NPQ

Luminare GROUP

Claiming Your Results

Making Evaluation a Core Organizational Practice

Session Three: Strengthening Your Inquiry Practice

Advancing Practice Series

from the Nonprofit Quarterly and Luminare Group

Strengthening Your Inquiry Practice

- Connecting the Critical Questions to your inquiry practice
- Practical ways to gather useful information

Review of Critical Questions

What difference does your organization seek to make?

Where or with whom does your organization seek to make a difference? What is the boundary of the work?

What is your organization's distinct contribution to making a difference in that context?

What values underpin you organization's purpose and work?

What does your organization do in order to make a difference?

What does the organization need to know (or pay attention to) in order to be successful?

What information is used to determine organizational success?

Whose support, what resources, and what actions are essential in order to be successful?

What do we mean by inquiry?

Inquiry is a core leadership and organizational competency.

Inquiry should focus on what is most important and most useful.

Your inquiry should address and inform the critical questions.

Areas of Inquiry

- Implementation of Strategies (How many and how well?)
- How are we living our values?
- What changed?
- Did it matter?
- Was it worth it?

Ways to Gather Information

Existing external sources
ex: Research, Publications

Informal
ex: Post-event debriefs, Team & all-staff meetings, Walk & talks

Formal
ex: Interviews, Surveys, Focus groups, Forms

Recognize the trauma associated with data collection.

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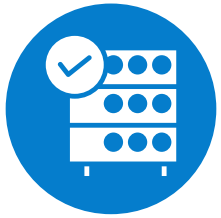
Using the Inquiry Matrix

	Purpose	Current Data Sources		
Implementation of strategies (how many/how well)				
How are we living our values?				
What changed?				
Did it matter?				
Was it worth it?				

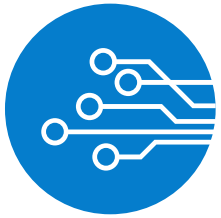
Identifying Your Organization's Inquiry Needs

In the Homework Assignment for Session 3, you will explore:

Key questions across the areas of inquiry



Current data sources



Mining the data and identifying gaps

Next Steps

Complete Evaluation

Join the Live Q&A

Complete the Homework Assignment

Thank you!

We'll see you soon for Session #4.
Don't forget to complete your brief evaluation.

This document and webinar series was created in partnership with Luminare Group.

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