

System change in grant activities

Lee Vorderer
HSRI
lvorderer@hsri.org

Where the model came from

- Interviews
- Indicators
- Political science/ health policy model:
Richmond, Kingdon, Kotelchek, Silverstein
- Field test with funded Council grantees
- Useful in number of places within the Council's work

What the model looks like

Council mission	Improve knowledge base	Select social strategies	Obtain stakeholder involvement	Support policy entrepreneurs	Use unanticipated events
Support taking control					
Ensure access to good, services					
Build inclusive communities					
Pursue cross disability					
Change negative stereotypes					

Improving the knowledge base

- First activity type
- *System change is more common when a wide range of stakeholders have common information*
- Examples of work that improves the knowledge base: conferences, publicity, information gathering and dissemination, best practice sharing, “how to do this” work



Selecting clear social strategies

- Second activity type
- *Accomplishing a particular goal is more likely when activities have been planned to account for a range of social points of view*
- Examples: identifying barriers, recruiting key players, developing an action plan, gathering and presenting data, celebrating successes



Obtaining stakeholder involvement

- Third activity type
- *The force and energy for change can be greatly increased when many points of view are brought to a problem*
- Examples: making connections with other problems, building on successful efforts of others, analyzing the urgency of solving a problem



Supporting policy entrepreneurs

- Fourth activity type
- *Policy entrepreneurs are those people who become champions of a cause, who are willing to take a public stand.*
- Examples: bringing a national expert to a local situation, sharing the entrepreneur's positions widely.



Using unanticipated events

- Fifth (and final) activity type
- *Maximize the impact of the times when events that cannot be anticipated, can have a significant impact on success.*
- Examples: helping publicize a success, pointing out how a new response would improve a situation.



Roles for stakeholders

- Who are stakeholders? People with DD, families, council members, grantees, other projects working on similar issues, the general public, politicians, employers, etc. etc.



The Council

- Can build on previous grant success; can fill gaps in array of previous grants
- Can enable a different kind of long range planning for the Council



For grantees:

- It might help you focus on the major activity of your project – “it’s mostly about expanding the knowledge base” for example.
- It might help you include a wider range of stakeholders in your work
- It might help you connect with others working on a similar project



Some examples from Council grants

- A video was made about home ownership - *knowledge base*
- 50% are using shared ride for employment – *social strategies*
- In 2002, Gov. Schweiker included 1.8 for an expansion of shared ride – *stakeholder involvement*



Some more examples...

- Northampton Community College: the model helped staff take the large view of what the project was about
- Educating children: the model helped create an evaluation strategy that looked beyond the specific activities of the project
- Transition planning: the model helped identify all the stakeholders who were affected



Writing a system change objective

- Why: to help you take the long view of your project
- To help you connect with others
- To enable the Council to position your work in the system change grid and expand upon it
- To help you think of appropriate next steps for your project



How about your project?

- Write one-two sentences that describe it.
- What activity category does it fit into?
 - Improving the knowledge base
 - Selecting social strategies
 - Obtaining stakeholder involvement
 - Supporting policy entrepreneurs
 - Using unanticipated events



System change objective – new grantees

- Draft it

- How will you measure it? How will you know if you attained it?



System change objective: mid project or past grantees:

- ❑ If you have/had one, what was it and what category of activity did it fall into?
- ❑ If you didn't have one, what might one be /have been?
- ❑ From the point of view of system change, would you do anything different if you were starting your project now?
- ❑ What would be a good next step for the Council to take based on your project?