

TOOLS to EVALUATE YOUR COALITION

Introduction

Evaluation will help you to:

- ▶ Know whether your coalition is **making a difference**, and how;
- ▶ Make adjustments to **maximize results**;
- ▶ Become **aware** of unanticipated consequences;
- ▶ Better **communicate** the value of your work;
- ▶ **Focus** on your work;
- ▶ Build organizational **resilience**;
- ▶ Understand **why** key elements are working;
- ▶ Be accountable to funders, supervisors, and boards.

What are these tools for?

They provide information to help you understand and evaluate work done by the coalition.

Evaluation Tool #1: **Coalition Development**

Are you developing a strong coalition?

Evaluation Tool #2: **Established Coalition**

Are individuals and groups in your coalition creating the conditions to support the change you want?

Evaluation Tool #3: **Mature Coalition**

What difference did it make for people and groups served by your partners?

General tips

Scope and focus of the evaluation are determined by partners' most pressing information needs and questions at the time. Thus, it is normal for evaluation to evolve over time. Early on, partner engagement will be important to measure. However, as your coalition matures, it may be more important to measure who is doing what differently as a result of your coalition.

More evaluation is not necessarily better. Consider what you need to know vs. what is nice to know.

References

Guide to Evaluating Collective Impact (FSG)

<http://www.fsg.org/publications/guide-evaluating-collective-impact>

Surveys from Corry Bregendahl, Arlene Enderton, and Teresa Wiemerslage ISU Extension and Outreach

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