Overview of the HHS Approach to Title I of the Evidence Act

April 24, 2023
Susan Jenkins,
Evaluation Officer
ASPE/HHS
Coordination Across the Officer/Officials

• Cross Council Participation
  – HHS Data Council
  – HHS Data Governance Board
  – HHS Evidence and Evaluation Council
  – Interagency Council for Statistical Policy

• Monthly Evaluation Officer/Chief Data Officer meetings

• Joint initiatives
  – Data Awards
  – Data Strategy
  – Trainings
Cross Agency Integration

- Monthly meetings with Performance, Strategic Planning, and Enterprise Risk Management staff
- Training materials are available in the Strategic Planning Resource Center
- Coordination of Agency budget justification instructions
- More Cross Council participation
  - Performance Officer Council
  - Enterprise Risk Management Core Team
  - Artificial Intelligence Community of Practice
  - Federal Health IT Coordinating Council Meeting
Overview of HHS Process

- Coordinate with Division Liaisons to the Evidence and Evaluation Council
- Stand up a working group
- Drop in Hours
- Improvements over time:
  - In 2021 asked for responses separately for each deliverable
  - In 2022 created Division specific requests that were bundled and used information from the OMB Budget justification to develop the Evidence Submission
  - In 2023 tie the process more closely with the Budget Justification process
General Themes of 2023 Update
## Capacity Assessment

### Measurement Focus by Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All years</th>
<th>FY 2023-Organizational focus</th>
<th>FY 2024–Individual focus</th>
<th>FY 2025-Leadership focus</th>
<th>FY 2026</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capacity Building Activities</td>
<td>Defining the evaluation function</td>
<td>Collaborations</td>
<td>Leadership engagement</td>
<td>identifying new capacity building needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity Improvements</td>
<td>Stakeholder engagement</td>
<td>Data quality and access</td>
<td>Centralized Processes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identification of promising practices</td>
<td>Hiring/retaining needed workforce</td>
<td>Staff expertise</td>
<td>Funding Priorities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource needs</td>
<td>Linkage with HHS Strategic Plan</td>
<td>Hiring/retaining Evaluation workforce</td>
<td>Use of data in decision making</td>
<td>Assessing outcomes of ASPE capacity building activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FY 2023-Organizational focus**
- Defining the evaluation function
- Stakeholder engagement
- Hiring/retaining needed workforce
- Linkage with HHS Strategic Plan

**FY 2024–Individual focus**
- Collaborations
- Data quality and access
- Staff expertise
- Hiring/retaining Evaluation workforce

**FY 2025-Leadership focus**
- Leadership engagement
- Centralized Processes
- Funding Priorities
- Use of data in decision making

**FY 2026**
- Identifying new capacity building needs
- Assessing outcomes of ASPE capacity building activities
Qualitative Findings

STRUCTURE
FUNDING
CULTURE
STAFFING
TRAINING
FY2022 Capacity Building Trainings

2. Using Evaluation to Develop Evidence (Part 2): Getting the Information You Need
4. How to Apply the Realist Approach to Gain Insights in a Rapidly Changing Environment
5. Adapting and Framing Evaluation Results to Encourage Action
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Training Domains &amp; Topics</th>
<th>Audiences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Early Evaluators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.</td>
<td><strong>Overview Topics</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.</td>
<td><strong>Planning Evaluations and Other Evidence Building Activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:</td>
<td>Is it Time for an Evaluation: Assessing Programmatic Features and Evaluability</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.</td>
<td><strong>Evaluation Design</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:</td>
<td>What is data science, who are data scientists, and how can they support evidence-building?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:</td>
<td>Different types of evaluation and when to use them</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:</td>
<td>Using evaluation to shape performance measures and vice versa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D.</td>
<td><strong>Building Evidence with Diverse, Impacted Communities</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.</td>
<td><strong>Evidence to Action</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:</td>
<td>Policy Evaluation: Measuring how our policies affect the people we serve</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F.</td>
<td><strong>Building Agency Evidence Capacity and Culture</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:</td>
<td>Evaluation Planning to Dissemination: Aligning with the Federal Budget Cycle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G.</td>
<td><strong>Emerging Topics</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:</td>
<td>Using Inclusive Language to Improve Equity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:</td>
<td>Evidence Based Grant Making</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lessons

• Build relationships
• Take your time
• Be relentless
• Ask to be included