

Supporting States and Communities in Evaluating Behavioral Health Initiatives

Evaluation Expertise

The Human Services Research Institute (HSRI) is a nonprofit, mission-driven research and evaluation institute. We use our data expertise—developed over the past 40 years—and our understanding of the complete health and human services landscape to fulfill our mission of helping federal and state agencies and local communities improve the health, well-being, and economic stability of the populations they serve.

Having led the **evaluation technical assistance for SAMHSA's Project LAUNCH** (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health) from 2013 through 2018, we have a strong understanding of LAUNCH's Core Strategies, grant requirements, and reporting needs as well as evidence-based programs fostering the healthy development and wellness of children from birth through age 8.

We have the expertise to help grantees meet and exceed SAMHSA's requirements for the evaluation component of their grant. We also assist with drafting grant applications.



Our experience with *Project Launch*

As technical assistance lead for Project Launch, we provided TA in:

- Evaluation design
- Instrument selection and development
- Data collection strategies
- Data analysis
- Reporting techniques
- And more

HSRI Can Help Grantees:

- Develop a logic model
- Design and implement a comprehensive evaluation plan that assesses process and outcomes
 - Identify measurable goals and objectives
 - Identify and select outcomes at the child, parent/family, provider, and system levels
 - Develop data collection protocols
 - Identify annual targets for performance measurement goals
- Set up systems to collect and report performance data
- Develop a behavioral health disparities impact statement
- Provide training and technical assistance in strategies to increase follow-up rates
- Monitor data for accuracy and completeness
- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using mixed methods approaches
- Identify continuous quality improvement opportunities through data-driven processes
- Submit data to SAMHSA's online portal (SPARS)
- Write evaluation reports and annual progress reports
- Prepare materials for conferences and presentations

Additional experience evaluating SAMHSA grants

HSRI has decades of experience evaluating SAMHSA grants. We've:

- Conducted dozens of multi-site evaluations
- Worked with numerous single grantees as the local evaluator
- And provided training and technical assistance to grantees

We're intimately familiar with SAMHSA's data collection, reporting, and quality improvement requirements, including:

- Client-level data collection protocols
- Quarterly, biannual, and annual progress reporting processes
- Data management & analysis
- Process and outcome evaluation reports
- Data submission mechanisms

We've worked with SAMHSA in annually updating their GPRA measures and with grantees in submitting their GPRA data through SAMHSA's portal.

Our work with SAMHSA over the years has focused on evaluation of mental health and substance use treatment and prevention grant programs, focusing on a wide range of populations such as:

- Children, youth and young adults
- Homeless individuals
- Minority communities
- Individuals at high risk of HIV, viral hepatitis, and other infectious diseases comorbid with mental health and/or substance use disorders

HSRI conducts work across all fields of health and human services.

We believe in:

- Participatory evaluation and collaborating closely with state and community leaders, providers, consumers, and other local stakeholders to design and implement evaluation studies
- Person-centered practices and self-determination in treatment and recovery
- Special attention to the social determinants of health and wellbeing
- Inclusiveness and equity in access to services and other resources
- Cultural and linguistic appropriateness of service systems and their evaluation

Learn more about the Human Services Research Institute and the services we offer by visiting www.hsri.org

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