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Project Outcomes Report

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Award Title: DCL: NSF INCLUDES Conference on Multi-Scale Evaluation in STEM Education
Federal Award ID: 1650390
Report Submission Period: 09/01/2017 to 08/31/2018

A live webinar, "Program Evaluation 101", was presented by Dr. Pamela Bishop and Sondra LoRe on February 09, 2017. Dr. Louis Gross moderated the event. The webinar focused on: 1) an overview of program evaluation, 2) approaches to evaluation, 3) working with an evaluator, and 4) information about the evaluation process. A total of 140 attendees participated in the live webinar. Additionally, to date, the webinar has been viewed over 170 times on YouTube https://www.youtube.com /watch?v=ZGsNJ1jlJD0

A one-day pre-conference tutorial with 33 attendees (including four speakers) was held February 22, 2017. Tutorial applicants were asked if they would be interested in providing their current projects as case studies to use as examples during the tutorial. Four INCLUDES projects of tutorial participants were selected as case studies. Examples of the breakout session activities are provided in Appendix D of the attached Evaluation Report. Tutorial participants were placed into breakout sessions by conference organizers according to the information they provided on their applications. Participants were matched as closely to a project in their area of interest as possible. Four breakout sessions with 8-10 participants each (including one session leader and one facilitator) met for two 1.5 hour breakout sessions using the participant case studies to walk through several hands-on activities, including as time allowed: (1) mapping a project, (2) determining key stakeholders, (3) developing evaluation questions, and (4) determining data sources to answer evaluation questions. Online participation was allowed in breakout sessions via Zoom. Three breakout groups each had one active online participant.

A subsequent two-day conference with 100 attendees (including all tutorial participants, 11 speakers, and two additional organizers) was held February 23-24, 2017. The conference included a combination of presentations, breakout sessions, poster presentations, and panel discussions. Seven presenters, including STEM program evaluators and leaders of diversity-focused STEM initiatives, gave talks about issues such as creating an maintaining alliances, evaluating projects at multiple scales, and cultural contexts for evaluation (see Appendix B of the attached Evaluation Report for a full listing of presentations). Panel discussions fielded questions from the audience on Day one, and a formative evaluation at the end of Day one guided the theme of the panel discussions on Day two to focus more on multi-level, multi-site evaluation issues. Day one ended with a poster session and reception. A list of the 35 participant poster presentations is provided in Appendix F of the attached Evaluation Report. Several small-group breakout sessions were offered on both days. Session topics were selected from participant pre-survey responses regarding issues they would like to explore further. Session topics included data visualization, development of program models, research vs. evaluation, and best practices in creating evaluation reports.

Beyond these activities, the project developed and presented five live webinars to help STEM educators develop evaluation plans that meet the needs of INCLUDES Pilot and Alliance Projects.

Webinars were targeted at individuals involved in current or upcoming INCLUDES projects, those considering collaborating in such projects, and STEM educators considering the inclusion of formal evaluation in their projects.

Webinar topics and dates were as follows: June 7, 2018: *Evaluation Strategies for Measuring the Broader Impacts (BI) of NSF INCLUDES Projects*; May 3, 2018: *Qualitative Data in Culturally Rich Evaluations of NSF INCLUDES Projects; April 5, 2018: Engaging Diverse Populations in Evaluations of NSF INCLUDES Projects; March 1, 2018: Program Models as a Tool for Scaling up NSF INCLUDES Projects; and Feb 1, 2018: Evaluating Social Media Impact in NSF INCLUDES Projects.* Recordings of all webinars, as well as webinar slides and chat transcriptions can be found here: http://www.nimbios.org/IncludesConf/webinars

Last Modified: 09/10/2018
Modified by: Pamela R Bishop

Want to Submit an Addendum?

If you would like to add information about the outcome of your project, you may do so by adding an addendum to the Project Outcomes Report.