Performance Measures and Program Management for JAG

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Presentation for the 2009 BJA JAG Performance Measurement Tool Training
Topics

- BJA resources for performance measurement and evaluation
- Understanding performance measurement
- Using performance measure data
Role of JRSA and JAG PMT

- Long history of work with BJA to enhance the capacity of the State Administering Agencies to monitor and evaluate programs funded under JAG (and predecessor programs) and other programs
  - Current Project: BJA Center for Program Evaluation and Performance Measurement
- For JAG PMT
  - Facilitate learning about performance measurement
  - Consider how to use PMT performance measurement data
BJA Resource: BJA Center for Program Evaluation and Performance Measurement

- Assist users in conducting evaluations and developing program performance measures in criminal justice
- Program Areas
- Evaluation and Performance Measurement Resources
- BJA-Required Performance Measures
- Newsletter
Welcome to BJA's online evaluation tools

State and local agencies will find useful resources for planning and implementing program evaluations and for developing and collecting program performance measures required by BJA to measure program performance.

Evaluation News • BJA Required Performance Measures • Technical Assistance

Program Areas

- Adjudication
- Corrections
- Crime Prevention
- Information Sharing
- Law Enforcement
- Mental Health
- Substance Abuse
- Tribal Justice

Evaluation and Performance Measurement Resources

- Guide to Program Evaluation
- Developing and Working with Program Logic Models
- Including Evaluation in Requests for Proposals
- Reference Materials
- Resources on Evidence-Based Programs and Practices
- Useful Links
- Glossary

Check out the October 2009 (PDF) edition of Evaluation News

Resources on Evidence-Based Programs and Practices are now available.

New: Program area on Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs
Understanding Performance Measurement
What is Performance Measurement?

- Systematic collection of data on program activities and their results in order to assess program accomplishments and improve program performance
Output vs. Outcome Measures

- **Output**: what did we do?
- **Outcome**: Did individuals, communities, or systems change?
- **BJA performance measures** include both
Equipment/Supplies

- **Output**
  - Amount of funds used
  - Type of equipment purchased

- **Outcome**
  - Percent of staff who reported improvement in efficiency resulting from equipment purchase
  - Possible ways to collect this
    - Email staff after purchase
      - Send email when you would expect improvement would have happened (e.g., right after purchase, 3 months after purchase) and ask, “Did you see any improvement in efficiency of your job after the purchase of X?”
    - Pre and Post Survey
      - Before purchase ask staff, “How long does it take you to do X?”
      - After purchase, when you would expect change would have happened, ask staff, “How long does it take you to do X?”
Change

- Performance measurement is the measurement of change
  - What changed?
  - By how much?
  - In what direction?
  - For what duration?
  - Was this what we expected/hoped for?
Measuring Change

- In performance measurement, change is measured by looking at how things are now compared with how they were before the specified activities took place.
Training

- Was information imparted? (output)
- Was information learned? (outcome)
- Was information used? (beyond PM)
- Pretest – posttest is the outcome measure (change in knowledge from when they walk into training to when they walk out)
Programmatic Intervention

- Was intervention implemented as planned? (output)
- Did intervention result in behavior change (individual/group/community)? (outcome)
- To measure outcome:
  - Establish a baseline
  - Compare current (post-intervention) behavior to baseline (number of reported robberies decreased by 10% from previous quarter)
Using Performance Measure Data
The Measures

- Intended to meet federal program performance measure needs
- May not address all important aspects of program activities and objectives
- May raise concerns about existing state performance measure requirements for subrecipients or recipients

Contact BJA to discuss questions/concerns
JAG Reports from PMT

- **National-Level**
  - To meet federal agency program performance mandates
  - BJA will produce a report with aggregated data on national level

- **Recipient/ Subrecipient Reports**
  - For recipient/ subrecipient use
  - Two reports
    - JAG Subaward Detail Report
    - JAG GMS Report
Recipient/ Subrecipient Reports

- JAG Subaward Detail Report
  - A .pdf or .xls file produced on request by PMT
  - Overall funds awarded by purpose area
  - Individual performance measure data for each subrecipient and totals for each performance measure

- JAG GMS Report
  - A .pdf or .xls file produced on request by PMT
  - Aggregated performance measure data for all subrecipient split by purpose area
Subrecipients

- Track implementation over time
  - Did we implement as planned? If not:
    - Why not?
    - What is the likely impact on outcomes?

- Measure change over time
  - Did we see anticipated changes? If not:
    - Why not?
    - Do we need to measure anything else/anything differently?
    - Did unanticipated change occur?
Recipients

- Examine program implementation
  - Who would benefit from technical assistance?
- Compare outcomes of similar programs (in terms of objectives, activities, purpose areas)
  - Across areas: which initiatives seem to be more effective?
  - Within areas: which programs seem to be more effective? What do they have in common?
- Are we ready to call in the evaluators (would change have occurred in the absence of the intervention)?
Principles for Sharing PM Data

- Provide written results publicly where possible
- Decide which results will be shared among subrecipients only
- Identify elements that are functioning well and those that need improvement
- Educate policymakers about what programs can reasonably accomplish
Benefits of Sharing PM Data

- Encourages recipients and subrecipients to take data collection seriously
- Prompts the use of performance measure data to improve the program/project
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