



# 7 Elements of Quality Program Design

## Overview

Montgomery County's partner, the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative, established a process to ensure that new funding requests are backed by strong evidence demonstrating a program's effectiveness. This relies on a screening tool called the Seven Elements of Quality Program Design.



### 1 Program Premise

What public problem is this program seeking to address? How will this program address the problem? Does your proposed program link to a goal identified in the strategic plan or align with the 8 County priorities?

### 2 Needs Assessment

What is the extent of the problem stated in numerical, geographic, and equity terms? What portion of the total need identified does this program seek to address?



### 3 Program Description

What specific activities will you carry out to achieve the expected program outcomes? How many individuals do you intend to serve? Once the program is fully operational, what are the estimated ongoing annual costs?



### 4 Research & Evidence

Is your program evidence-based, research-based, a promising practice, or none of the above? Will it need formal evaluation?



### 5 Implementation Plan

Describe all startup activities needed to implement the program and the cost associated with each. Provide a timeline showing when each startup activity will take place.

### 6 Fidelity Plan

Ensure your program plan will be implemented equitably and with fidelity. It should include a checklist of the program components identified in the supporting research literature that are necessary to achieve the impacts.



### 7 Measurement & Evaluation

What specific outcomes do you expect to achieve? The program logic model should include measures of program outputs, outcomes, quality, and efficiency. How do these align with the Department's Headline Measures? How often will you measure and evaluate this program?



## Review Process

### Applying 7 Elements



### Ensuring Their Results



Adapted from: Mississippi's 7 Elements of Quality Program Design, 2017. The Pew Charitable Trusts  
[www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/fact-sheets/2017/03/mississippi-7-elements-of-quality-program-design](http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/fact-sheets/2017/03/mississippi-7-elements-of-quality-program-design)

