspectives of service providers and caseworkers on FPS
  - Code individual responses to identify trends and themes regarding FPS

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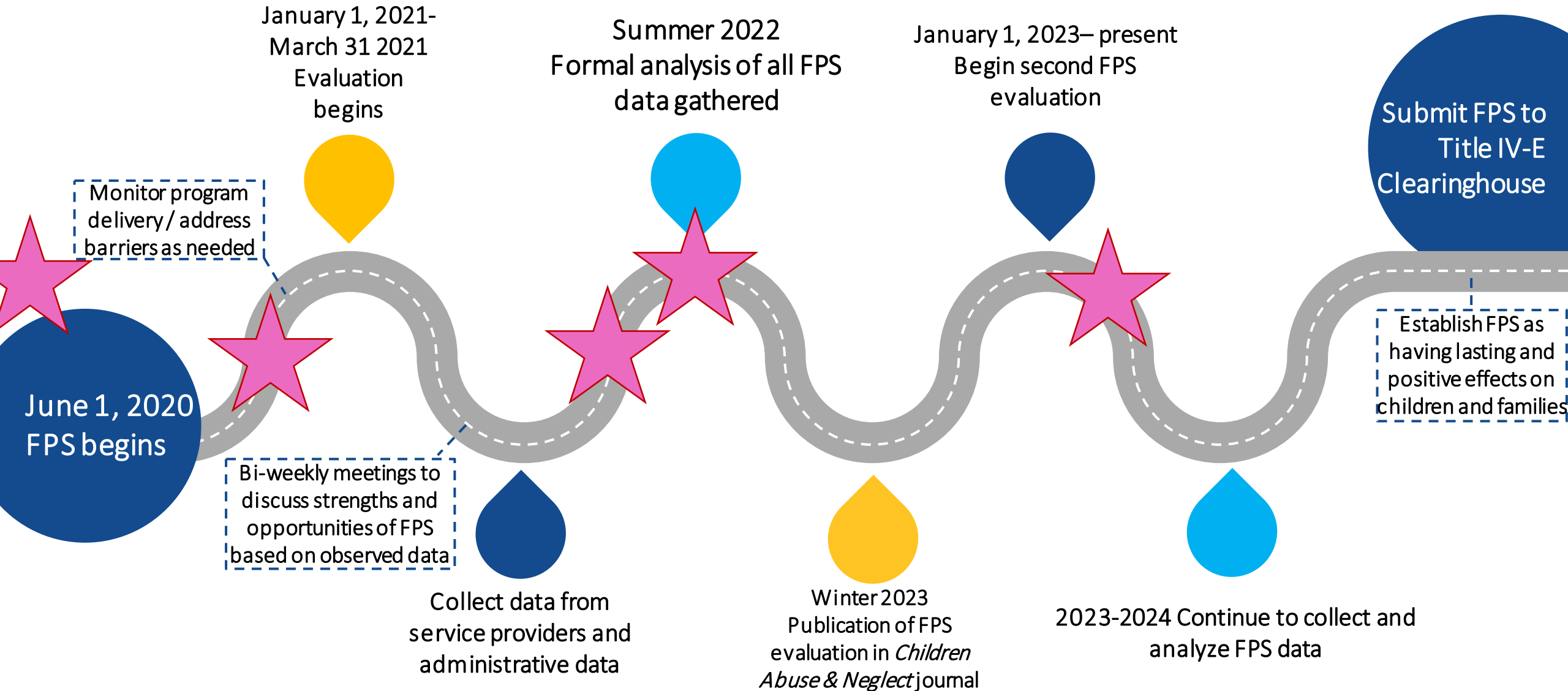# Evaluation of Family Preservation Services (FPS)

Future Steps of the FPS Evaluation

- Integrate state-wide Medicaid data with existing data

- Establish a new evaluation population that focuses on children/families that have had no prior involvement with DCS

- Ongoing interviews with Providers, FCM's, and Families through an existing (and evergreen) improvement process

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Continuous Quality Improvement
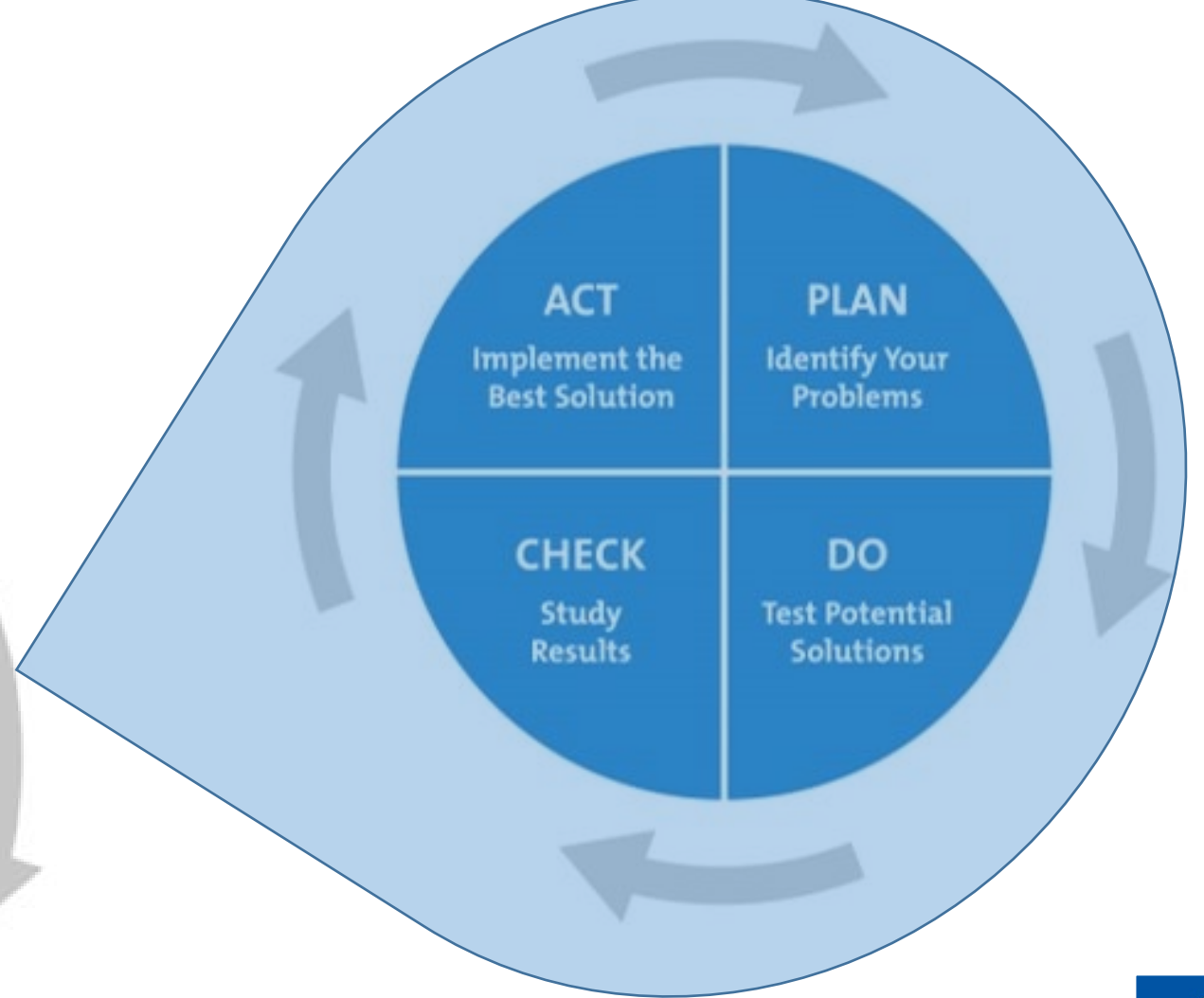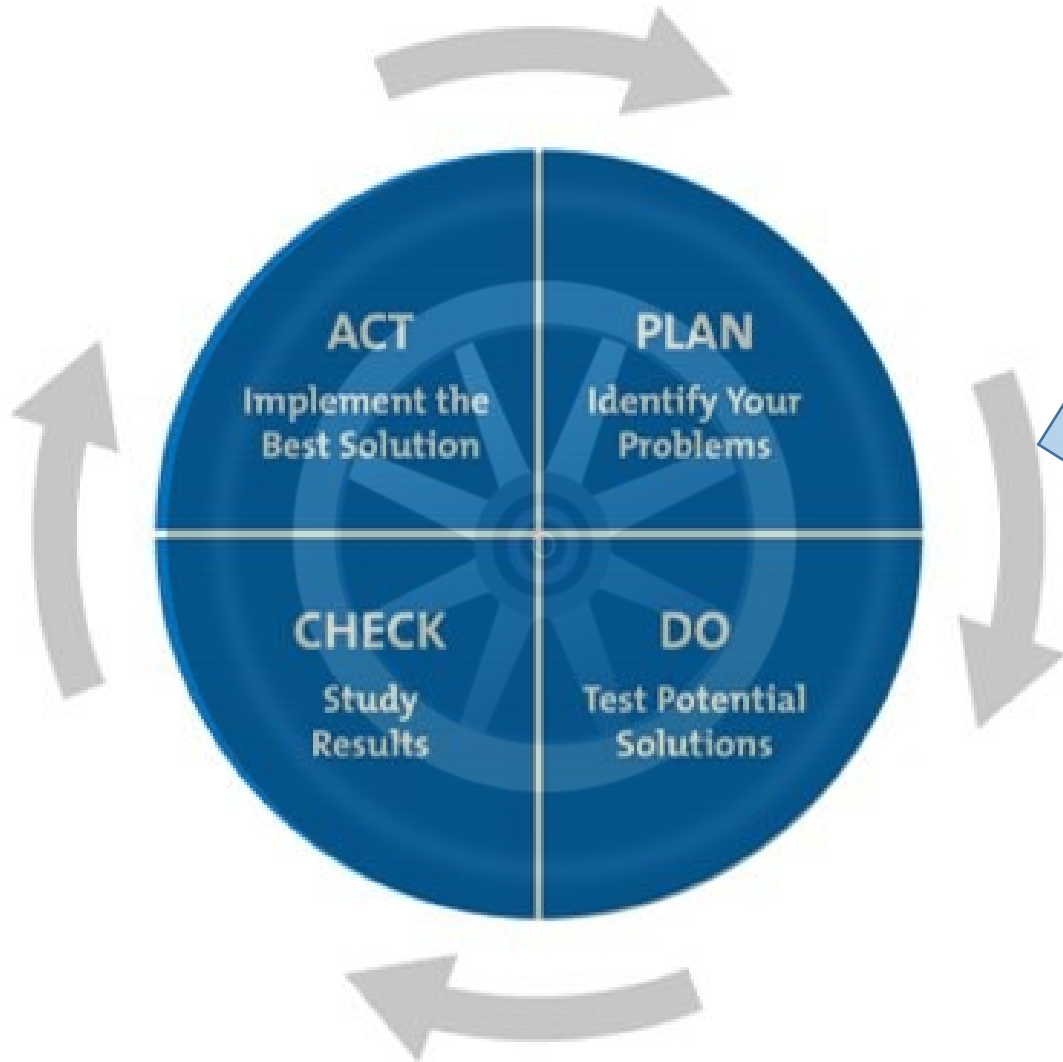
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