Promoting the Use of Government Evaluations in Policymaking

Rakesh Mohan
Kathleen Sullivan
Editors
EDITORS' NOTES

Rakesh Mohan, Kathleen Sullivan

1. Managing the Politics of Evaluation to Achieve Impact

Rakesh Mohan, Kathleen Sullivan
The authors examine issues in managing the politics of evaluation by considering the context in which an evaluation occurs and by maximizing both evaluators' independence from and their responsiveness to stakeholders.

2. A Voice Crying in the Wilderness: Legislative Oversight

Agencies' Efforts to Achieve Utilization

Gary R. VanLandingham
The author contends that an emphasis on organizational independence can restrict evaluators' role to that of a voice crying in the wilderness rather than speaking truth to power.

3. Evaluators' Role in Facilitating the Convergence of Factors to Create Legislative Impact

Hal Greer
Using the example of Virginia's process of regulating the practice of medicine, the author concludes that evaluators can play an important role in facilitating the convergence of factors that can create legislative impact.

4. The Influence of Evaluators on State Medicaid Policies: Florida and South Carolina's Experience

Yvonne Bigos, Jennifer Johnson, Rae Hendlin, Steve Harkreader, Andrea Truitt
The authors describe environmental conditions and evaluation strategies that played a role in affecting Medicaid policies in two states.

5. A Utilization-Focused Approach to Evaluation by a Performance Audit Agency

Ron Perry, Bob Thomas, Elizabeth DuBois, Rob McGowan
The authors describe how evaluators can be involved in the development and implementation of management tools or models for the agency they evaluate while still maintaining their independence.
Joel Alter, John Patterson
Using prospective evaluation, the authors offer a rationale and methods for estimating future impacts of the No Child Left Behind Act.

7. Increasing Evaluation Use Among Policymakers Through Performance Measurement
Rakesh Mohan, Minakshi Tikoo, Stanley Capela, David J. Bernstein
The authors discuss a symbiotic relationship between performance measurement and evaluation, which has the potential to increase the use of evaluation among policymakers.

8. The Evaluator’s Role in Policy Development
George F. Grob
Reflecting on his thirty-seven-year evaluation career in the federal government, the author discusses strategies for maintaining independence and credibility as an evaluator while also serving as an advocate for certain policy outcomes.

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