



Funder-Sponsored Evaluation Capacity Building for Community-Based Organizations

Community-based organizations (CBOs), although uniquely positioned to deliver services and promote health in local contexts, face many barriers to designing and implementing meaningful program evaluation. Furthermore, local grant foundations often do not require rigorous evaluation of funded programs, thereby disincentivizing evaluation when resources are limited. To address this issue, a unique partnership was established between The Chicago Community Trust and The Sinai Urban Health Institute (SUHI) to provide evaluation capacity building for funded CBOs implementing obesity prevention programs in Chicago.

SHORT-TERM GOAL

To provide CBOs with the tools and training necessary to evaluate program effectiveness.

LONG-TERM GOAL

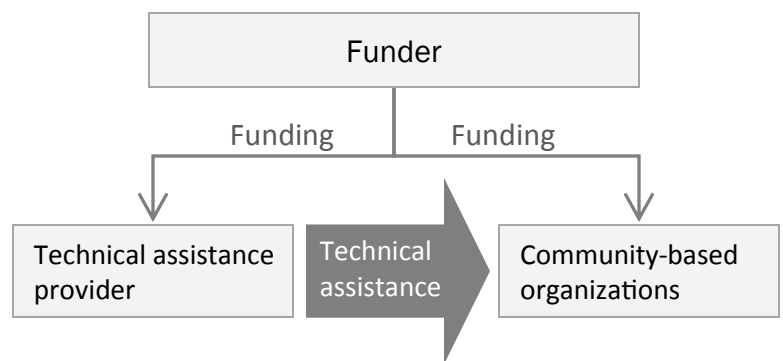
To implement a sustainable evaluation framework by which CBOs can use meaningful program evaluation in order to successfully report accurate data, improve programming, and seek funding.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE STRATEGIES

We recognize CBOs have varying levels of evaluation knowledge and skills, and therefore tailored our technical assistance to the specific needs of each CBO. This approach involved a combination of general evaluation trainings and intensive individual support.

We provided the following support and deliverables from 2013 to 2015 for over 20 CBOs:

FUNDING STRUCTURE



Individual Support

- Meetings, conference calls, emails
- Over 60 meetings and site visits

Evaluation Deliverables

SURVEYS

33

DATA COLLECTION TOOLS

10

ACCESS DATABASES

5

EXCEL SPREADSHEETS

11

FOCUS GROUP GUIDES

2

CURRICULUM GUIDES

4

Quarterly Training Topics

- Developing Program Objectives
- Data Collection Techniques
- Developing an Evaluation Plan
- Simple Data Analysis Techniques
- CBO Best Practices & Examples

Evaluation Needs

- Revise program objectives to make them measurable
- Develop comprehensive evaluation plans
- Develop comprehensive library of evidence-based tools, curricula, and surveys