

# Creating an Infrastructure

## Small Group Discussion

You (and the others in your small group) have been asked to sit on a newly formed committee at your organization. The committee is charged with developing a plan for creating an internal infrastructure for "using research to improve practice." Discuss the questions below with your committee members in order to begin thinking about a system that will support the rest of your co-workers in obtaining and using research on a regular basis.

1. Who at your organization should be involved in planning/creating an infrastructure for obtaining and using research?
2. How will you assess the research needs of the rest of the staff at your organization?
3. How will you encourage staff to make time to review and learn something new from current and emerging research? How often should they review the research? once a week, once a month, once every 3 months, as needed?
4. How should learning from the research take place? reading? staff meetings? training? conferences?

5. What challenges might your committee have in putting an infrastructure plan forward? What ideas does your committee have for overcoming these challenges?
  
6. Name one research topic that you would like to keep an eye out for on a regular basis (e.g., research on African American girls and sexual decision making, research on condom use among Hispanic teen men, research on poverty and its affect on access to family planning services, etc.)