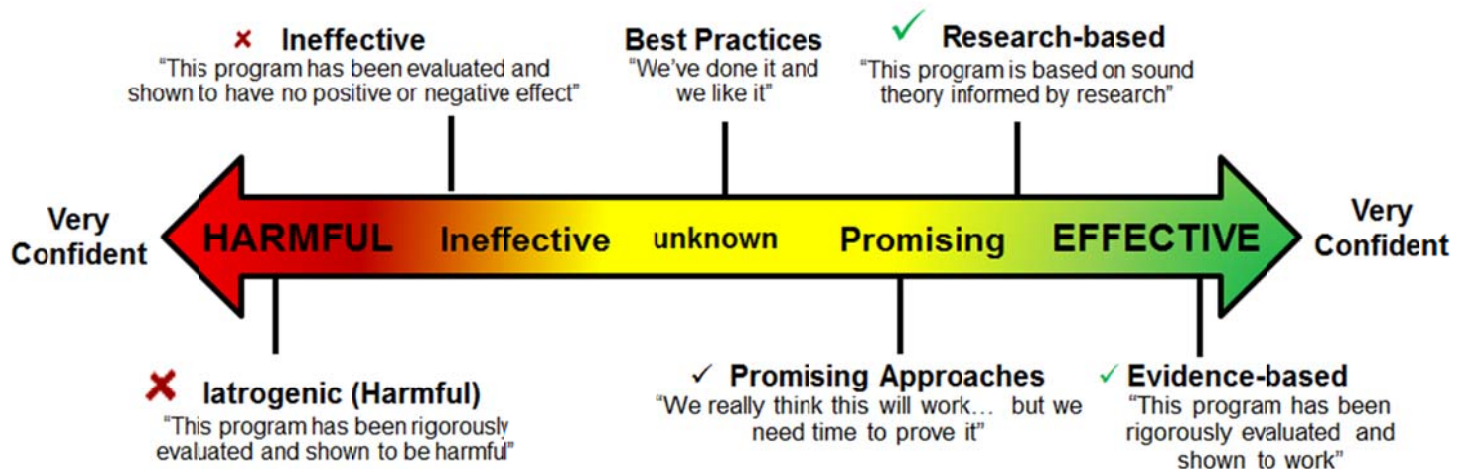


What do we mean when we say a program is “evidence-based”?

Programs can be placed along a **continuum of confidence** based on their evidence or theory



How to identify where a program is on the continuum:

Read the research studies on the programs you are considering to determine the following:

- 1) Was effectiveness demonstrated in rigorous scientific evaluations?
 - Look for at least one randomized control trial.
- 2) Was effectiveness demonstrated in large studies with diverse populations or through multiple replications?
 - Look for two or more studies, studies that show impact with diverse populations, and studies done by independent researchers (aka not the developer of the model)
- 3) Did the study show significant and sustained effects?
 - Look for follow-up data showing that impacts were sustained at a minimum of 6 months post program.

If the answer is yes to all three of these questions then most likely the program you are reviewing falls in the green, evidence-based end of the continuum.

The EPISCenter represents a collaborative partnership between the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), and the Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center, College of Health and Human Development, Penn State University. The EPISCenter is funded by PCCD and the PA Department of Human Services. This resource was developed by the EPISCenter through PCCD grant VP-ST-24368.

Another way to identify where a program falls on the continuum is to utilize a clearinghouse that has already done the review of the research and rated the program's evidence of effectiveness.

Rating Source	Area of Focus	Website
Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development	Child welfare, juvenile justice	http://www.blueprintsprograms.com
California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare	Child welfare	http://www.cebc4cw.org/
Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy	Social policy	www.coalition4evidence.org
CrimeSolutions.gov	Criminal justice	http://www.crimesolutions.gov/
National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practice	Substance abuse, mental health	http://www.samhsa.gov/nrepp
Promising Practices Network	Child welfare, juvenile justice, social programs	http://www.promisingpractices.net/programs.asp
What Works Clearinghouse	Education	http://www.ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/
What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse	Criminal justice	http://www.whatworks.csgjusticecenter.org

One particularly useful clearinghouse is the **PEW Charitable Trusts Results First Clearinghouse Database**. This is a one stop shop for accessing the many lists of evidence-based programs.

1. Go To: <http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/multimedia/data-visualizations/2015/results-first-clearinghouse-database>
2. Type in the key words for the program or type of program you are looking for
3. Compare ratings across various clearinghouses to determine which programs are rated most highly, most frequently.
4. Dig deeper for more information by hovering over the colored rating dots and clicking on learn more!