Overview of using Logic Models[1]

According to the Kellogg Foundation, a logic model is a systematic and visual way to present and share your understanding of the relationships among the resources you have to operate your program, the activities that you plan, and the changes you hope to achieve.

Logic models can be divided into two categories, your planned work and your intended results.

Your planned work *Your intended results*

The most basic logic model is a picture of how you believe your program will work. The components of a logic model are defined below.

1. **Resources**: Also referred to as inputs, this includes any human, financial, spatial, organizational, and community resources available to use to do the work of your program.
2. **Program Activities**: The program takes its resources and uses them in its activities, which are the processes, tools, events, technologies, and actions that are put into effect to bring about the intended changes or results.
3. **Outputs** are the direct products of the program activities. These can include types, levels, and targets of services to be delivered by the program.
4. **Outcomes** are the specific changes in program participants' behavior, knowledge, skills, status, and level of functioning. Outcomes can be short-term, attainable in one to three years, or long-term, attainable in four to six years.
5. **Impact** is the fundamental intended change as a result of program activities, usually occurring within seven to ten years. This can also be measured at the conclusion of program funding.

One reads a logic model from left to right using "If…then…" statements. For example:

Certain resources are needed to operate the program. If we use these resources, we can initiative our planned activities. If we accomplish our planned activities, then we will deliver the amount of product or service that we intended (output). If we accomplish the planned activities to the extent intended, then our participants will benefit in certain ways (outcomes). Finally, if these benefits to participants are achieved, then certain changes in organizations, communities, or systems might be expected to occur (impact).

[1]W.K. Kellogg Foundation, (2004). *Logic Model Development Guide*. Battle Creek, Michigan.