

**How can we keep it going?
Key ingredients for evidence-based program
sustainability**

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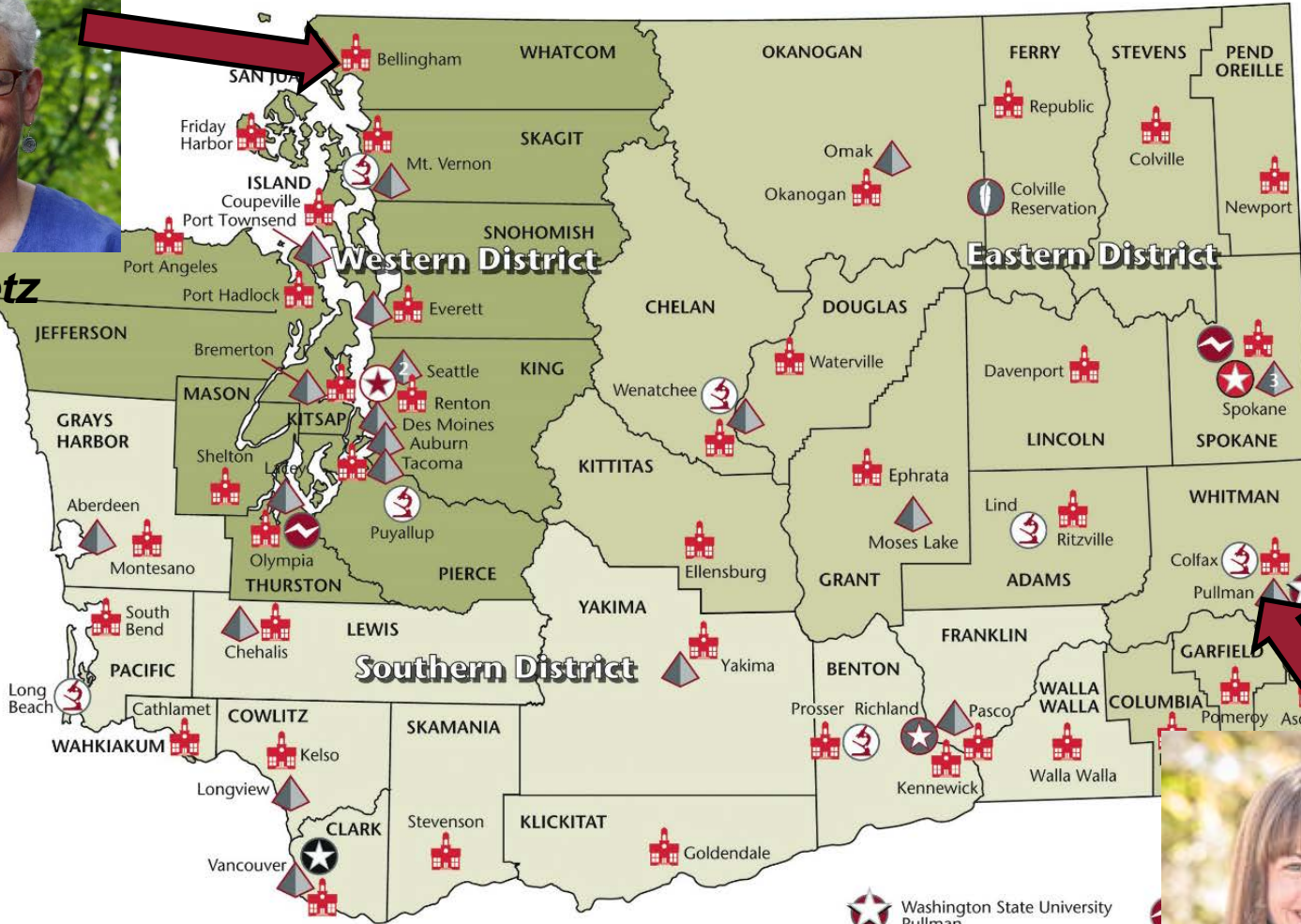
Webinar Presented on May 22, 2017



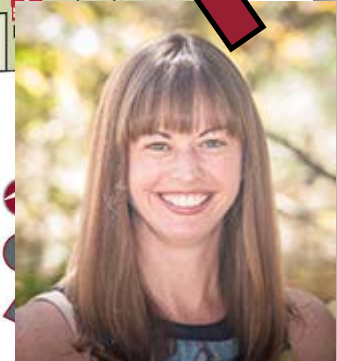
Who and where are we?



Drew Betz



- Extension County Office
- Washington State University Spokane
- Washington State University West
- Washington State University Tri-Cities
- Research and Extension Centers/Units
- Washington State University Vancouver



Brittany Cooper



Today's Objectives

To increase your ability to proactively plan for your program's sustainability.

The diagram features a central grey padlock with the words "PROGRAM SUSTAINABILITY" written vertically on it. Four keys are arranged around the padlock, each with a different icon and label: an orange key with a crosshair icon labeled "Program Characteristics", a teal key with a person icon labeled "Organizational Capacity & Support", a red key with a gear icon labeled "Community Capacity & Support", and a green key with a clock icon labeled "Sustainability Planning".

To review the keys to sustainability.

A red toolbox is shown open, filled with various tools including a hammer, a wrench, a screwdriver, and a pliers.

To provide evidence-based sustainability planning tools.

Two stylized human figures, one yellow and one blue, are shown placing puzzle pieces onto a colorful globe. The globe is composed of several large, multi-colored puzzle pieces (green, pink, blue, orange, purple).

To explore how to apply these tools.



HOW CAN WE KEEP IT GOING? KEY INGREDIENTS FOR EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAM SUSTAINABILITY

By
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Specialist, Department of Human Development, Graduate Faculty in
Prevention Science. **Drew Lenore Betz, M.S.**, CFLE, Professor, Extension
Youth and Family.





The Keys to Sustainability





The Keys to Sustainability

Program Characteristics



Flexibility and adaptability to different settings (while maintaining fidelity).



Less complexity and fewer resource requirements.



Alignment with the organization's goals and routines.



The Keys to Sustainability

Organizational Capacity & Support



Supportive leadership committed to program's success.



Necessary human and financial resources.



Effective organizational systems to support program implementation.



The Keys to Sustainability

Community Capacity & Support



Supportive social, political,
and economic climate.



Relationships with leaders
and organizations with
similar goals.



Supportive policies,
resources, and advocates.



The Keys to Sustainability

Sustainability Planning

Step 1: Prepare and Assess Your Program

- Define the program being assessed and identify participants for the assessment process.
- Complete the Program Sustainability Assessment Tool (PSAT) with key program stakeholders.



Step 2: Develop an Action Plan

- Assemble a sustainability planning team.
- Review your program's mission and purpose.
- Review the PSAT results.
- Prioritize sustainability capacity building areas.
- Develop an action plan with specific steps aimed at building this capacity.



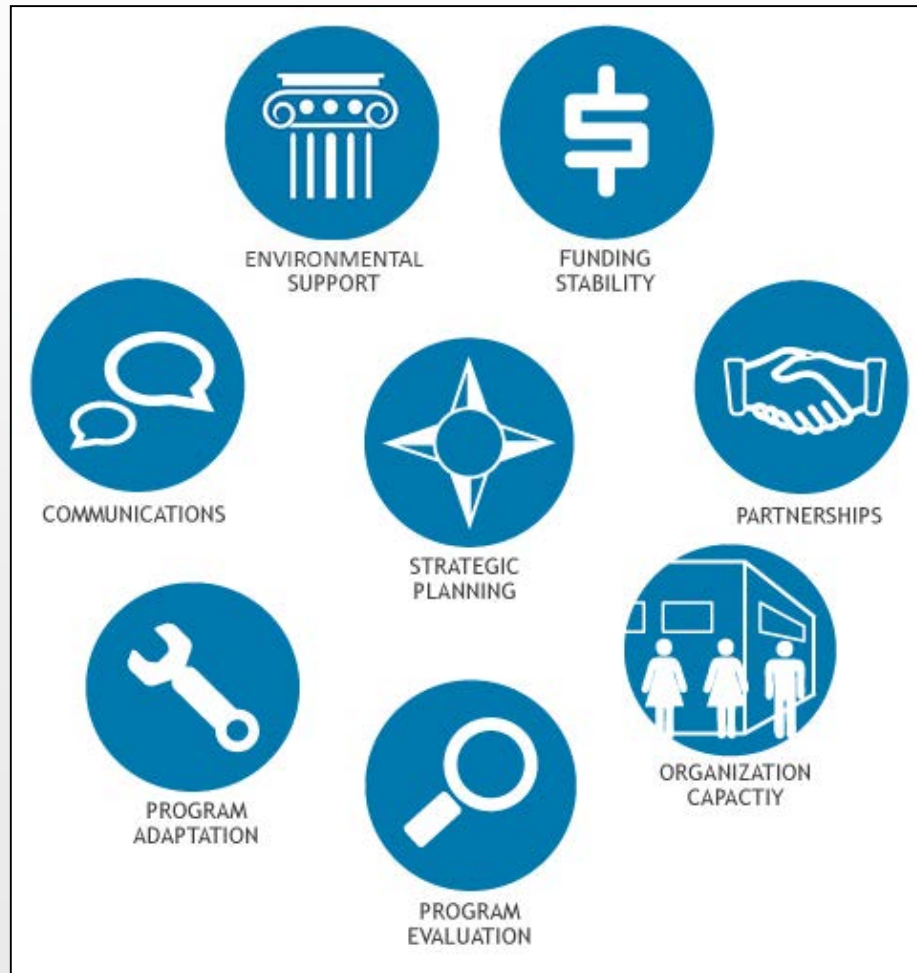
Step 3: Take Action

- Implement the action plan.
- Reassess sustainability capacity with the PSAT annually.



Program Sustainability Assessment Tool

<https://sustaintool.org>

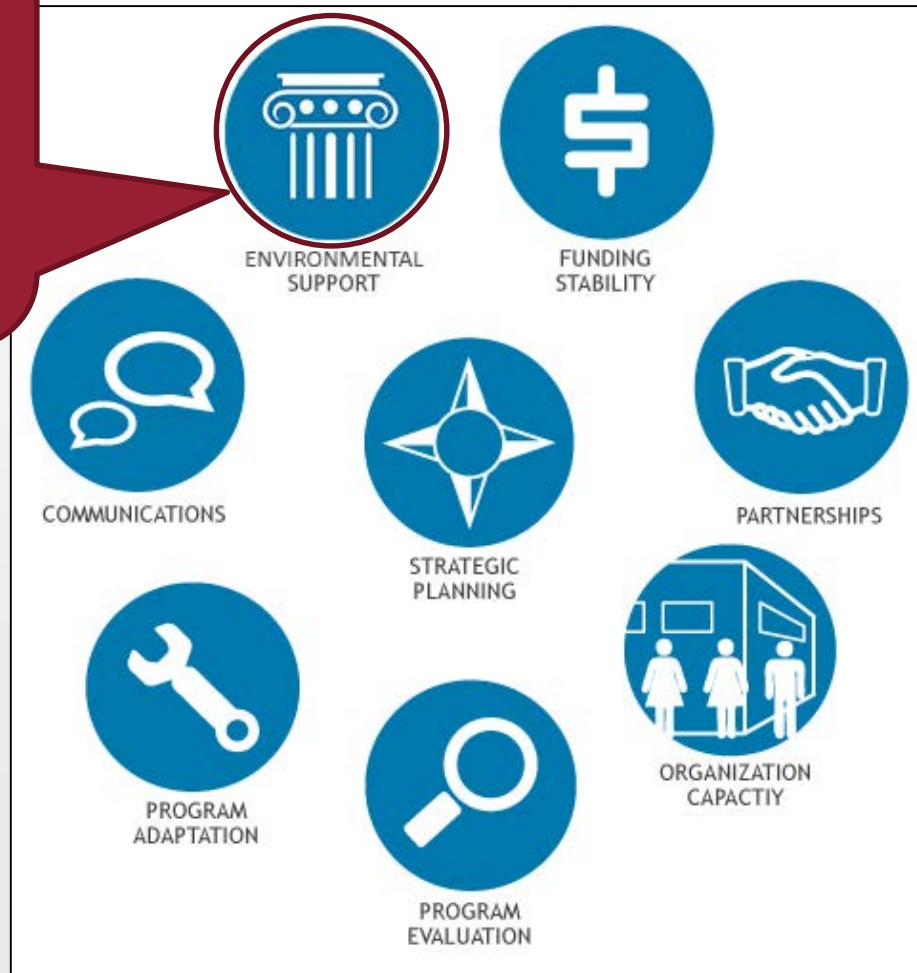




Program Sustainability Assessment Tool

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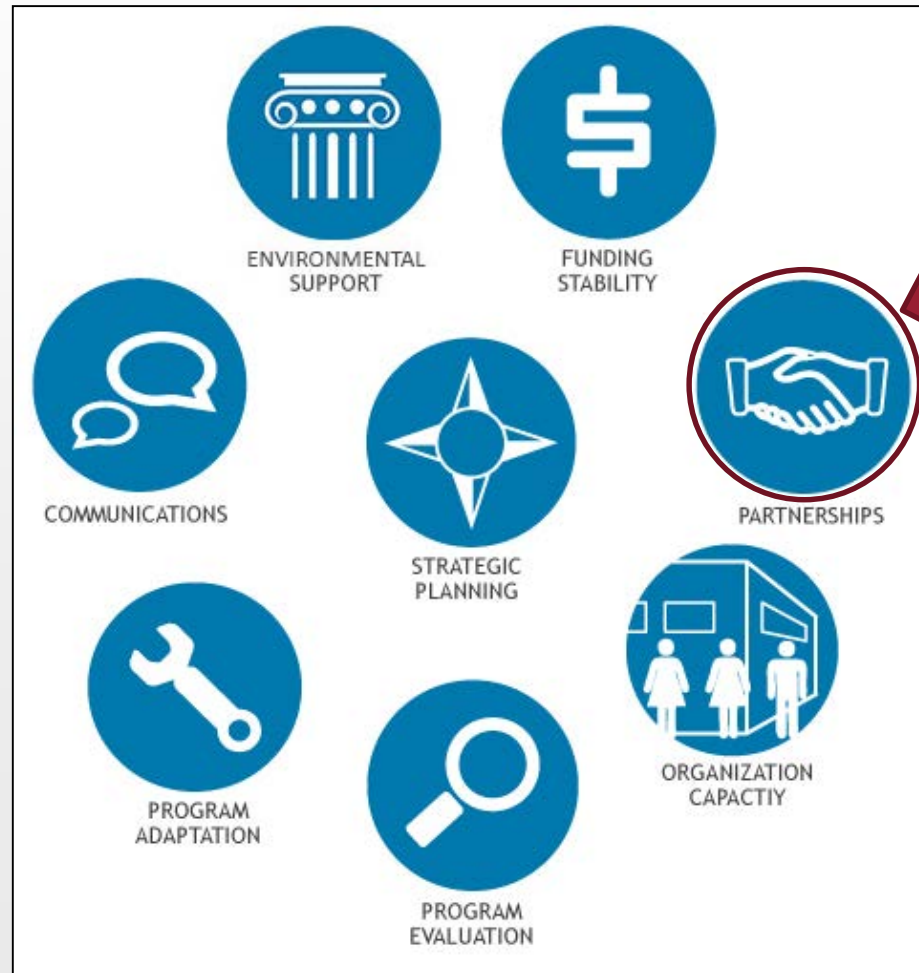
“We have a wonderful relationship with [county health dept official] and ...he’s saying he’d like to see the program in every middle school in the county...He’s getting excited about it!”





Program Sustainability Assessment Tool

<https://sustaintool.org>



“As soon as the funding kind of dropped and the collaboration about that, then it just was kind of on our own to do. I think it definitely could be more successful, but without some other players at the table it’s kind of all on us right now to continue it.”



Program Sustainability Assessment Tool

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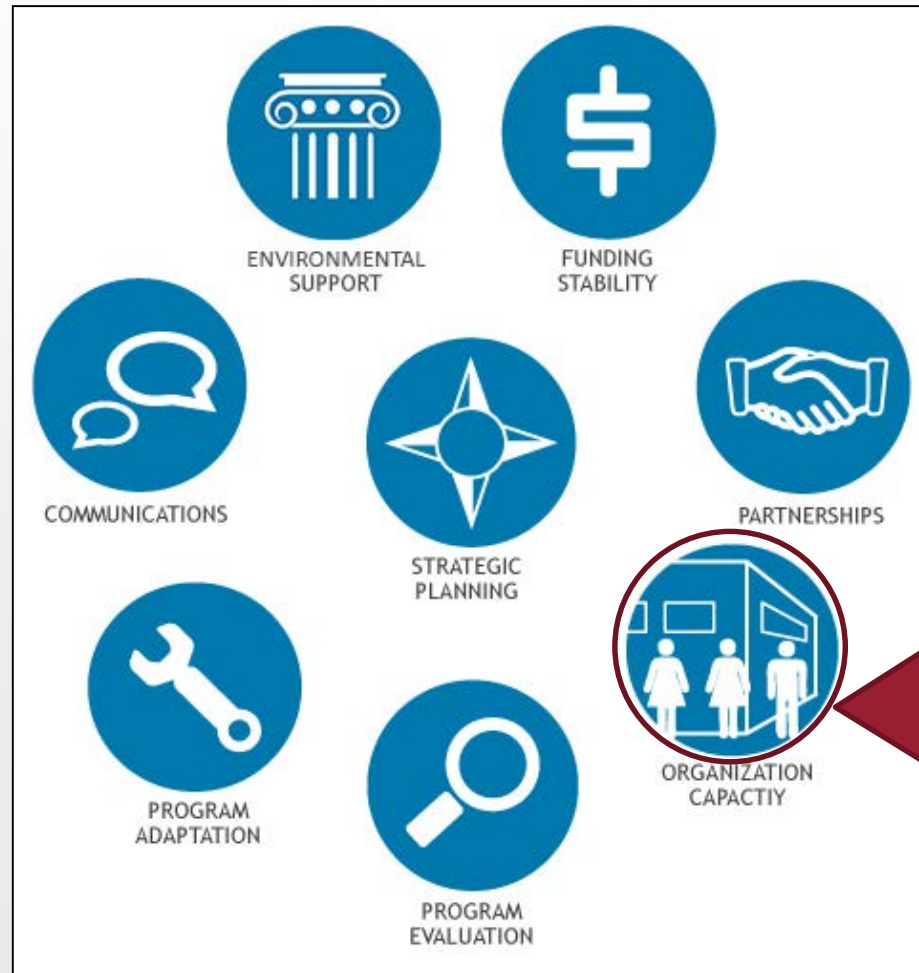
“...we find that a couple of the youth activities are kind of like what, the youth are not interested. So, okay what we’ve done ... is we have taken other like ropes course activities or something and plugged them instead if they have the same objective or similar objective. So, that the kids are still moving towards that, meeting that objective for the week, but with a different activity.





Program Sustainability Assessment Tool

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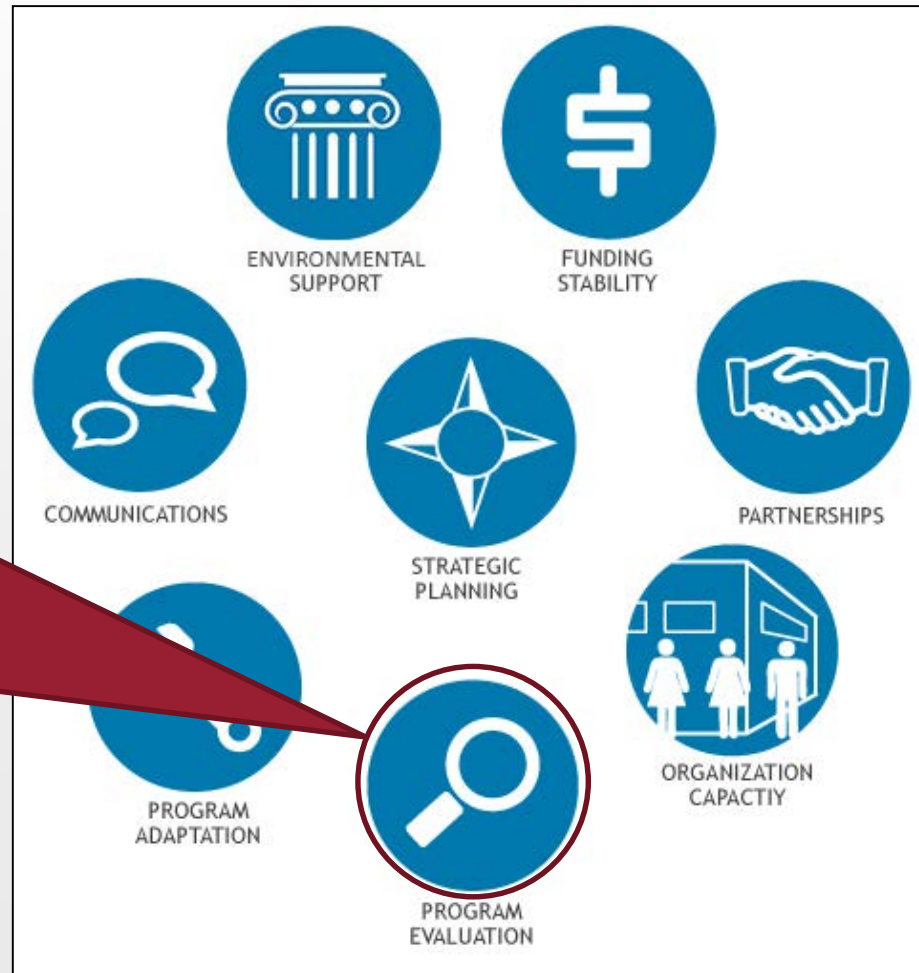


“You’ll have that coordinator piece, because you can get staff to come in, but to coordinate, get everything together that you need, you need that one person to really solidify the program. I think that’s key to making it really go.”



Program Sustainability Assessment Tool

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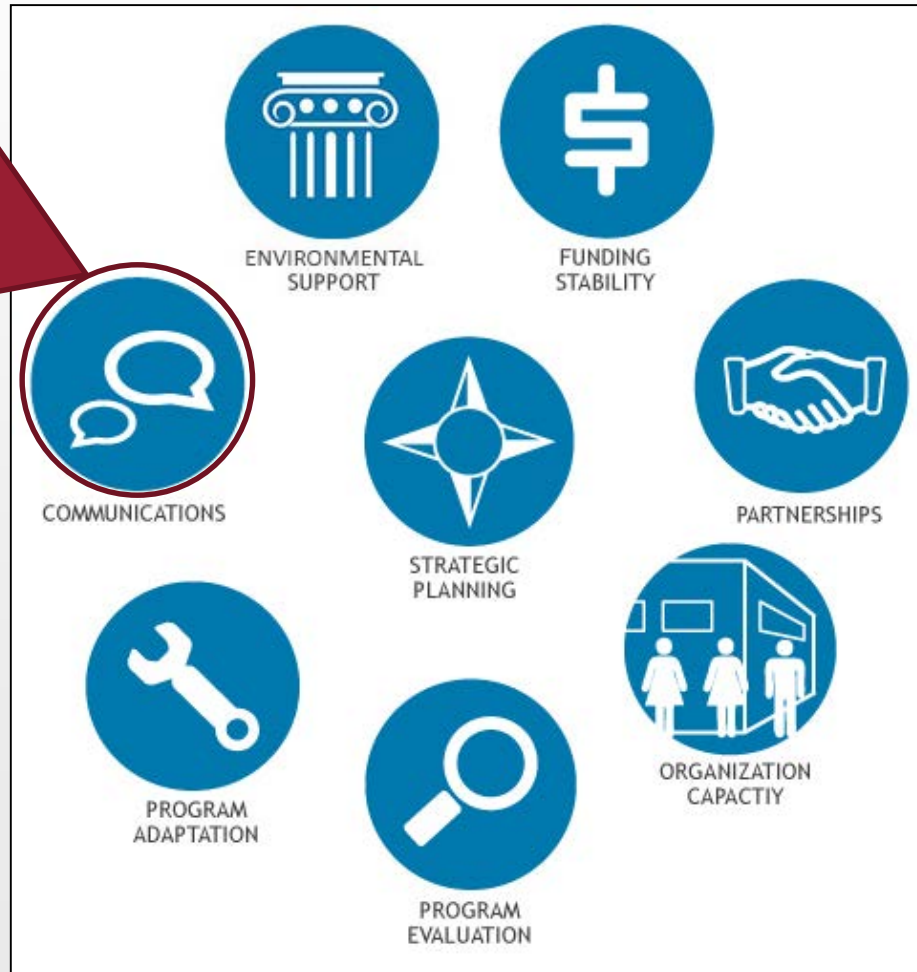
“...we look at [the evaluation report] and we have a meeting about it and we talk about it amongst the facilitators. We usually just go over it together and have the conversation and that’s about it.”



Program Sustainability Assessment Tool

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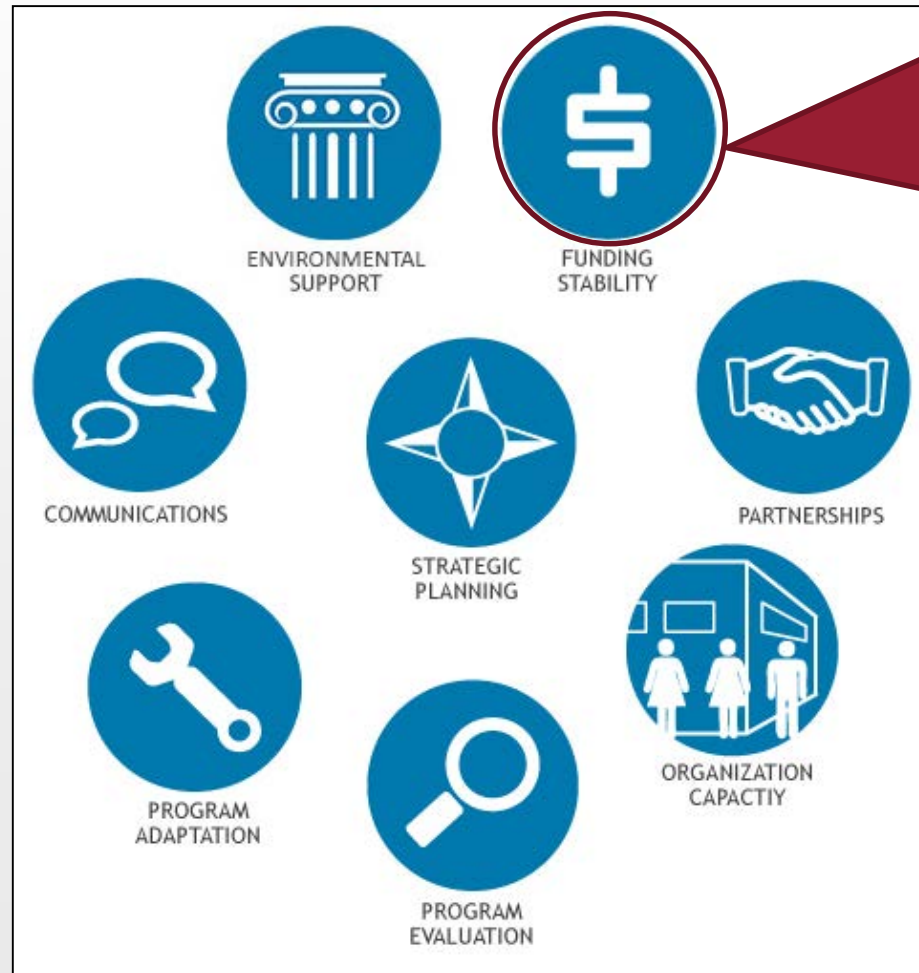
“...the board has in their minutes a time in the meeting where they always just have good news that they present, and so we always talk about the Strengthening Families Program, and kind of let them know how many families took it, how received it was, yeah, I always ask them to come.”





Program Sustainability Assessment Tool

<https://sustaintool.org>

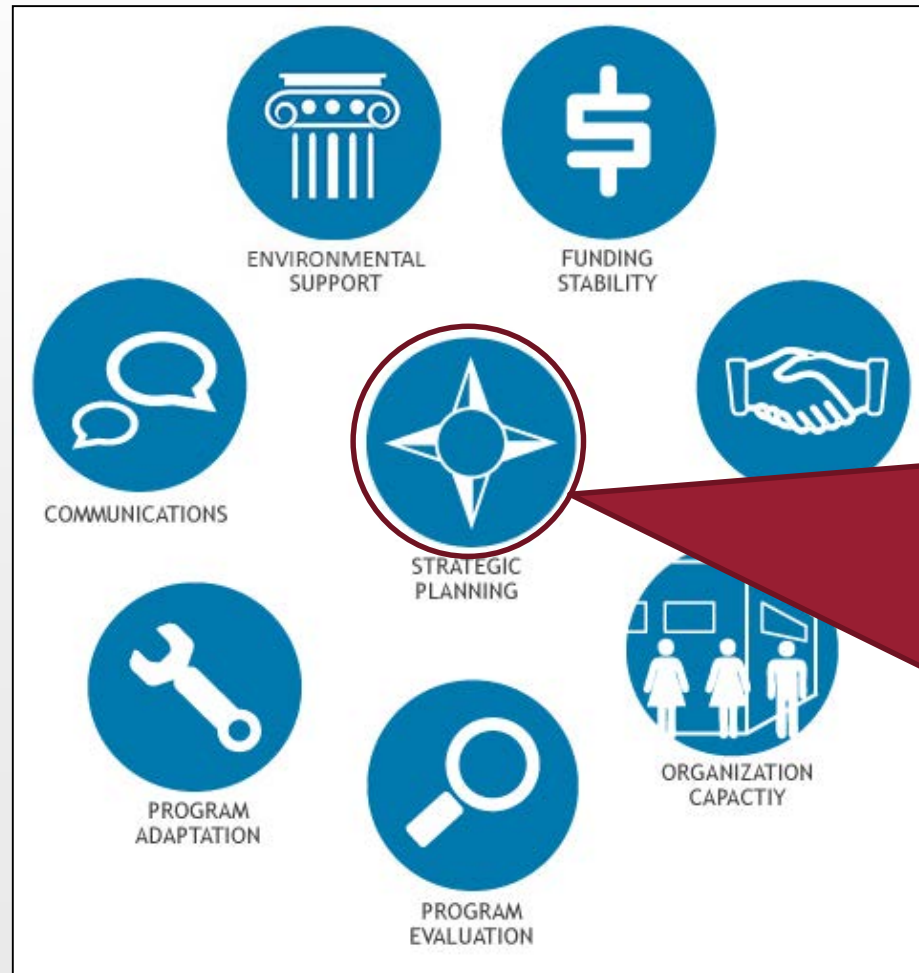


“It’s true that when we had that grant it really, it fully funded us. I didn’t have to kind piecemeal things together. When we lost that, I think we tried for a while to piecemeal it together through various grants and pull a little from, it just wasn’t sustainable.”



Program Sustainability Assessment Tool

<https://sustaintool.org>



“...there is no formal plan yet, but the organization right now is going through strategic planning process. Over the last year we’ve tried to really hone in on, with the researches we have, what we can put our efforts in that could change, with our strategic planning process. But we are going through that now and I think that we’ll have some guidance with what we need to put our energy into.”



Program Sustainability Assessment Tool

Log In

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Assess Your Program Now!

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Understand

Assess

Plan

Services



Building Programs that Last - Create a group assessment, involve your team, and get different perspectives on your program's sustainability capacity. Receive a summary sustainability report.

Welcome to the online Program Sustainability Assessment Tool.

Let us help you rate the sustainability capacity of your program across a range of factors.

Start a new assessment

1 > Understand

Understand the factors that influence a program's capacity for sustainability.

2 > Assess

Use the Program Sustainability Assessment Tool to assess your program's capacity for sustainability.

3 > Review

View results from your assessment as a Sustainability Report.

4 > Plan

Develop an Action Plan to increase the likelihood of sustainability.

<https://sustaintool.org>

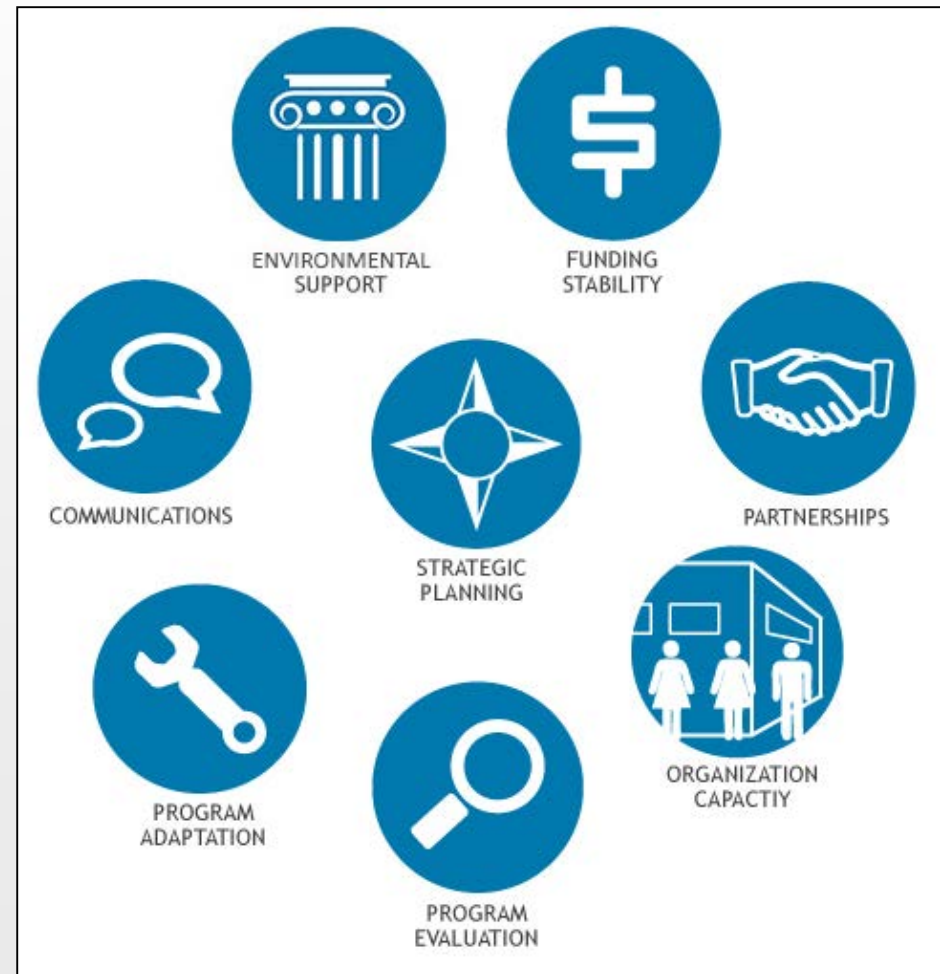


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Can you think of examples from
your own experiences?

Where do you think your
strengths and weaknesses are in
terms of sustainability planning?





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