Teresa Derrick-Mills
CCEEPRC Breakout Session on “Capacity-Building in Research-Policy Partnerships: Lessons from the Field”
April 17, 2019
Background

- Center for CCDBG Implementation Research
- Funded by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE)
- Urban Institute supports CCDF Lead Agencies and research partners
## Roles of Research and Evaluation for Lead Agencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative Stage</th>
<th>Research Questions to Ask</th>
<th>Research Approach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planning</td>
<td>What is the problem? How might this initiative help?</td>
<td>Exploratory research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Launching</td>
<td>Is it feasible and appropriate?</td>
<td>Formative evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementing</td>
<td>How well is it operating?</td>
<td>Process evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessing</td>
<td>What was the effect of the initiative? Do the benefits outweigh the costs?</td>
<td>Summative/impact evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Benefit-cost analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refining</td>
<td>Is it sustainable? How can it be improved?</td>
<td>Applying research to decision-making</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dimensions of Organizational Evaluation Capacity

**Human Resources**
- Staffing
- Technical Skills
- Communication Skills
- Professional Development
- Leadership

**Organizational Resources**
- Budget
- Ongoing Data Collection
- Infrastructure

**Evaluation Planning**
- Evaluation Plan
- Use of Consultants
- Information Sharing
- Organizational Linkages
- External Supports

**Evaluative Literacy**
- Results-Management Orientation
- Involvement/Participation

**Organizational Decision-Making**
- Management Processes
- Decision Support

**Learning benefits**
- Instrumental/Conceptual Use
- Process Use


**Graphic from:** Simmons, Louise. 2015. *Building Evaluation Capacity in Ontario’s Public Health Units.*
## Support Agencies in Building Capacity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Domain Total</th>
<th>Number of Items</th>
<th>Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Does our organization value research use?</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Have we made an organizational commitment to research and evaluation?</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Do our decisionmaking processes have a place for research?</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Do program managers participate in research and evaluation activities?</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Have we defined key indicators and data sources for performance measurement?</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Do we have the necessary research knowledge and technical skills?</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Do we have mechanisms in place to effectively communicate our research?</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>+</td>
<td>39</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Contact

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