

HCSB Conference 2020

**Driven by data:
ACL's Learning Agenda
(and what the Evidence Act
means for you)**

Susan Jenkins, PhD

Administration for Community Living

Agenda

- Who is ACL?
- What is evidence?
- Evidence requirements
 - Learning Agenda
 - Evaluation Plan
 - Evaluation Policy
- How can I get involved?

Who is ACL?

- The Administration for Community Living was created around the fundamental principle that older adults and people of all ages with disabilities should be able to live where they choose, with the people they choose, and with the ability to participate fully in their communities.

WWW.ACL.Gov

ACL's Office of Performance and Evaluation (OPE)

- Located within ACL's Center for Policy and Evaluation
- Collaborates with ACL program offices, implements, oversees and manages ACL's program performance responsibilities, data collection systems, and program evaluation activities.

Program evaluations and reports:

<https://acl.gov/programs/program-evaluations-and-reports>

Data Projects:

<https://acl.gov/programs/research-and-development/data-collection-projects>

ACL's Office of Performance and Evaluation

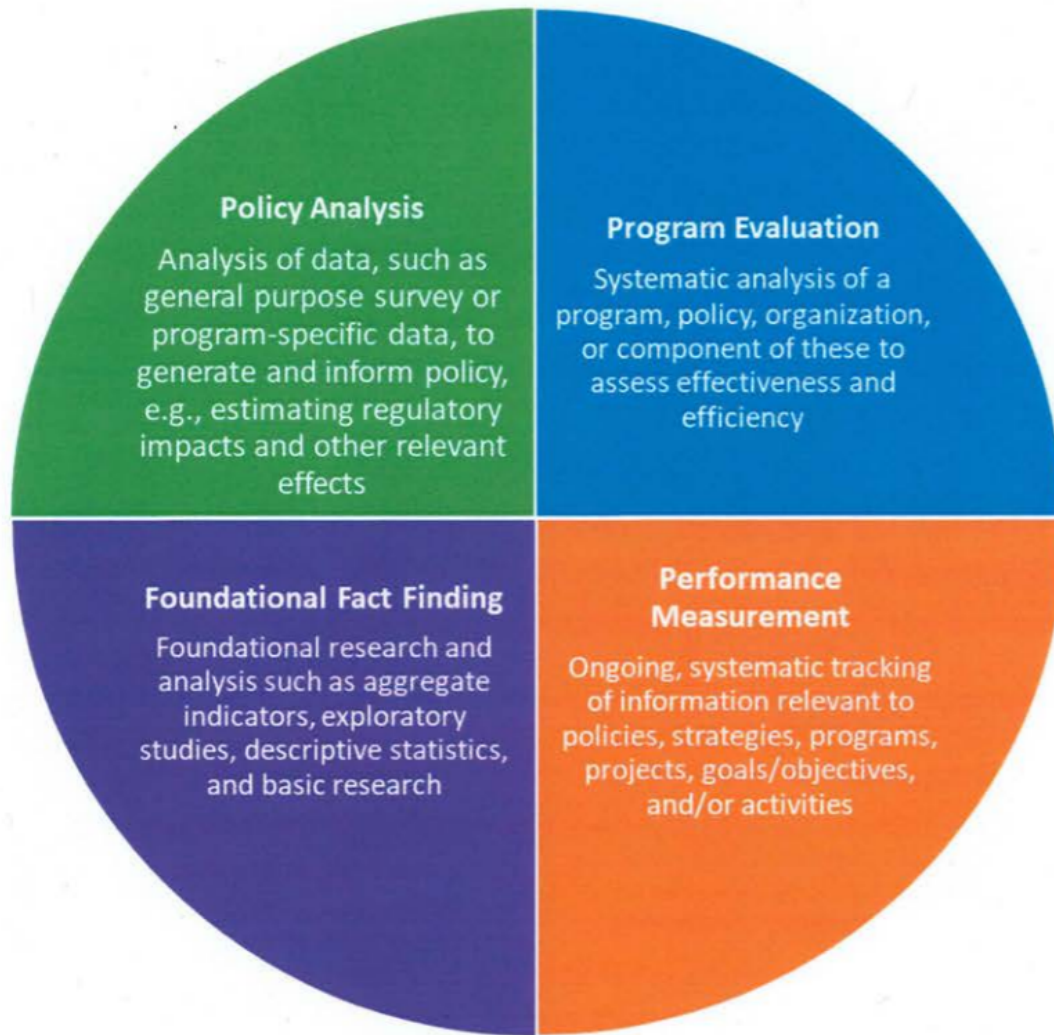
Office of Performance and Evaluation
2019 Year in Review

<h2 style="color: red; font-size: 2em;">15</h2> <p>Committees Served on</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>8 HHS</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>7 External</p> </div> </div>	<h2 style="color: red; font-size: 2em;">11</h2> <p>Presentations at Conferences</p>		
<h2 style="color: red; font-size: 2em;">7</h2> <p>All ACL Offices and Centers Engaged to Improve ACL Metrics</p>	<h2 style="color: red; font-size: 2em;">61</h2> <p>Data-related Publications</p>		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched New Title VII Performance Data Collection System (QAAPS) • Developed Tribal Consultation Policy • Developed new technical assistance materials for Title VI Caregiver grantees • Featured in the 2019 Results for America Federal Index <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posted data sets for 9 ACL Disability Programs on AGID for the first time and updated the site's name to Aging, Independence, and Disability Program Data Portal </div> <h2 style="color: blue; font-size: 1.5em;">Big Achievements</h2>			
<h2 style="color: red; font-size: 2em;">4</h2> <p>PRA Clearances</p>	<h2 style="color: red; font-size: 2em;">18</h2> <p>Contracts Managed</p>	<p>AGID Usage</p> <p>16,000 users 78,000 unique page views</p>	<p>Technical Assistance</p> <p>Reviewed 4 FOAs Conducted 3 trainings</p>

What is evidence?

- ...information produced as a result of statistical activities conducted for a statistical purpose.

What is evidence?



Evidence requirements: Learning Agenda

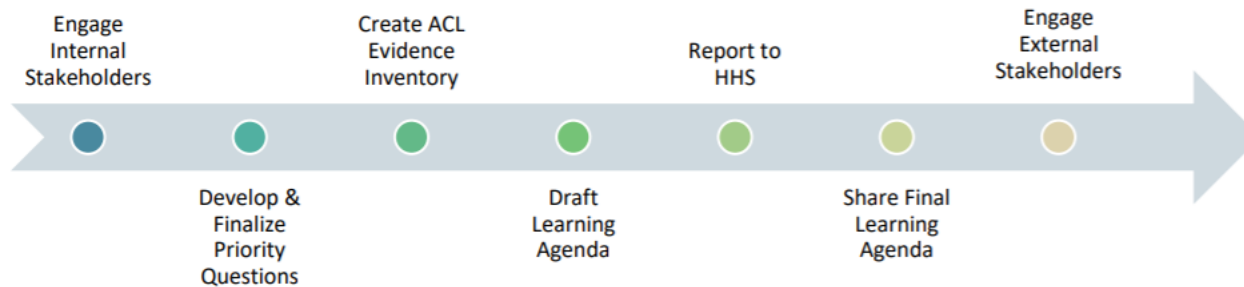
- ACL's interim learning agenda focuses on the following priority question and sub-question:
 - **Priority Question:** What is the efficacy and effectiveness of ACL programs and initiatives?
 - **Sub-question:** Is ACL being effective in its caregiver support programs?
- This question and sub-question are relevant to all of ACL's Centers.
- The results will affect services for all of ACL's target populations and a wide range of ACL stakeholders.

Evidence requirements: Learning Agenda

- A systematic way to identify the data ACL will collect, use, or acquire, as well as the methods and analytical approaches to facilitate the use of evidence in policy making.
- It encourages the use of data to improve agency operational and programmatic outcomes and develop appropriate policies and regulations supporting successful mission accomplishment.
- <https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/programs/2020-10/ACL%20Learning%20Agenda%2009.30.20-FINAL-compliant.pdf>

Evidence requirements: Learning Agenda

- Iterative
- Interactive
- Inclusive



Evidence requirements: Evaluation Plan

- Includes the evaluation activities the agency plans related to the learning agenda and any other "significant" evaluation, such as those required by statute.
- Each annual plan describes the systematic collection and analysis of information about the characteristics and outcomes of programs, projects, and processes as a basis for judgments, to improve effectiveness, and/or inform decision-makers about current and future activities.

https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/programs/2020-09/ACL_2022_Evaluation_Plan.docx.pdf

Evidence requirements: Evaluation Policy

1. Rigor
2. Staffing
3. Relevance
4. Transparency
5. Independence
6. Ethics

https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/programs/2018-07/ACL%20evaluation%20policy%20FINAL%2007-2-2018_0.docx

Evidence requirements: Data Governance Body

ACL DATA COUNCIL
2020

Year in Review

PURPOSE

Support ACL's mission by improving the coordination of ACL's data governance, including the development of improved processes and standards for defining, collecting, reviewing, certifying, analyzing, and presenting data ACL collects through its evaluation, grant reporting, and administrative performance measures.

APPROACH

MEMBERS

23 Council Members, representing:

- ◆ ACL Regional Administrators
- ◆ Administration on Aging
- ◆ Administration on Disabilities
- ◆ Center for Innovation and Partnership
- ◆ Center for Policy and Evaluation
- ◆ National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research
- ◆ Office of Information Resources Management
- ◆ Office of Performance and Evaluation

2 Working Groups

Data Quality
11 members

Data Governance Standards
10 members

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Outputs

Held 10 Meetings

- ◆ 3 quarterly Data Council meetings
- ◆ 3 Data Quality Working Group meetings
- ◆ 4 Data Governance Standards Working Group meetings

Developed 6 Products

1. Data Council framework
2. Data quality needs assessment
3. Sample text focused on data quality for funding opportunity announcements (FOAs)
4. Data Quality 101 infographic
5. Annotated bibliography for existing Federal data standards, frameworks, and models
6. Data governance primer

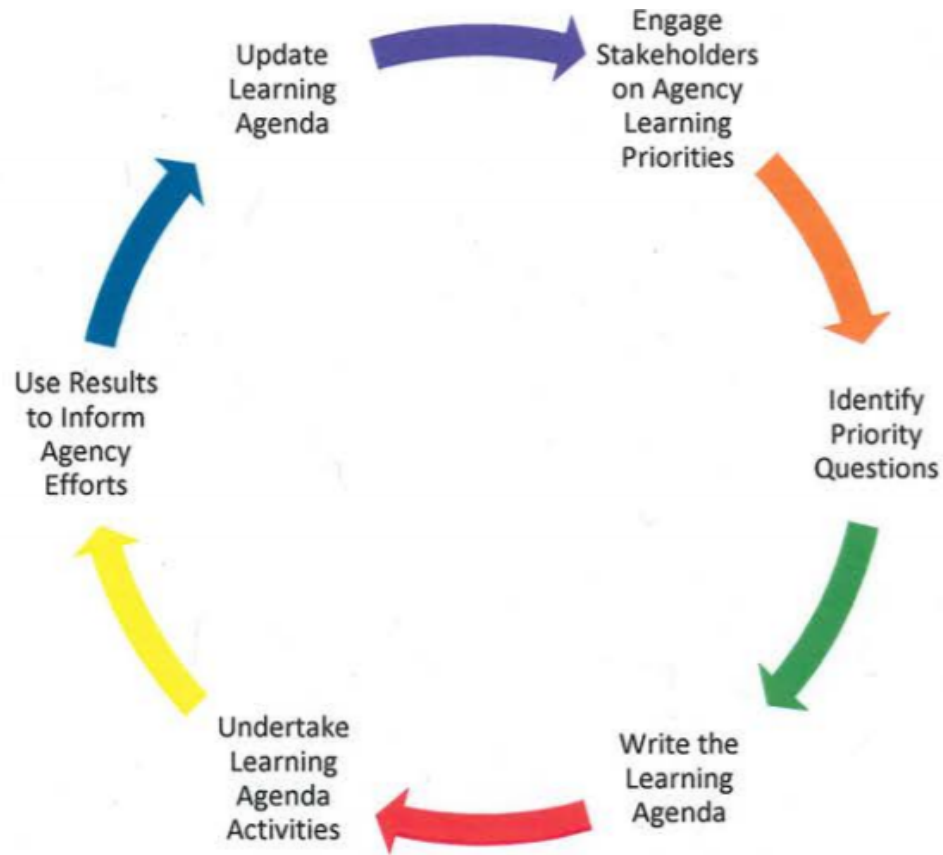
Key Outcomes Identified by Council Members

- ◆ Identified ACL data needs and gaps
- ◆ Gained better understanding of ACL programs
- ◆ Began sharing effective data practices across ACL programs
- ◆ Strengthened interagency relationships and collaboration with Department of Homeland Security and Social Security Administration

Website <https://acl.gov/programs/research-and-development/data-collection-projects>

- <https://acl.gov/programs/research-and-development/data-collection-projects#>

How do I get involved?



How do I get involved?

- Respond to requests for data
- Participate on technical panels
- Visit the ACL website and data presentation portal (www.AGID.ACL.GOV)

We encourage you to engage with
ACL's evidence building efforts

Contact Information:

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