

Background Information on Results Based Accountability

The development of the MIDD Evaluation Plan was significantly informed by the principles of the [Results-Based Accountability¹ \(RBA\)](#) framework. RBA is a national model and provides a disciplined, data-driven, decision-making process to help communities and organizations take action to solve problems. It is a simple, common sense framework that starts with ends – the difference to made, and works backward, towards means – strategies for getting there.

RBA makes a distinction between *population accountability* through population indicators which assess wellbeing of a whole population and *performance accountability* through performance measures which assess well-being of the clients directly served by programs. MIDD will *contribute* to improving population-level change, along with other sectors, funders, and partners in the community.

MIDD is *accountable* for performance of MIDD initiatives. The impact of MIDD initiatives on individuals and families directly served by programs will be measured using performance measures. In order to ensure that MIDD-funded activities are connected to contribute to population-level change, strategy areas are aligned with headline indicators.

RBA also sets a framework for community involvement and partnership, identifying the current state and determining what strategies will be used to make the changes being sought.

MIDD Result

The result MIDD aims to achieve is: *People living with, or at risk of behavioral health conditions, are healthy, have satisfying social relationships, and avoid criminal justice involvement.*

MIDD Headline Indicators

Headline indicators are aspirational, long-term measures that quantify MIDD’s overarching results:

- Improved emotional health – rated by level of mental distress
- Increase in daily functioning – rated by limitations to due to physical, mental or emotional problems
- Reduced or eliminated alcohol and substance use
- Reduced suicide attempts and death
- Reduced drug and opioid overdose deaths
- Reduced incarceration rate

MIDD Performance Measures

Performance measures will be specific to each program and finalized during the contract development process in partnership with funded providers. See Appendix A for detailed information. Performance measures will answer the questions:

- How much was done?
- How well was it done?
- Is anyone better off?

¹ <https://clearimpact.com/results-based-accountability/>