IMPLEMENTATION FIDELITY – INFORMATION AND TOOLS

Fidelity in implementation refers to the extent that the intervention stays true to the model of implementation (i.e., the plan for implementation).

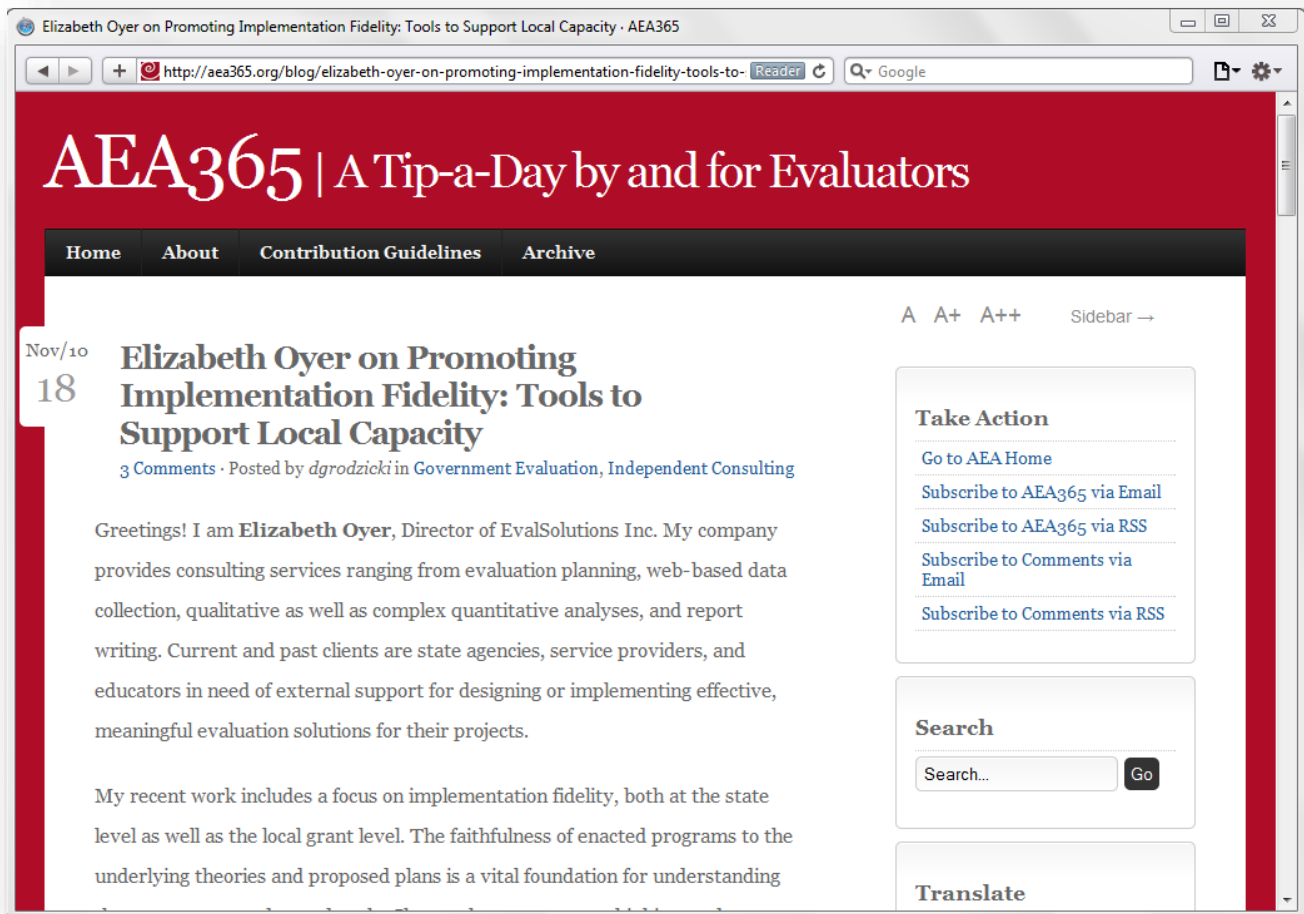## When trying to ensure implementation fidelity, consider the following:

- Ensure the expectations of those responsible for implementation are realistic. If not, stakeholders may be disappointed.

- Ensure those providing the implementation training are all being trained in the same way. Provide time for trainers to reflect on and discuss the process during training. This will ensure everyone is on the same page and engaged in the process.

- Implementation guidelines should be accessible for people to reference and noticeable to all involved.

- Determine how you will track fidelity before the evaluation begins.

- Considering fidelity of implementation in the evaluation design can provide information on areas in need of improvement and give information to stakeholders on the process.

(Adapted from, http://aea365.org/blog/scribing-robert-mccowen-on-fidelity-of-implementation/)

Five key components of implementation fidelity

1. Adherence – Are the program components delivered as prescribed?

2. Exposure – What is the amount of program content received by participants?

3. Quality of the delivery – What is the theory-based ideal in terms of processes and content?

4. Participant responsiveness – What is the engagement of the participants?

5. Program differentiation –What are the unique features of the intervention that are distinguishable from other programs?

(http://ies.ed.gov/ncer/whatsnew/conferences/rct_traininginstitute/ppt/cordray.ppt)

The **Rad Resources** listed on this website include activities to support planning for implementation fidelity and tools to support consistent monitoring. These include

- A presentation that may help to frame a conversation about implementation fidelity, program coherence, and creating a logic model

- Workshop activities to help generate ideas

- A logic model and implementation fidelity tool (downloadable in Microsoft Excel)

For further information:

http://aea365.org/blog/elizabeth-oyer-on-promoting-implementation-fidelity-tools-to-support-local-capacity/