

“How To” Create a Logic Model

A program model is based on program theory. A program theory embodies the social issue you will be addressing (hunger, low birth weight, etc.), the intervention (service or product delivered to participant), and the expected outcomes of the intervention (decreased hunger, increased birth weight, etc.).

Logic models are *graphic depictions of the relationship between a program’s activities and its intended outcomes.* Two words in this definition bear emphasizing:

- **Relationship:** Logic models convey not only the activities that comprise the program and the inter-relationship of those activities, but the link between those components and outcomes.
- **Intended:** Logic models depict “intended” outcomes of a program’s activities, rather than reality at any point in time. As the starting point for evaluation and planning, the model serves as an “outcomes roadmap” that shows the underlying logic behind the program, i.e. why it should work.

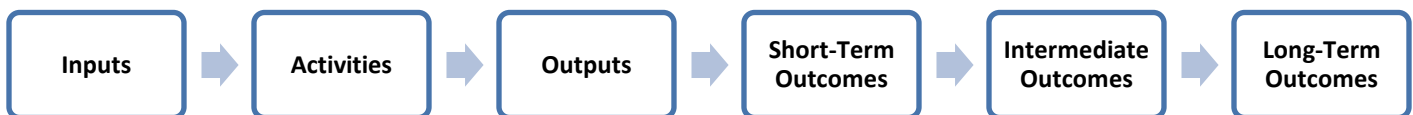
Logic Model Components

Logic models may depict all or only some of the following components of your program description, depending on their intended use:

Logic Model Components	
Inputs	Resources that go into the program and on which it is dependent to mount its activities.
Activities	Actual events or actions done by the program and its staff.
Outputs	Direct products of program activities, often measured in countable terms (e.g. the number of meals served).
Outcomes	The changes that result from the program’s activities and outputs, often in a sequence expressed as short-term, intermediate and long-term outcomes.

Basic Practical Logic Model

The diagram below depicts a simple logic model. A sample logic model completed for a Kids Cafe Program is shown in Table 3.



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Table 3. SAMPLE KIDS CAFE LOGIC MODEL

Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
Staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program development staff Agency staff 	Program Agreement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete program agreement with ED signature Recipients <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify site locations Identify program recipients Training & Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train site coordinators and volunteers Monitoring & Evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and implement evaluation tools Monitor compliance and encourage best practices at sites 	Sites <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of sites in operation Time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of weeks in operation Participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of children served Nutrition Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of lessons provided 	Participants consuming daily meals/snacks Participants demonstrating increased nutrition knowledge Participants experiencing decreased signs of hunger Participants reporting they enjoyed the food	Program expansion (sites and participants) Reduced child hunger in school Food sustainability Financial sustainability Increased awareness of resources available to food insecure children
Volunteers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> List volunteers and hours available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive training and fingerprinting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteer hours provided to the program 	Vendors and schools reporting satisfaction with ordering and delivery process	
Food <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nutritious foods that can be combined to create meals or snacks Meals from vendors Supplies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carriers to keep meals warm Serving utensils Paper plates, etc. 	Food (Vended vs. Self-Prep) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and maintain relationships with food donors and/or vendors Contract with local community kitchen or school kitchen to prepare meals Develop process with food bank production kitchen to produce meals/snacks Develop process with sites to produce meals/snacks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of meals/snacks prepared Number of meals/snacks distributed 	Dollars raised Fundraising goals met/on-track Number of local sponsors committed to funding Media hits	
Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vehicle and driver time Routing schedule 	Schedule <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule and manage meal production and meal delivery Schedule and manage meal service Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport meals/snacks or food to sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of on-time deliveries 	Articles/stories Increase in media coverage	
Funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and develop program funding opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feeding America national funding Program specific fundraising Local sponsorships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of proposals submitted Number of donor contacts made 		
Media/PR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established media partners PR staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and maintain community outreach Seek opportunities for media attention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Press releases Newsletter Hunger Action Month 		