CoBRo
CONSULTING

ASSESSMENT

EVALUATION

SURVEYS

STATISTICS

PROGRAM EVALUATION SYSTEMS & SERVICES

DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

COMPASS

The Comprehensive Program Assessment System

Compass is an online data management and evaluation tool that expedites data entry, organizes program participant data, generates reports, and conducts statistical analyses to evaluate program progress. The system contains a set of core modules to address elements common across educational programs. Additionally, Compass is customized to meet specific program needs in terms of data entry and reports.

System Features

DATA ENTRY SCREENS

The user friendly screens are designed to facilitate entry of service participation data. They include drop-down menu options, batch entry features, and accuracy prompts.

DATA INTEGRATION

CoBro technicians coordinate electronic transmission of student transcript data directly into the system. Compass then integrates the academic outcome information with program participation data.

AUTOMATED REPORTS

Compass provides user-defined dynamic reports. Participation reports show program service usage and needs. Cohort profile summaries present academic outcomes by student demographics. Performance reports provide data required by funding agencies.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Compass contains a statistics component that runs analyses allowing system users to examine the effects of individual program elements as well as determine overall program impact. Analysis results are displayed in easy-to-read tables and graphs.

EARLY ALERT

Compass contains a module that identifies students displaying one or more known high school dropout risk factors. Recent research has shown particular variables are predictive of potential dropouts as early as sixth grade. Compass automatically generates listings and summary reports of students flagged as at-risk. These reports serve to help guide development of targeted dropout prevention practices.

BENEFITS OF COMPASS

CHALLENGE	Obtaining and entering student academic data
SOLUTION	Data electronically transferred into system
CHALLENGE	Time-consuming hand entry of services and activities data
SOLUTION	Screens designed for speed and accuracy
CHALLENGE	Determination of service use and coverage
SOLUTION	Generates participation reports with user-defined options
CHALLENGE	Collecting and organizing data for mandated state and federal reports
SOLUTION	Compass computes such data automatically
CHALLENGE	Lack of statistical expertise and/or resources
SOLUTION	Compass generates statistical analyses and displays results in graphs and tables

COMPASSMATCH

An Online In-Kind Contribution Management System

Many grant education programs struggle to collect, calculate, and report their matching fund contributions. CompassMatch dramatically reduces time and effort on these tasks.

SYSTEM FEATURES

- User friendly data entry screens with customized drop-down menus
- Time-saving batch entry function to record service contributions of multiple staff at once
- A variety of dynamic reports, generated on demand

EVALUATION SERVICES

RESEARCH

Effective program evaluation requires knowledge and expertise in areas of experimental design and research methodology. CoBro consultants have over 35 years of experience conducting broad-scale research projects.

EVALUATION SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT

CoBro Consulting uses the latest technology to strengthen the evaluation capacity of social service programs. The Comprehensive Program Assessment System (Compass) was created by CoBro Consulting to address current program evaluation needs. Compass facilitates data collection, reporting, and analysis, allowing the user to demonstrate program impact and foster continuous program improvement.

DATA ANALYSIS

CoBro consultants have extensive statistical knowledge and expertise. They work with clients to clarify research needs and determine the appropriate statistical analyses to examine program processes and outcomes. In addition, CoBro consultants present statistical findings in an easy-to-understand manner for clients. For ongoing program evaluation, the Compass system contains a statistics component that allows program staff to run their own impact analyses.

A pilot study found that the Compass screens reduce data entry time by 80% (e.g., from five days to one day).

SURVEY DESIGN & ANALYSIS

Surveys can be valuable in providing information on participant opinions, attitudes, and knowledge. CoBro Consulting staff have designed, administered, and analyzed hundreds of unique surveys. They produce both on-line and paper-based, scannable surveys and provide a quick turnaround time for results.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

CoBro Consulting conducts assessments of organization and community needs to provide information necessary for strategic planning. Methods employed include surveying, conducting focus groups, comparing historical and geographical data, and researching current industry standards and practices to ensure planning is based on informed decisions.

COBRO TECHNICAL SUPPORT SERVICES

- System customization to program needs
- Monthly online training, as needed
- Ongoing technical assistance
- Data formatting and integration
- Secure server web hosting

Included with all CoBro Consulting Systems

CoBro
CONSULTING

CoBro Consulting Principals

DARLENE COLE, M.S., *CEO/Director of Research*

Darlene Cole has an M.S. degree in industrial-organizational psychology and nearly 20 years of experience supervising broad-scale research projects. Over the past eight years, she has worked extensively with more than 30 college access programs to optimize their evaluation and data systems management capacity. Darlene created the Compass system to facilitate program evaluation processes.

URBAN PELICON, *Chief Information Officer*

Urban Pelicon has extensive experience designing database systems to deliver maximum utility. For the past nine years, he has specialized in developing and managing large-scale data systems for a variety of federal and state grant programs. Currently, Urban manages development and technical support for the Compass evaluation system, and oversees all aspects of data management, integrity, and security.

KEREN BROOKS, M.S., *Chief Research Analyst*

Over the past 14 years, Keren Brooks has conducted research and program evaluation in the fields of education and health care. She has an M.S. degree in industrial-organizational psychology, and extensive experience designing large-scale formative and impact program evaluations. For more than six years, she has developed and supervised research design, survey projects, statistical data analyses, and outcomes reporting for CoBro Consulting.

"We were very impressed with CoBro Consulting when they conducted our broad-scale needs assessment, and subsequent evaluation of our health services expansion program. They provided comprehensive, in-depth analyses that were vital in our efforts to monitor program progress. I recommend their services and expertise to others without hesitation."

DAWN SAMPSON, L.C.S.W.
Director of Grants and Social Services, Catalina Island Medical Center

"CoBro has been invaluable to us in the implementation and evaluation of our GEAR UP grant. They have quickly, effectively and professionally attended to every task and request we have made. Their customer service is exemplary, and it is a pleasure to work with the entire CoBro team. We cannot thank them enough for their contribution to our success."

CARINA DAVIO
GEAR UP Idaho Statewide Program Director

"CoBro Consulting has been our most important partner with our GEAR UP grants. For over five years, we have relied on CoBro's Compass system for our data collection and reporting. We always aim to go beyond the APR with our program assessment strategies, and we know we can count on CoBro to work with us to optimize our data systems and evaluation processes. New and continuing grantees would be wise to begin their proposals and grants with CoBro."

CALVIN ONE DEER GAVIN
Director of Grant Funded Student Programs/GEAR UP, Palomar College