Pay for Success: Leveraging Public-Private Partnerships for Sustainable Impact



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What is Pay for Success?

- Pay for Success (PFS), aka Social Impact Bonds, compared to other types of contracting, e.g., performance or outcome-based contracting
- Public-private model
 - Private investor(s) assume the risk and government only pays if desired outcomes are achieved
 - Service providers receive upfront, private funding to implement evidence-based or promising interventions expected to: 1) improve outcomes; and, 2) result in cost avoidance thus reducing spending of taxpayer dollars
 - If pre-defined outcomes are achieved, government repays the investors based on cost avoided
- Other types of structures and success payors are possible

How Does It Work?



Source: Nonprofit Finance Fund at nff.org.

Current Landscape

- Worldwide
 - Estimates of 100–150 projects
- Nationally
 - At least 26 executed contracts in the US*
 - Common focus areas: criminal justice, education, early childhood, health, environment, homelessness, workforce.
 - Social Impact Partnerships to Pay for Results Act (SIPPRA)
- Oklahoma
 - 2 executed contracts
 - Women in Recovery (Tulsa)
 - Intensive Safety Services (Oklahoma County)
 - More in the works
 - Pay for Success Innovation Fund

Challenges and Considerations

Structural factors

- Capacity of service providers
- Data availability
- Multi-year projects
- Shift in thinking about procurement
- Cross-agency goals
- Evidence-based or promising interventions versus new innovations
- Individual projects versus outcome rate cards

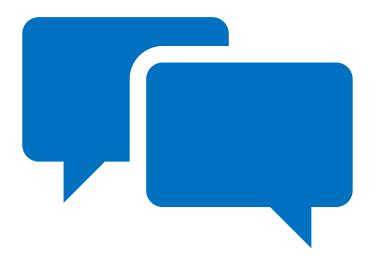
Process factors

- Trust and equity among partners
- Cross-sector dialogue
- Agreement on success metrics and thresholds
- Flexibility
- Long-term commitment

Concluding Thoughts

- Accountability for outcomes
- Philanthropy assumes risk
- Ability to focus more on prevention and early intervention
- Sustainability of what works
- Dollars reinvested in multiple interventions
- Process is beneficial regardless of final structure

Discussion





Thank You

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