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Organizational Development

Turning Your Nonprofit Into A Powerhouse!

Bonus Edition

Data-Driven Resource Allocation

The Community Needs Assessments

Strategic Resource Allocation | Change Management | Evaluation

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Proverbs 18: 13; 17 (AMP)

¹³ He who answers a matter before he hears the facts; it is folly and shame to him.

¹⁷ He who states his case first seems right, until his rival comes and cross-examines him.

The Community Needs Assessment

A Community Needs Assessment is a combination of information gathering, community engagement and focused action with the goal of community improvement. A community needs assessment identifies the strengths and weaknesses (needs) within a community.

A community needs assessment is also unique and specific to the needs within a community and is usually an extension of a community's strategic planning process.

There are Three Main Types of Community Needs Assessments:

Community Needs Assessment I – This type of needs assessment seeks to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses within a community and create or improve services based on the identified weaknesses. This type of needs assessment is primarily structured around how to best obtain information, opinions, and input from community members.

Community Needs Assessment II – This type of needs assessment is constructed around a known or potential problem facing the community and centers less around the direct involvement of the community but rather the governing entities, stakeholders, businesses, advocacy groups etc.

Community Needs Assessment III - This final type of needs assessment is based within an organization which either serves the community at large, is currently addressing a need within the community, or is dedicated to an under-served population.

This type of needs assessment centers around improving the organizational efficiency or effectiveness.

Strategic Resource Allocation

At one end of the spectrum are **Operational Decisions**, which are generally highly structured, routine, short-term oriented and increasingly embodied in sophisticated software applications.

At the other end of the spectrum are **Strategic Decisions**. These are usually taken by high levels of management as they set the long-term directions and policies of a business, government or other organizations. They tend to be complex, and unstructured because of the uncertainty and risks that generally accompany longer term decisions.

Strategic decisions are aimed at setting the long term directions and policies of an organization. Making sound strategic decisions is one of the most important qualities of a great leadership.

The use of Big Data and data science to help with strategic decisions is in its early stages and requires quite a bit more research to understand how to use them under different contexts.

Change Management

The activities of **Requirements Change Management** include receiving the change requests from the stakeholders, recording the received change requests, analyzing and determining the desirability and process of implementation, implementation of the change request, quality assurance for the implementation and [evaluating] the change request.

Requirements Management begins with the analysis and elicitation of the objectives and constraints of the organization.

Requirements Management involves communication between the project team members and stakeholders, and adjustment to requirements changes throughout the course of the [program].

Evaluation

Evaluation is the structured interpretation and giving of meaning to predicted or actual impacts of proposals or results.

It looks at original objectives, and at what is either predicted or what was accomplished and how it was accomplished. So evaluation can be **Formative**, that is taking place during the development of a concept or proposal, project or organization, with the intention of improving the value or effectiveness of the proposal, project, or organization.

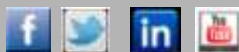
It can also be **Assumptive**, drawing lessons from a completed action or project or an organization at a later point in time or circumstance.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Data-informed_decision-making
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Always feel welcome to contact us directly with any questions, comments, or great ideas!

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ADVOCACY



*Helping Individuals, Organizations & Communities
Achieve Their Full Potential*

Our Mission

The Mission of The Advocacy Foundation
is Threefold:

To Rescue

Young persons from the prison pipeline
and help redirect and restore their lives;

To Teach

New and fledgling nonprofit organizations to become
fundable, to thrive, and to maintain compliance;

To Train

Qualified Juvenile Justice Professionals with a passion
for effective careers in the Juvenile Justice system.

PREPARING INDIVIDUALS, ORGANIZATIONS
& COMMUNITIES TO ACHIEVE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL