

You've got an innovative ministry idea and the passion to make it happen, but can you convince others it will be effective? Whether inviting people to come to faith, discipling Christians, or launching a new program, you need clear measurements to tell your story and show the impact God is making through you. These are essential to apply for grants, but also to make a case to anyone for how impactful your ministry is regardless of if they share your faith commitments or even use the same vocabulary you do.

Rules for applying for grants and sharing about your ministry meaningfully outside your usual group:

1. Follow the Directions and Answer the Questions!
 - If you want to prove to people that what you're doing has value, you need to express that in the way that makes sense to them—using their language and concepts.

2. Demonstrate the Effectiveness of Your Ministry
 - You need clear measurements that show change over time as a result of your work. This requires tracking multiple items related to transformation.

Impact	The ultimate transformation you envision making with your ministry
Inputs	The resources gathered to make the impact
Throughputs	The activities engaged in to use the resources toward making the impact
Outputs	The immediate results of the activities
Outcomes	The effect of the activities on the character of the people involved

3. Your Measurements Should Link to How You Participate in God's Mission
 - A clear and holistic understanding of salvation is critical to this.

If we think of our work as inviting people to participate in the abundant life of Christ, we can further clarify the specific impacts we want to make by envisioning the different facets of abundant life that our ministries will accomplish.

Standard of Living	Ministries that improve the ability of people to flourish physically
Quality of Life	Ministries that improve the ability of people to flourish mentally, emotionally, and relationally
Eternal Life	Ministries that invite people to respond to the message of the forgiveness of sins and the hope of glory

Applying This to My Ministry

Ministry/Activity:

What Abundant Life impact(s) do I want to make?

Standard of Living:

Quality of Life:

Eternal Life:

What Measurements do I need to prove I am making this impact?

Inputs/Needed Resources:

Throughputs/Activities:

Outputs/Immediate Results:

Outcomes/Changes in Individuals, Congregation, Community:



Fully developed examples of score cards are available at:
<https://markteasdale.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Metrics-For-Salvation-Forms-IVP.pdf>

Sample Score Card to Gather Data

Impact (Vision): Measurable, Long-Term Change Related to Abundant Life (Standard of Living, Quality of Life, or Eternal Life)		
Inputs	Past	Now
1. Resource gathered to share abundant life		
2. Resource gathered to share abundant life		
3. Resource gathered to share abundant life		
Throughputs	Past	Now
1. Activity to share abundant life		
2. Activity to share abundant life		
3. Activity to share abundant life		
Outputs	Past	Now
1. Immediate Result of Activity		
2. Immediate Result of Activity		
3. Immediate Result of Activity		
Outcomes	Past	Now
1. Change in person's character from ministry		
2. Change in person's character from ministry		
3. Change in person's character from ministry		



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