

General Databases for Evidence-Based Programs

This list is not exhaustive, however it is an excellent starting point for finding existing evidence based programs to implement. Using an evidence-based program in grant writing offers several key benefits that can significantly enhance the likelihood of securing funding. These benefits include:

1. Increased Credibility

- **Evidence-based programs** are backed by research and data, demonstrating that they have been rigorously tested and proven effective. This credibility can make your grant proposal more convincing to funders, as it shows that the program is not just a theoretical idea but one that has yielded positive results in similar contexts.

2. Demonstrated Effectiveness

- By referencing an evidence-based program, you can provide concrete examples of how the program has successfully addressed similar issues in the past. This gives funders confidence that their investment will lead to measurable outcomes, as the program is grounded in proven methodologies and has a track record of success.

3. Aligns with Funder Priorities

- Many grant funders, particularly governmental and large philanthropic organizations, prioritize funding programs that have been demonstrated to work. Using an evidence-based program aligns your proposal with these priorities, increasing the likelihood that your application will meet the criteria set by the funder.

4. Reduces Risk

- Funders are often risk-averse, preferring to invest in programs that are likely to succeed. An evidence-based program reduces the perceived risk for funders by showing that the proposed interventions are based on sound research and have been effective in other settings.

5. Provides a Clear Framework

- Evidence-based programs often come with established frameworks, including detailed plans for implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. This can make it easier to outline your project's structure in the grant proposal, providing clarity on how the program will be executed and how success will be measured.

6. Facilitates Monitoring and Evaluation

- Programs that are evidence-based typically include built-in mechanisms for monitoring progress and evaluating outcomes. This can be particularly appealing to funders who want assurance that the project will be continuously assessed and adjusted to achieve the desired results. It also makes it easier to report on outcomes in the required grant reports.

7. Increases the Potential for Scaling

- Because evidence-based programs are grounded in proven methods, they are often seen as scalable. Funders may be more willing to invest in a program that can be expanded to benefit a larger population or adapted to different settings, knowing that the foundational approach has been successful elsewhere.

8. Enhances Competitive Advantage

- In a competitive grant application process, using an evidence-based program can set your proposal apart from others. It shows that your organization is committed to using the best available practices to address the problem at hand, giving your proposal an edge over others that may rely on untested or less proven approaches.

9. Supports Sustainability

- Programs that are evidence-based often have established models for sustainability, ensuring that the benefits of the program can be maintained over the long term. Funders are more likely to support programs that have a clear plan for ongoing impact beyond the initial funding period.

10. Builds Trust with Stakeholders

- Using an evidence-based program can build trust not only with funders but also with other stakeholders, including community members, partners, and participants. It demonstrates that your organization is committed to using proven strategies to achieve positive outcomes, which can strengthen partnerships and community support.

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1. What Works Clearinghouse (WWC)

Focus: Education

- Provides evidence-based evaluations of educational programs, practices, and policies. WWC reviews existing research to determine what works in education, offering a wide range of programs that have been rigorously evaluated.
- **Website:** ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc

2. Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development

Focus: Youth Development, Prevention

- Identifies evidence-based programs that promote the healthy development of children and adolescents. Blueprints provides a registry of programs that meet rigorous standards of evidence for effectiveness.
- **Website:** blueprintsprograms.org

3. National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices (NREPP)

Focus: Behavioral Health, Substance Abuse, Mental Health

- Although the NREPP database has been archived, it provided a repository of evidence-based behavioral health programs and practices. Many of these programs are still referenced and available through various research publications.

- **Archived Site:** samhsa.gov/nrepp

4. CrimeSolutions.gov

Focus: Criminal Justice, Public Safety

- A resource from the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) that provides information on evidence-based programs and practices in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services.
- **Website:** crimesolutions.gov

5. The Community Guide

Focus: Public Health, Prevention

- Developed by the CDC, The Community Guide provides evidence-based findings and recommendations on public health programs and policies. It covers a broad range of topics including chronic disease prevention, mental health, and health equity.
- **Website:** thecommunityguide.org

6. Promising Practices Network

Focus: Children, Families, Communities

- Although the Promising Practices Network has been archived, it provided evidence-based information on effective programs and practices that improve outcomes for children and families. The content is still accessible through various online resources.
- **Archived Site:** promisingpractices.net

7. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)

Focus: Health and Social Care

- NICE provides guidance and recommendations based on evidence-based practices in health and social care. The guidance includes effective interventions and programs across a range of health-related issues.
- **Website:** nice.org.uk

8. Cochrane Library

Focus: Health Care, Medical Interventions

- A database of systematic reviews that provides high-quality information on the effectiveness of healthcare interventions. Cochrane Reviews are considered a gold standard for evidence-based healthcare.
- **Website:** cochranelibrary.com

9. Social Programs That Work

Focus: Social Policy, Education, Health

- Provides information on social programs that have been shown in rigorous evaluations to produce positive outcomes. The website offers summaries of findings for programs in various areas such as education, crime prevention, and employment.
- **Website:** evidencebasedprograms.org

Topic-Specific Resources

Education

- **Best Evidence Encyclopedia (BEE)**
 - Provides reviews of research on educational programs for children and adolescents, focusing on programs that have strong evidence of effectiveness.
 - **Website:** bestevidence.org

Behavioral Health

- **California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare (CEBC)**
 - Provides information on evidence-based practices in child welfare, including interventions for mental health, substance abuse, and behavioral health.
 - **Website:** cebc4cw.org

Violence Prevention

- **Violence Prevention Evidence Base**
 - Offers access to information on interventions that are proven to reduce violence, especially in low- and middle-income countries. The database is maintained by WHO.
 - **Website:** who.int/violenceprevention

Substance Abuse

- **SAMHSA's Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center**
 - Provides resources and information on evidence-based practices in substance abuse treatment and prevention, mental health services, and behavioral health.
 - **Website:** samhsa.gov/ebp-resource-center
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Academic and Research Institutions

Harvard Evidence for Policy Design (EPoD)

- **Focus:** Development Economics, Social Programs
 - Provides data and research on evidence-based policy design, particularly in developing countries. EPoD works with governments to design and test interventions in education, health, and other sectors.
 - **Website:** epod.cid.harvard.edu

Johns Hopkins University - Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy

- **Focus:** Criminal Justice, Policing, Crime Prevention
 - Offers data, research, and resources on evidence-based practices in crime prevention and criminal justice.
 - **Website:** cebcp.org

Stanford Center for Research on Education Outcomes (CREDO)

- **Focus:** Education
 - Provides research on education policies and practices, focusing on the effectiveness of charter schools and other education reforms.
 - **Website:** credo.stanford.edu
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By using these resources, you can identify and implement evidence-based programs that have been proven to work, ensuring that your initiatives are grounded in solid research and are more likely to achieve desired outcomes.