Higher Education as Guides to the Credit Path Evaluation Overview

PHENND Sub-grantees Meeting
September 3, 2009
Today’s Plan – lots of discussion!

- Share our approach
- Share performance measures
- Review general design and data collection
- Next steps
Our Evaluation Approach

- Work in close partnership with sponsoring organizations

- Assess both short and long-term outcomes AND how and why programs and services work

- See evaluation as a way not only to prove whether a program worked but also to improve the way it works
Our Approach (continued)

- Help organizations increase their internal capacity to evaluate program effectiveness and outcomes
- Generate knowledge that advances social justice
- Make knowledge productive
Performance Measures
(outcomes)

- Students
- Community partners
- HED partners
Outcomes: Students

400 students will provide services annually

- Leadership skills
- Greater commitment to civic engagement
- Increased awareness & understanding about structural inequalities in this country
Outcomes: Community

2000 low-moderate income individuals will be served

- Low-moderate income individuals will be served – economic self-sufficiency
- Organizations will report that students helped their clients
- Agency capacity to meet client needs is increased
Outcomes: HED

- Campuses learn to become better partners
- Community engagement/service is institutionalized
Outcomes: Making it real

What do these outcomes look like within the context of your work?
3 Sources of Data

- Brandeis data collection
- Learn and Serve – LASSIE
- Agency data
Data Collection: Brandeis

- Students – survey at the end of each semester (web)
- Campus service coordinators –
  - Annual survey on institutional impact
  - Interview
- Community partners –
  - Annual survey (Spring, web)
  - Focus group with “Big 5”
Data Collection: Learn and Serve

The LASSIE system:
www.lsareports.org

See the “Download Surveys” link to get a paper version of the survey.

You’ll have access to LASSIE “Field Tools” later this Fall.
Data Collection: Agency

What are you already collecting that might be useful?

e.g., Food Stamp Enrollment Campaign
Next Steps

- We use your input to refine the plan
- Share it with you including instruments, timetable
- Will implement most in January 2010, w/some student surveys in Nov 09.
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