

USING DATA TO INFORM POLICY DEVELOPMENT

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Why Collect and Use Data?

1. Self monitoring and quality improvement
2. Access funding and support
3. Advocacy and policy development efforts

Using Data for Self Monitoring and Quality Improvement

1. Identify need for services
 - What is the problem?
2. Monitor reach and extent of services
 - Am I reaching my target population?
3. Track quality indicators over time or across provider/service
 - Do providers with a college degree have a better client retention rate than providers without a college degree?
4. Track outcomes over time or across provider/service
 - Does the proportion of children hitting developmental milestones increase from intake to 12 months in program?

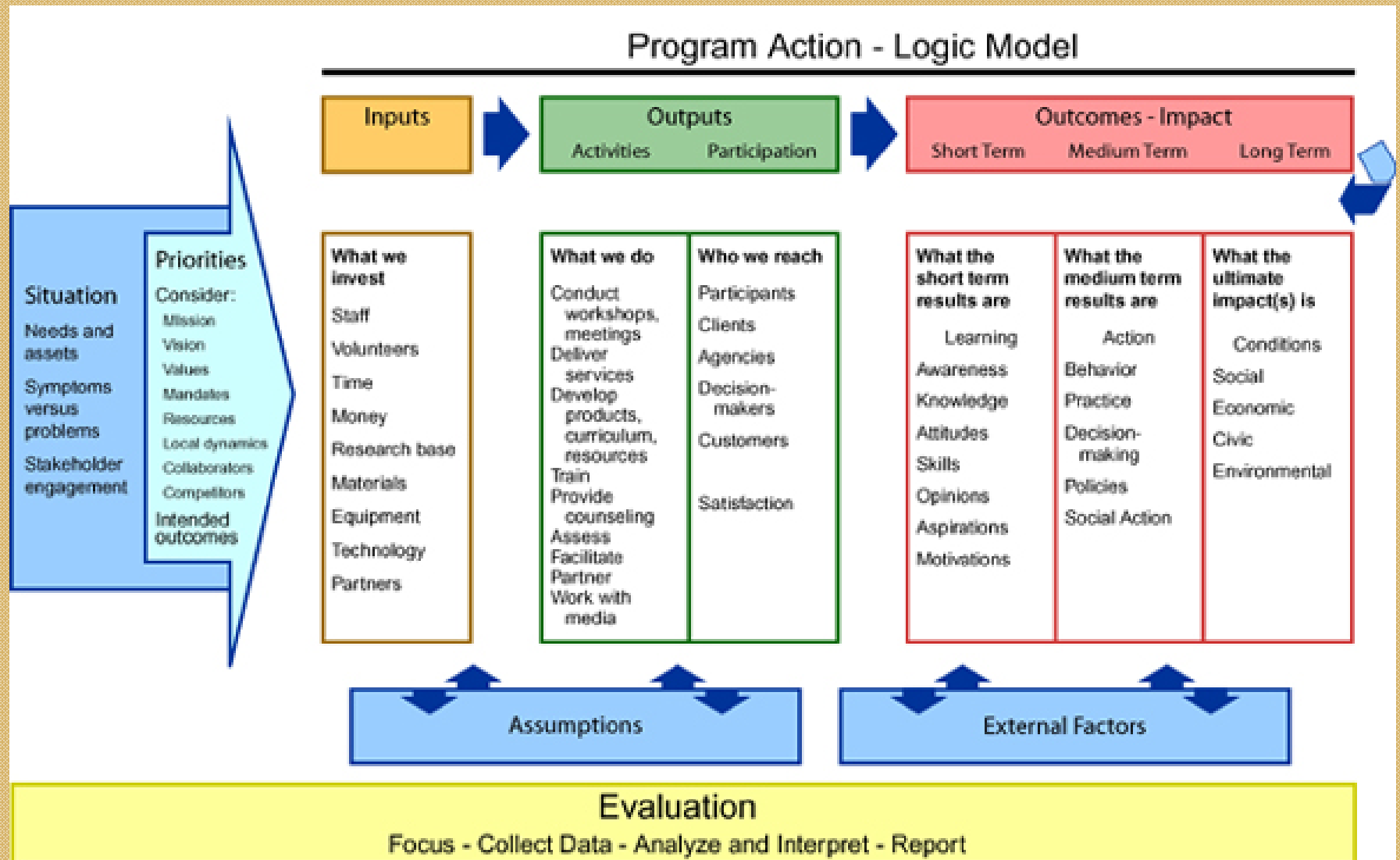
Using Data for Accessing Funding and Support

1. Providing initial evidence for funding proposals
 - Importance/relevance of issue
 - Reach of programs
 - Improvement of outcomes
2. Providing evidence of meeting eligibility requirements
 - Staff qualifications
 - Quality indicators
 - Client characteristics

Using Data for Advocacy and Policy Development Efforts

- Evidence of
 - Scope of problem
 - Location of problem
 - Successful solutions
 - Inhibitors to solutions

Mapping Data to Logic Model





Where & How to Access Data

- Exploiting current systems to build data
- Building new data systems
- Accessing other extant data sources

Exploiting Current Systems to Build Data

- Intake process
- Ongoing staff-client interactions
- Follow-ups

Building New Data Systems

Return to Logic Model: What do you need to know to show reaching goals?

- What pieces of the model are not being measured?
- Identify valid, reliable measures
- Develop systems to collect and record data

Other Extant Data Sources

- Administrative records
 - Public schools
 - City records
 - Federal records
- Federal surveys; national statistics
- Challenges and issues
 - MOUs, IRBs, other approvals
 - Confidentiality
 - Matching

Data Quality and Research Designs

- Descriptive data
- Prospective/comparative data
- Rigorous quasi-experimental designs
- Randomized controlled trials (RCTs)

Accessing Support & Collaborators for Data Collection and Analysis

- Universities
- Consulting firms
- Government agencies
- Community organizations

