Logic Models as a Platform for Program Evaluation

By:

Thomas J. Chapel, MA, MBA
Chief Evaluation Officer
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Tchapel@cdc.gov

404-639-2116

Session 20: Monday AM

"... If you blindfold someone, put them in a large field, and tell them to walk forward in a straight line. Within minutes and without fail...



"... they will walk in a circle.

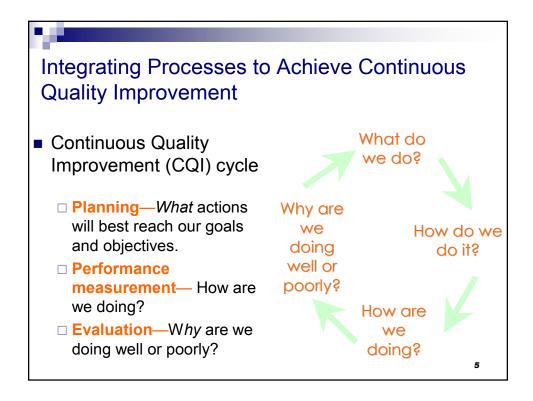
Robert Krulwich, NPR, All Things Considered, 11/23/10

2



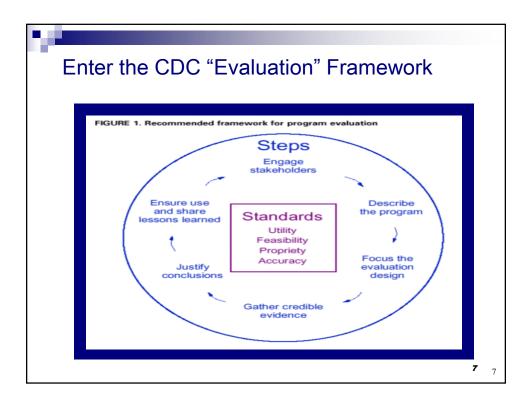
Objectives: Be able to...

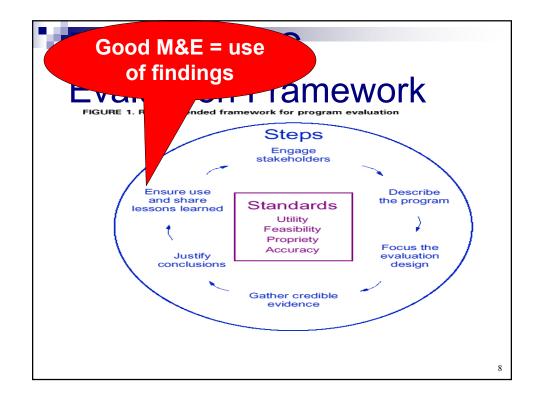
- State CDC Evaluation Framework steps and standards
- State the purpose of and components of logic models
- Construct simple logic models
- Elaborate simple logic models and describe the added additional components to model
- State how logic models help guide questions in program planning and evaluation

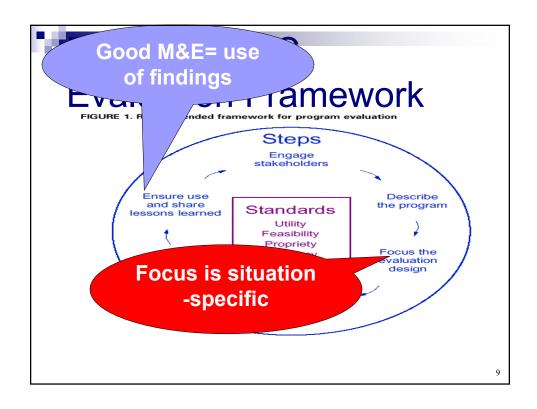


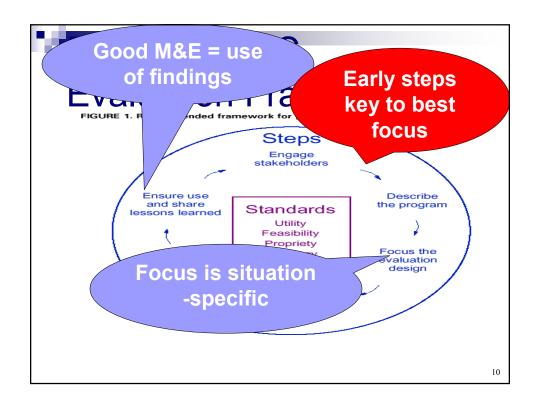
 "Research seeks to <u>prove</u>, evaluation seeks to <u>improve</u>..."

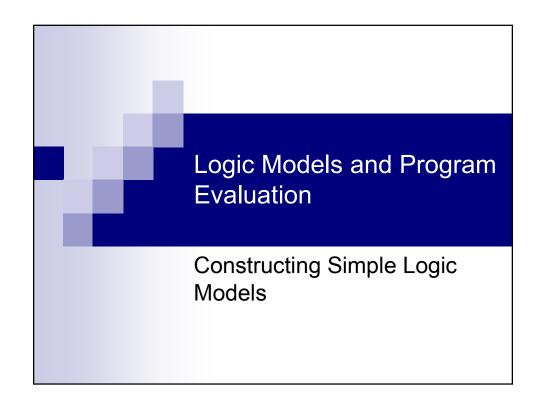
M.Q. Patton











You Don't <u>Ever</u> Need a Logic Model, BUT, You <u>Always</u> Need a Program Description

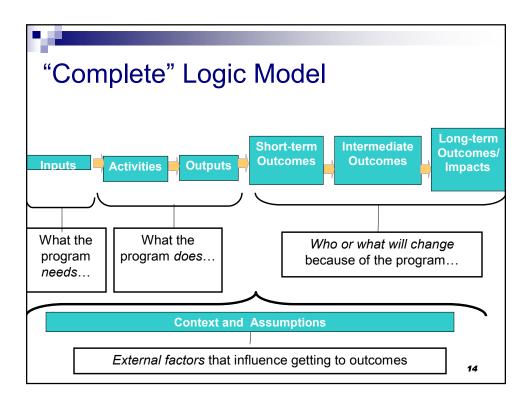
Don't jump into planning or evaluation without clarity on:

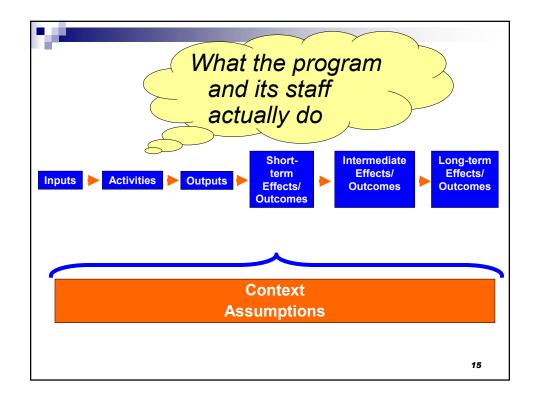
- The big <u>"need"</u> your program is to address
- The key <u>target group(s)</u> who need to take action
- The kinds of actions they need to take (your intended outcomes or objectives)
- Activities needed to meet those outcomes
- "Causal" *relationships* between activities and outcomes

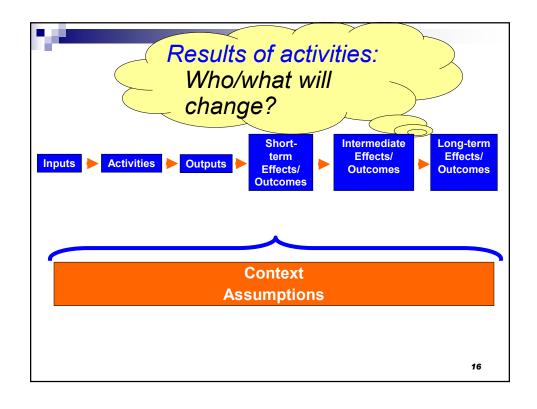
Logic Models and Program Description

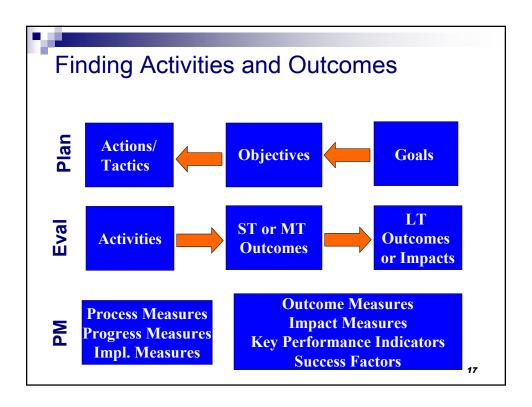
■ Logic Models

Graphic depictions of the relationship between your program's activities and its intended effects



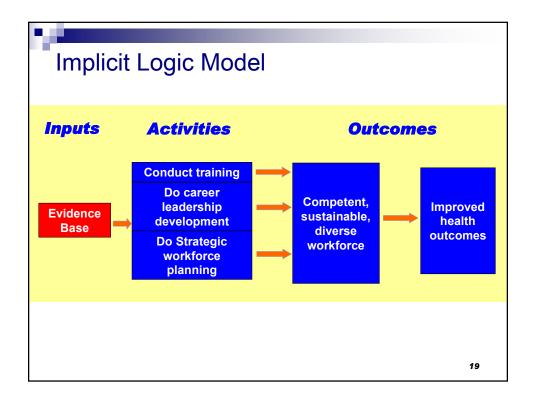






Finding Activities and Outcomes Office of Workforce and Career Development (OWCD) Mission

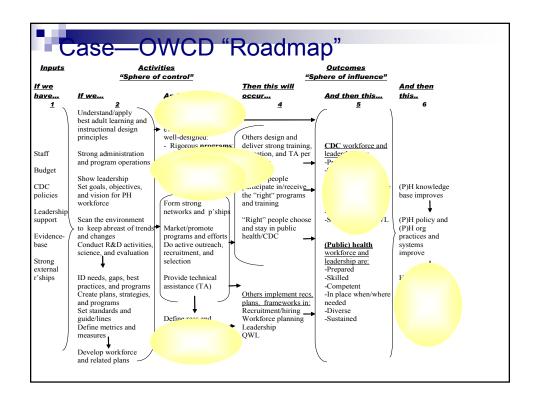
To improve health outcomes by developing a competent, sustainable and diverse public health workforce through evidence-based training, career and leadership development, and strategic workforce planning.



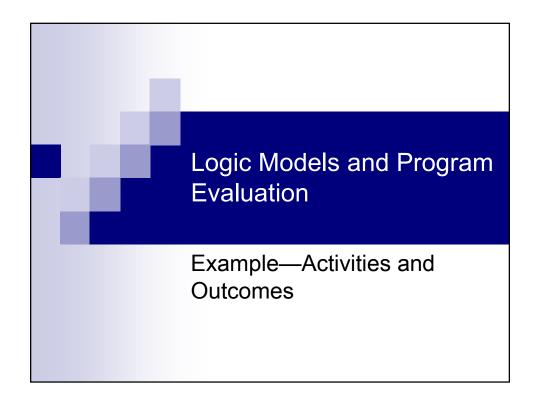
Process Use

When influence/program improvement comes not from findings of an evaluation, but from insights gleaned during the tasks involved in doing an evaluation

> Process Use in Theory, Research, and Practice: New Directions for Evaluation, No. 116, 2008



Finding Activities and Outcomes Refugee Family Services (RFS) Mission To support the efforts of refugee women and children to achieve economic and social self-sufficiency in the United States through education, direct service, and economic opportunity



Constructing Logic Models:

Identify Activities and Outcomes by

- Examining program descriptions, MISSIONS, VISIONS, PLANS, etc. and extracting these from the narrative, <u>OR</u>
- Reverse mapping
 —Starting with outcomes, ask "how to" in order to generate the activities which produce them, <u>OR</u>
- 3. **Forward mapping**—Starting with activities, ask "so what" in order to generate the outcomes that are expected to result



Then...Do Some Sequencing...

- Divide the activities into 2 or more columns based on their logical sequence.
 - □Which activities have to occur before other activities can occur?
- Do same with the *outcomes*.
 - □Which outcomes have to occur before other outcomes can occur?

25



Listing Activities and Outcomes

Lead Poisoning

Activities

- □ Outreach
- □ Screening
- □ Case management
- □ **Referral** for medical tx
- □ Identification of kids with elevated lead (EBLL)
- □ Environmental assessment
- □ *Referral* for env cleanup
- Family training

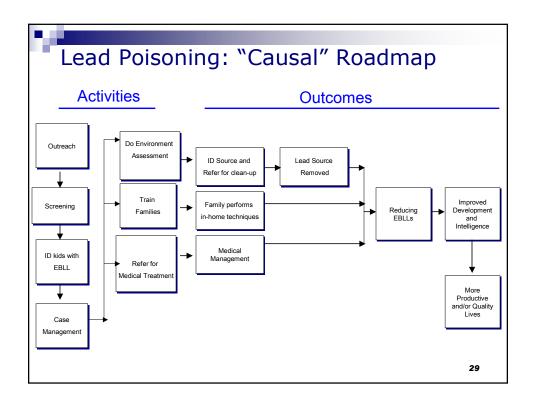
Effects/Outcomes

- Lead source identified
- □ <u>Families</u> adopt in-home techniques
- □ <u>Providers</u> treats EBLL kids
- □ <u>Housing Authority</u> eliminates lead source
- □ EBLL reduced
- □ Developmental "slide" stopped
- ☐ Q of L improved

Global Logic Model: Childhood Lead Poisoning Program			
Early Activities If we do	Later Activities And we do	Early Outcomes Then	Later Outcomes And then
Outreach Screening ID of elevated kids	Case mgmt of EBLL kids Refer EBLL kids for medical treatment Train family in inhome techniques Assess environment of EBLL child Refer environment for clean-up	EBLL kids get medical treatment Family performs in-home techniques Lead source identified Environment gets cleaned up Lead source	EBLL reduced Develop'l slide stopped Quality of life improves
	Tor clean-up	removed	27



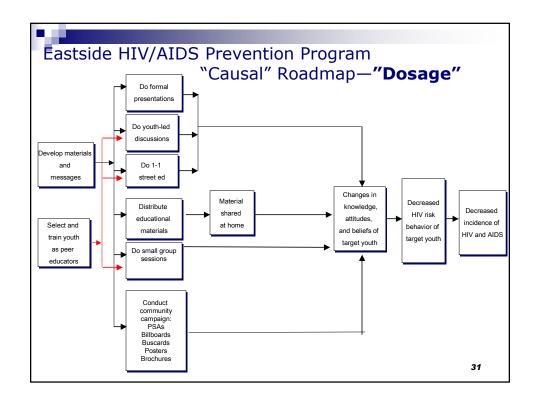
- Not a different logic model, but same elements in different format
- Arrows can go from:
 - □ Activities to other activities
 - Which activities feed which other activities?
 - □ Activities to outcomes
 - Which activities produce which intended outcomes?
 - □ Early effects/outcomes to later ones
 - Which early outcomes produce which later outcomes

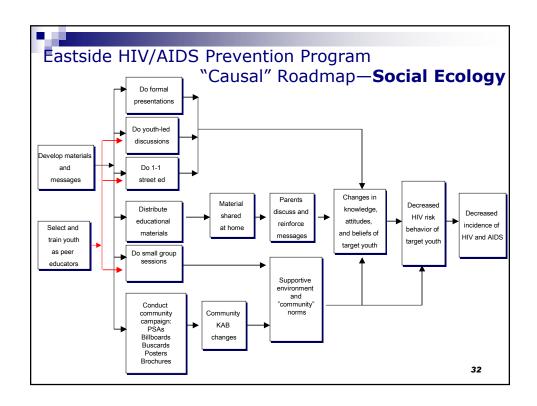


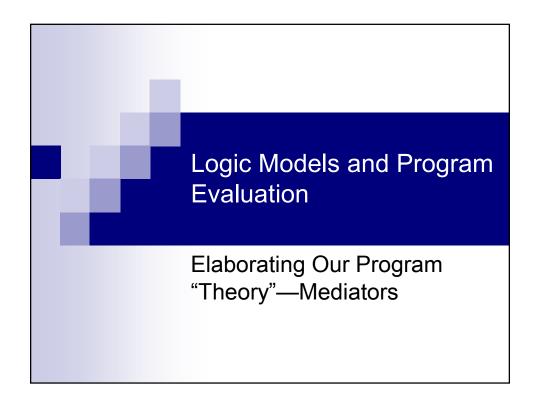
Group Exercise

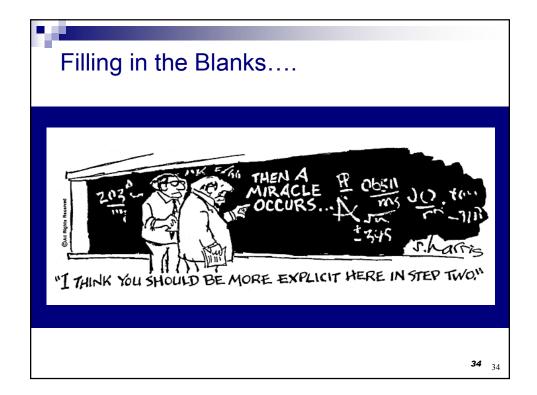
Constructing Simple Program Logic Model

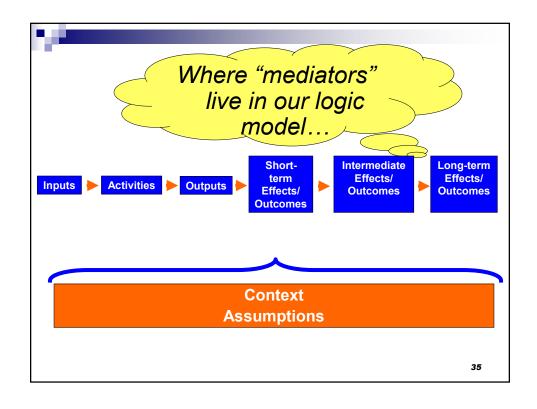
- Review list of activities and outcomes for your assigned case
- DON'T WORRY ABOUT OUTPUTS, INPUTS, AND MODERATORS YET
- Tweak as needed
- Draw lines to show causal connections

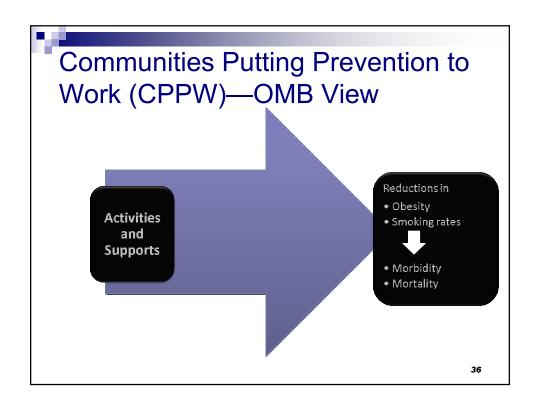


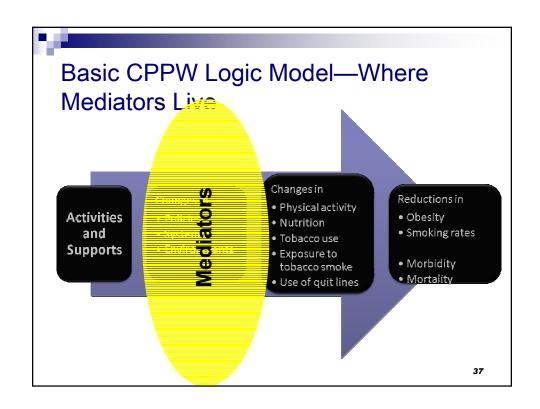


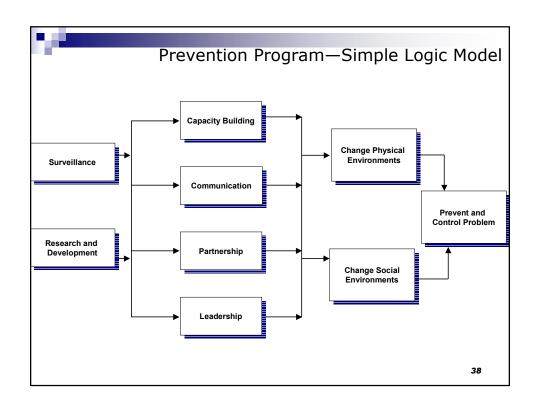


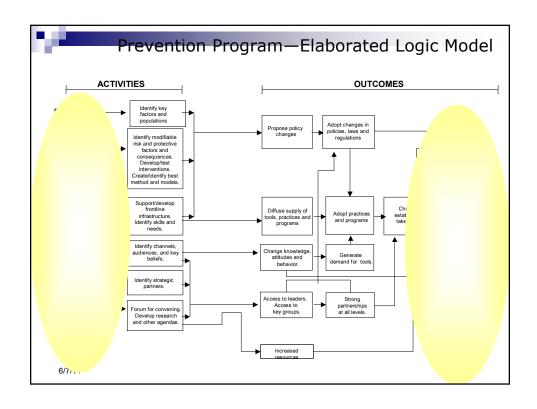


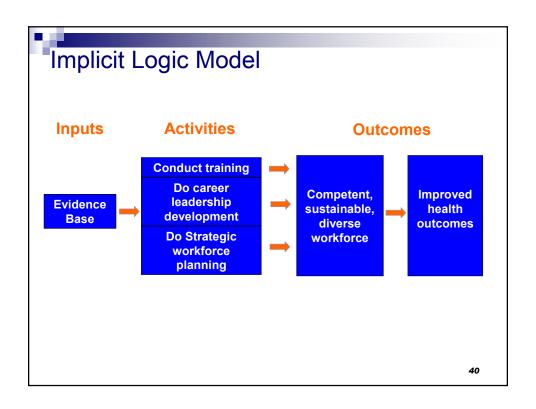


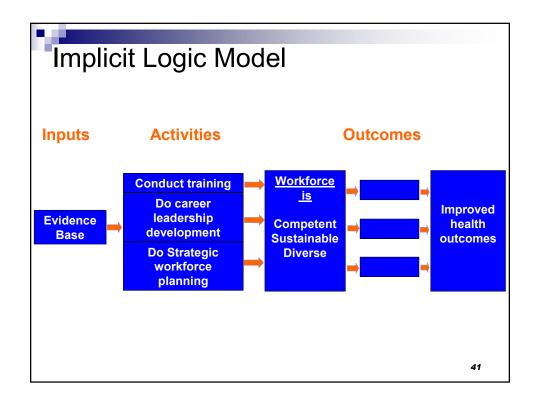


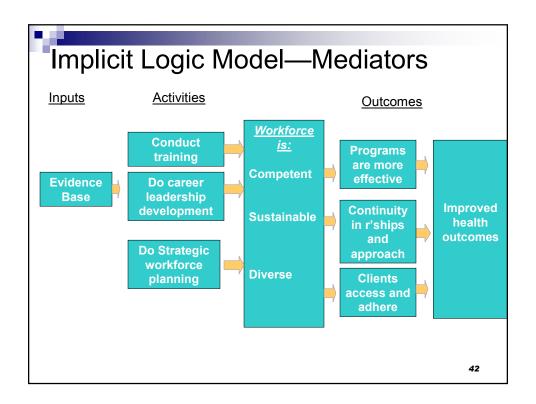


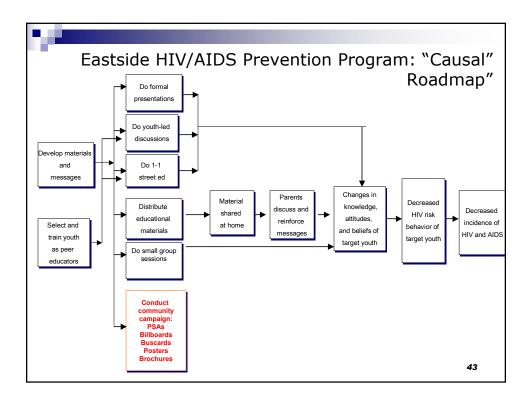


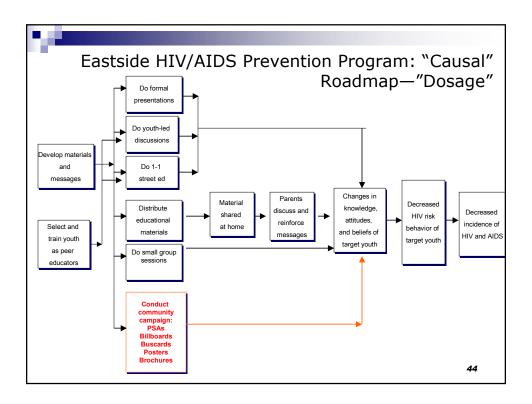


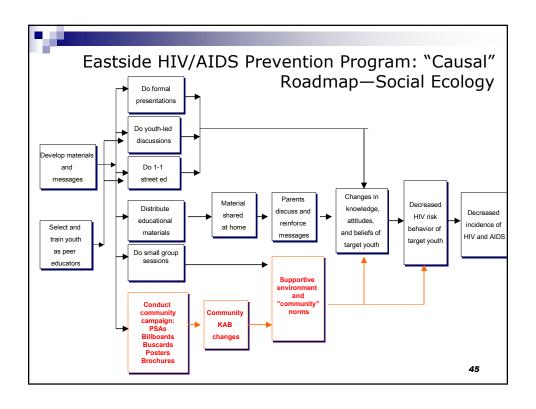


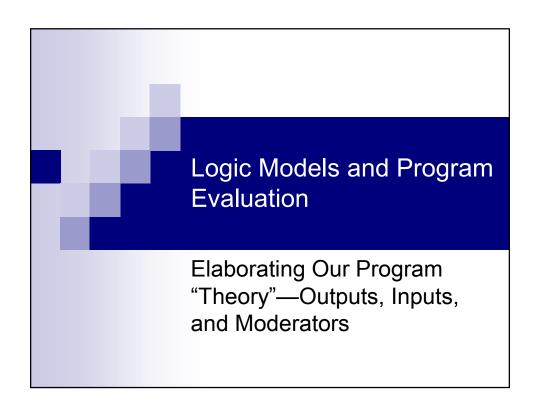


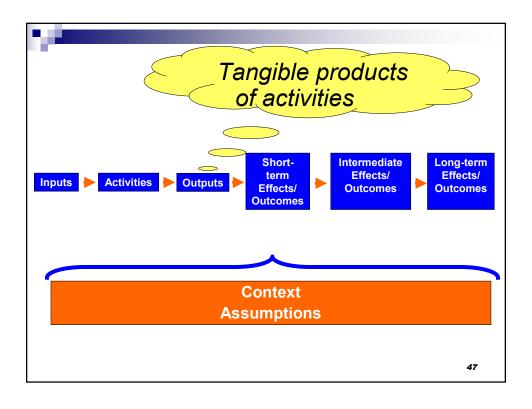


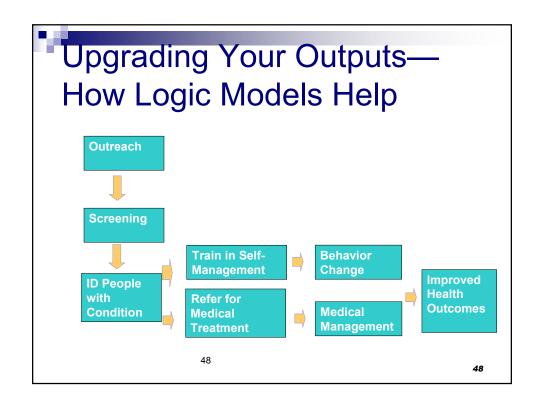






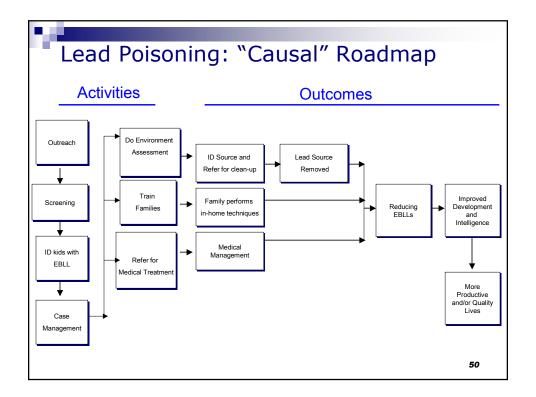


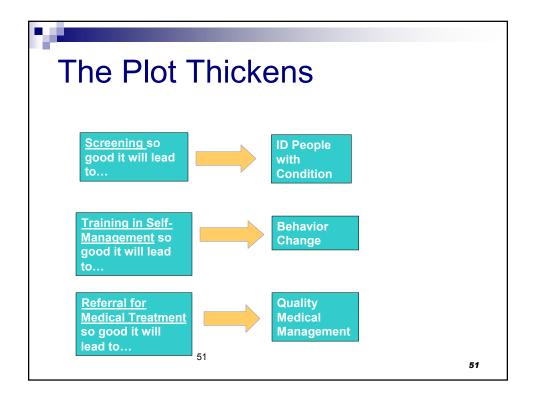




Traditional Outputs— Lead Program

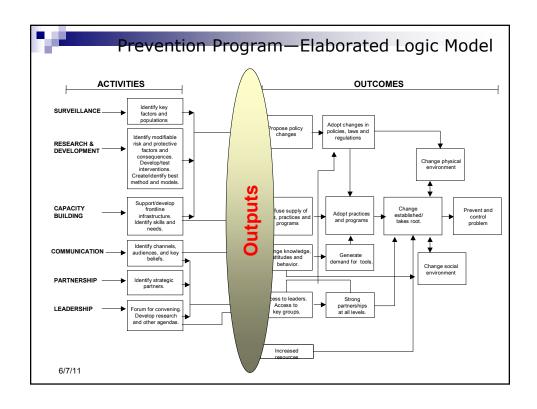
- Screening: Pool (#) of screened kids
- *Training:* Pool (#) of clients trained
- Referrals: (#) referrals to medical treatment

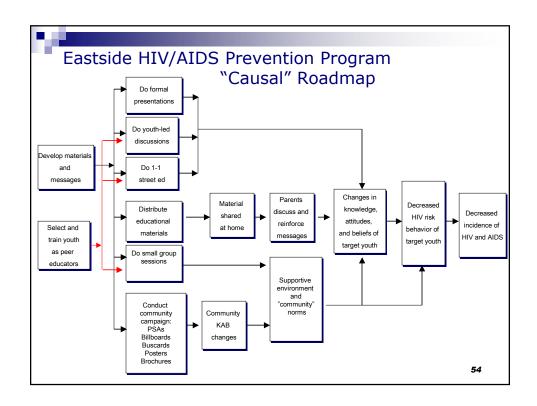


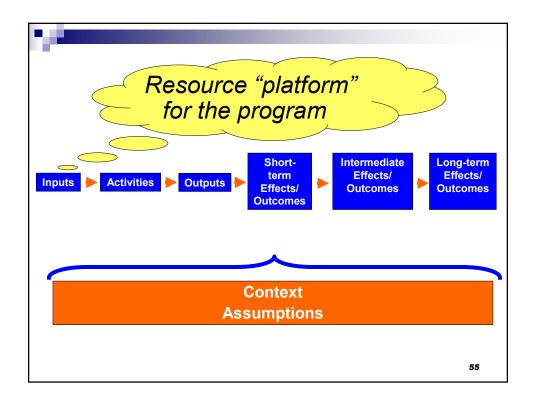


"Upgraded" Outputs: *More than* Simple Counts

- Screening: Pool (#) of screened kids (meeting likely risk profile)
- Training: Pool (#) of clients trained using culturally-competent curriculum and with appropriate supports
- Referrals: Pool(#) of referrals to (qualified or willing) medical treatment providers

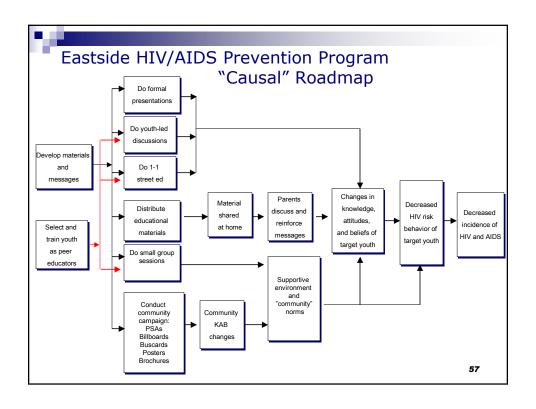


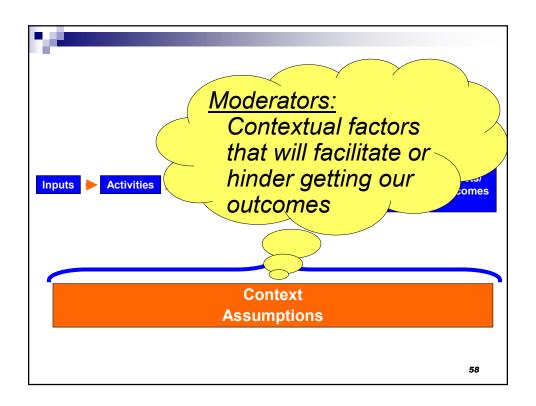


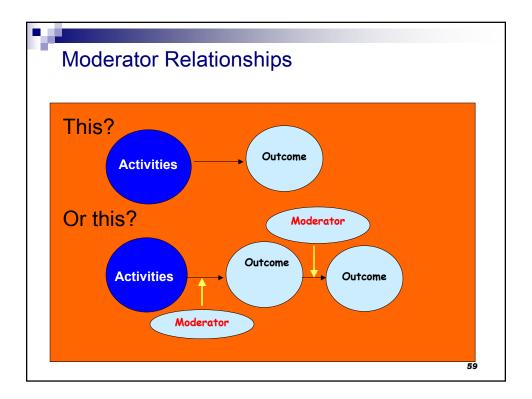


Lead Poisoning: Sample Inputs

- Funds
- Trained staff
- Legal authority to screen
- Relationships with orgs for med treatment and environmental clean-up





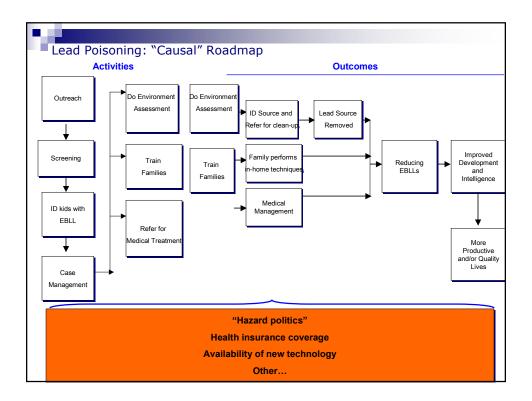


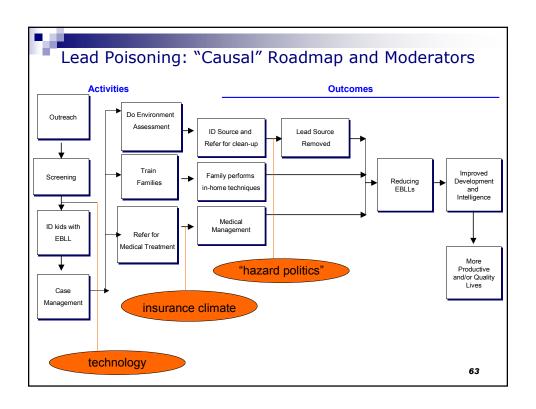
Contextual Factors

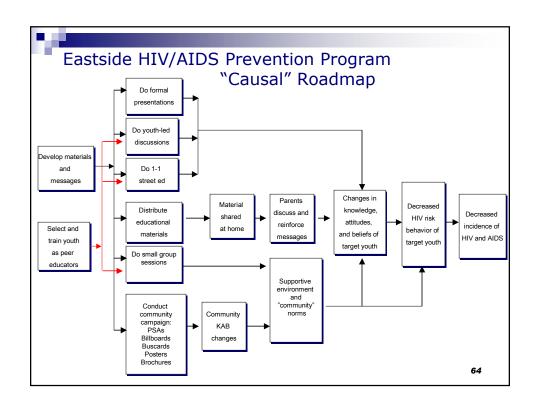
- Political
- <u>E</u>conomic
- Social
- <u>T</u>echnological

Moderators—Lead Poisoning

- Political—"Hazard" politics
- <u>E</u>conomic— <u>Health insurance</u>
- <u>Technological</u>— <u>Availability of</u> hand-held technology







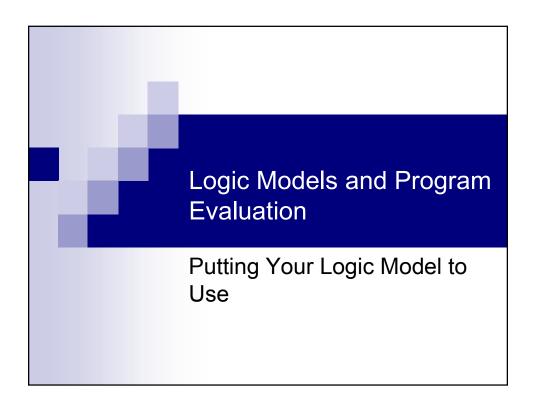


Note!

Logic Models make the program theory <u>clear</u>, **not** <u>true!</u>

65

Avoiding "garbage in, garbage out" in your logic model—An inductive approach What do **Continuous Quality** we do? Improvement (CQI) cycle □ **Planning**—*What* actions Why are will best reach our goals and objectives. we How do we □ Performance doing do it? measurement— How are well or we doing? poorly? □ **Evaluation**—Why are we How are doing well or poorly? we doing?



Which S'holders Matter Most?

Who is

- *Affected* by the program?
- *Involved* in program operations?
- Intended <u>users</u> of evaluation findings?

Of these, who do we most need to:

Enhance *credibility?*

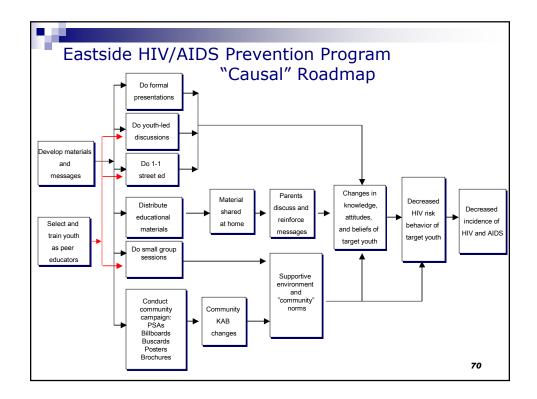
Implement program changes?

Advocate for changes?

Fund, authorize, expand program?

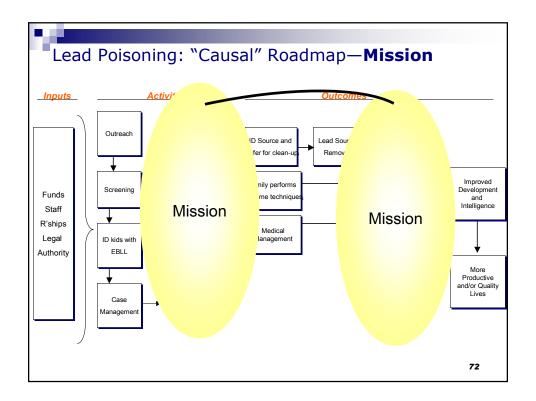
Setting Evaluation Focus: (Some) Potential Purposes

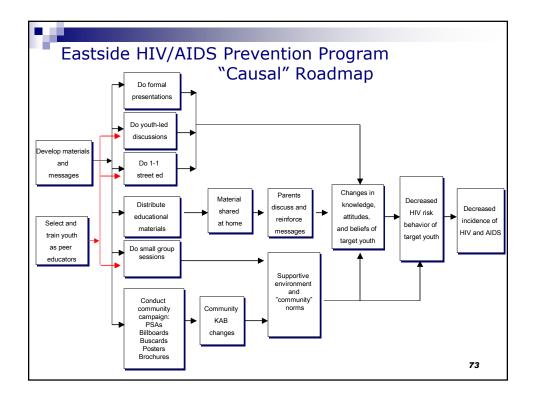
- Show accountability
- Test program implementation
- "Continuous" program improvement
- Increase the knowledge base
- Other...
- Other...



Logic Models and Strategy and Planning

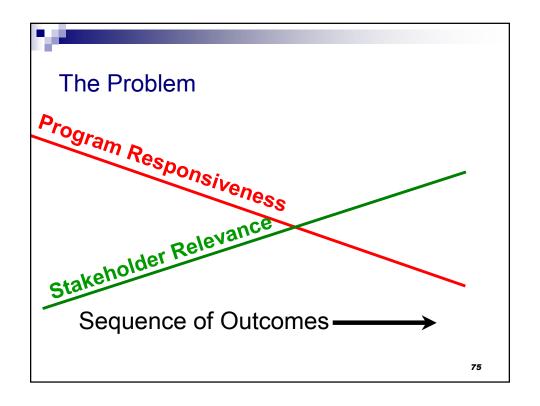
- By Clarifying Sequence of Activities → Outcomes, Helps With…
 - □ Identifying/refining mission
 - □ Developing consensus on key intended outcomes—the "staked claim"
 - □ Defining goals and objectives, strategies and actions

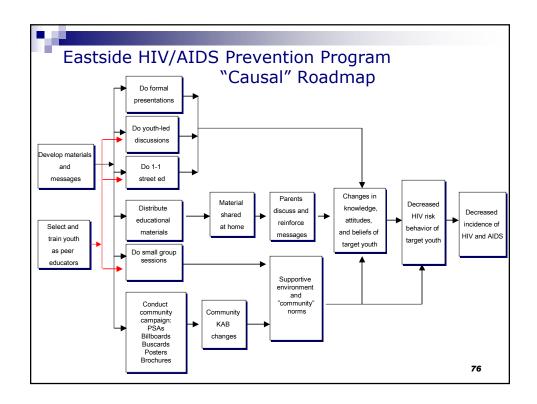




Choosing Key Outcomes— "Staking Our Claim"

- Want to include outcome(s) that is (are):
 - □ **Relevant**—sufficiently <u>"downstream"</u> to matter to stakeholders
 - □ Responsive—sufficiently "<u>upstream"</u> that program's efforts can be expected to make a difference







Why We Evaluate...

"... The gods condemned Sisyphus to endlessly roll a rock up a hill, whence it would return each time to its starting place. They thought, with some reason...

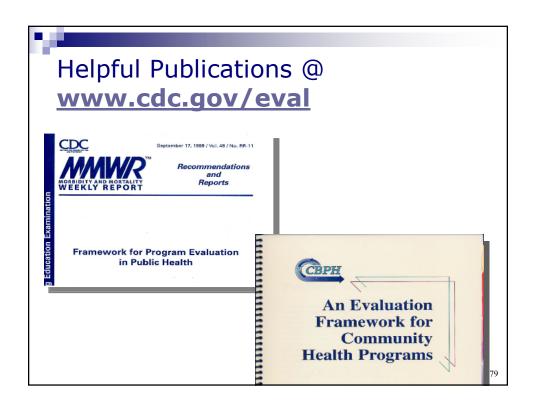
77



Why We Evaluate...

...there was no punishment more severe than eternally futile labor...."

The Myth of Sisyphus





Helpful Resources

- NEW! Intro to Program Evaluation for PH Programs—A Self-Study Guide: http://www.cdc.gov/eval/whatsnew.htm
- Logic Model Sites
 - ☐ Innovation Network: http://www.innonet.org/
 - ☐ Harvard Family Research Project: http://www.gse.harvard.edu/hfrp/
 - □ University of Wisconsin-Extension: http://www.uwex.edu/ces/lmcourse/
 - □ CDC/DASH: http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/evaluation/resources.htm
 - CDC/STD: http://www.cdc.gov/std/program/progeval/TOC-PGprogeval.htm
- Texts
 - Kellogg Foundation Logic Model Development Guide: www.wkkf.org
 - W.K. Kellogg Foundation Evaluation Resources: http://www.wkkf.org/programming/overview.aspx?CID=281
 - □ Rogers et al. Program Theory in Evaluation. New Directions Series: Jossey-Bass, Fall 2000
 - ☐ Chen, H. Theory-Driven Evaluations. Sage. 1990

Community Tool Box http://ctb.ku.edu

