



UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA

YOUTH-NEX

CURRY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION



IMPROVING EVALUATION AND REPORTING OUTCOMES FOR YOUTH AND FAMILY LEGAL PROGRAMS

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Virginia Poverty and Law Center Conference
Improving Evaluation and Reporting
Outcomes for Youth and Family Legal
Programs

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OUTLINE

Introduction

10 minutes

Roundtable consultation meeting
Purpose of Evaluation – demonstrating value

Mapping Impact –or– Framing and selling outcomes

20 minutes



❖ Mission

Discussion Question: *Why is what lawyers do important?*

❖ Goals

Discussion Questions: *What is the “goal” of advocacy work?*
What is the “goal” of legal representation?

❖ Resources: You and your pencil

❖ Activities: Writing papers, getting publicity, going to court

❖ Productivity: Advocacy activities, cases won

❖ Outcomes – Immediate Short Term

30 minutes

✓ What changed for people as a result of productivity...

Framing and highlighting why this is important.

✓ Satisfaction surveys [see handout]

Questions linked directly to outcomes; simple and specific; limit open-ended questions; short and sweet; lots of white space

Also see: <http://www.howto.gov/customer-service/collecting-feedback/basics-of-survey-and-question-design#survey-design>

✓ Testimonials and personal stories: written, dictated or recorded

Before and after services; from clients and other stakeholders

❖ Community Impact – Long Term Outcomes

5 minutes

Directly connected to immediate outcomes but not (necessarily) measured by you: improved graduate rates; more protective orders; more stable housing for vulnerable populations; child support is paid; custody litigation is minimized (no returns to court) [See data resources]

❖ Vision

Discussion Question: *How would the world be different if Legal Aid wasn't needed?*

Framing Your Impact

20 minutes

Why is advocacy/legal representation important? Why should you fund us?

As can be seen by the COMMUNITY IMPACT, there is a need for OUTCOMES.

We strive to achieve a VISION, via RESOURCES/PRODUCTIVITY, in order to improve people's lives by producing OUTCOMES that will eventually lead to COMMUNITY IMPACT.

Don't forget the graphs! 😊

Go tell your grandmother.

The elevator speech.

Making clear connections – building off your map.

Don't claim to be more than you are, and don't sell yourself short.

NOTES

For more information:

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Visit us on the web!
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COMMUNITY IMPACT – DATA RESOURCES

- ↻ Virginia Department of Education School Report Cards:
http://www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics_reports/school_report_card/index.shtml
Data for districts or schools on attendance, SOLs, financial disadvantage, behavior and violence, ESL, SPED, etc.
- ↻ Virginia Employment Commission, Virginia Workforce Connection
<http://www.vawc.virginia.gov/analyzer/default.asp>
Data on unemployment and more
- ↻ The Family and Children’s Trust Fund of Virginia (FACT)
<http://www.fact.state.va.us/>
Local and regional data on family violence.
- ↻ U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>
Demographic data and more (state, city/county, census tract and block level).
- ↻ U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder
<http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>
Demographic data and more (state, city/county, census tract and block level).
- ↻ Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center (formally CLIKS)
<http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/bystate/StateLanding.aspx?state=VA>
Measures of child well-being, including the community-level data and trends in Virginia.
- ↻ Virginia Center for Housing Research
<http://www.vchr.vt.edu/markets.html>
Housing-related data services to localities and the Commonwealth.

MAKE YOUR CASE – INFORMATION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

- ↻ Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago
<http://www.chapinhall.org/research>
Publications organized by child-focused topics.
- ↻ U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
<http://www.ojjdp.gov/> See “Publications” then “Types of Publications”
Bulletins and various series are very informative and well-researched.
- ↻ Find Youth Info
<http://www.findyouthinfo.gov/>
A collaborative of U.S. government agencies who have centralized important information about youth. Find youth facts, funding information, and tools to help you assess community assets, generate maps of local and federal resources, search for evidence-based youth programs, and keep up-to-date on the latest, youth-related news.