Expanding Data about Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Friday morning, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Public safety is a core component of the quality of life in a neighborhood. There are many examples on the [NNIP website](#) of how partner organizations have used data to understand neighborhood crime patterns and inform solutions. Most often, public safety is measured by crimes formally reported to the police, in part due to the data's relative accessibility. Reported crime is one of the most common record-level files that NNIP partners hold and is increasingly available through cities' open data portals. But we have always known that crime rates provide an incomplete picture of how people view' public safety. Not all crime is reported to the police, and the perceptions of safety do not always track with the actual incidence of crime.

In addition, the media coverage of police shootings and the subsequent community response have created broader awareness of how experiences with police and other parts of the criminal justice system affect community trust and cohesion. We need to explore how to use data from other parts of the criminal justice system and find ways to understand residents' perspectives on criminal justice activities.

The purpose of the session is to learn about diverse data sources and methods to help illuminate neighborhood concerns and conditions related to public safety and criminal justice.

Max Weselcouch from Furman Center at New York University will moderate the panel and describe their current project analyzing crime around public housing developments. Mallory O'Brien, the Director of DataShare and the Milwaukee Homicide Review Commission, will describe the datasets and process they use in the commission's work to understand individual homicides. Lisa Pittman from the Children's Trust in Miami will share the innovative data collection and analysis they have used to explore how collective efficacy relates to crime in eight neighborhoods. We will close the session with discussion time to ask questions and hear ideas from other partners.

Questions for Discussion:
- How can we exchange new efforts and innovative ideas about partners' work related to public safety and criminal justice?
- How do we share ways of bringing the data to the community to foster informed and inclusive discussions?
- Are there other network or forums that NNIP should be reaching out to in order to be more engaged in public safety and criminal justice conversations?