

Strategy 6: Braid, Blend, or Sequence Funding

Benefits and Challenges of Braiding, Blending and Sequencing Funding

Benefits

- May incentivize conversations about how to better streamline and maximize efforts
- Can address gaps in funding or increase resources through matching
- May provide ability to deliver additional / deeper services or extend the time period of services
- Can increase participant outcomes by meeting a need that was not otherwise covered
- May encourage additional funders to consider supporting the effort
- Can reduce paperwork for customer when used in tandem with integrated data collection
- Can encourage more cross agency planning and evaluation

Challenges

- Timelines and performance metrics are often unaligned creating additional complexities
- Reporting is often separate creating duplicate work
- Eligibilities may not be the same making additional services unavailable for some customers
- Budgetary or compliance silos, along with bureaucracy, can require extensive planning and navigation of accounting practices to enable an agency to apply a more flexible use to the funds
- Maintaining a proper balance between budget flexibility and program accountability is requires careful attention