

# ASSESSING FIDELITY TO A LOGIC MODEL: THE NATIONAL CROSS-SITE EVALUATION OF JUVENILE DRUG COURTS (JDC) AND RECLAIMING FUTURES (RF) EXPERIENCE

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# Presentation Overview

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- Logic Models and How to Develop Them
- The JDC/RF Logic Model
- Using Logic Models to Assess Program Implementation Fidelity
- Linking Program Fidelity to Outcomes
- Lessons Learned

# Who Are You?



**Our Collective  
Experience & Expertise**



# Logic Models

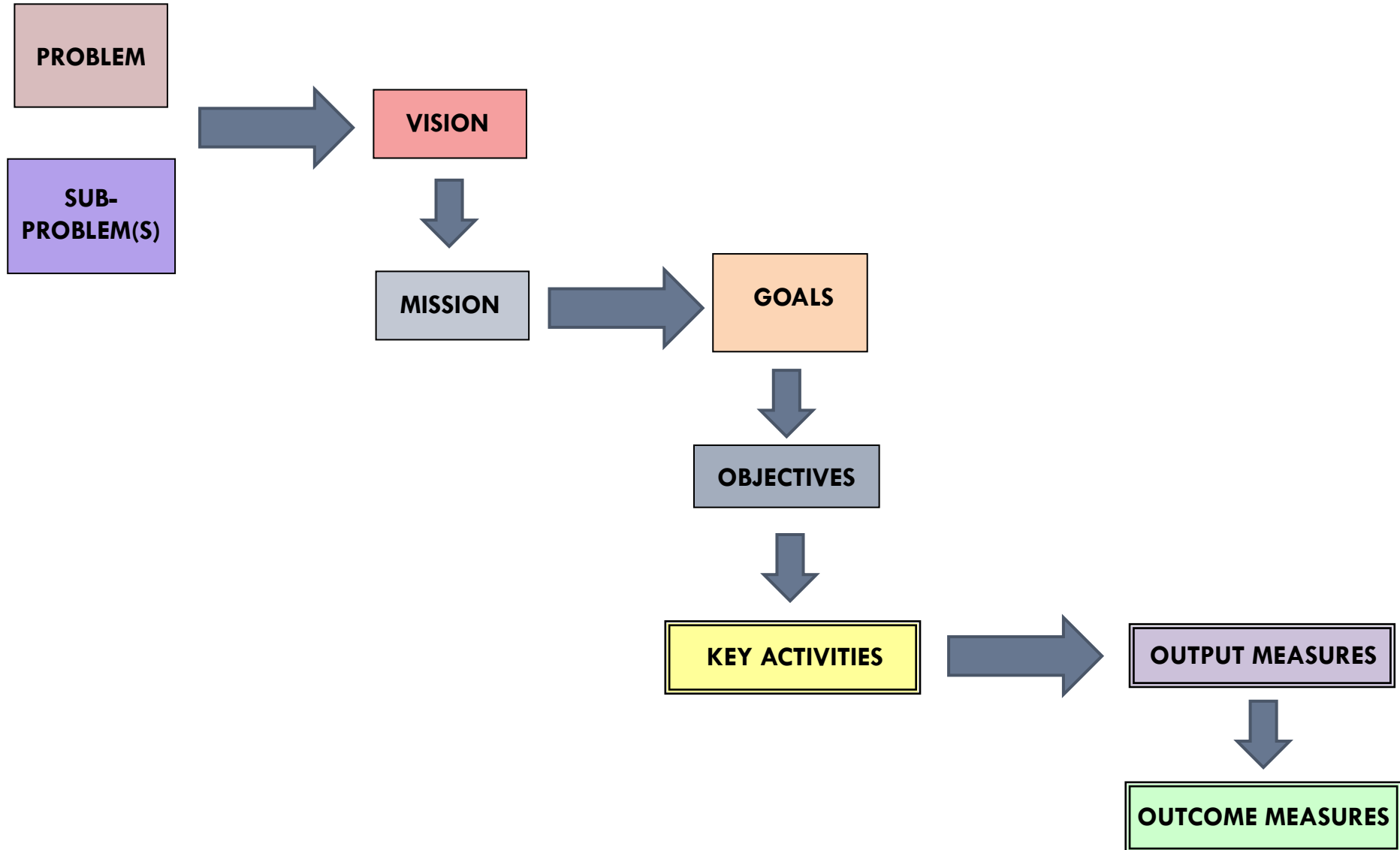
# The Purpose of Logic Models

- A crosscutting, conceptual thesis for your program
- Relate what you **WANT** to do/change to what you **WILL** do, what you'll **ACCOMPLISH** by doing it, and how you'll **MEASURE** what you did
- Known & understood by entire team: If you don't know your mission, you don't have one
- Descriptive AND predictive/aspirational
- Accountability— Link activities to something you can measure
- Assess new program components

# What's in a Logic Model

- **Problem, Sub-Problem:** What you're trying to address with your drug court
  - ▣ Example: "Drug-involved youth in the juvenile justice system"
- **Vision/Mission/Goals/Objectives:** What you want to do with your drug court
  - ▣ Example: "Increase the number of drug-free offenders"
- **Activities:** What you're doing to attain your goals & objectives
  - ▣ Example: "Evidence-based treatment to 25 clients with A-CRA"
- **Outputs/Outcomes/"Impacts":** The measureable effects of the program
  - ▣ Example: Graduation % or the # of enrollees remaining drug free at time X

# SAMPLE LOGIC MODEL PROGRESSION



# How to Make and Use a Logic Model

- Stakeholders, Stakeholders, Stakeholders!
- The journey is the destination (or at least part of it)
- More impactful when crafted and utilized as a group
- A living document: Revisit to keep it “fresh”
- Once you’ve made your model, use it to...
  - ▣ Look across systems at the **IMPACT** of your court and the **CHANGE** caused
  - ▣ Determine how you will measure the effect of any change
  - ▣ Remind the team of your common goals
  - ▣ Monitor “conceptual alignment”





# The JDC/RF Logic Model

# Background

- National Cross-Site Evaluation of JDC/RF
- Assessing efficacy and effectiveness of combining JDC and RF
- Need a model or representation of the integration
- Developed Integrated JDC/RF Logic Model
  - ▣ Training tool for JDC/RF initiative
  - ▣ Strategic planning and implementation tool for sites
  - ▣ Research tool for national evaluation

# The Models

## Reclaiming Futures

- 1) Initial Screening
- 2) Initial Assessment
- 3) Service Coordination
- 4) Initiation
- 5) Engagement
- 6) Transition

## Juvenile Drug Court: Strategies in Practice

- 1) Collaborative Planning
- 2) Teamwork
- 3) Clearly Defined Target Population & Eligibility Criteria
- 4) Judicial Involvement and Supervision
- 5) Monitoring & Evaluation
- 6) Community Partnerships
- 7) Comprehensive Treatment Planning
- 8) Developmentally Appropriate Services
- 9) Gender-Appropriate Services
- 10) Cultural Competence
- 11) Focus on Strengths
- 12) Family Engagement
- 13) Educational Linkages
- 14) Drug Testing
- 15) Goal-Oriented Incentives and Sanctions
- 16) Confidentiality

# The Integrated JDC/RF Model

- JDC and RF are complementary models
  - ▣ Both focus on the juvenile population
  - ▣ Both contain evidence-based components necessary for successful outcomes
- Many similarities, but how do the models differ?
  - ▣ JDC details program components while RF addresses elements in system approach
- What is gained by combining the two models?

*An integrated model embedding JDC's components with RF's system approach*

# Creating a Unified JDC/RF Model

- Modification of typical logic model format
- Combined list of JDC/RF activities
- Incorporated site-specific process data and JDC/RF initiative RFP
- Logic model as a tool for discussion

# NORMATIVE EXPECTATIONS OF THE INTEGRATED JDC/RF DRUG COURT LOGIC MODEL

## PROBLEM SUB-PROBLEMS KEY ACTIVITIES OUTPUT MEASURES OUTCOME MEASURES

**Short-Term** **Long-Term<sup>i</sup>**

#/% Drug-involved youth in the juvenile justice (JJ) system for law violations

Youth with substance use disorders and criminal behavior

Mental health conditions

Trauma exposure

Low self-esteem

Poor life skills

Educational challenges

Family challenges

Environmental risk

Financial challenges

Community engagement and collaborative partnerships

Judicial leadership aligned with JDC and RF concepts

Collaborative leadership and structured teamwork

Defined eligibility criteria

Balance confidentiality procedures and collaboration

Comprehensive screening and ongoing assessment

Strength-based care coordination

Individualized evidence-based treatment services

Services appropriate to youths' gender, culture, and development

Engage family in all program components

Regular, random drug testing

Strength-based incentives and sanctions

Program monitoring and evaluation

Educational linkages

Successful initiation, engagement and completion of treatment

Implement community transition plan

#/% Community partnerships formed and active

#/% JDC staff trained in JDC/RF processes and procedures

#/% Staff certified in conducting full biopsychosocial clinical assessments

% Participation of judge in RF judicial activities

Data are/are not shared between involved partners

#/% Screenings, by screening tool

#/% Assessments, by assessment tool

Staffing meeting composition

#/% Youth with individualized treatment service plans

Average length of time from referral to initiation/engagement

#/% Treatment plans with family involvement

# Urinalysis screenings and % negative

# Youth referred to and enrolled in JDC/RF

#/% Youth initiating and engaging in treatment

#/% Youth in detention and days in detention

#/% Youth referred to and involved in community programs

# Pro-social activities provided to youth, parents, caregivers, and families

#/% Youth successfully completing treatment

#/% Youth graduating from JDC/RF

#/% Youth remaining crime- and arrest-free during and at completion of the program

#/% Youth retained in JDC/RF for the minimum amount of time designated by the program

#/% Youth exhibiting a reduction in drug use during and at completion of the program

#/% Youth in educational programs during and at completion of the program

#/% Youth engaged in a drug-free pro-social activity during and at completion of the program

#/% Youth employed during and at completion of the program

#/% Youth who remaining drug-free

#/% Youth remaining crime- and arrest-free

#/% Youth without probation violations

#/% Drug-involved youth in the JJ system

#/% Youth graduating from high-school/receiving GEDs

#/% Youth in stable living conditions

#/% Youth engaged in a drug-free pro-social activity

#/% Youth employed

<sup>i</sup>Six months after program completion

### GOALS OBJECTIVES

Enhance capacity of drug court to increase youth and family functioning

Improve systems to treat and support youth with substance use disorders and criminal behavior

Build community partnerships to ensure a robust referral network and program sustainability

Increase the number of youth who are both drug-free and crime-free

Promote a healthy transition to adulthood

Work across systems to provide coordinated care and reduce the #/% of drug-involved youth in the JJ system

Implement evidence-based adolescent substance abuse treatment modality or modalities

Utilize community resources for successful youth transition

Increase youth and family efficacy in making healthy lifestyle choices

Cultivate continuous program and individual accountability



# The JDC/RF Evaluation Experience

# Step 1: Define the Evaluation Focus

- What component of the logic model will contain the information necessary to answer your specific questions?
  - ▣ Are you assessing processes? Implementation fidelity? Short-term outcomes? Long-term outcomes?
- Consider what needs to be measured, what type of data are needed, and how the data are collected
- *JDC/RF Evaluation Illustration*: we were measuring implementation, so key activities became the focus



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Regular, random drug testing  
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Program monitoring and evaluation  
Educational linkages  
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## Short-Term Long-Term<sup>i</sup>

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##% Youth employed during and at completion of the program

##% Youth who remaining drug-free  
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# Step 2: Develop Performance Indicators

- Select indicators that are direct, specific, useful, practical, and relevant
- Also consider the data you have or will have available
- Indicators are often quantitative, such as amounts and percentages, but qualitative indicators can work too
- The development process takes time to do correctly, with indicators often needing to be refined several times.
- *JDC/RF Evaluation Illustration: indicator development process*

# Example: Performance Indicators

	Judicial Leadership			
	<b>B.1</b> Is the Judicial Fellow the JDC/RF presiding official?	<b>B.2</b> Does the JDC/RF presiding official participate in Change Team Meetings?	<b>B.3</b> What is the frequency of the JDC/RF presiding official's participation in Change Team Meetings?	<b>B.4</b> Does the JDC/RF Team view the JDC/RF presiding official as a leader?
Site 1				
Site 2				
Site 3				
Site 4				
Site 5				

Note: Presiding official refers to a judge, magistrate, or other designee.

# Step 3: Collect Data

- Choose data elements with coding and analysis in mind
  - ▣ Items that can be coded easily for analysis
- Data collected should be responsive to evaluation questions
- Conduct quality assurance (QA) of data
- *JDC/RF Evaluation Illustration*: qualitative and quantitative data sources; item/response types; QA

# Step 4: Scoring

- Develop a scale that can be compared within each (and possibly across all) dimension
- Convert all data to coded value system
- Discuss and further refine indicators for consistent coding, as needed
- *JDC/RF Evaluation Illustration:*
  - Single site: value system of 0-1 to score each key activity; scores were averaged to generate subscale implementation scores for each key activity
  - Cross-site: present in consistent format for ease of comparison

# Example: Scoring

	Judicial Leadership				SCORE
	B.1 Is the Judicial Fellow the JDC/RF presiding official?	B.2 Does the JDC/RF presiding official participate in Change Team Meetings?	B.3 What is the frequency of the JDC/RF presiding official's participation in Change Team Meetings?	B.4 Does the JDC/RF Team view the JDC/RF presiding official as a leader?	
	(1=Y / 0=N); Source: Process Data, RF Fellow List	(1=Y / 0=N); Source: Process Data	(Average Overall Percentage); Source: Attendees Lists	(1=Y / 0=N); Source: Process Data	
<b>Site 1</b>	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	<b>1.00</b>
<b>Site 2</b>	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	<b>1.00</b>
<b>Site 3</b>	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	<b>1.00</b>
<b>Site 4</b>	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	<b>1.00</b>
<b>Site 5</b>	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	<b>1.00</b>

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# Step 5: Assess Fidelity Based on Score

- Utilize subscale scores to assess implementation fidelity
- Cross-site comparisons can also be conducted
- *JDC/RF Evaluation Illustration:*
  - Single site: assessed key activity implementation fidelity using subscale scores
  - Cross-site: presented in consistent format for cross-site comparisons

# Example: Assessing Fidelity

	Successful Initiation, Engagement, and Tx Completion			Implement Community Transition	
	O.1 What percentage of youth have at least one service contact within 14 days of assessment?	O.2- What percentage of youth have 3 or more sessions within 30 days of admission?		P.1 Is a transition plan developed for each participant?	
	(Percentage); Source: GAIN; Process Data	(Percentage); Source: GAIN; Process Data	SCORE	(1=Y / 0=N); Source: Process Data	SCORE
Site 1	0.43	0.46	0.45	0.00	0.00
Site 2	0.67	0.86	0.77	1.00	1.00
Site 3	0.86	0.80	0.83	1.00	1.00
Site 4	0.14	0.76	0.45	1.00	1.00
Site 5	0.99	0.85	0.92	1.00	1.00



# Step 6: Linking Program Fidelity to Outcomes

- Utilize implementation fidelity scores to monitor fidelity and change over time
- Utilize implementation fidelity scores to assist in interpreting participant outcomes
- Create feedback loops and share results across the team for input on interpretation, identification of strengths, efforts for sustaining success, and potential areas for continuous improvement
- *JDC/RF Evaluation Illustration:*
  - Cross-site: assess whether fidelity corresponds to differences in outcomes



# Summary and Conclusions

# Lessons Learned

- Make your logic model, then keep using it!
- Process takes time... more time than you expect
- However, there are manageable ways to incorporate regular fidelity checks to inform work
- Contextual factors are key when interpreting results
- Process is consistent with team approach
- Results provide evidence valuable to funders, stakeholders, and program sustainability

# Questions?



**Questions:** Contact Alison Greene, 520-295-9339 x206, [greene@email.arizona.edu](mailto:greene@email.arizona.edu)

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