

Innovative Strategies for Easing the Burden of Data Collection and Management

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Presentation Objectives

- To learn and discuss multiple data collection strategies and how to apply them to fulfill ICF Macro and local evaluation requirements.
- To present three specific methods used to ease the burden of data collection and management
 - 1) Early Identification, Referral and Follow-Up using an on-line survey created by SurveyMonkey
 - 2) EIRF data collection by modifying agencies existing forms
 - 3) Google Docs for Online Registration for gatekeeper training, collecting PSI data, and gathering other data
- To hear your responses and learn about your own methods and innovative strategies



Early Identification, Referral and Follow-Up Questions Answered by EIRF

How many youth are being identified at risk for suicide and what are their characteristics?

Which of these youth are referred for service?

What are the follow-up rates to service after receipt of a referral?



EIRF Challenges

- Collecting contact information from gatekeeper trainees from many agencies and backgrounds
- Gatekeeper trainees need easy method to provide ID, referral, and follow-up information
- Needs to be easy to clean and upload data to Suicide Prevention Data Center (SPDC)
- Good response rate
 Some follow-up needed



Solutions

Differences for each Partner

- Allowed stakeholders to identify and design best data collection and management methods
- Designed online survey with SurveyMonkey for gatekeepers who are widespread throughout the state and agencies who lack the infrastructure to collect EIRF data
- Modified existing logs and forms to add EIRF questions



Solutions by Curricula

■ ASIST

- Using online survey with EIRF questions
- HGTI project coordinator submits attendance log contact information in Excel
- Research assistant creates database
- Survey emailed every quarter two weeks prior to upload by ICF Macro's submission deadline

■ SOS & safeTALK

- Using existing data collection forms and methods
- Modified to add fields or variables to answer EIRF questions
- Will be submitted by these agencies quarterly to the evaluator for data entry and upload to Macro/SPDC

ASIST Protocol Recap

- Staff trained in ASIST receive an email and/or phone call on a quarterly basis directing them to an on-line survey.
- On-line survey created to answer all of the questions needed for the EIRF, with the ability to output a spreadsheet to be **directly** uploaded to Macro by the local evaluation team.
- Should the trained gatekeeper not log in to the on-line survey, even to report no referrals, a follow-up email/phone call will take place until contact is initiated.

Experiences to date

SurveyMonkey first used for Year One,
Quarters 3&4

- 25% unreachable via email
- 33% response rate of those with valid email

Year Two, Quarter 1

- 18% response rate
 - Over winter holidays
 - No reminders
 - One week response time
- Macro inserted new questions - didn't learn until upload



Using Google Docs for Online Access to Data

- Accessing real time registration data for workshops was problematic and inaccurate
- Changed to Google Docs for several uses:
 - For a registration form that feeds registrant data into a spreadsheet
 - Spreadsheet can be accessed from any computer by any staff member - powerful!

Other Uses of Google Docs

- Create a survey for project status reporting
- Ask for availability of trainers & HGTI collaborators
- Collecting data through Google Docs
 - Can be viewed from any computer by multiple persons at the same time
 - Information is collected in spreadsheet format automatically - fewer errors - no reentering of data
 - Google Doc is a URL - can be advertised in documents, on websites, is 'live'

Discussion

How have other grantees eased the data collection burden?

- Finally, our contact information:

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Mahalo and Aloha