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## **FIVE STEPS TO CREATING A THEORY OF CHANGE LOGIC MODEL<sup>1</sup>**

This tool will help you identify and specify key elements of a Theory of Change (TOC) Logic Model. A TOC Logic Model is a dynamic, multi-layered document that reflects a collaborative process among stakeholders. The document will be revised, refreshed, and re-evaluated continuously as your programs/initiatives evolve. Begin by using this tool to gather key stakeholder perspectives. The companion document, *Tips for Using the Five-Step Logic Model Tool*, is intended to provide further guidance for your work. For further information on evaluation and accountability, as well as resources on developing logic models, see <http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/index.html>.

### **Step One: Long-Term Goal(s)**

- Broadly speaking, what do you hope to accomplish? What needs do you intend to meet?

### **Step Two: Rationale or Theory of Change**

- What assumptions are you basing your goals on? How and why do you believe your goals will be achieved?

<sup>1</sup> This chart is adapted from *Planning for Success: Mapping Goals, Services, and Outcomes for Program Improvement, Birth to Five, Best Practices Issue No. 2*, produced by the Ounce of Prevention Fund. It is available at [www.ounceofprevention.org/includes/tiny\\_mce/plugins/filemanager/files/Planning%20For%20Success.pdf](http://www.ounceofprevention.org/includes/tiny_mce/plugins/filemanager/files/Planning%20For%20Success.pdf).

**Step Three: Program Services**

- Begin by defining the programmatic focus—what primary programs/interventions will be put in place to achieve the outcomes?
- What activities will your program undertake and what resources will it use to accomplish its goals?

**Step Four: Identifying Short-Term and Intermediate Goals**

**Short-term goals**

- What short-term goals do you expect to achieve—how will you know that the programmatic services are being implemented as expected?

**Intermediate goals**

- What goals do you expect to achieve in the near future—what indicators do you expect to see first to determine whether you are on the right path toward achieving your long-term goals?

**Step Five: Identifying Outcome Indicators**

■ What measurements or indicators will you use to document short-term and intermediate goals?

■ What data are currently collected and what data are needed?