In its simplest form, the logic model begins with a picture of your program (the multiple profiles you will accomplish, the structure of the actual programming, evaluation, and anticipated outcome). It represents a sequence of “if–then” relationships and may be considered the core of planning as well as evaluation (University of Wisconsin Extension, 2008).

Most likely you will find logic models discussed in guidelines provided by grant funders for the development of frameworks for mapping out the grant program. According to the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, logic models are a “systematic and visual way to present and share your understanding of the relationships among the resources you have to operate your program, the activities you plan, and the changes or results you hope to achieve” (W. K. Kellogg Foundation, 2004, preface). Logic models give grant reviewers a visual of the whole program in flowchart format. Logic models can be a valuable method for establishing program planning, an implementation plan, and the program evaluation plan. They have several components, including inputs, processes, outputs, and outcomes.

A logic model is a depiction of a program showing what the program will do and what it is expected to accomplish. In its simplest form, the logic model begins with a picture of your program (i.e., the multiple profiles you will accomplish, the structure of the actual programming, evaluation methods, and anticipated outcomes). It represents a sequence of “if–then” relationships. If the series of “if–then” relationships is implemented as intended, the desired outcomes will be achieved. It is a framework for describing the relationships between investments, activities, and results, and it may be considered the core of planning as well as evaluation (University of Wisconsin Extension, 2008). Figure 4-1 shows a common example of how the “if–then” relationship leads to outcomes.

Underlying all logic models is a program’s theory of change. If we do this, then we can expect a certain thing to happen. This is exemplified in Figure 4-2.