

TABLE 1

Sample Early-Stage Implementation Questions to Help Inform Future Scale-Up

Treatment planned, offered, and received

Content: What services are planned, offered, and received?

Quantity: With what prevalence, frequency, intensity, and duration?

Quality: What is the quality of services offered?

Conveyance: How are services delivered: to a group or individually? By teachers? Via internet?

Fidelity/adaptation: How does planned and offered treatment vary from received? Why?

What factors promoted or inhibited progress?

Implementation plan

What are the plan's core components? What is the plan for outreach/recruitment, staffing/training/coaching, technical assistance, and monitoring?

How was the plan implemented? What aspects of the plan were enacted differently from how they were planned?

Is program participatory or expert driven? Is plan flexible or adaptive? Standardized or manualized?

What elements appear to be key implementation supports, likely to be needed in future scale-up?

Fidelity/adaptation: Were goals in initial plan met? What adaptations were made and why?

What systems (or system interactions) are critical to program implementation?

What partnerships are established for the intervention and how do they operate?

What supports were most important?

What barriers were confronted?

Client characteristics

What are the social demographic and other risk factors of population recruited, enrolled, and served?

How do sample characteristics differ from the program model's intended target population or other populations of policy interest?

Contextual factors external to an organization

What system is the model embedded in or interacting with?

What external factors are suggested by theory and policy as influencing impacts, and why?

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TABLE 1 (continued)

Organizational characteristics of the implementing organization

What are the characteristics of staff members who deliver services? What academic qualifications and work experience do they have?

To what degree are staff members interested and engaged in delivering services? Do they exhibit signs of burnout?

How is the implementing organization set up? What is the management structure? What funding and resources support the programs? What supports does the implementing organization have to implement the program? What is the climate or culture of the organization?

Based on the theory of change and early implementation experiences, what factors appear most likely to influence impacts? For example: strong leadership, sufficient resources and capacity, supportive climate and culture, involvement of an intermediary that provides technical assistance, or an outside performance monitor?

Based on theory and/or early pilot experiences, which organizational factors may predict impacts?

Service contrast and control group conditions

What similar services are available to the control group or those who do not have access to the program?

How do the services received by the control group differ from those received by the program group? That is, what is the service contrast?

How do client characteristics differ between the program group and the control group (or those without access)?

How do contextual factors identified as important in the intervention's logic model differ from those in organizations serving the control group or those without access to the intervention?

Where applicable, how do organizational characteristics differ for organizations providing services to the program group and those providing services to the control group or those without access?

How do the structures supporting implementation in the organizations serving the program group differ from other organizations serving a similar population?

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