

## About Innovation Network

### What We Do

*“What difference are we making?”* People working for social change all ask themselves this question. Organizations that know the answer have the power to make informed decisions and create lasting change in the communities they serve.

Innovation Network is a nonprofit evaluation, research, and consulting firm. We provide **knowledge and expertise** to help nonprofits and funders learn from their work to improve their results. We share evaluation know-how through **customized consulting and training** services, **research** dissemination, and **online tools and resources**.

Spreading sound evaluation practice means more organizations have the knowledge and skills to:

- Manage internal matters, programs, and services better;
- Tell their story more meaningfully;
- Inform strategic planning; and
- Learn what difference they are making.

### Who We Work With

In our consulting and training practice, we have worked with hundreds of organizations—from small community-based organizations to international funding organizations. Our clients work in a variety of programmatic areas, including:

- Advocacy and policy change
- Women, youth, and family services
- Health promotion and health advocacy
- Diversity, gender, and human rights issues
- Poverty alleviation and hunger reduction
- Leadership and workforce development

### Current and Recent Clients

#### Foundations and Philanthropies

Annie E. Casey Foundation | The Atlantic Philanthropies | The California Endowment | Capital One | Carnegie Corporation of New York | Colorado Trust | Connecticut Health Foundation | David and Lucile Packard Foundation | Duke Endowment | Kansas Health Foundation | Hunt Alternatives Fund | Results Educational Fund | Unbound Philanthropy



## Nonprofit Organizations

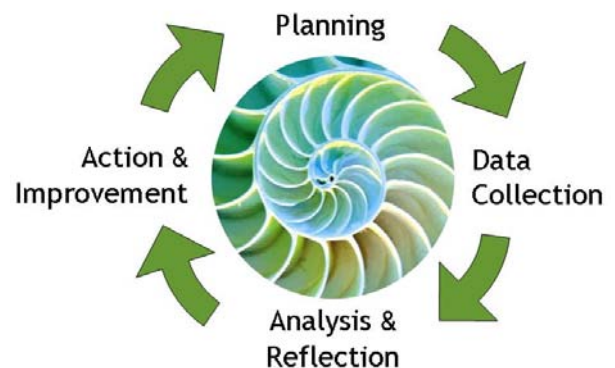
ACTION | Advocates for Youth | BoardSource | CARE USA | Center for Nonprofit Advancement/Nonprofit Roundtable | Congressional Hunger Center | Genetic Alliance | Global Rights | Initiative for Inclusive Security | Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Service | Microfinance Information Exchange (MIX) | National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO) | National Caucus and Center for Black Aged (NCBA) | National Council of La Raza (NCLR) | Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS) | Physicians for Human Rights | Post Carbon Institute | Reform Immigration FOR America | U.S. Human Rights Fund | Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz | United Methodist Church / General Commission on Race & Religion | United Way of Cambridge and North Dumfries | Washington Area Women's Foundation

## Our Approach

Three things set Innovation Network's evaluation practice apart:

- **Participatory Approaches:** Many nonprofits feel that evaluation is “done to” them. They see it as an invasive process carried out by people who don't care about their cause. This naturally creates resistance to the process, and makes evaluation results threatening instead of useful. Participatory approaches help to redress this problem. The people who care about a project—its staff and other stakeholders—are involved in the evaluation at every stage. This increases buy-in to the evaluation, and raises the likelihood that results will be put to practical use.
- **Capacity Building:** We focus on building our clients' ability to measure results for themselves. We create custom evaluation tools and processes for clients to use after our engagements—giving them the tools and skills to evaluate their own work.
- **Ongoing Learning:** For many nonprofits, becoming a learning organization is daunting. It requires new areas of focus, including defining what to reflect on and assess; confirming goals and outcomes; articulating resources required and activities needed to stay on task; and finally, identifying measures that will help the organization continually plan, evaluate, learn, and improve.

### Ongoing Learning Cycle



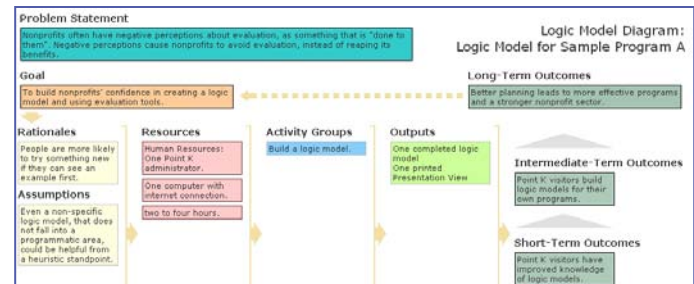
We break the Ongoing Learning Cycle down into manageable pieces, to help organizations integrate learning into their day-to-day operations.

## Our Services

Our projects range from **single-day trainings** to **multi-year in-depth consultancies**. We tailor our suite of services to fit each client's needs, budget, and learning style. There is no "typical" project, but the following elements are common across several of our engagements:

### Evaluation Planning

- Needs assessment
- Understanding and defining outcomes
- Grantee-to-funder outcomes alignment
- Logic model (also called a "linear path" or "logframe") development



### Data Collection & Analysis

- Key informant interviews
- Survey development, implementation, administration, and analysis
- Focus group development and facilitation
- Literature review and environmental scans
- Reports, presentations, recommendations, and lessons learned

**Online and In-Person Training:** Our training curricula are based on more than 15 years of consulting experience. Training modules include:

- The Fundamentals of Advocacy Evaluation
- Ongoing Learning: Evaluation Principles to Practice
  - Logical Frameworks
  - Evaluation Plans
  - Data collection, analysis, and reporting

### Technical Assistance and Online Tools

- We often provide a bank of technical assistance hours for telephone or online support during and after an evaluation engagement.
- The Point K Learning Center at [www.innonet.org/pointk](http://www.innonet.org/pointk) offers free planning and evaluation tools and resources to help put learning into practice. Point K currently serves over 21,250 people worldwide.

### What do you need?

Our clients have diverse evaluation needs, and we work with them to find flexible solutions. We would appreciate the opportunity to learn more about your work and your evaluation challenges.

*Questions? Comments? Contact:*

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