Cluster Consulting

Evaluation Services for Groups of Grantees

What is Cluster Consulting?

As part of TCC Group's Cohort Consulting services, our Evaluation Department offers an effective and cost-efficient way to help groups of grantees build purposely build their evaluation capacity, including an evaluation design and products and tools that may used in an organization's evaluation.

- Combines in-person training, small group activities, and assignments with one-on-one coaching and technical assistance
- Allows groups to come together to build skills around a range of evaluation activities
- Learn-by-doing approach
- Create evaluation plans, data collection tools, data analysis templates and procedures, and evaluation reports

What does Cluster Consulting include?

A menu of services with a minimum of three components:

- **Pre-session:** 3 hours of one-on-one technical assistance to help organization prepare for the engagement
- **Core session:** a two-part session consisting of 12 hours of in-person workshops and 4-6 hours of customized technical assistance, coaching, and product review
- **Post-session:** 6 hours of customized technical assistance, coaching, and product review to refine and finalize the products to meet your organization's needs.

Option to purchase **additional sessions** to reinforce skills and enhance the products developed in the basic sessions.

Pre-Session

- **Organizational document sharing**: TCC Group reviews org. chart, program descriptions, strategic plan, annual report and/or funder report.
- **Organizational readiness assessment:** TCC Group reviews the organization's culture around learning, capacity for data collection, and skills related to data analysis.
- **Team identification:** Each organization may send up to two persons to the session
- **Technical assistance:** An hour of one-on-one technical assistance on any pressing needs relevant to the session.

Core Session

Evaluation Design: Logic Model
Participants will understand the value and purpose of the logic model, learn logic model components and terminology, and be taught the skills to refine their organization's logic model and/or build new components for the model over time.

Evaluation Plan: Measures and Indicators
Participants will have identify data collection methods and create a plan for who will collect the data, how and when.

Data Collection
Participants will develop tools for their target audiences, a sampling plan, methods for administering the tools, and procedures to ensure their evaluation meets the required ethical standards.

Data Analysis
Working with their own data set, participants will learn how to describe and summarize data, identify patterns, compare results for different groups, and examine causal relationships between program inputs, strategies, and outcomes so that they can answer the important questions of "what worked" and "why."

Reporting, Communications and Use
Participants learn components of an evaluation report for internal audiences, board members, and funders. We will also explore considerations for external audiences such as community partners, opinion leaders, practitioners, clients and customers.

Post Session

Evaluation Design: Logic Model
Session will emphasize peer discussion and opportunities for sharing best practices and learnings. The final product of the session will be a refined logic model and a deeper understanding of skills for its use.

Evaluation Plan: Measures and Indicators

Session will focus on identifying potential gaps in staff's confidence or skills in implementing the evaluation plan and/or the need to indentify new methods.

Data collection

Participants will receive one-on-one coaching and technical assistance to further refine the tools, vet tools with key stakeholders, finalize the sampling plan, and create a data collection plan

Data analysis

We will focus on integrating data from multiple sources and discuss how much weight various sources of evidence merit. Participants will be encouraged to engage key stakeholders in their organization in reviewing the findings to ensure that their interpretation of the data is accurate, build capacity around the creation of the meaning of data; and understanding of how to use data, the integration of findings into decision making and use toward the determination of strategic direction.

Reporting, Communications and Use Post Session

Participants identify target audiences for evaluation results, consider the best communication tools and products for internal and external audiences, and identify effective dissemination strategies.

Additional Sessions

Six hours of one-on-one coaching, technical assistance, and product review from TCC consultants to tackle the more complex issues related to evaluation sessions listed above.