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“My question is: Are we making an impact?”



Now what?
**Considering applied Evaluation and
Research Career Options**

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- Sharing my applied view with you
- Options in the field
- Internal evaluation role
- Required skills
- What to consider for your career
- How to get it done

Options in the field

- University Based Research Centers
- National Social Science Research Institutions
- Advocacy and membership organizations
- Internal evaluation
- Foundation Officer
- Independent Consultant

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- Sharing my applied view with you



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- To promote social justice by facilitating social service organizations to evaluate, learn and improve programs, thereby creating opportunity for the disadvantaged and vulnerable to achieve desired well-being.

~ Lois Thiessen Love 2007



Independent Consultant

- Personally rewarding
- Challenges
- Utilize leaders in the field
 - Gail Barrington

Foundation Officer

- Capacity building
- Influence field - connector
- Improve grant making
- Develop your substantive expertise

Internal Evaluation within Social Services

- Challenges
- Rewards
- Roles to play
- Skill Mix

Our role as Social Work Evaluators:

- Facilitating those doing the work to provide GREAT services and to achieve GREAT outcomes with their clients

Internal Evaluation Skill Mix

- Social Science Research
- Organizational / program administration
- Interpersonal Skills
- Culturally proficient
- Systems perspective

What to consider for your career

- Your personal mission
- How you can advance the mission of the social work profession -
 - *to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic human needs of all people - NASW*

What to consider for your career

- Demand
- Remuneration
- Location and stability
- Workload
- Intrinsic rewards

How to get it done

- Learn from your predecessors
- Stay connected to your peers
- Stay up-to-date with research and evaluation
 - SSWR
 - AEA – Social Work TIG

Learn from your predecessors

- Internal Evaluation Literature
 - Arnold Love
 - Richard Sonnichsen
 - Hallie Preskill

Learn from your predecessors

- Independent Consultant
 - Independent Consultant TIG, AEA
 - Association of Non-profit Consultants
 - **“Intermediate Consulting Skills: A Self-help Fair”** AEA/CES Annual Conference, Toronto, Ontario, 2005
http://www.evaluationcanada.ca/distribution/20051029_barrington_gail.pdf

Evaluation

Opportunities --- expanding!

Thank You!

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