## Finding Common Ground: Implications of Diversity in Data Collection in a Multi-Site, Initiative Evaluation









#### **Evaluation Team**

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#### **Presentation Overview**

- Healthy & Active Communities Initiative Evaluation
- Evaluation Challenges
- Data Collection System Development
- Lessons Learned

# Healthy & Active Communities (H&AC) Initiative Evaluation

## **Healthy & Active Communities**

The initiative aims to combat obesity through direct programming, built environment change, advocacy and policy change.

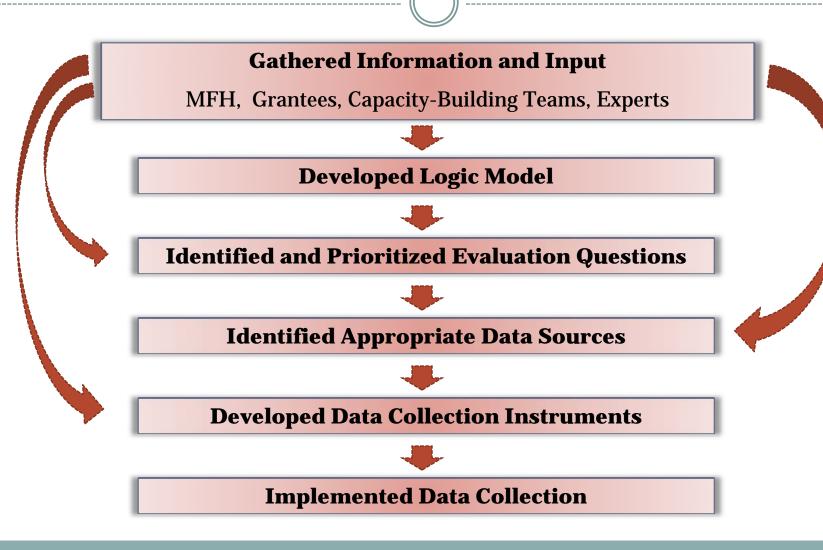
- Established in 2005 by the Missouri Foundation for Health (MFH)
- 50 organizations across Missouri
- Two levels of evaluation:
  - Internal program evaluations
  - External initiative evaluation

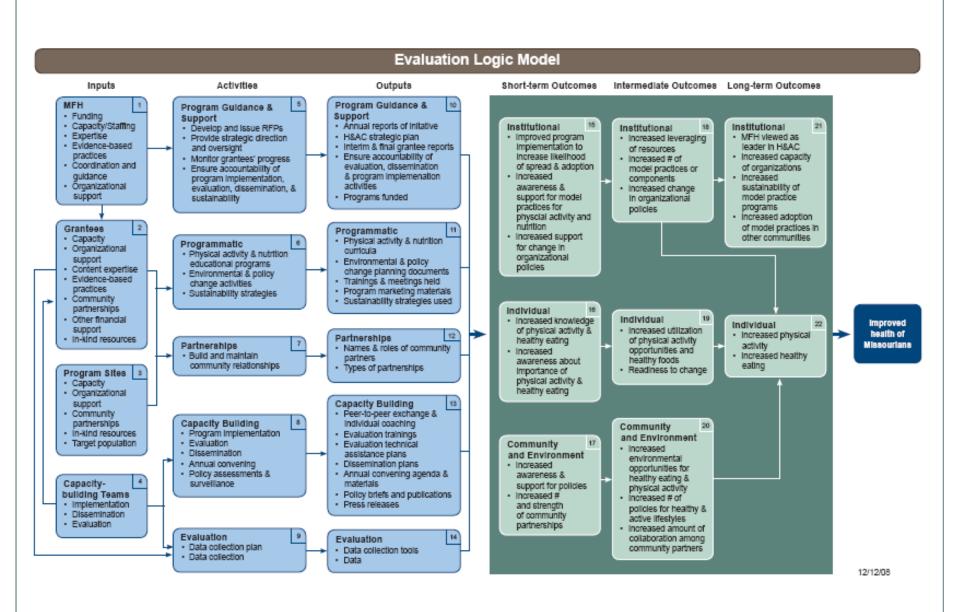
#### **H&AC** Initiative Evaluation Goals

1. Conduct a rigorous evaluation of the H&AC Initiative

2. Increase grantees' evaluation capacity through intensive technical assistance and training

## **Evaluation Plan Development**



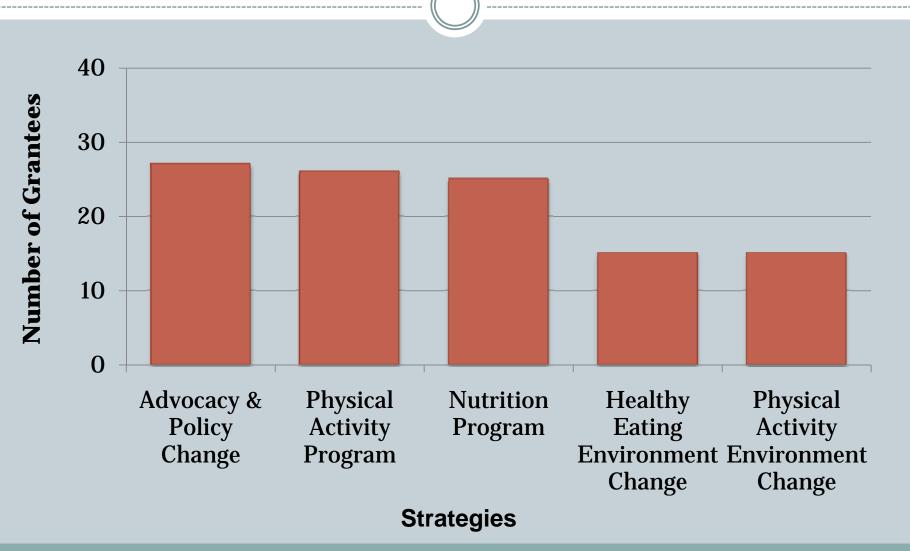


## **Core Data Set**

Data Source	Indicators
Web-based Data Collection System	<ul> <li>Reach of the programs</li> <li>Settings</li> <li>Geographical areas</li> <li>Populations affected</li> <li>Program partners</li> <li>Capacity of organizations (<i>e.g.</i>, staffing, training, budget)</li> </ul>
Qualitative Interviews	<ul> <li>Successful and challenging program components</li> <li>Capacity of organizations</li> <li>Technology</li> <li>Program partners</li> <li>Essential skills needed to implement program</li> <li>Lessons learned</li> </ul>

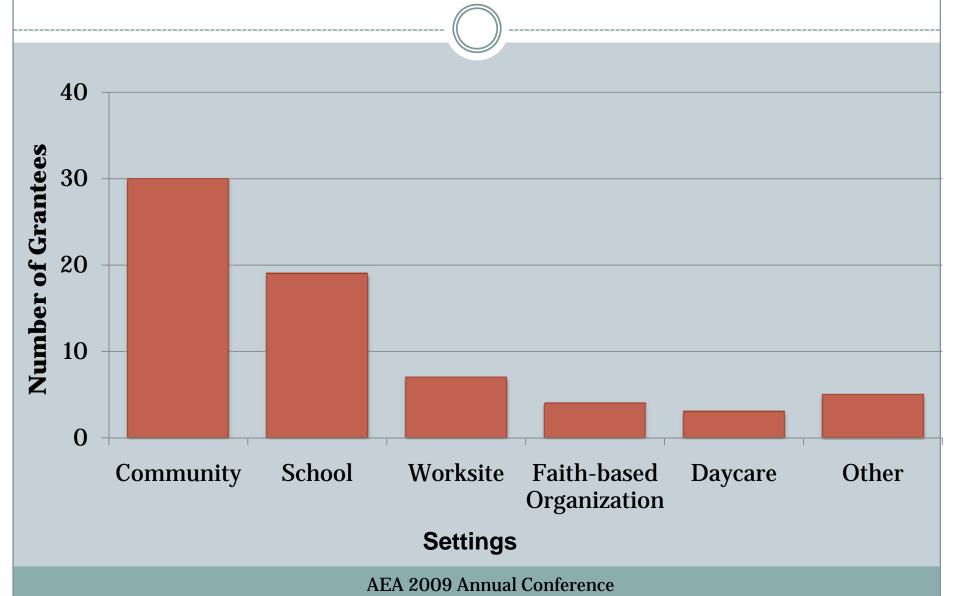
# **Evaluation Challenges**

## The Diverse Focus of Projects



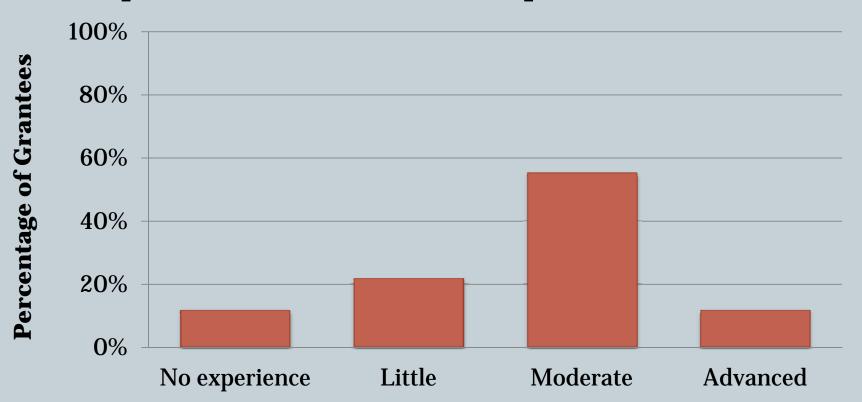
**AEA 2009 Annual Conference** 





## **Evaluation Capacity**

#### Self Reported Level of Grantee Experience in Evaluation



**Self Reported Evaluation Experience** 

# Healthy and Active Programs and Policies Evaluation (HAPPE) System

## **Purpose of the System**

- To serve as a centralized location for grantees to:
  - submit their program data
  - monitor their progress over time
  - generate reports to meet their program needs
- To allow the Evaluation Team to collect data across all H&AC programs.

## **System Content**

#### Breadth of data

- What, When, Where, Who
- Based on our core data set
- Categorized grantee activities

#### Depth of data

Internal program evaluations

## **System Development**

- Worked with a developer from a previous project
- Internal testing with project staff
- Testing with a sample of grantees
- Incorporated feedback and made revisions



#### Healthy & Active Programs and Policies Evaluation System

Welcome, Test Grantee

Thursday, November 05, 2009 4:13:53 PM

#### About the HAPPE System

The Healthy and Active Program and Policy Evaluation (HAPPE) System is the data collection system for the evaluation of the MFH Healthy & Active Communities Initiative (H&AC). The System provides you with a centralized location to submit your Initiative evaluation data, monitor your program's progress over time, and generate reports to meet your specific program needs.

Home

Data Entry

Reporting

User Profile

Grantee Profile

Log Out

#### How to Get Started

Please refer to the HAPPE System Training Manual for detailed instructions. To contact the System Coordinator, Gina Banks, click on the <u>Contact</u> button below.

#### **Entering Data**

To enter data for a monthly or quarterly data entry period, select Data Entry from the Main Menu on the left.

#### Reporting

The reporting feature of the HAPPE System is still under development but will be available soon.

#### Healthy & Active Programs and Policies Evaluation System

#### Monthly Data Set Sample Grantee, November 2009

Add or Update Activity

**Activity Detail** 

Setting

**Populations** 



#### **Add New Activity**

To add an activity to the database, please click the button below.

Add New Activity

#### **Update Existing Activity**

Choose an existing activity from the list below to update.

Click on column headings to sort.

Activity Name	<u>Last</u> <u>Updated</u>	Category
Springfield Partnership Development	11/4/2009	Partnership Development Activities
Soccer Program	11/4/2009	Nutrition & Physical Activity Program Activities
Healthy Lifestyles Toolkit	11/4/2009	Marketing & Dissemination
Physical Activity for Preschoolers	11/4/2009	Nutrition & Physical Activity Program Activities
Nutritious Foods 101	11/2/2009	Nutrition & Physical Activity Education Only Activities
Physical Activity Education in High Schools	11/2/2009	Nutrition & Physical Activity Education Only Activities
Healthy eating for kids	11/2/2009	Healthy Eating Environment Changes
Hilltop Community Garden	11/2/2009	Healthy Eating Environment Changes
No More Cars	11/2/2009	Physical Activity Environment Changes
St. Louis Complete Streets Policy	11/2/2009	Advocacy and Policy Change Activities
1 2		



Next

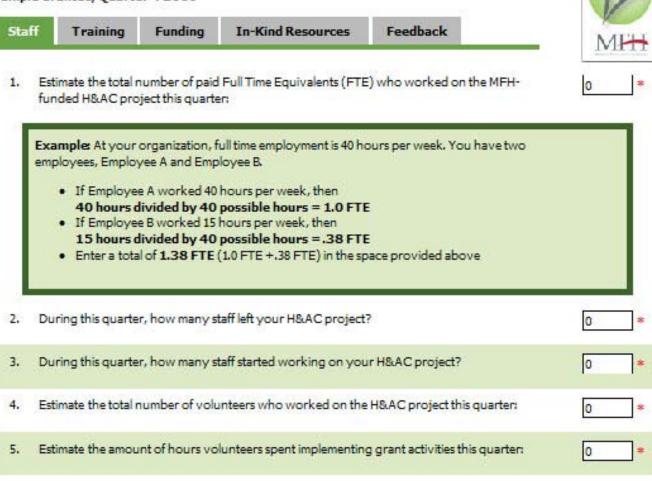




#### Healthy & Active Programs and Policies Evaluation System

#### **Quarterly Data Set**

Sample Grantee, Quarter 4 2009



REALISMY & ACTIVE

\* Indicated required fields



## **In Person Training**

- System manual
- Set up of activities
- Ample time devoted to navigation of system
- Additional assistance
- Dedicated System Coordinator

## **Lessons Learned**

## **Lessons Learned**

- Allow plenty of time for planning and development
- Be flexible with development process
- Important to make system beneficial to users
- Be aware of users' capacity

## **Lessons Learned**

- System has to be user friendly
- Testing is very important
- Include money in budget for future upgrades
- Include at least one FTE dedicated to the system and users

## **Contact Information**

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