BUILDING EVALUATION WITH LOGIC MODELS

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ITDC 101 (CTLT’s Resource Commons)
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*Parts of the presentation adapted from Diane Renn, College of Education*
After attending this session, you will be able to:

– Describe the benefits of using a Logic Model (for planning and for assessment).

– Explain the elements of a Logic Model.

– Draft a Logic Model.
Apple a Day Wellness Program

Apples & other info delivered to students → Apples eaten → Info read → Improved student health

Program idea from *Purposeful Program Theory*, by Sue Funnell & Patricia Rogers
The “If → Then” Connections

- IF certain inputs are available...
- THEN certain activities/interventions can take place;
- IF these interventions occur...
- THEN certain outputs will be seen; and
- IF the interventions are effective...
- THEN certain outcomes will be attained.

Finally, what we learn from the outputs and outcomes can be used to improve the intervention.
Logic Model Parts

Available resources & inputs

If you have access to resources & inputs, then you can implement activities

Resources Inputs

Activities

If you implement activities, then a quantity will be produced

Outputs

If a quantity is produced, then participants will benefit in some way

Outcomes

If those benefits are achieved, then changes in participants will occur

Impact

Your Planned Work

Your Intended Results

www.assessment.ilstu.edu, 3/2/2016, 10-11 a.m.
Apple a Day Program Logic Model

Available resources & inputs

If you have access to resources & inputs, then you can implement activities

Apples, Information

Deliver apples & info

If you implement activities, then a quantity will be produced

Apples eaten
Access to info + Rec center
Monitor cal

If a quantity is produced, then participants will benefit in some way

Improved health

If those benefits are achieved, then changes in participants will occur

Changes in lifestyle

Your Planned Work

Your Intended Results

www.assessment.ilstu.edu, 3/2/2016, 10-11 a.m.
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Building the Logic Model

Start with the Theory of Change

Students witness improved learning gains when they are healthy.

Write the issue/problem statement.
Logic Models & Evaluation

A logic model is not:

- An evaluation (by itself).
- A strategic plan.
- An assessment plan.

It can be used for Program Theory Evaluation
Apple a Day Wellness Program

INPUTS: Apples & other info delivered to students

ACTIVITIES: Apples eaten, information read

Evaluation Findings: Variations in health by residence hall – some got healthier, some stayed the same, others got worse.
Apple a Day Wellness Program

Evaluation Findings: Variations in health by residence hall – some got healthier, some stayed the same, others got worse.

INPUTS: Apples & other info delivered to students

ACTIVITIES: Apples eaten, information read

OUTPUTS: # of deliveries, # of printed brochures
Apple a Day Wellness Program

INPUTS: Apples & other info delivered to students

ACTIVITIES: Apples eaten, information read

OUTCOMES: Improved health

Evaluation Findings: Variations in health by residence hall – some got healthier, some stayed the same, others got worse.
Apple a Day Wellness Program

Evaluation Findings: Variations in health by residence hall – some got healthier, some stayed the same, others got worse.
Key Ideas

Do not ignore unintended results.
Include stakeholders.
Just because you can build a logic model doesn’t mean the program is logical.
Do not treat the model as a simple, closed system.
Don’t just measure the building blocks – also focus on the relationships between them (the arrows).
Remember context and assumptions.
Representation Ideas

Avoid dead ends.
Make sure the arrows are meaningful (‘the dash’).
Don’t make it too messy.
Avoid trigger words or acronyms.
Consider the pros and cons of different modes of representation (left to right, circular, etc.).