AmeriCorps SC Community of Practice: 2025 NOFO Series

October 4, 2024 (rescheduled due to Hurricane Helene)

Program Design: Community + Logic Model

Today we will cover:

- Program Design section + scoring
- Describing compelling community needs
  - [CDC's Social Vulnerability Index](#)
- Writing your Logic Model (8 page max)
  - Problem, Inputs, Activities, Outputs, Short/Medium/Long Term Outcomes
- Supports + resources available to you!
- Q & A / Open Forum

Selection Criteria
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Each applicant must describe a project that will use AmeriCorps members effectively to solve a significant community problem. Applications must have a well-designed plan with clear justification for the requested funds.

Reviewers will assess the quality of applications by using the selection criteria and will rate them accordingly.

Categories/Subcategories	Percentage
Executive Summary	0
Program Design	50
Community and Logic Model	24
Evidence Tier	12
Evidence Quality	8
Notice Priority	0
Member Experience	6
Organizational Capability	25
Organizational Background and Staffing	15
Member Supervision	6
Commitment to DEIA	4
Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy	25
Member Recruitment	8
Member Retention	9
Data Collection	8

Program Design Section & Scoring

E.1.b. Program Design, 50 percent:

1. Community and Logic Model, 24 points

The applicant will provide a detailed summary of the community problem, including:

- How the inequities faced by underserved communities may contribute to the problem.
- How the CDC's Social Vulnerability Index explains the extent of the problem.
- How the applicant's intervention(s) will lead to the outcomes identified in the organization's Logic Model.

The applicant must describe in the Logic Model

- The inputs or resources that are necessary to deliver the intervention, including but not limited to:
  - Locations or sites in which members will provide services.
  - Setting and community condition where the intervention is delivered.
  - Number of AmeriCorps members who will deliver the intervention.
  - Characteristics of AmeriCorps members, including specific knowledge, skills, and abilities required to implement the intervention.
- The core activities that members will deliver as part of the intervention including:
  - Length of each activity (e.g., the total number of weeks, sessions, or months of the intervention).
  - Dosage of each activity (e.g., the number of hours per session or sessions per week).
  - Target population for the intervention (e.g., disconnected youth, third graders at a certain reading proficiency level).
- The measurable outputs that result from delivering the intervention (i.e., number of beneficiaries served, types and number of activities conducted, equity gaps closed). If applicable, identify which National Performance Measures will be used as output indicators.
- Outcomes that result from the intervention, including meaningful changes in knowledge/skill, attitude, behavior, or condition. If applicable, identify which National Performance Measures will be used as outcome indicators.

Programs should include short, medium, or long-term outcomes. Applicants are not required to measure all components of their Logic Model. The applicant's performance measures should be consistent with the program's Logic Model and should represent significant program activities.

Applicants with multiple interventions should include the above information for each intervention in the logic model.
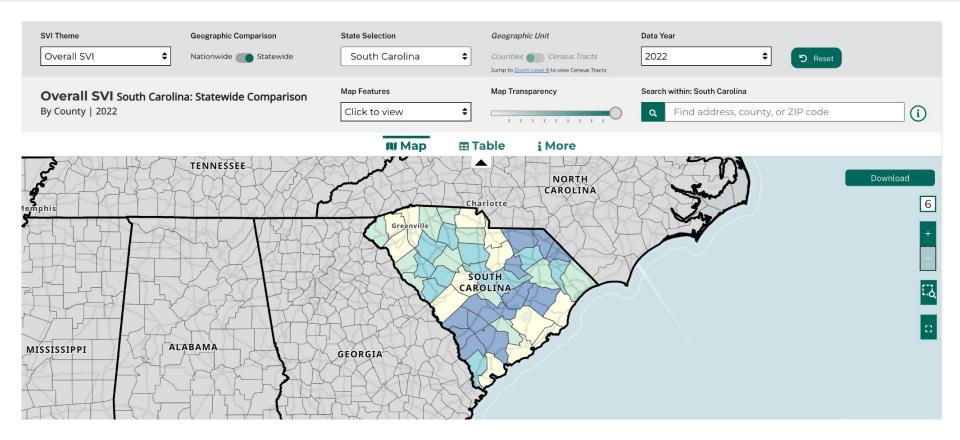
See page 19 of the NOFO

Compelling Community Needs

Data and citations be:

- Credible - trusted, well-respected sources
  - Government (ex. SC School Report Cards)
  - Foundations/Think tanks
  - Universities
- Local, local, local
  - State
  - County
  - City
  - Neighborhood/Zip Code
- As recent as possible
  - Within last 5-10 years
- [CDC's Social Vulnerability Index](#)

CDC Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)

Logic Model: 7 Components

Logic Model

Problem	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Mid-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
The community problem that the program activities (interventions) are designed to address.	Resources that are necessary to deliver the program activities (interventions), including the number of locations/sites and number/type of AmeriCorps members.	The core activities that define the intervention or program model that members will implement or deliver, including duration, dosage, and target population.	Direct products from program activities.	Changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes and opinions. These outcomes, if applicable to the program design, will almost always be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in behavior or action. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year.	Changes in condition or status in life. Depending on program design, these outcomes may or may not be measurable during the grant year. Some programs, such as environmental or capacity-building programs, may measure changes in condition over a period as short as one year.
			Perf. Measure	**Perf. Measure**	**Possible PM; 1-5 year impact**	**6-10 year impact (aspirational)**

8 page max!
A visual representation of your program design

Logic Model Best Practices

- <u>Never</u> write a logic model alone or in one sitting!
- Involve your program team/staff in the process for multiple perspectives
- Take your time - get input and plan on multiple revisions
- Be as specific as possible
- Keep in mind, your logic model can and will change over time, in response to community needs - that's okay!
- Complete one for each major program intervention/focus area
  - Ex. Economic Opportunity (primary) + Capacity Building (secondary)
  - Ex. Education + Economic Opportunity
  - Ex. Environmental Stewardship + Disaster Services

Work backwards!

How to create a logic model using reverse logic

- What is the desired long-term outcome?
  - Increase # of healthy families. *But how?*
- What is the desired intermediate outcome?
  - Increase # of families using healthy food practices. *But how?*
- What is the desired short-term outcome?
  - Individuals gain knowledge of healthy food choices. *But how?*
- What outputs are needed to achieve the outcomes?
  - 200 families complete an educational workshop. *But how?*
- What activities are needed to achieve the outcomes?
  - Conduct four educational workshops per month. *But how?*
- What inputs are needed to achieve the outcomes?
  - Funding, program staff, AmeriCorps members, volunteers, research.

Logic Model: Entering into eGrants

IV. Logic Model

Complete the logic model using the instructions provided in the *Notice*.

To begin entering your logic model from your eGrants application page, select "Logic Model" in the left side navigation menu.

In the first blank row of the logic model, click "edit." Clicking this link will open a pop-up screen with fields for each column of the logic model. Complete any fields that are applicable; there are no required fields in this screen. When you are finished, click "save and close."

You may add an unlimited number of rows to the logic model by clicking "add a new row." However, please be mindful of any page limits specified elsewhere in the Application Instructions or *Notice*.

You may edit or delete an existing row by clicking "edit" or "delete" in the last column of the logic model.

Logic Model: Entering into eGrants

SC Competitive Grant Timeline + Key Deadlines

- **September 3** - NOFO publicly released
- **Now through October** - Schedule 1:1 consultations with Emily (optional)
- **October 18** - Deadline to submit your draft application to Emily for complimentary grant review (optional)
- **October 25** - Emily to provide feedback on drafts submitted
- **November 1** - Final deadline to submit in eGrants (5pm ET)
- **November 15 - December 6th:** Hold for clarifications & revisions
- **April 2025** - Competitive Grants Announced

Supports Available to You!

- 1:1 Grant Consultations - schedule via Emily's Calendly
- Community of Practice Series (every Friday until 11/1) - register here
- On3Learn eCourses - use promo code **SCSUB22**
  - Logic Models
  - Evidence Series
  - Grant budgets
  - Performance measures
- Complimentary Grant Review + feedback - if submitted to Emily **by 10/18**
- ASN National Materials + Webinar Recordings

Upcoming Sessions

- **Fri 10/4, 10am-11am** --> Program Design: Evidence, Performance Measures, Data Collection
- **Fri 10/11, 10am-11am** --> Member Focus: Experience, Recruitment, Retention
- **Fri 10/18, 10am-11am** --> Budget: Design, Adequacy and Cost Effectiveness
- **Fri 10/25, 10am-11am** --> Organization Capability: Background, Staffing, Supervision + APP WRAP-UP!
- **Fri 11/1, 10am-11am (DUE DATE)** --> Last minute Q&A

Q & A / Open Forum

Contact me: emily.steinberg@gmail.com
https://calendly.com/emilyjsteinberg/60min