

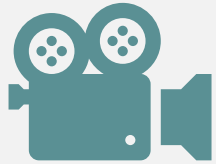
A winter scene featuring a wooden cabin with a snow-covered roof and glowing windows. The cabin is surrounded by snow-covered evergreen trees. In the background, there are mountains and a vibrant aurora borealis in shades of green and purple. A deer with large antlers stands in the foreground on the right. The overall atmosphere is serene and cozy.

# **BUDDIES PROJECT SESSION 6**

## **Internal vs. External Evaluation**

Thursday, December 14, 2023

# HOUSEKEEPING



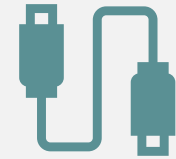
Recording didactic  
presentation and  
BUDDIES updates



Closed captioning  
available, if needed



Please keep  
cameras on, if  
possible



IT issues?  
Let Chad know via  
Zoom chat or (207)  
992-7325

# AGENDA

1

Internal vs. External Evaluation Presentation

2

Small Group Discussions

3

Large Group Discussion

4

BUDDIES Updates

5

Wrap Up & Next Session

A winter landscape with snow-covered evergreen trees and a vibrant aurora borealis in the sky. The scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source being the colorful aurora in shades of green, purple, and blue. The foreground shows a snow-covered slope, and the background features a range of mountains under the night sky.

# INTERNAL VS. EXTERNAL EVALUATION

# AN EVALUATION TRIP TO THE NORTH POLE DD COUNCIL

Cindy Lou



Buddy the Elf



## EVALUATION

The collection, analysis, and use of data and information to answer questions about projects, programs, and policies, particularly around their effectiveness and outcomes

Kris Kringle



Dasher



Could include the collection, analysis, and reporting of performance measures data

# TYPES OF EVALUATIONS



## INTERNAL EVALUATION

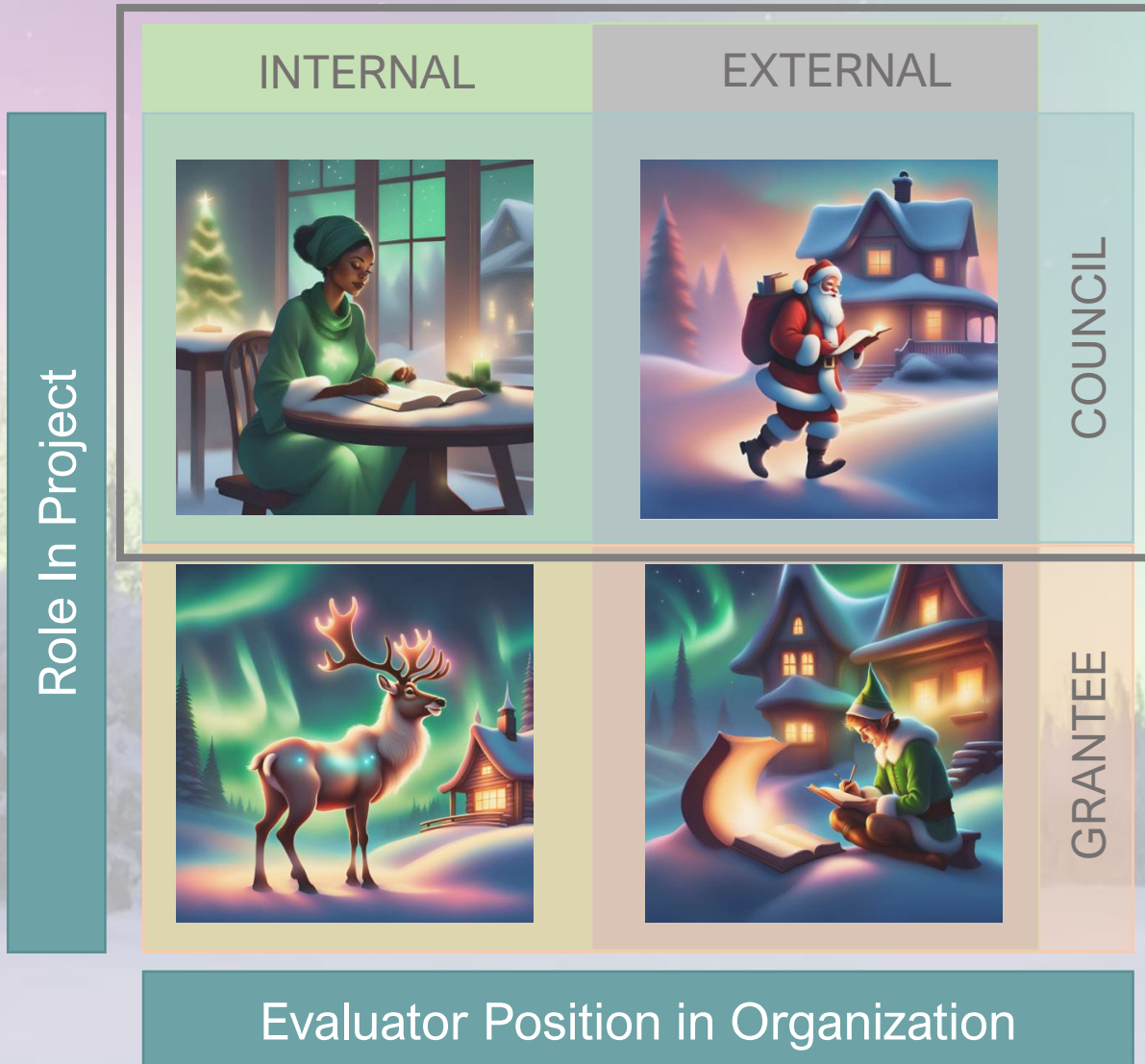
Evaluation activities conducted by a person employed at an organization (aka internal evaluator)



## EXTERNAL EVALUATION

Evaluation activities are conducted by a person who does not work at an organization, but are contracted to provide evaluation services (aka external evaluator)

# WHO CONDUCTS EVALUATIONS?



# CONSIDERATIONS FOR INTERNAL EVALUATION



From the perspective of...

Pros

Cons

Potential Challenges

## Evaluation / Reporting Staff

Evaluation staff has:

- Project context
- Connection with partners, participants, and community

- Evaluation staff may lack technical skills and expertise

- Support / buy-in from leadership and partners
- Implications of negative evaluation findings

## Organizational Leadership

- Typically more cost effective
- Supports evaluation capacity / skill building among staff

- Internal staff may not have financial or time capacity

- Use and application of evaluation findings
- External acceptability of evaluation



# CONSIDERATIONS FOR EXTERNAL EVALUATION



| From the perspective of...          | Pros   | Cons   | Potential Challenges   |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>Evaluation / Reporting Staff</b> | <p>Evaluator has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Technical knowledge, skill, and expertise</li><li>▪ Credibility and objectivity</li><li>▪ External perspective</li></ul> | <p>Evaluator may lack:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Project knowledge and context</li><li>▪ Connections with community and participants</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Support / buy-in from leadership and partners</li><li>▪ Collaboration between internal staff and evaluator</li></ul> |
| <b>Organizational Leadership</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ May have greater acceptability of findings</li></ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ More costly</li><li>▪ Still requires internal staff's time and effort</li></ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Use and application of evaluation findings</li><li>▪ Contracting / agreement management</li></ul>                    |



**QUESTIONS?  
COMMENTS?  
CLARIFICATIONS?**

# SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

## Extract from External Evaluator's Report to State-level Program

### *Infrastructure*

- Processes within state government specific to contract development have resulted in delays in Program achieving activities. Contracting is taking up to 100 days.

### *Staffing*

- Program experienced staff turnover in the Program Manager position.
- Insufficient Program capacity at the beginning of project implementation resulted in delays in Program achieving activities, especially in clearly defining the Project and identifying appropriate partners to support successful implementation of the Project.

### *Financial resources*

- The financial impact of COVID-19 on the state budget, like many states, is significant. Although state and federal funding for the Project has not been affected, it is unclear how this may affect Program partners and citizens.

### *Management*

- Changes in Program staff resulted in delays in defining the scope of work for pilot sites participating in Project.

### *Partners*

- The Program contracted with John Doe, Inc. to define the Project and clarify quality improvement efforts. This contract was cancelled because services were not rendered as mutually agreed upon. This resulted in increased workload for Program staff and a delay in Project implementation.
- An increase in patients served due to Medicaid expansion, the timing of winter holidays, and COVID-19 made it more difficult for Program to meet with clinical partners and move forward with the Project.
- The Program's epidemiologist was assigned to lead COVID-19 contact tracing teams. This has taken up a substantial portion of her time. Some products/deliverables were in her review queue and on-hold until she could review them.

A scenic landscape featuring snow-covered mountains and a frozen body of water in the foreground. The sky is a vibrant green, suggesting an aurora borealis. The text "BUDDIES UPDATES" is centered in the middle of the image.

# BUDDIES UPDATES

# 2024 SESSION TOPICS

| SESSION | DATE                                    | TOPIC                                      |
|---------|---|--|
| 7       | February 15, 2024                       | Types of Evaluations                       |
| 8       | April 18, 2024                          | Study Designs                              |
| 9       | July 2024 (exact date TBD)<br>In person | Topic TBD                                  |
| 10      | September 19, 2024                      | Quantitative & Qualitative Data Collection |
| 11      | November 21, 2024                       | Innovative Data Collection Methods         |






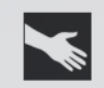




















# EVALUATION RESOURCES

## CONVERSATION STARTERS!

Dinámicas/  
Movement Building Activities  
for Popular/People's Education

CHW Common Indicators Project  
December 2021

## Liberating Structures

|   |  |  |   |   |   |   |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|---|
| LS Menu<br>                | Wicked questions<br>        | What' debrief<br>               | Min specs<br>                  | Heard, seen respected<br>    | What I need from you<br>     | Integrated autonomy<br>    |
| Design elements<br>        | Appreciative interviews<br> | Discovery and action dialog<br> | Improv prototyping<br>         | Drawing together<br>         | Open space<br>               | Critical uncertainties<br> |
| 1-2-4-All<br>              | TRIZ<br>                    | Shift & share<br>               | Helping heuristics<br>         | Design storyboards<br>       | Generative relationships<br> | Ecocycle<br>               |
| Impromptu networking<br> | 15% solutions<br>         | 25 : 10 crowdsourcing<br>     | Conversation café<br>        | Celebrity interview<br>    | Agree/certainty matrix<br> | Panarchy<br>             |
| 9-whys<br>               | Troika consulting<br>     | Wise crowds<br>               | User experience fishbowl<br> | Social network webbing<br> | Simple ethnography<br>     | Purpose to practice<br>  |

# SESSION WRAP-UP



## **NEXT SESSION:**

Thursday, February 15, 2024, from 3:00 – 4:30 PM EST



## **TOPIC:**

Different Types of Evaluation



## **POST-SESSION SURVEY:**

Take 5 minutes to provide feedback on today's session!

# CONTACT US



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*Happy Holidays!*



*See you in 2024!*

