

HUD Moving to Work Expansion Training

Asset Building Cohort – Evaluation Basics

January 25, 2023



Welcome!



- Introduction from PD&R and MTW
 - Elizabeth Rudd (PD&R) and Alison Christensen (MTW)
- Introduction to the MEF and Abt team
 - Larry Buron (Abt), Sam Elkin (MEF) and Stephen Nunez (MEF)
- Introduction to the MTW-X ABC Evaluation webinar series

Overview



- Purpose of the MTW-X Asset Building Cohort
- MEF and Abt's role in the evaluation
- Evaluation timeline
- Your role in the evaluation
- Evaluation basics
- Open discussion
- Closing remarks

Purpose, Roles & Timeline

Purpose of the MTW-X ABC Evaluation and its Importance



- The MTW ABC Evaluation will help HUD and the cohort:
 - Learn how to implement asset-building strategies among HUD-assisted families
 - Understand how the asset building activities affect families
- Remember: MTW PHAs are NOT being evaluated; the asset-building strategies are

Roles in the Evaluation



PD&R	MEF/Abt	MTW Agencies
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Set goals and overall timeline for the research• Ensure research is rigorous, but not too intrusive for PHAs and residents• Assess and share results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share lessons about asset building programs for low-income families• Recommend evaluation design• Document MTW asset building activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide input to evaluation design• Design MTW asset building activities based on lessons learned by others• Participate in data gathering to support the research

Evaluation Timeline



February 2023	Spring/Summer 2023	October 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MEF/Abt provides evaluation design recommendations• MEF/Abt and ICF conduct webinars on best practices for savings and rent reporting activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PD&R and MEF/Abt prepare for evaluation• PHAs finalize plans for service delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluation begins

Your Role in the Evaluation



- General Requirements:
 - Start your program in coordination with the evaluators
 - Evaluators may need to collect baseline data first
 - Study and program intake may need to happen together
 - Provide data and access to staff and study participants as necessary
- More specifically:
 - Requests will vary by research activity and program type (savings account or credit building)
 - PHA-designed asset building option: grouped with other PHAs by program design

Evaluation Basics

The Three Pieces of Evaluation



- Implementation study: What did staff and participants experience in administering or participating in the program? What challenges did you face implementing the program?
- Impact study: How did the program affect families?
- Cost study: How much did it cost to do your asset building programs?

Implementation Study



Purpose: Document how each PHA's activities were rolled out to identify successes, challenges, and lessons to improve future implementation

Key Features:

- Examines how activity was implemented, what challenges arose, and what adjustments were made
- Focuses on how staff and households experience the activities
- Does NOT assess how effective the activities are

PHA roles may include help by:

- Participating in staff interviews
- Providing contact information participant and partner interviews
- Sharing administrative data (no new data collection required)
 - Enrollment, milestones, account activities, participation, etc.
 - Savings programs: deposits, withdrawals, and reasons for withdrawals from escrow (if applicable)

Impact Study-Key Definitions



- Treatment Group and Control Groups
- Random/Randomized Controlled Trial
- Informed Consent
- Baseline

Impact Study



Purpose: Determine whether any positive or negative outcomes observed for program participants are due to participation in the program

Key Features:

- Requires a separate treatment and control group

PHA roles may include help with:

- Random assignment (if applicable)
- Collection of baseline information
- Reminding participants (including treatment and control groups) to complete participant survey
- Obtaining informed consent from study participants

Cost Study



Purpose: Assess what it costs to start up and sustain asset building activities

Key Features:

- Based on administrative data you already collect (no new data)
- Does not require data from households

PHA roles may include help with:

Estimates of cost to run the program:

- Staff time/expense
- Fees to partners for services (if any)
- Other costs (e.g., for supplies)
- Savings accounts: transfers to participants
- Rent reporting: fees to credit agencies (if any)

Open Discussion

Upcoming Asset Building Cohort Onboarding Webinars



NEW: Savings Account Option Basics	February 8, 2023	2:30 - 4:30 PM EST
NEW: Rent Reporting for Credit Building Options Basics	February 15, 2023	2:30 - 4:30 PM EST
The MTW Supplement to the PHA Plan and the Public Process	February 22, 2023	2:30 - 4:30 PM EST
The MTW Supplement – Tips for Success	March 15, 2023	2:30 - 4:30 PM EDT
HUD – 50058 MTW Expansion Form Changes	April 5, 2023	2:30 - 4:30 PM EDT
Office Hours	April 26, 2023	2:30 - 4:30 PM EDT

Thank you!