



# **Engaging with the Causal Pathways Initiative**

Presented by Carolina De La Rosa Mateo and Julia Coffman

#### **Presenters**



Julia Coffman, Co-Executive Director of Center for Evaluation Innovation and Co-founder of Causal Pathways



Carolina De La Rosa Mateo, Project Manager for Causal Pathways

### The Causal Pathways Initiative

Making visible the "black box" of philanthropic and systems change strategies, helping us collectively see how systems are (or are not) changing

**An international network of** evaluators, methodologists, philanthropic leaders, and more.

Focused on supporting philanthropy, other funders, and their evaluation partners to open-up the black box of strategy and systems change by building awareness, will, and skills to use evaluation approaches that can make sense of causal relationships, particularly when working in complexity, without depending on more traditional experimental and quasi-experimental approaches.



## Causal Pathways Initiative's Origin Story

- "Lost Causal" article (Jewlya Lynn, Sarah Stachowiak, Julia Coffman)
- Walton Family Foundation leadership, convening of evaluators and methodologists
- Decision to launch as an initiative in 2022
- Early funding support from Walton Family Foundation, Humanity United, and The California Endowment



#### Who we are - the original and current network members

- Marina Apgar, Institute of Development Studies
- Steve Powell, Causal Map
- Tom Aston, Independent Consultant
- Yulianto Dewata, Indonesian Researcher
- James Copestake, Bath Social & Development Research
- Jeph Mathias, Independent Consultant
- Hippolyt Pul, Institute for Peace and Development
- Heather Britt, Independent Consultant
- Carlisle Levine, BLE Solutions
- Abdoul Karim Coulibaly, Independent Consultant
- Fiona Remnant, Bath Social & Development Research
- Giel Ton, Institute of Development Studies
- Alex Resch, Mathematica

- Alison Gold, Optimistic Anthropology
- Barbara Befani, University of Surrey
- Isabel Musse, Mathematica
- Kimberlin Butler, Mathematica
- Toyin Akpan, Auricle Services
- Sara Stachowiak, ORS Impact
- Nina Sabarre, Intention 2 Impact
- Rick Davies, Independent Consultant
- Chris Barnett, ITAD
- Drew Koleros, Mathematica
- Melanie Punton, ITAD
- Rob Lloyd, ITAD
- Zoe Sutherland, ITAD



#### Who we are - leads and funders

#### **Initiative Leads**

- Jewlya Lynn, PolicySolve
- Julia Coffman, Center for Evaluation Innovation
- Carolina De La Rosa Mateo, Independent Consultant

#### **Initiative Funders**

This initiative was made possible with support from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.









## Resources from the Causal Pathways Initiative





Presentations & trainings to build understanding and will

American Evaluation Association

Available to attend other events by request

Virtual 101 level training available on request



**Resources** to support understanding and action

Pending:

BetterEvaluation.com updated resource hub on causal pathways

Case studies to provide overall stories and more detailed examples



Learning and acting together with support

Brain Trust to help funders work through tough questions with field experts

Pending:

Peer learning spaces and early career support - help us decide how to structure these for 2024

### Ways to stay connected

## Sign up for our newsletter (released every other month)

Sign up for our newsletter Join the LinkedIn Group







#### **Breakout Rooms: 2 Rounds**

Breakout Round 1	Breakout Round 2
Room 1: How do I pick and combine methods? Tom Aston and Marina Apgar	Room 1: How do I pick and combine methods? Tom Aston and Marina Apgar
Room 2: CLM-Causal link monitoring (method) Heather Britt	Room 2: CLM-Causal link monitoring (method) Heather Britt
Room 3: Outcome harvesting (method) Carlisle Levine and Hippolyt Pul	Room 3: Outcome harvesting (method) Carlisle Levine and Hippolyt Pul
Room 4: Redefining Rigour. Jewlya Lynn and Abdoul Karim Coulibaly	Room 4: Redefining Rigour. Jewlya Lynn and Abdoul Karim Coulibaly
Room 5: Process tracing (method) Zoe Sutherland	Room 5: QuiP - Qualitative Impact Assessment Protocol (method) Fiona Remnant
Room 6: Causal Map (tool) Steve Powell	Room 6: Realist evaluation (method) Mel Punton

