



## Logic Model Worksheet

The one page most funders require and most organizations struggle with

*Last verified August 1, 2026*

### What a logic model is

A logic model is a single page showing how your resources become activities, how activities produce outputs, and how outputs lead to outcomes. Funders ask for it because it proves you have thought through the connection between what you do and what changes. The most common failure is confusing outputs with outcomes.

### The five columns

| Column     | Definition                                                                     | Example from a reentry program                                                                                              |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Inputs     | What you put in: staff, funding, partners, facilities                          | 6 navigators, federal award, 23 employer partners, housing fund                                                             |
| Activities | What you do with the inputs                                                    | Pre release planning, an 8 week job readiness cohort, family sessions, rental assistance                                    |
| Outputs    | The countable products of activities. Numbers of things done or people reached | 340 people enrolled, 180 cohort seats filled, 95 households assisted                                                        |
| Outcomes   | The changes that result. Short term, intermediate, and long term               | Short: identification and benefits secured. Intermediate: employed at 90 days. Long: still housed and employed at 12 months |
| Impact     | The population level change you contribute to over years                       | Reduced return to custody across the county                                                                                 |

### The distinction that decides your application

An output is something you did. An outcome is something that changed for the person you served. Funders fund outcomes.

| Output, what you did                      | Outcome, what changed                                |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 148 people completed the training         | 71 percent were employed 90 days later               |
| We distributed 400 food boxes             | Household food insecurity dropped among participants |
| We held 97 family sessions                | Families reported improved contact and stability     |
| We provided 88 rental assistance payments | 84 percent were still housed after 12 months         |

If every line in your outcomes column starts with a number of things you did, you have written two output columns.

## Build yours

### Inputs

---

---

---

---

### Activities

---

---

---

---

### Outputs

---

---

---

---

### Short term outcomes, within 90 days

---

---

---

### Intermediate outcomes, 6 to 12 months

---

---

---

### Long term outcomes and impact

---

---

---

## Test your model before you submit it

- Read it right to left. Does each outcome plausibly follow from the activity above it? If you cannot explain the mechanism, a reviewer cannot either.
- Can you measure every outcome you listed? If not, either find a way to measure it or remove it.
- Are your outcomes yours to claim? If the change depends mostly on factors you do not control, say so rather than overclaiming.
- Does the model fit on one page? If it does not, it is a program description, not a logic model.

## Further reading

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation Logic Model Development Guide is the sector standard and is free. The CDC program evaluation framework at [cdc.gov/evaluation](https://cdc.gov/evaluation) is also free and useful.

---

Luminary Impact builds logic models, measurement plans, and the outcome reporting that follows.

Luminary Impact · [lilxhub.com](https://lilxhub.com) · [support@lilxhub.com](mailto:support@lilxhub.com) · Free to use and share