

Evaluation of a Dental Care Clinic Program

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Abstract/Executive Summary



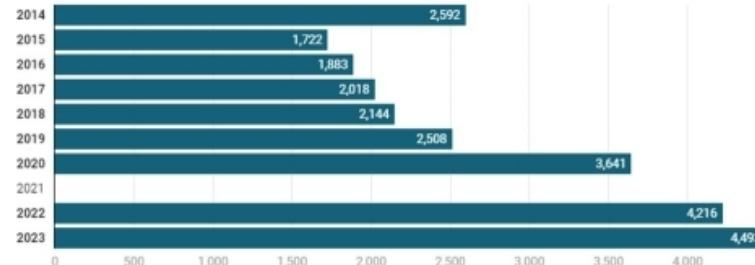
► Homelessness in Fresno County has been growing significantly in the past five years. The number of sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals has almost doubled in the last five years; in 2019 it is recorded to have 2,508 homeless people but in 2023 it increased to 4,493. Although efforts to decrease the homeless population seem inevitable, there is a symptom among the homeless community that is needed.

► Dental care is one of the most common negligent care among the homeless community. "Despite being largely preventable, oral diseases remain a global public health challenge, affecting more than 3.5 billion people world-wide" (Witton & Paisi, 2021, p.1). In hopes of decreasing these rates, this dental care clinic program was developed. This dental clinic program will provide oral health education, resources, and treatment to achieve a positive impact on the homeless community's quality of life.

This program evaluation will provide information about a dental clinic in Fresno. This evaluation will investigate the effectiveness of the dental clinic and how it impacts the homeless community of Fresno. This program evaluation will be using Shufflebeam's CIPP Model as a guide to evaluate the program's core values such as their goals, plans, actions, and outcomes.

Homelessness in Fresno, Madera counties

The number of homeless individuals counted by the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care in its annual Point in Time count, a snapshot of unsheltered and sheltered homeless people on a given day during the year.



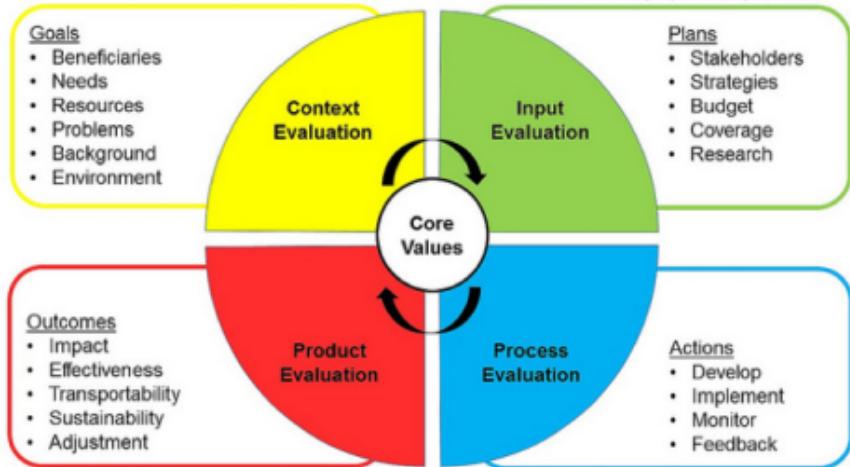
Stufflebeam's CIPP Model

- ▶ Context Evaluation
- ▶ Input Evaluation
- ▶ Process Evaluation
- ▶ Product Evaluation



Context, Input, Process, Product (CIPP) Evaluation Model

Designed by Ivan Teh (Runningman, March 2015)



Source: Daniel L. Stufflebeam, "International Handbook Of Educational Evaluation" by Springer International Handbooks of Education, December 2002, ISBN-13: 978-14612005498



Introduction/Background: Context Evaluation

Define the institutional context; identify the target population and assess their needs

- Tooth loss and oral pain are highly prevalent in older homeless adults. Increasing age, alcohol, drug, and tobacco use are associated with tooth loss.

Identify opportunities to address the identified need; diagnose the problems that underlie the need

- The need for oral health education, access to resources, and treatment for the homeless community
- The need for education on drugs and alcohol use that impacts oral health

Determine whether the proposed program objectives are sufficient to meet the assessed need

- Program objectives are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-bound to their program goals.
- Program objectives are sufficient in meeting the assessed needs in a reasonable given time frame

Interventions/Methods: Process Evaluation

- Advisory Committee
 - Volunteers, staff members, organization collaborations
- Feedback
 - Volunteers' responses
 - Staff members' responses
 - Clients' responses
- Documenting ongoing activities
 - Contracts
 - Time Spent by Staff



Interventions/Methods: Input Evaluation

- ▶ Met with nurses that work in our program to discuss if they've experienced setting up a new program similar to ours, and ways we can improve 
- ▶ Built a team to visit similar program sites to study how they run and what techniques they've used to ensure cost-effectiveness and meet their goals and objectives
- ▶ Built a team to extensively review literature regarding programs developed in other settings that have successfully met their needs similar to our program



Results: Product Evaluation

PHAB accreditation and grant approval achieved for program in order to provide funds

Goals: 1) To increase accessibility for dental care in the homeless community; **MET**

Goals: 2) To decrease risk for dental or oral-related issues in the homeless community; **MET**

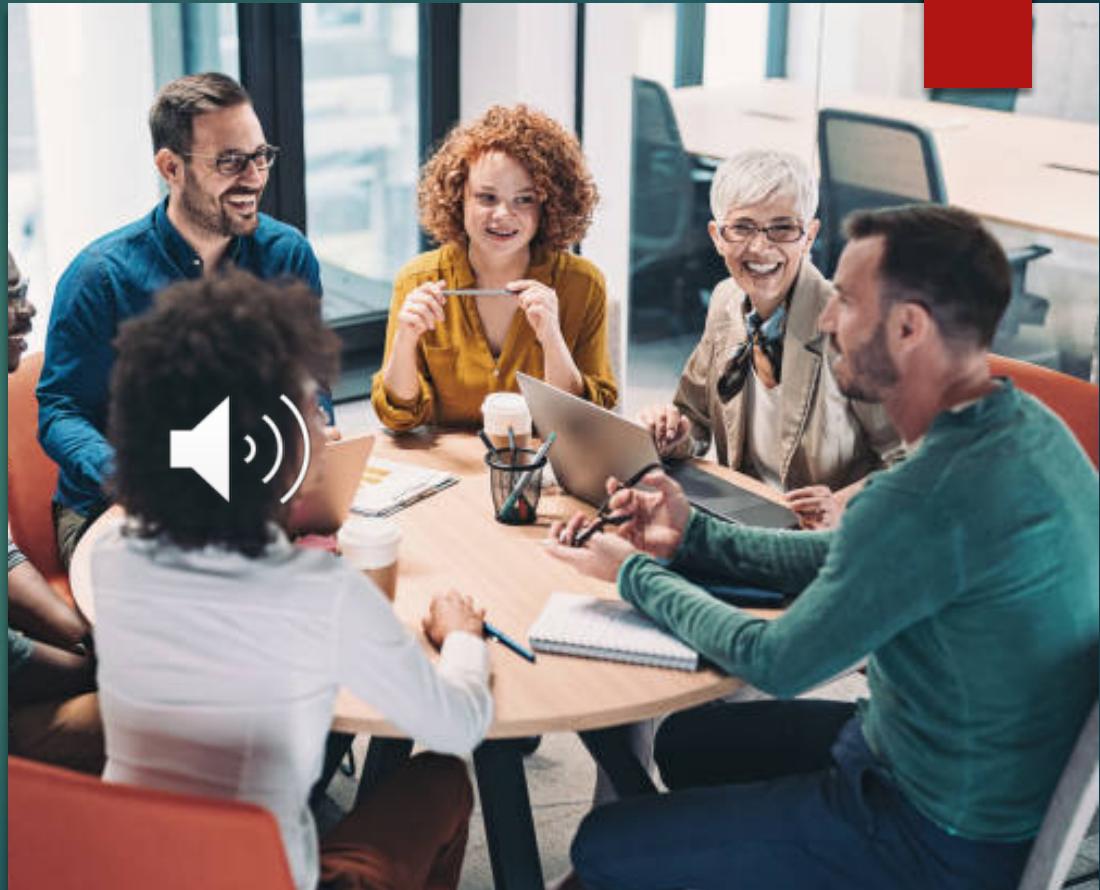
Objectives: 1) To decrease the number of diseases related to dental hygiene as measured by reported cases in neighboring hospitals in the homeless community by 25% in the next 6 months; **MET**

Objectives: 2) To decrease the usage of substance abuse that causes oral-related issues in the homeless community as measured by reported cases in neighboring hospitals by 15% through effective education; **MET**

Objectives: 3) To improve awareness of effective oral care in the homeless community, as demonstrated by decrease in 5% inpatient-related oral diseases reported in community hospitals by the end of 6 months; **MET**

Discussion & Recommendations

- ▶ Social networking & advertising
- ▶ Continuous targeted audience surveys
- ▶ Data displayed at Fresno County Board Meetings
- ▶ Discuss ways to improve or reach more people at Fresno County Board Meetings
- ▶ Continue searching for non-profit organizations interested in donating funds or supplies to program



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