

# DATAHAVEN

Mark Abraham, Executive Director  
129 Church St., Suite 605, New Haven, CT 06510  
Email: info@ctdatahaven.org Tel: 203.500.7059

DataHaven is a non-profit organization with a 22-year history of public service to Greater New Haven and Connecticut. Our mission is to improve quality of life by compiling, sharing, and interpreting public data for effective decision making. For more, visit [www.ctdatahaven.org](http://www.ctdatahaven.org).

## ***United by Data: The 2015 Connecticut Wellbeing Survey*** Statewide, Regional, and Neighborhood-Level Information for Cross-Sector Community Action

### **Summary**

- **Following up on its highly-successful survey of the Greater New Haven Region in 2012, DataHaven will be expanding its Wellbeing Survey to include a statewide sample, while maintaining its original neighborhood-level focus.**
- **DataHaven is working with a broad range of statewide leaders, plus community partners and institutions in Greater New Haven, Hartford, Bridgeport, Waterbury, and other communities, to plan and conduct the Survey in 2015.**

### **Program Importance**

- **Having a single statewide survey** is critical for comparability of data across our diverse neighborhoods and regions.
- Data collected through the Wellbeing Survey are not available at a local level from any other existing public data source.
- For investigating complex issues, anonymized data from individual interviews are far more powerful than aggregate data.
- **Through a collective process**, the program creates comprehensive, shared indicators of civic vitality, public health, economic development, and financial security, which can be used to improve the well-being of our cities and towns.

### **Survey Design and Methodology**

- The 2012 Wellbeing Survey ([www.ctdatahaven.org/wellbeingsurvey](http://www.ctdatahaven.org/wellbeingsurvey)) involved 1,300 cell phone and landline interviews, including over-sampling to reach underserved populations and small demographic groups. The questionnaire was developed based on extensive community input including consideration of many previous door-to-door and telephone survey efforts throughout CT. Academic and government leaders with an expertise in survey research and epidemiology drew questions from national surveys to allow direct comparisons to benchmark data such as Healthy People 2020.
- Through a highly-collaborative process, the 2015 Wellbeing Survey will bring together an even wider range of statewide and community leaders. Advisors for the 2015 Survey include experts from **CT Voices for Children, CT Council for Philanthropy, Partnership for Strong Communities, CAHS, CT Legislative Commission on Aging, CT Civic Health Advisory Group, Yale University, regional government agencies, health departments, and health care institutions.**

### **Use Examples**

- The 2012 Wellbeing Survey served as a core component of the **Greater New Haven Community Index 2013**, a nationally-recognized study produced through an unprecedented collaboration of government, institutional, and academic leaders ([www.ctdatahaven.org/communityindex](http://www.ctdatahaven.org/communityindex)). The 86-page document served as the federally-required Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for Yale-New Haven Hospital, and is recognized as a sample CHNA in the National Library of Medicine, in addition to being a “flagship” document for its other contributors, which include The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, City of New Haven, and Yale School of Public Health.
- The Wellbeing Survey and Community Index have been widely used by regional nonprofit organizations, local health departments, community organizations, and governments that need cross-sector, local-level data for fundraising, advocacy, official reporting, and strategic planning. Expanding to a statewide sample, including drill-downs within participating regions, will be more cost-effective and have an even larger impact.

### **Learn More**

- **DataHaven can produce high-quality samples that are specific to neighborhoods, towns, and regions anywhere in Connecticut.** To produce data specific to an urban region, we recommend budgeting between \$30,000 and \$70,000, depending on factors such as population diversity, oversampling strategy, and desired geographic scope. These costs are generally lower than what they might be using other government-quality survey methods because of DataHaven’s work to secure funding for the survey planning infrastructure and statewide sample (for example, some of the statewide interviews will count towards each regional sample). Where the size of the sample permits, we create public-use, de-identified data sets and crosstabs of results that are specific to neighborhoods, towns, and regions within Connecticut.
- **Please contact DataHaven if you are interested in learning more about how you can help us continue and expand this critical community-driven program.**

*“Anytime you want to achieve an equitable outcome, it starts with disaggregated data. We need to have the courage to look within ourselves and see who is and who isn’t doing well.” - Angela Glover Blackwell, PolicyLink, February 27, 2014*

*“It was fascinating to have your data included in our neighborhood presentation, and have people really witness how DataHaven can spark conversation around what the neighborhood really needs - including how they can be involved, and be aware of what is happening, and how people are feeling.” - Richard Spears, New Haven Ward 12 Alderperson, February 12, 2014*