



*Program Evaluation* is a tool with which to demonstrate accountability to an array of stakeholders who may include funding sources, policymakers, state, and local agencies implementing the program, and community leaders.

OSI can:

- Engage stakeholders
- Describe the program
- Focus the evaluation
- Gather credible evidence
- Justify conclusions
- Ensure the use of evaluation findings and share lessons learned.

## Summative Evaluations

A *summative evaluation* (sometimes referred to as external) is a method of judging the worth of a program at the end of the program activities (summation). The focus is on the outcome. The various instruments used to collect the data are questionnaires, surveys, interviews, observations, and testing. The model or methodology used to gather the data should be a specified step-by-step procedure. It should be carefully designed and executed to ensure the data is accurate and valid. AMSTAT can measure and document quality indicators for decision-making purposes. At the completion of the program, it may also be valuable to conduct summative evaluation.

OSI can:

- Help answer questions such as:
  - Do you continue the program?
  - If so, do you continue it in its entirety?
  - Is it possible to implement the program in other settings?
  - How sustainable is the program?
  - What elements could have helped or hindered the program?
  - What recommendations have evolved out of the program?