Topic Group Conceptual Model Training

Instructions: This observation log is intended to be completed by a member of the SEED Administrative Team during the Topic group training on Conceptual Models/Path Diagrams. We are interested in knowing more about how the activity was facilitated and how the Topic group members engaged throughout the activity. All information will be used to evaluate and improve this activity.

Facilitator's Name: Emily Zimmerman

Topic Group: #1

Name of Person Completing Observation Log: Susan Smith

Today's Date: Friday July 10, 2015

Activity Start Time: 10:45AM

Activity End Time: 11:55AM

Observation Log Example – Conceptual Model Training

Activities:	Activity Start Time	Activity End Time	Total Amount of Time Spent		Were activity objectives met?	
Path Diagram Training	10:45 AM	11:55 AM	70 min.		YES	**X**

Comments:
    The group understood path diagram vocabulary (predictor, outcome, and mediator), however they are in need of a better understanding of how to draft a simple path diagram; They understand the components of the diagram but no necessarily how to create the path to the outcome.

	Stuck with the script closely	Used the script a lot but also used their own language	Used the script mostly as a guide	Didn't use the script very much
How closely did the facilitator stick to the activity script?	☐	☐	X	☐

Comments:
Facilitator didn't use the script but he knew the main concepts and points to cover while facilitating the training, such as conceptual model terms (predictor, outcome, mediator); how to create paths, etc.

What activities do you think worked well, and which did not?

What worked well:
- Passing laser pointer around group to point out paths and explain relationships in the 'buy a car' example worked really well and got the group thinking about how the factors are related and kept the group engaged
- Brainstorming ideas about what may influence someone to get a flu vaccine or not

What didn't work well:
- Having people decide where these factors belonged in the model and drawing arrows/relationships between factors did not work well, as this was difficult for the group. Engagement trickled off at this point.

Observation Log Example – Conceptual Model Training

Was there anything that helped or hindered today's activity? (Examples include: Classroom comfort, tardiness of group members, noise level, etc.)

Half of the group was late to the meeting: Arrived between 10:30AM and 10:45 AM, causing us to delay beginning the training until 10:45/50 AM. This really limited the amount of time we were able to spend on the training and flu example.

Do you have any suggestions for how this set of activities could be improved in the future?

- Projecting 'car' example model and have 'outcome' and 'predictor' pop-up and flash on the powerpoint would be helpful to drive home appropriate path diagram terms
- When facilitating 'flu shot' activity, start from the outcome and more backwards as a way to create the path diagram naturally (have group brainstorm ideas, write on stickies, line up stickies in a vertical row, and then work right from left in creating relationships and establishing which variables come first)
- Facilitators should be trained in how to create conceptual models in order to know how to best teach other people in how to create these models.