THE 5DS OF NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

HOW CAN YOU KNOW YOU'RE COVERING ALL THE BASES IN YOUR NEEDS ASSESSMENT? DOCUMENT THE 6 D'S TO ENSURE YOUR RESEARCH DESIGN YIELDS A COMPREHENSIVE, RATIONAL ARGUMENT AND AN EFFECTIVELY-DESIGNED PROGRAM.



DEFICIT

WHAT IS THE ACTUAL NEED REQUIRING INTERVENTION? DOCUMENT THE GAP BETWEEN THE CURRENT AND DESIRED SITUATION YOU ARE PROPOSING TO ADDRESS.



DREAM

IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE NEGATIVES. IN THE SPIRIT OF APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY, WHAT ARE EXISTING STRENGTHS THE PROGRAM COULD BUILD ON?



DESCRIBE

WHAT ARE THE PROPOSED PARTICIPANTS' CHARACTERISTICS, E.G., AGE, EXPERIENCE, LEARNING STYLES, BARRIERS TO ATTENDING, ETC.? THESE HELP TO INFORM THE CONTENT AND DESIGN OF THE PROGRAM.

DESIRES

WHAT ARE THE PROPOSED PARTICIPANTS' PREFERENCES FOR RECEIVING THE PROGRAM, E.G., FORMAT, LENGTH, LOCATION, DAY, TIME, ETC. THESE

LENGTH, LOCATION, DAY, TIME, ETC. THESE ALSO HELP TO INFORM THE DESIGN AND CONTENT.

DUPLICATION

ARE THERE SIMILAR EXISTING PROGRAMS THAT OVERLAP AND MIGHT REDUCE THE CHANCES OF BEING FUNDED? WHAT IS THE UNIQUE NICHE THAT THIS PROGRAM WILL ADDRESS?

DEMAND

IS THERE A DEMAND? WOULD

PARTICIPANTS ACTUALLY ATTEND? DOCUMENT THIS WILLINGNESS, E.G., LIKELIHOOD OF ATTENDING, EXISTING WAIT LISTS, ETC.

