

## Understanding and Using the Theory of Change

**Schedule:** Thursday 18 May 2017 | 9.45am – 4.45pm

**Booking fee:** Free

Do you understand why funders ask about your theory of change?

Are you confident about using the theory of change to describe your work?

Service users have diverse needs. How do you know the approach you adopt will be effective with your target?

### Introduction

In today's competitive climate there are short term and long term funding opportunities. Those that access new funds tend to understand and speak the funder's language.

We know over the next year Hackney's children's sector will be invited to take part in new initiatives that increase outcomes for children and families. A few are outlined below.

- Introduction of the Transformation Funds for the early years sector
- Funds that address childhood obesity
- Parent engagement Initiatives funded by schools and health commissioners
- Partnership work with VCS family support and youth sector colleagues such as youth at risk of underachieving

Increasingly applicants are required to convey their Theory of Change. The predictions and assumptions made about how, when and which combination of interventions create the change you seek for users.

### *What makes you think your particular unique approach works*

To secure funds applicants need to clearly convey their strengths. There is a tendency to have either;

- 1 the technical know how in a specialist subject such as the arts or STEMM.
- 2 Reachability is increasingly valued as a strength. VCS organisations that build long term relationships and successfully reach young people considered "hard to reach" are highly valued in the funding world.

***The Theory of Change training is designed to give you the tools you need today to transform the outcomes for your users tomorrow.***

Rigorous tracking and data provides the evidence your stakeholders need to value the real difference to your beneficiaries, especially the children, young people and families affected by poverty and multiple needs.

### Who is the course aimed at: The Children's Sector

Together in one day session has been designed for the children's workforce; **fundraisers, project managers, supervisors** that support children, young people and families from small to

medium voluntary and/ or community sector organisations who are new to, or want to refresh their knowledge on demonstrating the impact of their work.

### **Course aim:**

The aim of the course is to:

- **Introduce Theory of Change**
- **Help your organisation create activities for your project that will assist you in collecting the right data to measure your effectiveness**

### **The session will cover:**

- How to get to grips with Theory of Change
- How to demonstrate the impact of your organisation
- The approach endorsed by commissioners and grant funders

### **Learning outcomes:**

By the end of the course participants will:

- Have an increased awareness of how to use the Theory of Change model and an understanding of its benefits to your organisation
- Be able to create a Theory of Change that can be shared with colleagues within your organisation and used for other projects
- Be able to identify the next steps required to put the process into action

Book online: [www.hcvs.org.uk](http://www.hcvs.org.uk) | By phone: 020 7923 1962 | [zebina@hcvs.org.uk](mailto:zebina@hcvs.org.uk)

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