

Intermediate: Using Data to Tell the Story of Your Work

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EdRedesign
OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

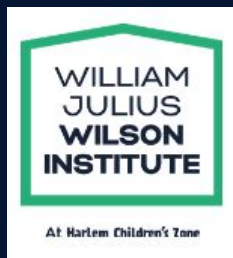


#PowerofPlace

Measuring Impact Breakout Series: Using Data to Tell the Story of Your Work


Summer Institute

July 10, 2025







 RESULTS FOR AMERICA	1	11	21	31	41	51	61	71	81	91
	2	12	22	32	42	52	62	72	82	92
	3	13	23	33	43	53	63	73	83	93
	4	14	24	34	44	54	64	74	84	94
	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75	85	95
	6	16	26	36	46	56	66	76	86	96
	7	17	27	37	47	57	67	77	87	97
	8	18	28	38	48	58	68	78	88	98
	9	19	29	39	49	59	69	79	89	99
	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100



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10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

More than \$1 Trillion

2%



Results for America's mission is to **make investing in what works the “new normal”** so that government decision makers will regularly and effectively use evidence and data to increase the impact of the \$1 trillion+ that governments spend each year to accelerate economic opportunity.

How do you move from making decisions with this level of information...

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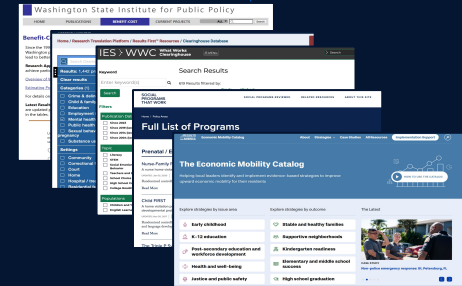
To making decisions with evidence....

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10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100



That will lead to improved outcomes...?

2015-2016 Budget Request Summary									
Agency	Program	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10



Three key ways state governments channel funds locally...



**Grants and
Contracts**



Budgets



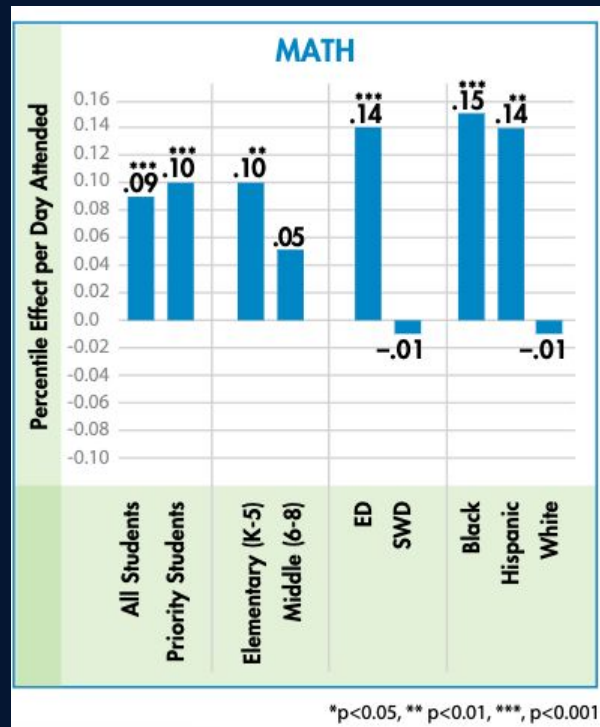
**Direct
Services**

Example 1: Evidence Can Improve Community Outcomes

Tennessee improved student outcomes

Students who attended the full summer math learning session performed two percentiles higher on their fall math benchmark.

Statistically significant improvement in school attendance for session participants, too!



This didn't just happen, it was purposeful.

Well-intentioned with “teeth”

[A summer] "learning loss bridge camp" means a four-week educational program.... [that] must provide, at a minimum, the following: Four (4) combined hours of in-person daily instruction,...

Instruction...must be provided by a teacher licensed and endorsed to teach the subjects using instructional materials adopted by the state board of education or provided by the department.

Example 2: Evidence Can Improve Community Outcomes

Maryland's 2024 *ENOUGH* grant program notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) awards up to 5 bonus points for proposing programs with evidence of effectiveness.

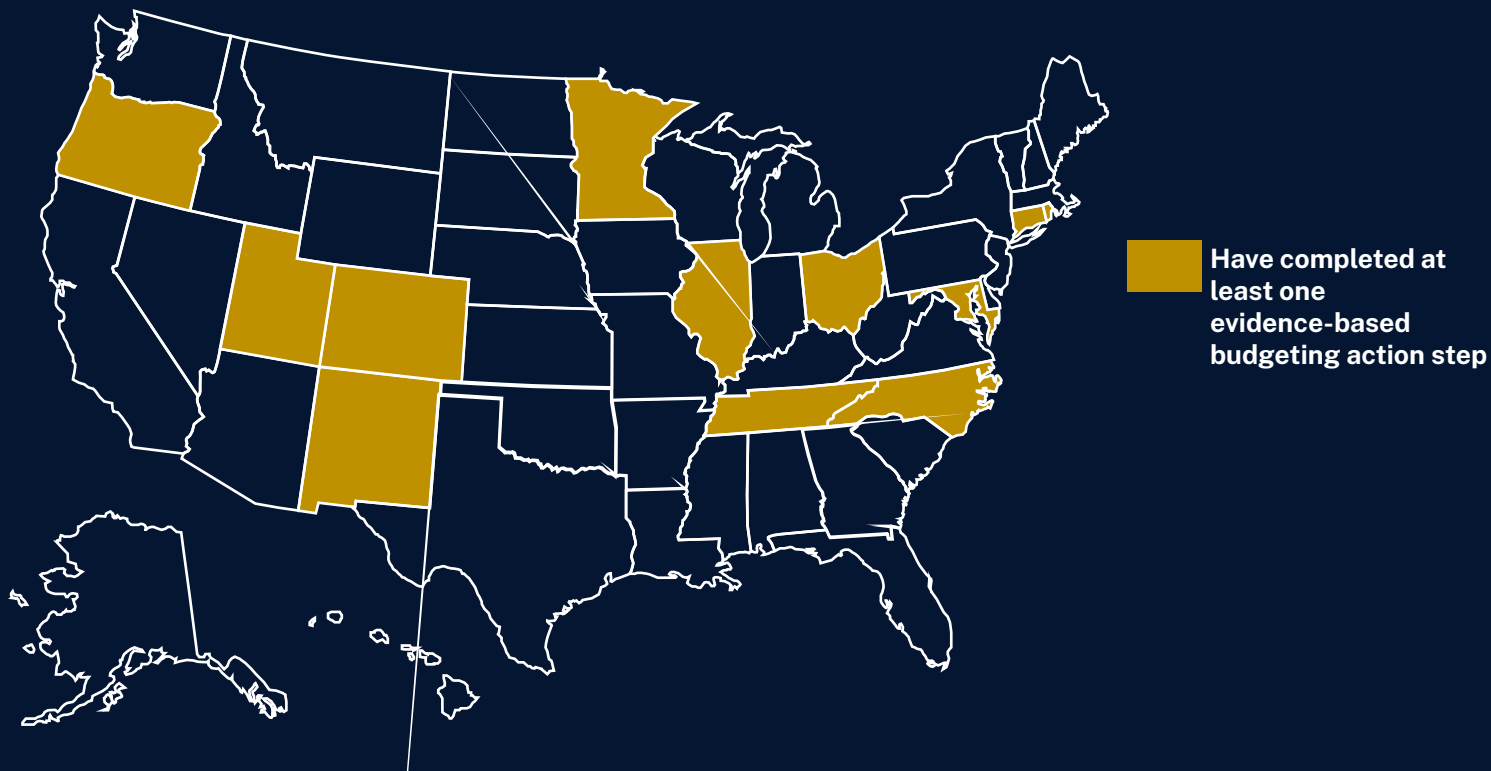
2.5 Evidence-Based Programs and Models

The ENOUGH Grant Program invites applicants to apply a comprehensive approach to addressing childhood and inter-generational poverty across multiple sectors and systems, as well as focused interventions that reach the majority of young people in a community and, specifically, impact children living in poverty. Research-informed frameworks like [Collective Impact](#), [Targeted Universalism](#), the federal government's [Places & People Thriving Approach](#), and the Urban Institute's [Upward Mobility Framework](#) can provide best practices, strategies, and tactics for designing an integrated approach aligned with the ENOUGH Theory of Action.

For **Track 3: Implementation**, **priority points will be awarded** to applications that demonstrate which interventions in the proposed Neighborhood Action Plan are informed by research and are thus, evidence-based. "Evidence-based" means that there is evidence from an experimental or quasi-experimental study that a project component has been effective in improving a relevant outcome with similar populations or in similar settings. Track 3: Implementation applicants must submit the [Evidence-Based Programs Table](#) with their application to receive bonus points.

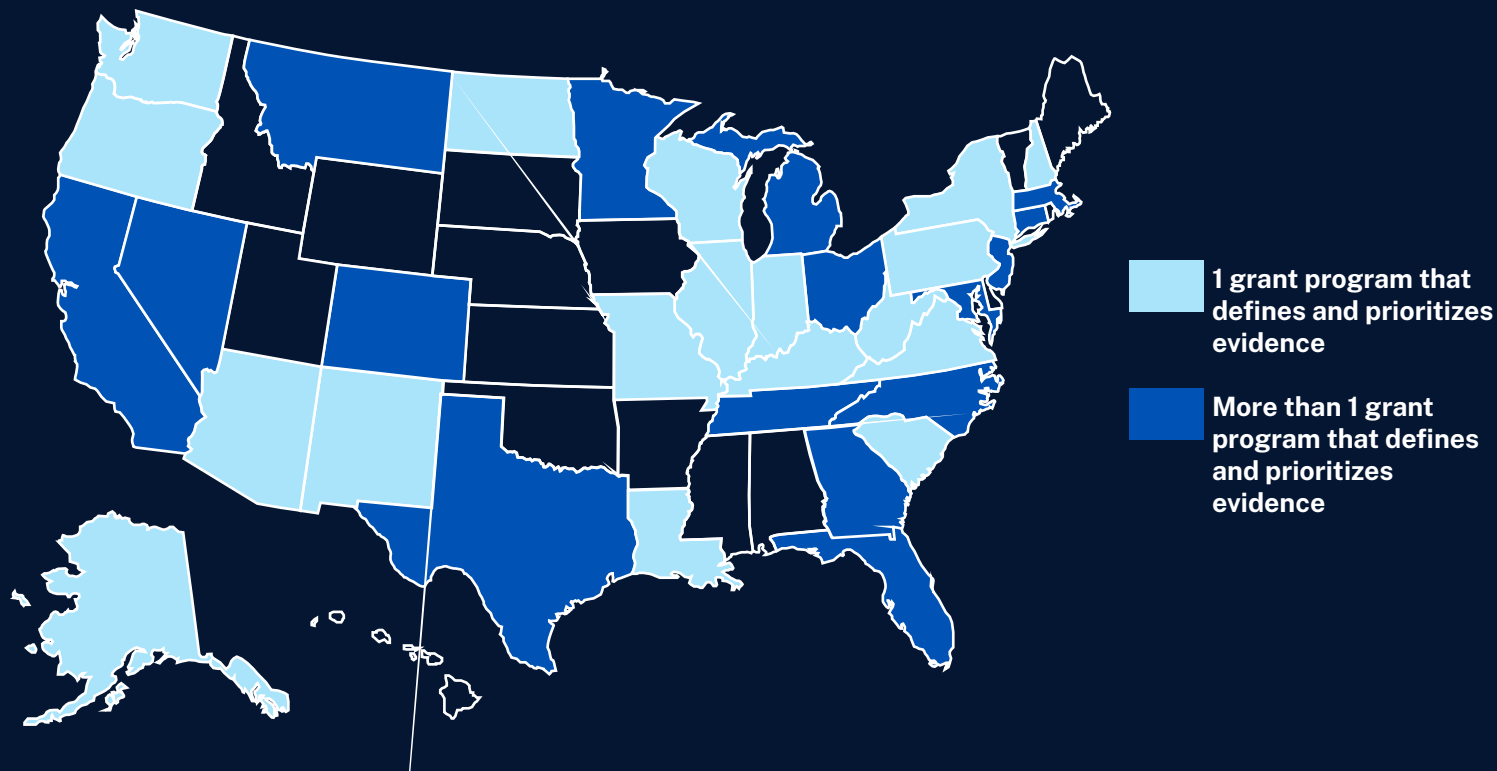
Sources of evidence include (among others): programs rated as "evidence-based" in government clearinghouses, rigorous evaluation and research findings, academic literature, professional or academic convening reports, government publications, and empirically robust research briefs. See [Appendix G](#) for clearinghouse resources focused on identifying and evaluating evidence-based programs.

12 states have a budgeting process that incorporates evidence



As of April 2025

36 States have at least one grant program that requires or prioritizes evidence AND supports cradle to career outcomes



As of April 2025

What you can do

1. Find and use evidence to get a competitive advantage
2. Align with state government context

1. Find and use evidence to get a competitive advantage

It's a tricky political environment, but **policymakers continue to say they want evidence...**

- In one state's survey, **97% of legislative and executive branch policymakers** reported that having access to program effectiveness data is an important part of their decision-making.
But only about **half** were satisfied with the information they currently have access to.
- A multi-state experiment showed that state decision-makers are **22% more likely** to support a program that is evidence-based and labeled as such.

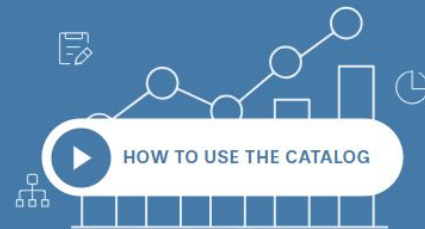
Sources of Evidence

Sources of evidence include (among others):
agency-sponsored evaluation, evidence-based
research clearinghouses, academic research
institutions, peer-reviewed journals, information
from other states, local pilot programs, and your own
agency research and data



The Economic Mobility Catalog

Helping local leaders identify and implement evidence-based strategies to improve upward economic mobility for their residents



Explore strategies by issue area



Early childhood



K-12 education



**Post-secondary education and
workforce development**



Health and well-being

Explore strategies by outcome



Stable and healthy families



Supportive neighborhoods



Kindergarten readiness



**Elementary and middle school
success**











The Latest



CASE STUDY

New teacher induction programming: Cedar Rapids, IA

Evidence-based strategies

▲ Strategy	Description	Outcome Areas
Afterschool programs	Academic and/or enrichment programming for children outside of school hours	 Elementary and middle school success  High school graduation
Charter schools	Publicly funded, privately operated schools that seek to use greater autonomy to improve student outcomes	 Elementary and middle school success  High school graduation
Educator recruitment and retention	Hiring, training, and retaining effective and high-quality teachers and school leaders	 Elementary and middle school success  High school graduation  High-quality employment
Literacy curricula and interventions	Helping students build the skills they need to read and write at grade level	 Elementary and middle school success  High school graduation
Math curricula and interventions	Helping K-12 students develop math skills, knowledge, and problem-solving	 Elementary and middle school success

Afterschool programs

Overview

Evidence

Indicators

Design Attributes

Equity Considerations

Stakeholders

Implementation Best Practices

Measuring success

Resources

Examples

Evidence-based examples

▲ Program

Outcome Area

▼ Evidence ⓘ

Higher Achievement

Higher Achievement is an afterschool program for students in grades 5–8.

📖 [Elementary and middle school success](#)

Individually-adapted physical activity programs

Helping children and adults build behavioral skills and social support systems to encourage physical activity

❤️ [Stable and healthy families](#)

Options for considering evidence-based programs

- A. **Identify** evidence for existing programs
- B. **Modify** existing programs to make them evidence-based
- C. **Find** new evidence-based programs
- D. **Build** new evidence-based programs

A. Identify evidence for existing programs

Example

An organization is implementing a summer learning program. They find that their program has the same core components as the evidence-based summer learning program in the Results First Clearinghouse Database.

Task Force Recommendations

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Sed ut perspiciatis: unde omnis iste natus error sit voluptatem.

Neque porro quisquam: est qui dolorem ipsum quia dolor sit amet.

Ut enim ad: minima veniam, quis nostrum exercitationem ullam corporis.

Duis aute irure: dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum.

Excepteur sint occaecat: cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia.

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Task Force Recommendations

★**Lorem ipsum dolor:** sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit in gravida.

Sed ut perspiciatis: unde omnis iste natus error sit voluptatem.

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★**Duis aute irure:** dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum.

Excepteur sint occaecat: cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia.

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★ = Recommendations that meet the state's definition of evidence (as defined in Sec. 123B)

B. Modify existing programs to make them evidence-based

Example

An organization is implementing an afterschool program, but it's not exactly like the evidence-based programs in the RFA Economic Mobility Catalog. So they adapt the program to have the same core components as an evidence-based afterschool program.

Education Grant Proposal

....“We plan to implement a tutoring program for 3rd graders”....

Education Grant Proposal

....“We plan to implement an **evidence-based high-impact** tutoring program for 3rd graders. This model includes all core elements identified by EdReserach for Action as being critical to seeing academic achievement:

- **three or more sessions per week**
- **fewer than four students at a time**
- **delivered in person during the school day**
- **with properly trained and supported instructors” ...**

C. Find new evidence-based programs

Example

An organization wants to propose a program to improve adolescent literacy as part of their grant application. They find the evidence-based Intelligent Tutoring for Structure Strategy program in the U.S. Department of Education What Works Clearinghouse.

D. Build new evidence-based programs

Example

The Job Train Squared is showing positive results but it has not yet been rigorously evaluated. They reach out to LEO Lab at Notre Dame (or JPAL, Arnold Ventures) who conducts a no-cost impact evaluation of the program. The evaluation shows Job Train Squared graduates earn 15% more than people who do not participate.

2. Align with state government context

- Learn the **budget clock**. Most state budgets are set into motion months before public debate even begins.
- Request and read **last year's NOFO/RFP** before pitching anything new. Scan last year's scorecard for where the points were and weren't.
- Get 1:1 time with a mid-level gatekeeper – **they shape the language before leadership signs off.**

- Map when key units (like procurement or finance) make decisions and **get your solutions baked in** via internal memos, budget justifications, or grant criteria.
- **Influence the “middle” of the organization** such policy advisors and legal reviewers – who often translate intent into policy.
- Pendulum swings: Implementation shifts are often tied to new leadership, a news story, etc

- System-wide changes like **new eligibility rules, scoring formulas, or evaluation criteria** happen when you have demonstrated value and have built trust
- Precision-timed policy tweaks → budget language → statewide outcomes
- Pendulum swings: Implementation shifts are often tied to new leadership, a news story, etc
 - *When the pendulum swings, be the one holding the map.*

We Help States Put Data & Evidence to Work

More than ever, it's imperative that public dollars are spent efficiently. At Results for America, our **no-cost**, bipartisan ***Shifting Dollars Technical Assistance***SM helps teach leaders at all levels of government how to **Invest in What Works** and deliver impactful, positive outcomes for their residents.

Email: states@results4america.org to get started.

Evidence of Impact

Summer Institute

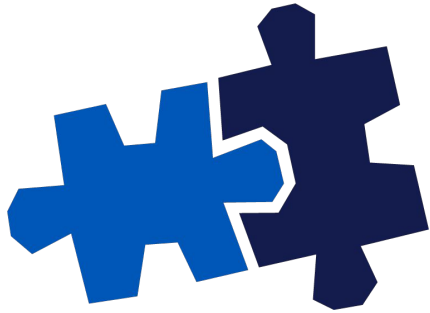
July 10, 2025



At Harlem Children's Zone

Proactively Identifying Indicators of Impact

Pre-determined measures of outcomes and impacts should be

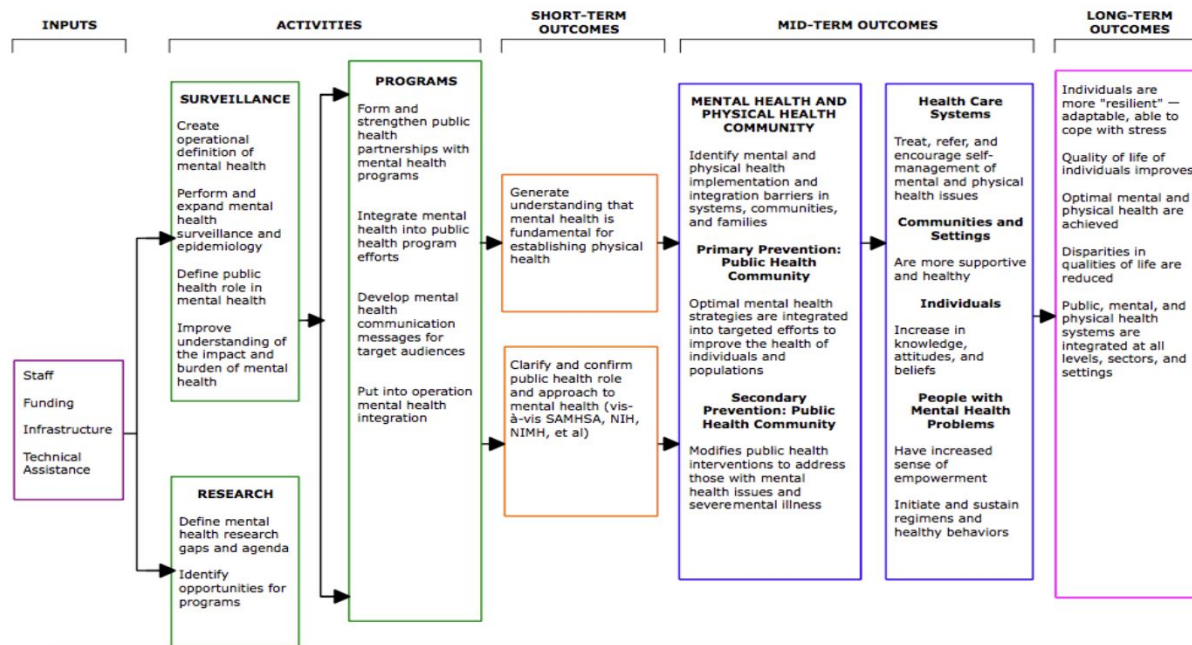


Aligned to activities



Informed by evidence

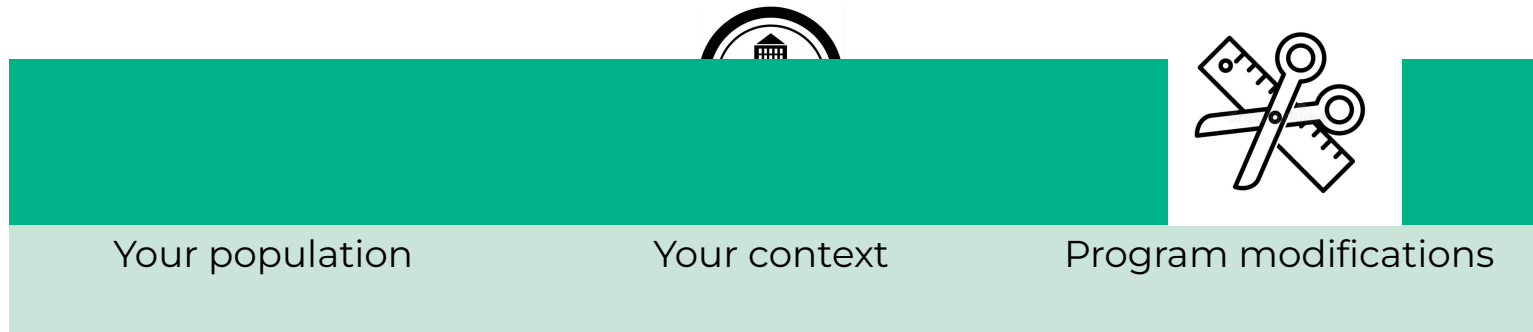
Logic Models as a Mechanism for Alignment



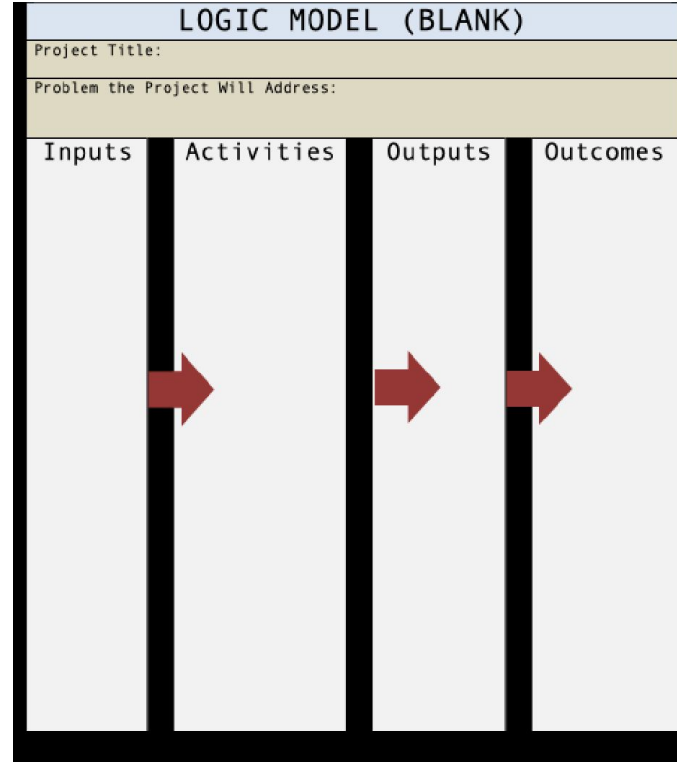
Key Components of a Logic Model

- Inputs, resources, infrastructure
- Activities or interventions
- Outputs
- Outcomes, effects, impacts: short-, medium-, long-term

Consider:



Activity



—
Thank you!

RESULTS

FOR AMERICA



Appendix

Grant programs that define and prioritize evidence

Well-intentioned

“Each grant recipient must....Ensure implementation of early literacy evidence-based structured literacy practices with fidelity.”

Well-intentioned with “teeth”

Applicants must describe which category of evidence most closely aligns with their proposed project. Refer to Appendix A for the defined categories of evidence. (5 points)

Appendix A

Strong evidence: meaning at least two evaluation reports have demonstrated that an intervention ... with different populations...using a well-designed and well-implemented experimental design evaluation (i.e., Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT)) or a quasi-experimental design evaluation (QED)...

Moderate evidence: meaning at least one evaluation report has demonstrated that an intervention....has been tested using a well-designed and well-implemented experimental or quasi-experimental design