

# Center for Supporting Research on CCDBG Implementation

Teresa Derrick-Mills

CCEEPRC Breakout Session on “Capacity-Building in Research-Policy  
Partnerships: Lessons from the Field”

April 17, 2019

# Background

- Center for CCDBG Implementation Research
- Funded by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE)
- Urban Institute supports CCDF Lead Agencies and research partners

# Roles of Research and Evaluation for Lead Agencies

Initiative Stage	Research Questions to Ask	Research Approach
Planning	What is the problem? How might this initiative help?	Exploratory research
Launching	Is it feasible and appropriate?	Formative evaluation
Implementing	How well is it operating?	Process evaluation
Assessing	What was the effect of the initiative? Do the benefits outweigh the costs?	Summative/impact evaluation Benefit-cost analysis
Refining	Is it sustainable? How can it be improved?	Applying research to decision-making

# Dimensions of Organizational Evaluation Capacity



**Source:** Bourgeois, Isabelle and Bradley J. Cousins, 2013. "Understanding dimensions of organizational evaluation capacity." *American Journal of Evaluation*, 34(3), 299–319.

**Graphic from :** Simmons, Louise. 2015. *Building Evaluation Capacity in Ontario's Public Health Units*.

# Support Agencies in Building Capacity

Domain	Domain Total		Number of Items	Average
1. Does our organization value research use?		+	5	
2. Have we made an organizational commitment to research and evaluation?		+	5	
3. Do our decisionmaking processes have a place for research?		+	5	
4. Do program managers participate in research and evaluation activities?		+	6	
5. Have we defined key indicators and data sources for performance measurement?		+	6	
6. Do we have the necessary research knowledge and technical skills?		+	7	
7. Do we have mechanisms in place to effectively communicate our research?		+	5	
<b>Total</b>		+	39	

**Source:** Rohacek, Monica. (2017). *Research and Evaluation Capacity: Self-Assessment Tool and Discussion Guide for CCDF Lead Agencies*. OPRE Report #2017-63. Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

# Contact

**Teresa Derrick-Mills, PhD, Principal Research Associate**

Associate Director, Center for Supporting Research on CCDBG Implementation

Urban Institute

[Tderrick-Mills@urban.org](mailto:Tderrick-Mills@urban.org)

202-261-5731

**Center for Supporting Research on CCDBG Implementation**

[www.urban.org/ccdbg-center](http://www.urban.org/ccdbg-center)