A Plan for Data Systems Improvement: SEOW Goals Logic Model Development

Rationale for the SEOW Data Systems Improvement Logic Model

After the needs assessment and associated tasks were complete, the SEOW members found they were ready to set their own course for what direction their work should take. SAMHSA had clear expectations around state needs assessment support for SEOWs but were quite general in their expectations beyond that. As a group of data-guided individuals, the SEOW recommended the creation of a logic model to help forecast the outcomes to work toward as a group and the activities needed to reach those outcomes.

Overview of Tasks Involved the SEOW Data Systems Improvement Logic Model

The following steps are illustrative of the tasks involved in developing the SEOW Logic Model:

- The SEOW Research Analyst reviewed all the SEOW meeting minutes to date and distilled all the SEOW comments and discussions about data infrastructure issues and gaps and possible SEOW roles and responsibilities. These issues were sorted into potential actions, outputs, and outcomes related to the SEOW's work.
- CPRD facilitated a structured process with the SEOW members at a meeting, creating a logic model that graphically represented the actions, outputs, and outcomes already indentified. CPRD then solicited input on additional actions, outputs, and outcomes and challenged SEOW members to reflect on any gaps (e.g., actions without outcomes or outcomes without intention actions).
- The SEOW Research Analyst transferred the logic model into a document (Appendix K. Goals Model: *SEOW Goals and Activities*). Three "strands" emerged:
    - Strand 1 - Community data supports
    - Strand 2 - Improving existing state data systems
    - Strand 3 - State data systems reform
- SEOW members reviewed the draft logic model with proposed strands and clarified or refined all connections based on the following trigger questions:
    - Do the three strands accurately portray what was talked about in the last meeting?
    - Does each of the steps make sense, or do they need to be revised?
    - Are any goals missing activities? Where and what are the gaps?
    - Are any activities missing goals? Where and what are the gaps?
- CPRD then facilitated a discussion to prioritize the actions the SEOW would target first. Criteria used to identify the targeted actions included that the action was not currently the responsibility of another group/entity, the action was reasonable for the SEOW to address (they had the appropriate level of expertise and power to accomplish), and the action would provide a valuable contribution to the data infrastructure.

- Based on these criteria, the SEOW decided that Strand 2 (improving state data systems) should be the first SEOW priority focus. They felt that improving existing data systems would be more feasible and a good first step to targeted reform. In addition, they felt that data infrastructure improvements would benefit both state and community data users. The following tasks and actions from Strand 2 were then identified as the set of actions to accomplish by the end of the grant with the top three as actions (noted with ** below) to target immediately:
    - **Evaluate existence, access, quality, capacity, and necessity of key ATOD indicators
    - ** Identify and connect with other "epi-like" groups within the state
    - ** Define and assess state-level ATOD prevention resources (programs, people, and policies)
    - Actively seek community-level input regarding access, availability, and utility of data (create a feedback loop)
    - Perform an annual analysis on "Very Important" ATOD indicators
    - Advocate for consistent and ongoing data collection, disaggregation, and capacity to analyze across state data systems
    - Identify emerging issues and gaps in data
    - Create models and white papers to support policy changes
- At an SEOW meeting, three groups were formed (one to target each priority action). This was largely related to the complexity of the action and the level of effort the task required; while the attempt was made to hold phone conferences between meetings for each action group, low participation limited the larger group's ability to move forward quickly. Dividing the SEOW into three workgroups (data quality group, epi-like group, and prevention resources group) achieved successful results in a timely fashion. For example, the "Making Connections with Epi-Like Groups" workgroup successfully used Survey Monkey to identify epi-like agencies and their purpose. Also, the Data Quality workgroup was successful in cataloging resources at the local level as well as detailing the state's alcohol misuse indicators and (to the extent possible) the seven intervening variables defined by SAMHSA.
- Action group members developed objectives and task steps to guide accomplishment of each action. These action plans were distributed to all SEOW members (present and absent at this meeting) to solicit feedback and input. Each priority action was ultimately a separate and unique activity of the SEOW described in subsequent sections of this document. See Appendix L. Action Plan Template: *SEOW Priority Activities* for the action plan template.

Observations and Lessons Learned During the SEOW Data Systems Improvement Logic Model Development Process

Outcomes

- The primary outcome of the Logic Modeling Process was to create a strategic plan for the SEOW to guide their work for the remainder of the grant. In addition, three detailed action plans were developed for the highest priority actions the three subgroups felt they should accomplish.

Logic Modeling and Action Planning Process

- Some plans were more detailed than others. Forecasting all steps was difficult, as many of the actions were iterative in nature (i.e., some steps were dependent on decisions made about prior steps). Some groups made more progress than others.
- It was helpful to have an "outside organization" (CPRD) serve as facilitator of this process. This allowed full participation of SEOW members without having to attend to details of the process and background work.
- This process, the final logic model and action plans were presented during a web conference hosted by SAMHSA's technical assistance contractor for SPF SIG State Epidemiological Workgroups in October 2007 (Appendix M. Goals Model: *Planning for Life After Assessment for the Illinois SEOW*).

Resources and Products

Appendix K. Goals Model: *SEOW Goals and Activities*

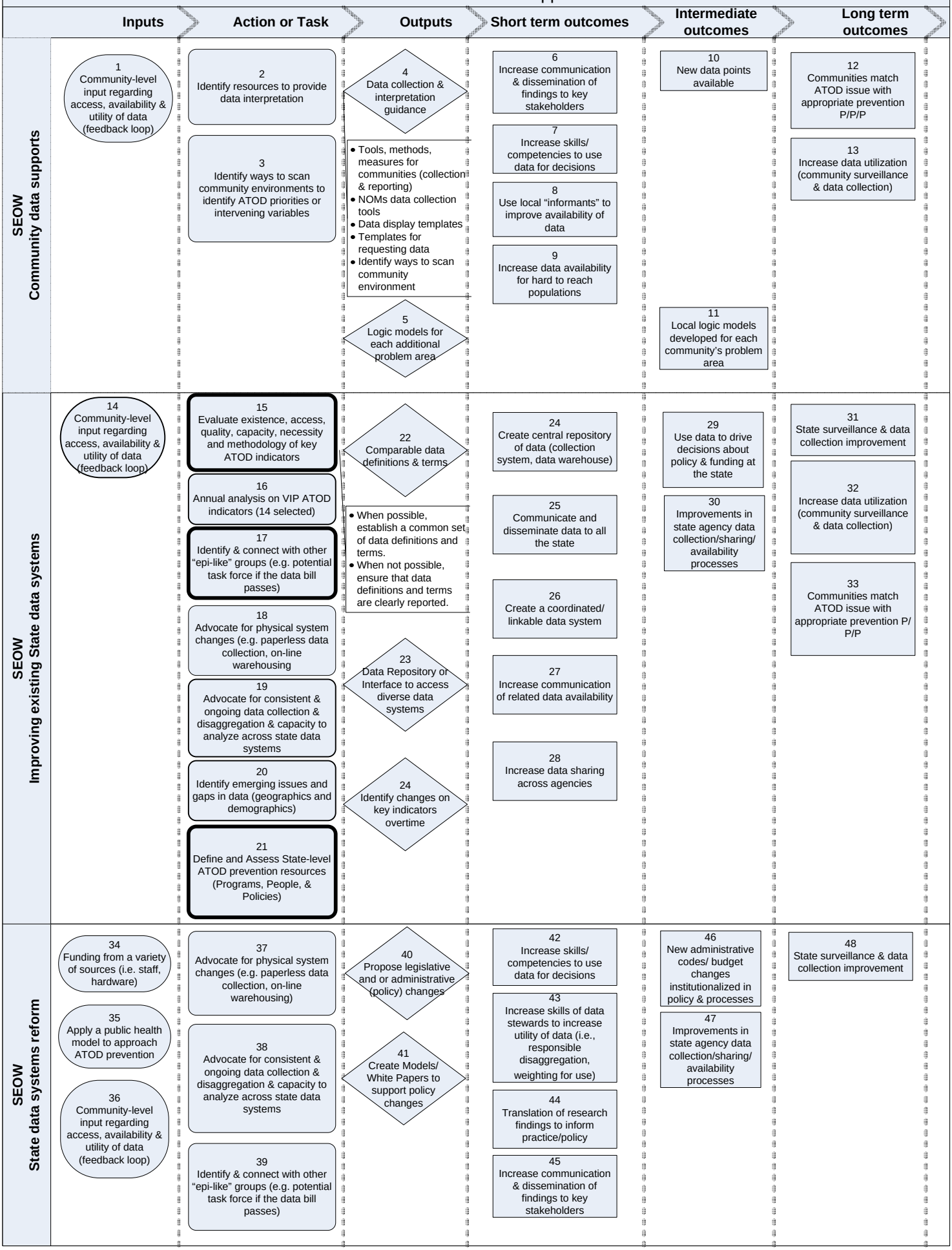
Appendix L. Action Plan Template: *SEOW Priority Activities*

Appendix M. Goals Model: *Planning for Life After Assessment for the Illinois SEOW*

Appendices

SEOW Goals and Activities (Revisions 9/26/2007)

Appendix K. Goals Model: SEOW Goals and Activities



AppendK_SEOW_Goals_Model.pdf

Bold and Italicized means (1) not sure if placed correctly AND/OR (2) May fit in more than o. Items 40-48 added on 07.12.07

SEOW Priority Activities

Goal: Improved Existing State Data Systems

Objective: . Target Date:

Evidence that objective has been reached:

Action Step	Resources Needed	Responsible Party(ies)	Others Involved	Target Date

Planning for Life After Assessment for the Illinois SEOW

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Overview of the IL SEOW

- Convened 2 months after the SPF SIG award was made to IL
- Representation includes:
  - Substance Abuse Treatment
  - Substance Abuse Prevention Programs
  - Chicago Public Schools
  - Chicago Department of Public Health
  - Illinois Department of Public Health (multiple divisions)
  - Illinois Department of Transportation
  - Illinois State Police
  - Illinois Department of Human Services (Performance Support Services)
  - Illinois Department of Human Services (Division of Community Health and Prevention)
  - Illinois Youth Survey contractor

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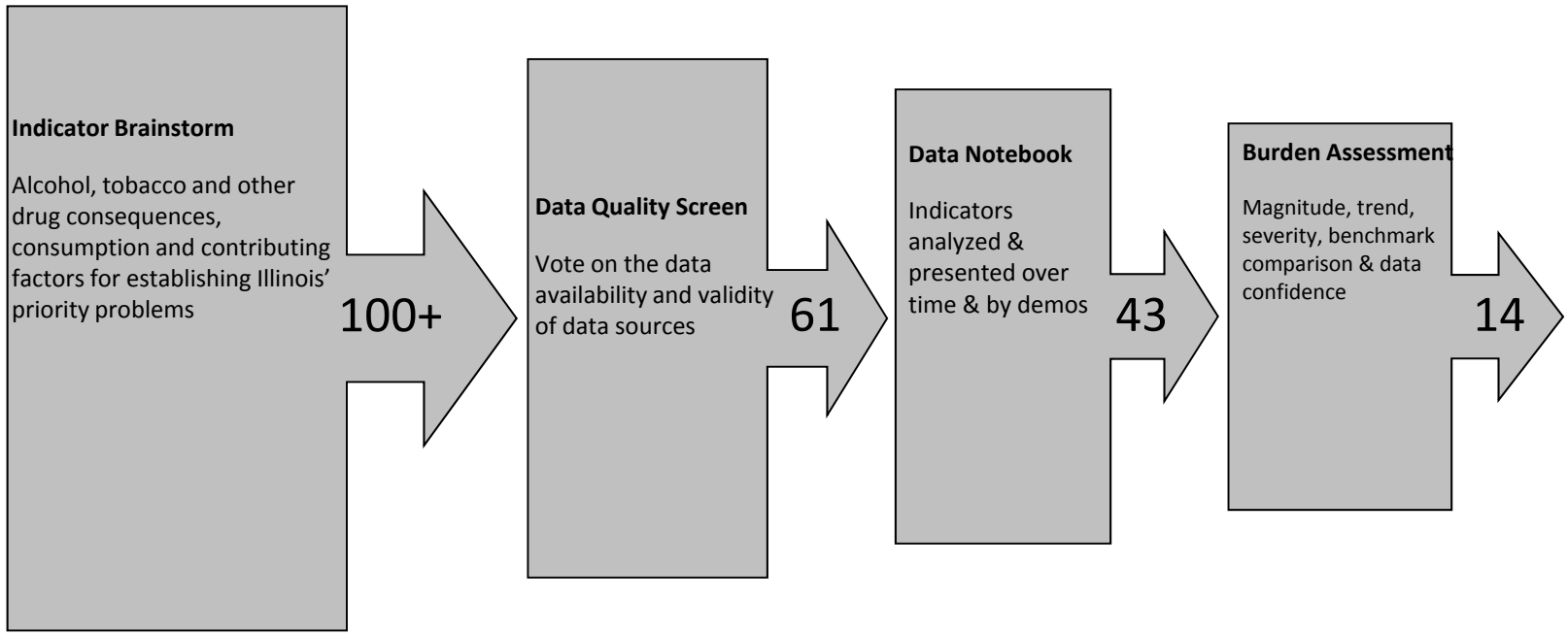
SEOW Role in IL SPF Assessment Process



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Role in IL SPF Assessment Process

- Reviewed the 14 indicators that represented the highest burden and applied a feasibility assessment
- Final 3 priorities recommended to the SAC based on the results of the feasibility assessment:
  - Underage drinking
  - Episodic binge drinking
  - Alcohol-related motor vehicle injuries and deaths

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Future Directions: Creating an IL SEOW Logic Model

- Reviewed meeting minutes to extract recommendations made for SEOW role/actions during the assessment process
- Facilitated an interactive process with the SEOW to identify
  - Inputs
  - Activities
  - Outputs
  - Short term & Long Term Outcomes

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Final Logic Model: Three Strands of Work

- Supporting local (community level) use of and access to ATOD data
- Improving the existing ATOD data systems
- Transforming the ATOD data infrastructure

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Prioritization of SEOW Activities

- Came to consensus that the highest priority was to improve existing data systems
  - No one else is charged with this (SPF community grantees have lots of data support)
  - Right people at the table to achieve the outcomes
  - Has greatest potential for impacting other strands ultimately

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Next Step: Action Planning

- Determined that there are three actions within this strand of work that would need to happen before other data system improvements could be achieved
  - Review of data supporting key ATOD issues
  - Connection with other statewide "epi-like groups"
  - Conduct a statewide prevention resource assessment
- Sub committees are currently developing these action plans
- The SEOW plans to meet every 2 months with task group meetings in between as needed to carry out the action plans.

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Actual and Anticipated Barriers

- Accomplishing work between SEOW meetings has been a challenge
- Resources (human and financial) may limit the ability of the SEOW to accomplish their priority activities
- Leadership for sub-committees to carry out the action plans may present some challenges, given the voluntary nature of SEOW participation
- While state organizations have remained consistently represented, the person who represents may vary over time OR EVEN from meeting to meeting

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Lessons Learned

- The logic modeling process has been useful to help newer members develop ownership in the SEOW's work
- SEOW member recruitment is a continuous process
- Need to have a formal orientation process for new members to avoid rehashing old decisions

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