

Evaluating Aim Statements Activity

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Practice identifying the specificity elements of an aim statements (what, by when, by how much, for whom)
- Consider the scope and inspirational dimensions of different aim statements.

DESCRIPTION

1. Set up: Pass out one handout to every team.
2. Introduce the activity and its objectives
 - a. Teams should evaluate whether the sample aim statements are well-specified. If they are not, they should propose how they would re-write them to be well-specified.
 - b. As a team, they can also think about how these aims differ in scope and, in their opinion, which they think would motivate them into collective action.
3. Give each team time to evaluate aim statements (10 min)
4. Whole group share-out (5 min)
 - a. Go through statements and have a volunteer share out about how they would improve the aim statement.
 - b. Debrief on four elements that make an aim statement specific: time, amount, specificity, target population.
 - c. Ask participants what else they notice about these aim statements, their scope, etc.

POSSIBLE MODIFICATIONS

- This activity can also be used as an introduction to aim statements by allowing participants to first evaluate examples of aim statements and then build on their initial impressions to talk about the components of a good statement.

Time

15 minutes

Topics

Theory of practice improvement, aim statements

Prior Knowledge

This activity is designed for beginner audiences. It can be used after an introduction to aim statements, their technical and inspirational dimensions, and consideration in scoping them.

Materials & Equipment

- Session slide deck
- Handout with aim statement examples (one per team)

Evaluate these aim statements:

1

Increase the percentage of district students who enroll in college.

2

Reduce monthly absences to fewer than two absences per student by November 30, 2016.

3

By June 2018, increase low-income students in the district who complete the FAFSA from 35% to 80%.

4

By May 2017, increase 5th grade math proficiency from 17 to 51%.