Policy and Implementation Science Overview

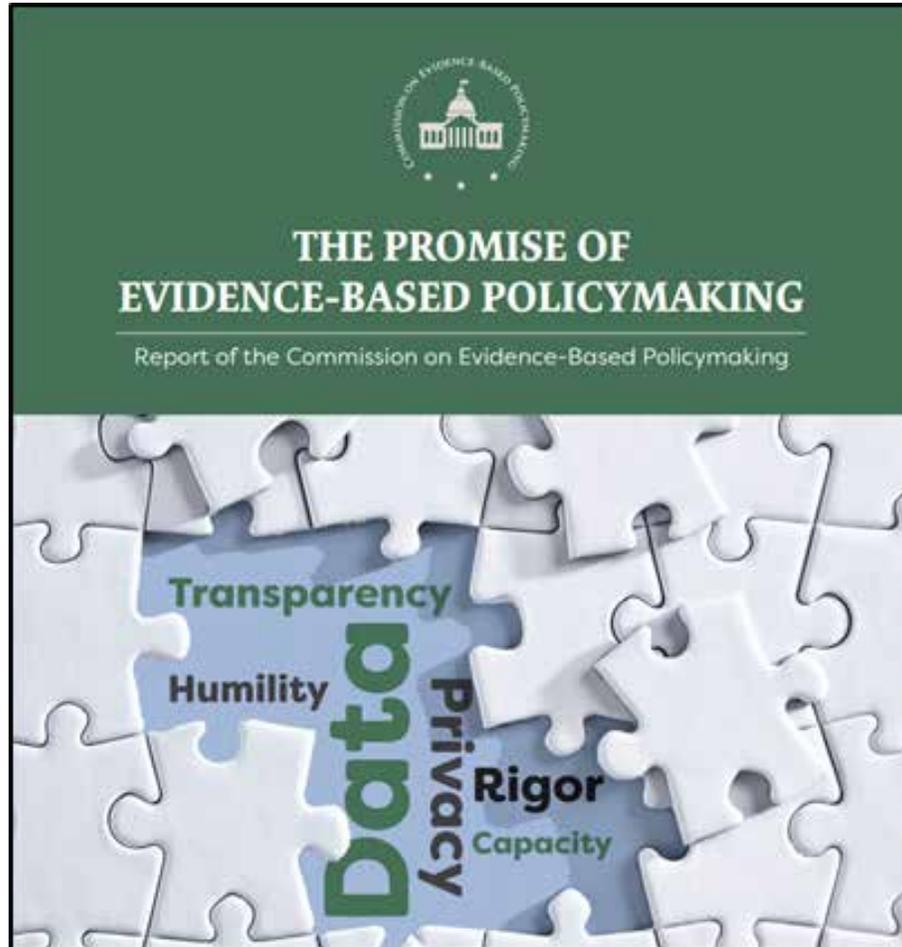# Policy and Implementation Science

Jonathan Purtle

Karen Emmons

Background Information

THE PROMISE OF EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING

Report of the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking

Transparency
Humility
Data
Privacy
Rigor
Capacity

"Using evidence to improve government is what taxpayers expect—smart and careful use of limited resources to best address national priorities."

– Analytical Perspectives, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2018

Defining the Scope

Systems/Context

ACA linked to reduced racial disparities, earlier diagnosis and treatment in cancer care

Why Rwanda could be the first country to wipe out cervical cancer

Smokefree workplaces effective October 1! SMOKEFREE ALASKA

Gaston County to prohibit tobacco use on government grounds, parks and indoor public places

New York Ends Religious Exemptions For Required Vaccines

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Interventions

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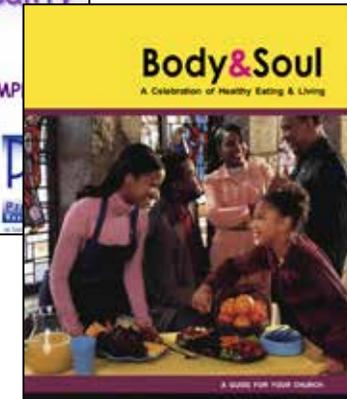Gaston County to prohibit tobacco use on government grounds, parks and indoor public places

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Walking Trails: From Conception to Reality

Robyn A. Housemann, PhD, MP
Imogene Wiggs, MBA
Ross C. Brownson, PhD

Tribal Tobacco Policy Project
Northwest Portland Area
Indian Health Board

Body&Soul
A Celebration of Healthy Eating & Living

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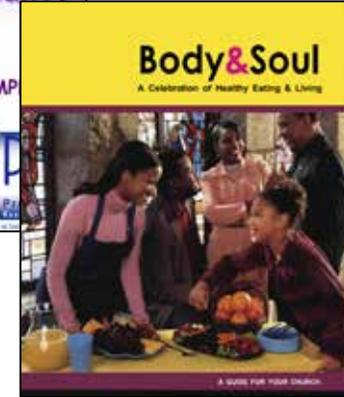## Interventions

Walking Trails: From Conception to Reality
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Strategies

2018 - 2022
VIRGINIA CANCER PLAN

CEO CANCER GOLD STANDARD

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Example Ideas

- How to develop policy-relevant evidence

- Identification of policy research data resources

- Theoretical frameworks that can guide policy dissemination and implementation (D & I)

- Identification and testing of policy D & I strategies and methods to improve use of evidence by policymakers

- Application of measures/metrics specifically focused on evidence-based policy D & I

- Use of participatory methods in policy D & I

- Examining the intersection between equity and policy D & I

Policy and Implementation Science Recap

Policy and Implementation Science

Jonathan Purtle

Karen Emmons

NCI Facilitator Gila Neta

NCI Note Taker/WebEx Host Catherine Fischer

Brief Overview Action Group Topic

- What is the topic area?
    - Policy and Implementation Science

- What do we believe is the problem(s) that need to be addressed?
    - D&I researchers, and health researchers more broadly, often do not ask questions that are relevant to policymakers
        - Lack of strong relationships between researchers and policymakers

    - Insufficient number of high-quality policy D&I research applications submitted to NIH
        - Inadequate knowledge and skills related to policy research in the D&I field

    - Lack of clarity about what policy D&I looks like
        - What is and is not policy D&I? Where is the bar for "evidence-based?
        - How can policy D&I research promote health equity?

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Major Ideas from Discussion

- More stakeholder engagement with policymakers throughout the D&I research process, especially at the stage of conceptualizing research questions
  - Concept mapping exercise with policymakers to identify important features of research evidence
  - Build bridges between D&I researchers and organizations that represent policymakers (e.g., National Conference of State Legislatures, National Governors Association)

- Increase knowledge and skills about policy research in the D&I field
  - Training and education initiatives (webinar series forthcoming from NCI—attend!), especially targeting early stage investigators
  - Explore NIH Director's Initiative or foundation (e.g., RWJF, WT Grant) support for policy D&I training academy

- Provide examples and tools for policy D&I research
  - Develop compendium of policy-relevant implementation strategies
  - Catalogue case studies/examples of policy D&I studies
  - Identify cancer-related polices with most potential to promote health equity or exacerbate health inequities

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Additional Ideas to Explore in Day Two (not covered in Day 1)

- Develop a research agenda for policy D&I research

- Enhance understanding of the roles of policymakers at different levels (e.g., elected, administrative, "street-level bureaucrats" who implement policy) among D&I researchers

- Synthesize/integrate conceptual frameworks from other disciplines (e.g., political science, sociology) to inform policy D&I research

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