CI:Now and Growing Local Data Capacity in San Antonio

Wednesday morning, 11:20 - 11:50 a.m.

Community Information Now (CI:Now) is NNIP's San Antonio partner. CI:Now provides tools to turn data into information that Texas communities can use to improve community well-being. They find, collect, link and analyze, and visually display data that neighbors need to improve neighborhood and regional conditions. Originally founded in the late 1990s as the Alamo Area Community Information System (AACIS), CI:Now serves a 12-county region around San Antonio in south-central Texas.

In the past year San Antonio has experienced a resurgence of interest in expanding local data capacity, with leadership from the Mayor's Office, the San Antonio Area Foundation, and many new community stakeholders. In the first part of this session, NNIP welcomes Leilah Powell, Chief of Policy for Mayor Ivy Taylor, who will provide an overview of this re-commitment to building local data capacity. Laura McKieran, Director of CI:Now, will provide an overview of CI:Now's current capacities and work as well as key areas of growth, situating CI:Now within the bigger picture of San Antonio's overall data capacity.

Change at the Speed of Trust: Using Data in Rebuilding a Vibrant EastPoint

Wednesday afternoon, 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

San Antonio's EastPoint neighborhood, located immediately east of downtown, is home to a number of place-based and other initiatives. Eastside Promise Neighborhood, Wheatley Choice Neighborhood, Annie E. Casey Foundation-supported dual-generation Family-Centered Community Change initiative, and several others are located within the roughly three square mile EastPoint area and the larger surrounding federally-designated Promise Zone. These high-profile initiatives operate in the context of both long-standing and new community-based efforts and highly-resourceful residents and families who look out for each other and want the best for their children.

EastPoint is a historically-rich traditionally African-African cultural center that has suffered long-term under-investment. The area became home to a growing number of lower-income Hispanic families and, more recently, higher-income professionals. Current initiatives in the area address early childhood development and education, quality affordable housing, community safety, health, workforce development, and economic development. The second part of this session is a moderated panel discussion among key staff of CI:Now and the Promise, Choice, and dual-generation initiatives, focusing on the past five years of efforts to use data to inform and guide this complex set of initiatives. Panelists will discuss some key challenges, successes, lessons learned, and plans for 2016 and upcoming years.

The panel discussion is complemented by three themed tours of the EastPoint neighborhood beginning at 4:15 pm, which will focus much more on EastPoint families themselves and actual interventions in the areas of early childhood and education; housing, neighborhood, and community safety; and economic and workforce development. Tour descriptions follow the agenda in this packet.

Guest Speakers and Panelists Bios

Leilah Powell, Presenter

Leilah Powell is Chief of Policy to Mayor Ivy R. Taylor of San Antonio, whose administration has focused on developing the human and capital infrastructure required to support sustainable growth and development. Powell's background includes work in affordable housing finance, government relations, and non-profit management. She hold a Master's in Community and Regional Planning from the University of Texas School of Architecture and has served on the boards of the local American Planning Association and public broadcasting affiliates, as well as on the boards of her neighborhood association and several housing and community development non-profits. She is an active volunteer with her neighborhood public school.

Lloyd Potter, Moderator

Lloyd Potter, Vice Chair of CI:Now's governing Policy Group, is Professor of Demography at the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) where he serves as Director of the Texas State Data Center and the Institute for Demographic and Socioeconomic Research. He was appointed as the Texas State Demographer in June of 2010 by Governor Rick Perry. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in sociology from Texas A&M University, a Master of Science degree in education from the University of Houston at Clear Lake, a Ph.D. in demography and sociology from the University of Texas at Austin and a Master of Public Health degree from Emory University. His current work focuses upon understanding and communicating demographic processes in Texas, training doctoral level applied demographers in the areas of public policy, and conducting demographic research on public policy related topics.

Richard Milk, Panelist

Richard Milk, Chair of CI:Now's governing Policy Group, is the San Antonio Housing Authority's (SAHA) Director of Policy and Planning. The Policy and Planning department applies a planning-oriented perspective to support the Agency's mission and strategic goals. Initiatives include research, analysis, interagency partnerships and facilitation. Richard has led the Agency's strategic planning efforts and Moving to Work (MTW) planning and reporting, as well as serving as SAHA's representative for various interagency efforts. He has represented SAHA at local, state and national forums, and currently serves on the City of San Antonio's Housing Commission. Prior to joining SAHA, Richard served as a Community Development Manager for the City of San Antonio.

Henrietta Muñoz, Panelist

Henri Muñoz is the United Way of San Antonio & Bexar County's Vice President of Grant Research and Evaluation, providing research and evaluation oversight of both federal and private grants for San Antonio's EastPoint Neighborhood. Henri oversees all grant-related data collections, research, and evaluations for the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Dual Generation initiative, and the US Dept. of Education's Eastside Promise Neighborhood, working primarily with San Antonio ISD. Her experience has spanned 15 years in San Antonio's family economic success and education initiatives through work with city non-profits, the City of San Antonio's Dept. of Community Initiatives, and now United Way. Previously, she was the Manager of the Making Connections Partnership, a two generation strategy that improved opportunities for children to read on grade level by 3rd grade while strengthening family economic security in San Antonio's Edgewood ISD. She received her Ph.D. in Culture, Literacy and Language from the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) in 2009.

Clarissa Ozuna, Panelist

Clarissa Ozuna, Program Manager for Research at Cl:Now, was born and raised in San Antonio, Texas. As a research scientist associate at The Texas State Data Center and Office of the State Demographer, Clarissa was responsible for the primary data collection for the 2010, 2011, and 2012 Texas Population Estimates and Projections Program. While working at the Institute of Demographic and Socioeconomic Research, Clarissa gained experience in program evaluation and conducting needs assessments for local non-profit organizations. Most recently, Clarissa was as an institutional research analyst for the Alamo Colleges community college district. Clarissa is a doctoral candidate of Applied Demography at the University of Texas at San Antonio with her dissertation research focusing on Latina/o educational attainment and higher education policy issues. She has a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Texas at San Antonio and a Bachelor's of Science from the University of Texas at Austin in Human Development and Family Science.