OVERVIEW

A core belief of Philadelphia-based nonprofit Coded by Kids is that "equality aims to promote fairness but can only work if everyone starts from the same place and needs the same help," says Program Manager Jesse McKeveitt. Coded by Kids provides young people from underrepresented groups with education programs in software development, digital design, computer science, and tech startup-focused entrepreneurship.

“There is no equality without equity,” adds McKeveitt. “There is significant social and economic inequity created when people from underrepresented groups aren’t able to participate in the tech and innovation economies. We are leveling the playing field and creating opportunities for these young people to excel and become leaders in"
Taking our programming online allows us to continue to provide high-quality coding education to our current students while also giving access to every internet-connected child with a computer in the City of Philadelphia.”

Sylvester Mobley, Founder and CEO
Coded by Kids
Before RISE, Coded by Kids staff were already thinking intentionally and strategically about long-term outcomes for kids and they knew what those desired outcomes were, such as preparedness to pursue a degree in technology. After joining the RISE Partnership, the team applied their logic model to take their strategic thinking a step further. This model is a detailed, step-by-step description of how a program is expected to work by indicating the activities to be carried out and the outcomes to be achieved. This model helped CbK clarify and chart a tangible path from their inputs, or activities, to the outcomes that they want for students, and ultimately the vision of their organization.

As part of the RISE Partnership, McKevitt works with Amy Griffin from The Consultation Center at Yale University every two to three weeks. Together, they created a matrix outlining these inputs to determine what data they have, how they are gathering it, and what is missing.

“The team learned that they collected a lot of useful data during registration, as well as some inputs in the classroom and at the end of class,” says Griffin. “Using the logic model, they can now streamline, extract, and filter the information so they can slice and dice the data to make a bigger impact.”

According to the Coded by Kids team, Griffin has been an invaluable resource and thought partner. The team feels she helps them see the data in terms of the big picture, so they can advance the work of the organization and be more effective.

“The RISE Partnership has helped us lay out our vision in a structured, coherent, and transparent way that will serve us for years to come,” says McKevitt.