

Key Terms and Concepts In Logic Models

Activities – The tools, processes, events and actions that are undertaken to achieve the intended outcomes of the project, e.g. parent workshops, logic model training, and dental screening.

Assumptions/Guiding principles/Values – The values and biases that influence the focus of the work and/or the way in which the work is done, e.g. parents are a child's first and best teacher, diversity should be celebrated.

Contextual factors – Factors external to the project which may affect its effectiveness, and the intended outputs and outcomes, e.g. state budget, local policies, skill base of workforce.

Data sources – The resource from which the indicators will be tracked, e.g. parent surveys, databases, standardized tests.

Goals – Statements of optimal well-being or ideal condition. They are strength based and usually require the efforts of more than one program or agency, e.g. all children are healthy, seniors live independently, and communities are supportive and self-sufficient.

Indicators – Quantifiable proxies of the intended changes, which are sometimes referred to as measures, e.g. number/percentage of children with health insurance, percentage of participants who demonstrate improved knowledge.

Inputs – Human, financial, organizational, and community resources available to direct toward doing the work, e.g. staffing, in-kind volunteers and revenues.

Objectives – Measurable steps demonstrating progress towards expected change/outcomes.

Outputs – Direct products of program activities, including types, levels, and targets of services, e.g. number of trainings, number of people reached through workshops, client caseload, community members attending an event.

Outcomes – Specific changes resulting from the project. They can be at the individual, organizational, community and system level, e.g. X community is safe, parents have knowledge of and access to community resources. Types of outcomes:

- Short Term (1-3 years)
- Interim (4-6 years)
- Long Term Impact (7-10 years)

Problems/Issues – The specific reason why a particular effort was undertaken. Tends to be need based, e.g. increasing risky behavior among adolescents, poor birth outcomes, access to health care.

Strategies – Groups of activities which reflect a pattern of action and behavior, e.g. parent education and training, community engagement, and public education.