# INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAM EVALUATION

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## **CONTENT OUTLINE**

- Definition of Program Evaluation
- Research vs. Evaluation
  - "Standards" in Evaluation Research
- Formative vs. Summative Evaluation
- Logic Models



#### WHAT IS PROGRAM EVALUATION?

#### determination of merit, worth, significance of a program

- ➤ Program Evaluation ≠ Software Evaluation
  - Program

an intervention being delivered/implemented for the purpose of changing some outcome or set of outcomes

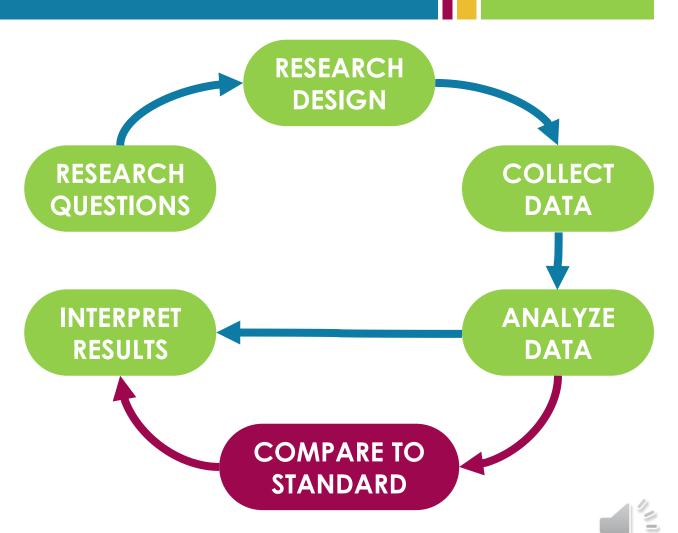
- Intervention = organized set of activities to reach specific objectives
- Software = product/tool ≠ (intervention) program



# RESEARCH VS. EVALUATION

Steps common to all research

Additional step in evaluation research



#### **EVALUATION STANDARDS**

> A standard is...

a criterion value/set of criteria/values to which results are compared for the purpose of answering an evaluative research question

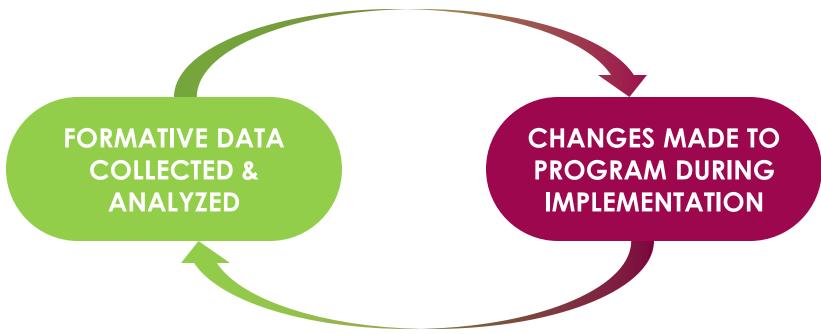
- Logical Process of Setting Standards
  - 1. Determine which criteria are important
  - 2. Establish a standard for each criterion
  - 3. Prioritize criteria (in case some are satisfied & others are not)

Note: these are not the same as standards for practice (guidelines provided by professional organizations)



#### FORMATIVE EVALUATION

- > Formative
  - Evaluation of pieces of a program (short-term goals, linkages)
  - Inform changes/improvements during life of program





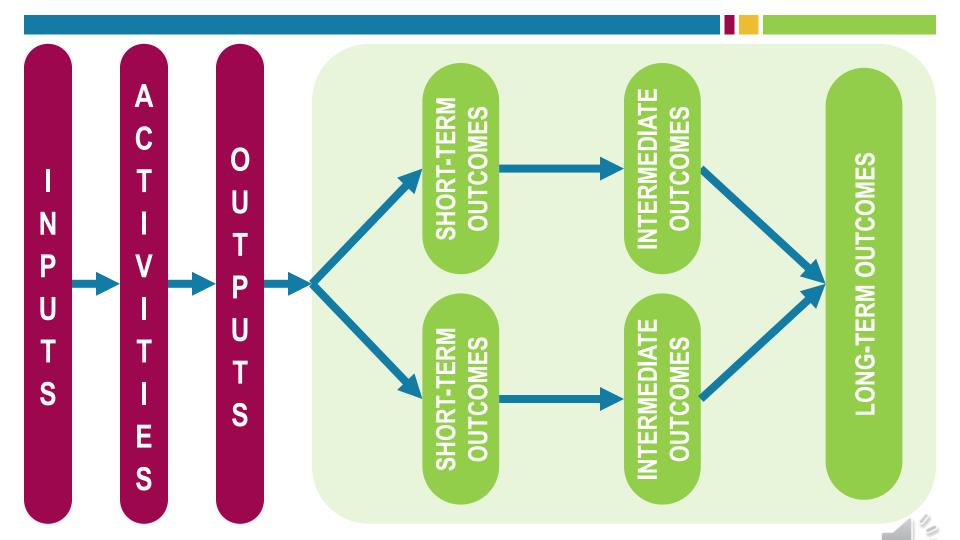
#### SUMMATIVE EVALUATION

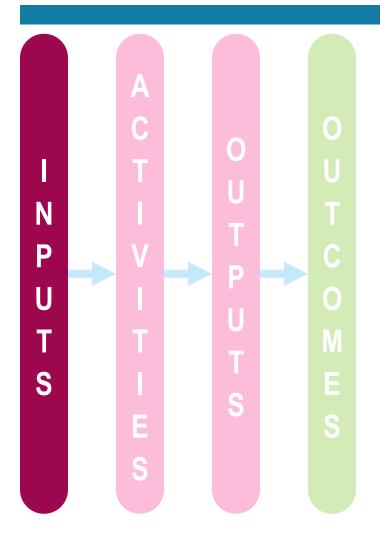
- > Summative
  - Evaluation of long-term goals/overall purpose of a program
  - Guides action/policy after program cycle is complete

SUMMATIVE DATA
COLLECTED &
ANALYZED

RESULTS REPORTED
TO INFORM
DECISION-MAKING

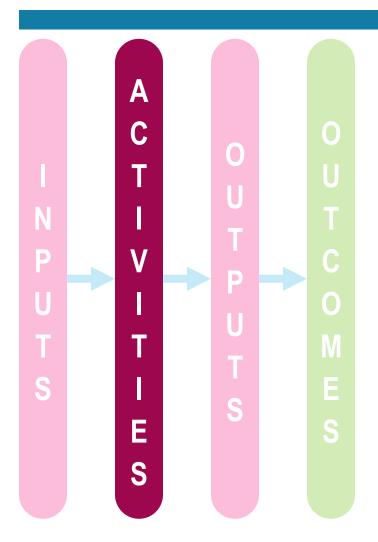






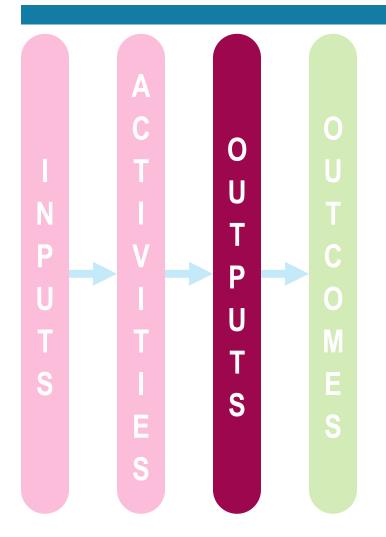
- Inputs = Elements Invested in Program
  - Community Partners
  - Equipment
  - Manpower
  - Materials
  - Money
  - Technology
  - Time





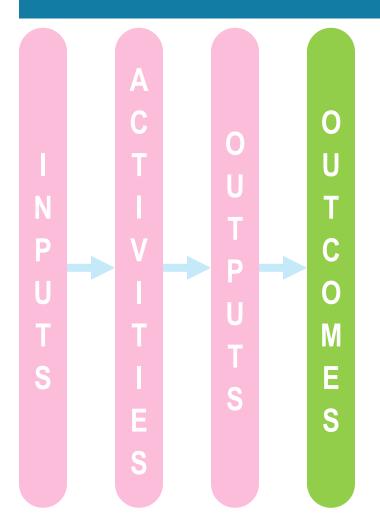
- ➤ Activities = Things We Do
  - Classes
  - Counseling
  - Facilities
  - Media
  - Meetings
  - Products (Books, Curriculum, etc.)
  - Service Delivery
  - Training Workshops
  - Tutoring





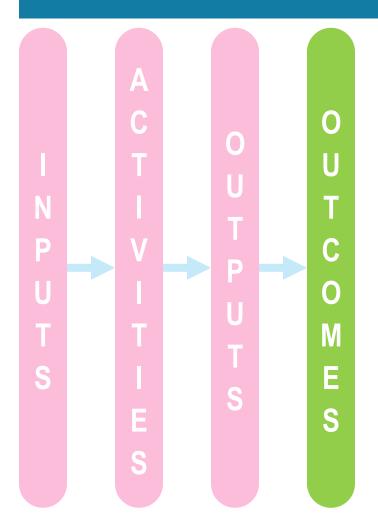
- Outputs = Countable Products
  - Case Studies
  - Educational Pamphlets Distributed
  - Materials Distributed
  - Participants
  - Projects
  - Therapy Sessions
  - Transportation Services





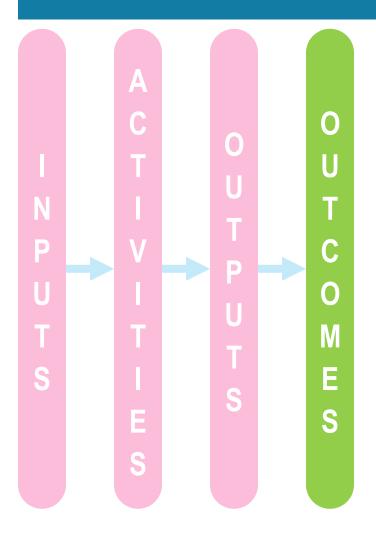
- Short-Term Outcomes = Learning
  - Aspirations
  - Attitudes
  - Awareness
  - Knowledge
  - Motivations
  - Opinions
  - Skills





- ➤ Intermediate Outcomes = Actions
  - Behavior
  - Decision-making
  - Policies
  - Practice
  - Social Action





- ➤ Long-Term Outcomes = Conditions
  - Civic
  - Economic
  - Environmental
  - Social

