Moving Beyond Limitations: Engaging Non-Profits in the Evaluation Process

OR

Finding the Mutual “Just Right” for Evaluators and Non-Profits

Jamie Clearfield, EdM
Keith Trahan, PhD
Collaborative for Evaluation and Assessment Capacity
University of Pittsburgh
I called you all here because I need you to stop helping people. It's really messing up my impact assessment.

*Cartoon by the amazing Chris Lysy www.freshspectrum.com*
Passion

Leadership

Administrative skills
Keep trying! You can make sure the results get used!
There’s still hope! Try to improve the program!
Don’t let your hard work go to waste!

This is just business.
Just send your client that boring evaluation report and call it a day.
Don’t worry about it.

©AnnKEmerly & freshspectrum.com
“evaluator as goldilocks syndrome”
Learning by Doing

Learn by Working Together

Learning on the Job

Evaluation
Small Local Non-Profit based on National Program Model

Organizational Challenges
Low Organizational Capacity + Rapid Staff Turnover + Largely Dependent on Volunteer Base + Limited Budget+ Rapidly Changing Data Collection Software + Evaluation System Difficult to Implement

= Low Evaluation Capacity at 10 year Anniversary and Inability to Grow Organizationally
Evaluator Challenges

Time Consuming Evaluation yet Low-Paying Contract
Resource Intensive Evaluation
Data Unorganized or Missing – Low Response Rates
Small Non-Profit organizing Regional Youth Educational Programming

Organizational Challenges

Strong Internal Resources but Overwhelmed with Implementation Information Overload!
Evaluator as 3 Bear Syndrome
Retelling the Story - Getting to the “Mutual Just Right”
Our Ideas

CEAC

Educations

Relationships

Love
At the logic model repair shop...

So, I'm guessing this is for a comprehensive program-level intervention
Promise me you’ll always remember: you’re braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.