



OVERVIEW

An increasing number of communities have embarked on fiscal mapping processes to establish core outcomes for their community--and identify the funding strategies and resources that can support progress toward those outcomes. A fiscal map is an accounting of the funds supporting specific outcomes, services, interventions, or populations. A fiscal map shows where these funds originate, where the funds are directed, and who the funds ultimately serve. It can be a useful tool to show resources currently available, and gaps in being able to fully fund programs or initiatives. Communities that have completed fiscal maps have used them to better align funding to shared goals, to more effectively coordinate and secure resources, and as an impetus to move from funding programs to funding outcomes.

In our experience, communities ready to undertake a fiscal mapping process demonstrate the following:

- A committed team of cross-sector partners that are actively engaged in your community's work and a smaller core team interested in fiscal mapping.
 - A vision that articulates clear outcomes or results that your community is committed to (i.e. all youth succeed in school, all youth are civically engaged, all children are physically safe).
 - An interest in implementing strategic financing strategies such as: blending and braiding multiple funding streams, seeking administrative waivers, and pooling funds to better meet community needs.
- These questions can help your community determine if it is ready to pursue a fiscal mapping process:**
1. Who are the cross-sector partners and agencies actively engaged in your work to improve outcomes for children and youth? What programs, initiatives, and services are you providing or planning to provide?
 2. What discussion has this core group had about mapping out funding streams? Have you discussed topics such as blending and braiding, administrative waivers, pooling funds, or other, similar financing strategies? Have you developed or begun to develop a strategic financing or resource development plan?
 3. Do members of your core team understand your community's budget process, federal and state funding processes, and the strategic plan for children and youth?
 4. What shared outcomes has your community identified for its children and disconnected youth?
 5. What challenges, beyond needing additional financial resources, has your community identified to meeting these outcomes?
 6. What does your community hope to gain from a fiscal mapping process?
 - Understand current investments
 - Align goals and resources
 - Coordinate supports and services
 - Maximize funding opportunities
 - Identify new areas for attention, efficiency, and innovation
 - Create a more collaborative approach to seeking and using resources