

## Improving Evaluation Capacity Among Community Organizations Engaged In Violence Prevention Work

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## Presenter Disclosures

Daniel Healy

(1) The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:

No relationships to disclose

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## Background

- Need for evaluation training
  - Programs lacking evaluation for effectiveness
  - Difficult market for grant funding
  - 21% (23/108) of members of the Violence Prevention Coalition of Greater Los Angeles reported that they would like to increase their competency in program evaluation
- SCIPRC/VPC collaboration



Violence Prevention Coalition  
of Greater Los Angeles

3

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### Program Evaluation Workshops: Logic Model

INPUTS	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	SHORT-TERM OUTCOMES	LONG-TERM OUTCOMES
Program Director Instructor Staff Curriculum Materials Space Food Parking Community Based Organizations	Develop Workshop Materials and Curriculum Recruit CBOs Train CBOs Provide ongoing technical assistance to CBOs	# of Trainings held over 2 years # of CBOs trained in program evaluation # of CBOs receiving ongoing technical assistance from staff	Improved program design and planning skills Improved program evaluation skills Improved grant writing skills Increase in number of CBOs with evaluation plans	Increase in number of CBOs conducting their own evaluations Improvement in the quality of data collected by CBOs and made available

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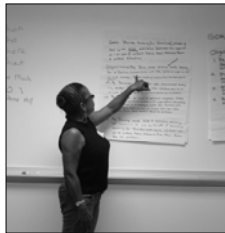
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### Workshop Description



- 4, 4-hour sessions per workshop
- 4-6 CBOs per workshop
- Lecture and discussion
- Worksheets
- One-on-one assistance
- Presentations and feedback
- Certificates of Completion
- Ongoing Technical Support

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### Methods

Satisfaction questionnaire	Follow-up questionnaire
Immediately after workshop	2-24 months after workshop
In Person	Online

- Self-administered questionnaires with Likert-type items
- Emails and phone calls to encourage completion of the follow-up questionnaire

Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with the following statement:

“I can produce an evaluation plan”

Strongly Disagree      Strongly Agree  
 1   2   3   4   5   6

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## Population Description

- 69% (54/78) response rate for follow-up
- Mean age: 44, range: 23 to 67
- 69% Female
- Race Ethnicity:
  - 33% African American
  - 29% White
  - 27% Latino or Hispanic
  - 12% Asian or Asian American
  - 6% other

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## Population Description

- Organizations served populations located in all major regions of Los Angeles County
  - high-risk youth, victims of violence, gang members, homeless persons
- Provided a variety of services:
  - education, after-school programs, shelter, gang intervention, advocacy

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## Outcomes

- From July 2007 through March 2009:
  - 78 individuals from 42 unduplicated community-based organizations participated
  - 11 workshop series were conducted
  - 5-11 participants attended each workshop

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Self-Confidence vs. Self-Reported Behavior:  
 "I can produce an evaluation plan"

Group Level (n=11)	Immediately after workshop	2-24 months after workshop	
	confidence	confidence	behavior
Overall average of all groups (SD) scale 1-5, 5 = SA	4.3 (0.3)	4.2 (0.4)	46% (0.14) Reported developing an evaluation plan
Avg. Group Percentage Agree/ Strongly Agree with statement (SD)	96% (0.07)	85% (0.13)	

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Evaluation of Programs:  
 Individual Level

- 67% (36/54) are using the information and materials to evaluate their programs at least monthly
- 46% (25/54) have developed an evaluation plan since completing workshops
- 48% (26/54) have not developed an evaluation plan, but intend to do so

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Preparing Grant Proposals

- 53% (28/54) reported that information provided in the workshops helped them prepare a grant proposal
- Of the 28:
  - 11 proposals were fully or partially funded
  - 15 proposals were still in process
  - 2 proposals were declined
- 68% (19/28) used the information and materials at least monthly to write grant proposals

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## Dissemination and Collaboration

- Referrals
  - 77% (39/53) recommended workshop to a total of 189 other individuals
- Sharing of Information
  - 74% (41/53) shared information and materials from the workshop with a total of 182 other individuals
- VPC Membership
  - 10 organizations joined VPC after attending
  - 14 organizations plan to join the VPC

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## Conclusions

- This study highlights the effectiveness of a multi-day training on program evaluation among community-based organizations who are engaged in violence prevention work
- To date, 65 organizations have completed the training and more remain on the waiting list
- The high level of interest in the workshops and the findings from this study may be of interest to:
  - Funding agencies
  - Universities
  - Community Coalitions

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