# KNOWING WHAT WORKS: SIMPLE TECHNIQUES FOR IMPACT ASSESSMENT



#### WHO ARE WE?



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Please introduce yourself:
Name
Role
Can you guess....

What percentage of charities in the UK are micro or small?











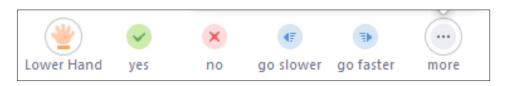












#### **OVERVIEW**

Micro and small charities often make BIG IMPACT but how do you know your work makes a difference?

Discover creative, organic, informal and formal ways to gather data on outcomes and impact gleaned from conversations with small organisations like yours.

This session is your opportunity to ask questions about simple, quick, effective ways to gather, analyse and use your outcomes and impact data to help you to make decisions, influence policy makers and make a case for support.

https://blogs.ncvo.org.uk/2020/11/17/big-inspiration-from-small-charities/

#### **OVER TO YOU....SOME GROUP WORK**

#### **JAMBOARD**



What decisions do you have to make that require data?



In terms of impact and evaluation, what is the biggest challenge you face right now?



#### **INSPIRING CONVERSATIONS**

#### TOP TIPS

#### Plan

- What info is needed?
- Be proportionate

# Be inspired by your analysis and findings

- New needs
- Research

# Find inspiring ways to gather information

- Digital / virtual / online
- Relationships and rapport
- Formal and informal, organic

Use information to inspire decisions and development

- Visual methods
- Making the case for support



## **PLANNING TOOLS**



#### **DURING TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY...**

What decisions do we need to make?

How is our work changing?

Can we collect the data we need? (And if so, how?)



#### **FIVE TYPES OF DATA**



**User data:** The characteristics of the people you're reaching



**Engagement data:** how users are engaging with your work



**Feedback data:** what people think about your work



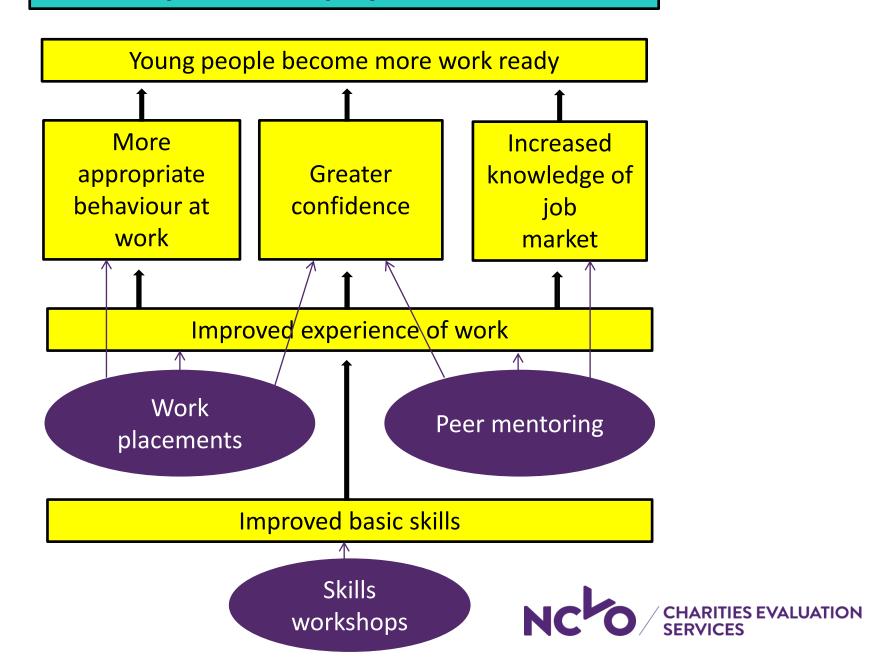
Outcome data: what changes for people as a result



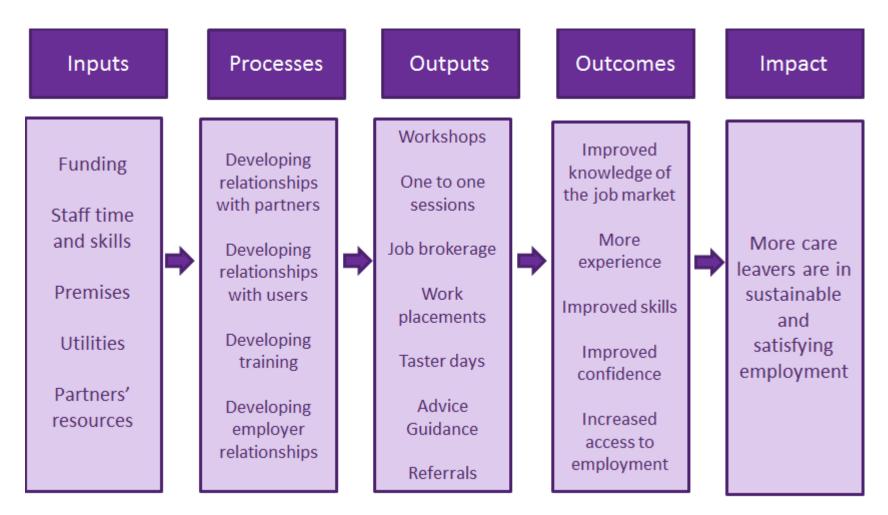
Impact data: the long-term changes that take place



#### Reduced youth unemployment in Oxfordshire



#### WHAT CAN BE EVALUATED?





## **WAYS TO GATHER DATA**



#### **ADAPTING DATA COLLECTION**

- Use team meetings to share what people have learned (even informally)
- Adapt to new (and old) technology phone, Zoom, text messaging, and online polls
- Focus on evaluating and capturing learning on the process
- What else?



## WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?



#### **USEFUL RESOURCES ON THEORY OF CHANGE**

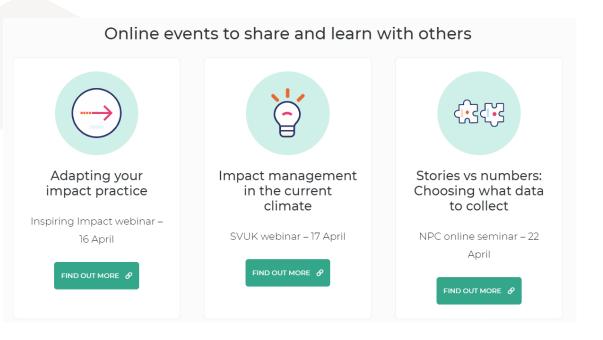
- NCVO's Knowhow Nonprofit has practical impact and evaluation support: knowhownonprofit.org/organisation/impact
- Uses of theory of change:
   https://knowhow.ncvo.org.uk/organisation/impact/plan-your-impact-and-evaluation/identify-the-difference-you-want-to-make-1/uses-of-theory-of-change
- How to build a theory of change: <a href="https://knowhow.ncvo.org.uk/how-to/how-to-build-a-theory-of-change">https://knowhow.ncvo.org.uk/how-to/how-to-build-a-theory-of-change</a>
- The best software to create visual maps https://www.inspiringimpact.org/resource-library/the-best-software-to-create-a-theory-of-change/
- NPC's 10 steps publication: <a href="https://www.thinknpc.org/resource-hub/ten-steps/">https://www.thinknpc.org/resource-hub/ten-steps/</a>
- **10 minute** TOC blog: <a href="https://blogs.ncvo.org.uk/2015/11/09/the-10-minute-theory-of-change-challenge/">https://blogs.ncvo.org.uk/2015/11/09/the-10-minute-theory-of-change-challenge/</a>



#### **INSPIRING IMPACT**

## HTTPS://WWW.INSPIRINGIMPACT.ORG

- Inspiring podcasts
- Tools and guidance
- Webinars
- Specific Covid-19 guidance
- Data diagnostic
- Measuring Up!





NCVO champions the voluntary sector and volunteer movement to create a better society.

We connect, represent and support over 15,500 voluntary sector member organisations, from the smallest community groups to the largest charities.

This helps our members and their millions of volunteers make the biggest difference to the causes they believe in.

Search for NCVO membership

Visit www.ncvo.org.uk/join

Email membership@ncvo.org.uk



#### **KEEP IN TOUCH...**

#### www.ncvo.org.uk/charities-evaluation-services



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# THANK YOU

