# **SAA Research Affinity Group**

**Breakfast Discussion** 



Friday, November 2

8:00 - 8:45 a.m.

Constellation Ballroom

## **AGENDA**

- Definitions
- Group Discussions
  - Planning
  - Experiences
  - Improvements
- Synthesis and Next Steps

# **EVALUATION**

Evaluation involves assessing the strengths and weaknesses of programs, policies, personnel, products, and organizations to improve their effectiveness.

- American Evaluation Association

# PROGRAM EVALUATION

Systematic method for collecting, analyzing, and using information to answer questions about programs to gauge their effectiveness.

Looking for outcomes: changing the condition of the target population (the program participants).

# PROGRAM EVALUATION

Did our after-school acting program give the students an improved understanding of method acting?

Did our after-school acting program improve graduation rates for student participants?

# **OUTPUTS VS. OUTCOMES**

### Outputs (data)

Number of programs

Number of grants

Types of programs

Number of people served

Budget associated with a program

#### **Outcomes**

Changed behaviors

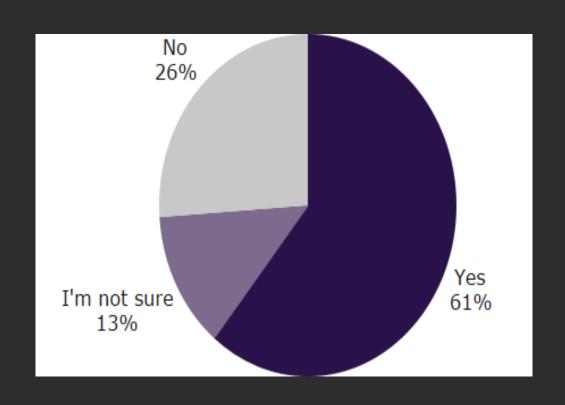
Knowledge transfers

Things like...

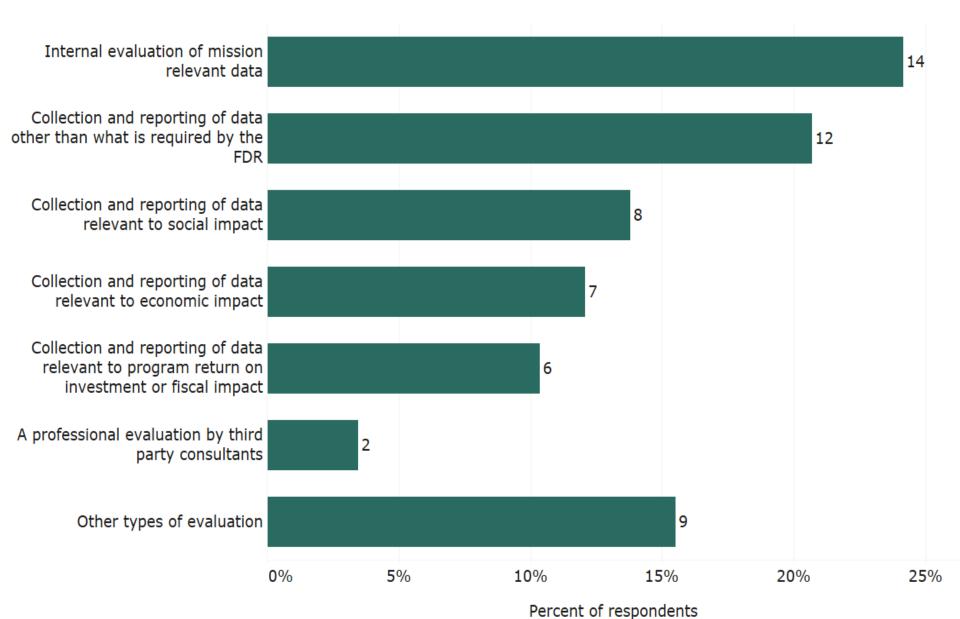
Improved learning outcomes in education

Improved local economy

# DO YOU REQUIRE GRANTEES TO EVALUATE THEIR PROGRAMS?



# IF SO, HOW?



# **GROUP DISCUSSIONS**

- Planning
- Experiences
- Improvements