Preparing for Effective Implementation Cheat Sheet

Use these questions to help plan for effective implementation of strategies, efforts, and programs.

ABLe change
Simple rules. Small wins. Big change.

Promote Diffusion

Diffusion is the adoption, use, and spread of strategies and new behaviors across the community (Rogers, 2003; Dearing, 2008). Taking active approaches to diffuse your strategies across the community is important to ensure needed stakeholders and settings are engaged in implementing your change efforts.

Awareness: What processes can you use to **spread the word** about this strategy to all relevant people who need to adopt it?

Buy-In: What is the best way to **describe your efforts** so individuals want to participate or learn more?

Scale: How can you **expand diffusion** over time to reach others who could play a role in carrying out these strategies?
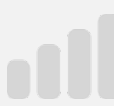
Support Effective Use

After stakeholders and settings have adopted strategies through your diffusion efforts, the next area to consider when designing for effective implementation is how to support use of new behaviors.

Effective Use: How can you make strategies as easy as possible to implement? How can you build local **capacities** to effectively carry out new behaviors?

Continued Use: How can you **embed** these behaviors into existing routines? How can you promote **accountability** for new behaviors?

Ensure Adequate Dose

Designing for effective implementation also includes ensuring your strategies will provide a high enough "dose" to bring about population-level changes (Cheadle, 2013).

Reach: How can you increase the **number** of priority residents you **reach** with your strategies?

Strength: How can you increase the **strength** this strategy has to shift relevant outcomes?

Address System Misalignments

Anticipate and address system alignments with your strategies to improve implementation and ensure targeted changes come about and are sustained.

Mindset: Do stakeholders (leaders, staff, families, etc.) recognize this strategy as necessary, feasible, beneficial?

Connections: Is needed information or resources flowing to the people or settings trying to adopt the strategies?

Components: How compatible is this strategy with current services or programs (e.g., availability, accessibility, cultural competency, and quality)?

Regulations: What current policies, practices and procedures might get in the way of people's capability or opportunity to use the strategies?

Resources: Do organizations have staff and financial resources to carry out these strategies? Are needed community resources in place to support the strategies?

Power: How do the strategies challenge existing power and decision-making structures? What new structures are needed?

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