

# LOOKING AT DATA

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## Basic Principles for Making Sense of Evaluation Results



# Agenda

- Data use principles
- Using data protocols
  - Data-to-Practice
  - Predict-Observe-Interpret-Plan
  - Root Cause Analysis



# Who We Are

**Youth Development Executives of King County (YDEKC)** is a coalition of youth-serving organizations working to advance the youth development field in order to improve outcomes for young people.

Representing the executive leadership of King County based youth serving organizations, YDEKC is uniquely positioned to **advocate for its members** with the systems (school districts, governments, the public) that they intersect with; to **develop field level knowledge** about best practices in youth development; and to **build leadership strength** in the non-profit youth serving sector.



Plan

Collect

Reflect

# Foundational Principles

- A culture of inquiry
- Staff engagement across all levels
- Mechanisms for organizing, sharing, and reflecting on data
- Realistic and incremental goals
- Inclusion of key stakeholders in data sharing and review

**Source:** Rosenberg, H. (2013). Embracing the Use of Data for Continuous Program Improvement. Family Involvement Network of Educators (FINE) Newsletter, 5(3). Retrieved from <http://www.hfrp.org/publications-resources/browse-our-publications/embracing-the-use-of-datafor-continuous-program-improvement>

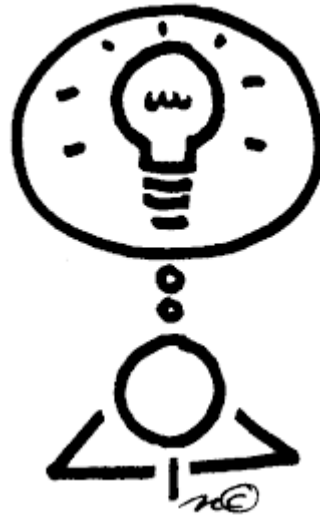


# Looking at Data

- Key assumption: Data have no meaning on their own
- Data analysis and interpretation protocols:
  - Help groups of practitioners make sense of data
  - Connect information about outcomes to activities or interventions
  - Multiple formats and set-ups
  - Common sequence of steps (e.g. What? So what? What else? Now what?)



# Looking at Data (See-Think-Wonder)



Images courtesy of Clip Art Panda, <http://www.clipartpanda.com/>



# Guiding Questions

- What do the data say (what do you **SEE**)?
- What do you **THINK** about the data?
- What questions does the data raise (what do you **WONDER**)?





# Data-to-Practice Protocol

- Follows this basic sequence of steps
- Useful for acquainting staff or other stakeholders with new or unfamiliar information
- Moves from basic interpretation of data to concrete action steps

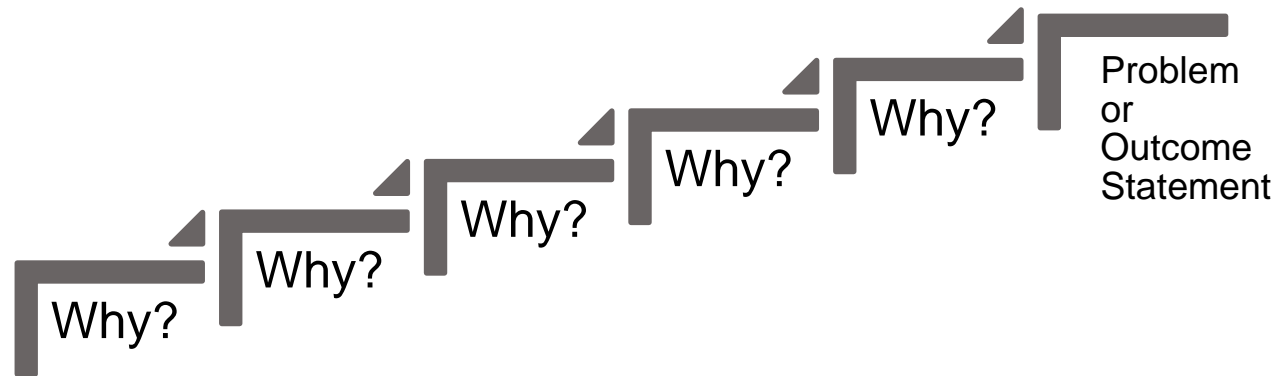


# Predict-Observe-Interpret-Act

- Similar to the data-to-practice model, but asks participants to predict what they will see in advance
- Works better when data will be presented in a familiar format
- Also culminates in action steps



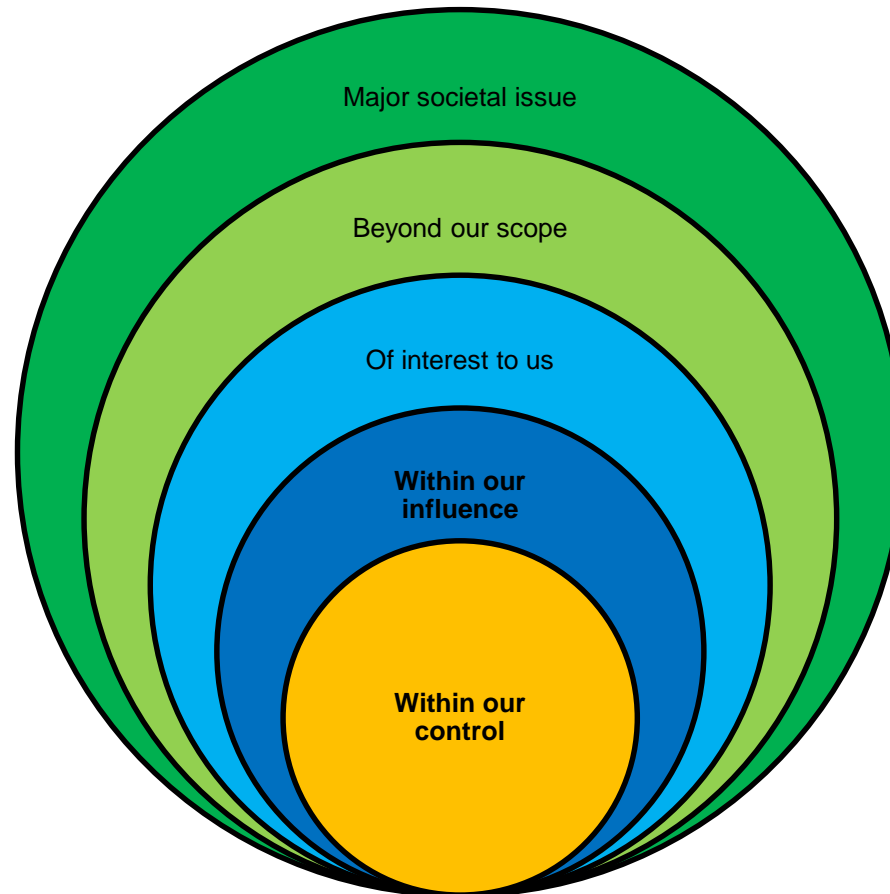
# Root Cause Analysis (“Five Whys”)



- Associated with the Toyota Production Method and Six-Sigma model
- Asks participants to track backwards from an initial observation to uncover root causes
- Useful for simplifying complex problems and identifying solutions



# Spheres of Influence



**Youth Development Executives of King County**

*Working together to advance the youth development field*

