

# Evaluating Programs to Combat Violence Against Women and Children

RAND

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# Who is RAND?

- Non-partisan, objective research and analysis
  - Use best possible method to rigorously evaluate policies and programs in a wide range of areas
  - Focus on impact – research should be actionable and sustainable
- Diverse Researchers with Extensive Experience
  - Researchers from a wide range of backgrounds
  - Experience in the US and internationally
  - Combine quantitative and qualitative approaches

# Relevant Experience at RAND

## Violence Against Women and Children

- **Key Priorities:** Victim-centered protocols; collaborative approach with service providers; focus on balancing rigorous design with ethical concerns
- **Examples of work:** Programs to improve government response to child abuse and exposure to violence; Evaluation of programs to Reduce Violence Against Women (Colombia, Burundi); National census of Domestic Violence Services (US)

## Indigenous and other Marginalised Communities

- **Key Priorities:** Participatory, action-based approach; recognition of historical context; integration of cultural expertise for research and ethical concerns.
- **Examples of work:** social status with Cherokee Tribes; culturally appropriate approaches to drug/alcohol use in Native American and Alaskan Native populations; Violence exposure among Palestinian populations

Key to success: Research partnership – our team has expertise in evaluation design but service providers are the experts on their communities!

# What is Evaluation?

- What are we doing?
  - Detailed assessment of all programs to understand:
    - How they will operate
    - Potential barriers and how programs deal with them
  - Design tools for measurement, evaluation for use by providers
  - Conduct a “deep dive” with some providers
    - Do a “randomised controlled” or “quasi-experimental” evaluation
    - These are rigorous, data-driven approaches to assessing impact and effectiveness
- Who participates?
  - All providers participate in initial assessment
  - Some selected for more in-depth evaluation
  - All providers can contribute their expertise to understanding programs, outcomes, findings, etc.

# What is Evaluation?

- What will we evaluate?
  - Outcomes you identify through program logic (today and ongoing)
  - Intermediate outcomes—change doesn't happen quickly
- Why are we doing this?
  - Help identify what works and importantly why!
  - Build the evidence base on programs to impact VAWC
  - Highlight new and innovative practices to a broader community

# Timeline for Evaluation



# RAND contacts

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