NNIP Showcase, Part 2: Criminal Justice

Thursday afternoon 1:30 – 2:00 p.m.

In May 2018, NNIP partnered with the Microsoft Cities Team to launch *Catalyzing Community Criminal Justice Reform with Data*, a cross-site project to better understand the local criminal justice data and advocacy landscape and encourage more local data organizations to bring their talents to bear on these issues. In Summer 2018, NNIP conducted a survey of Partners to learn about criminal justice related data, projects, and relationships. NNIP will publish a fact sheet in the next few weeks summarizing the results and is now exploring options for an in-depth quantitative analysis on one aspect of criminal justice reform in a specific city.

This showcase provides a lightning-quick overview for a few interesting projects we uncovered through the survey.

**Risk Assessments, Needs Assessments, and Evaluating Court Outcomes**

**Anthony Galvan**, University of Texas at Dallas

The Institute for Urban Policy Research at the University of Texas at Dallas regularly works in the field of criminal justice with activities involving the various court systems, police departments, and criminal justice nonprofits in North Texas. As court systems move toward a restorative justice approach, the Institute has been engaged with nonprofits and government systems seeking to implement pretrial risk assessments and post-sentencing needs assessments. We’ll be providing an overview of how these efforts work to look beyond punishment and toward justice.

**Adding context to data through better documentation: Data Guides for data users**

**Bob Gradeck**, University of Pittsburgh

People need to understand the context of civic data if they are to use it appropriately and reveal its full value. Without proper context, data users are ill-equipped to identify quality constraints, uncertainties, limitations, biases, and potential privacy and ethical issues that can cloud the use of civic administrative data. There is no widely-adopted framework for capturing contextual information about administrative civic data, but the Regional Data Center’s Data Guides (inspired by previous work in Chicago and at the Urban Institute) are one way to try to collect and share important context for data users.
Applying new hyperlocal data on criminal justice and public safety

Mark Abraham, DataHaven

As part of its broader indicators work, DataHaven routinely collects and analyzes statewide data on topics relating to policing, safety, and criminal justice, including administrative records as well as information gathered from the DataHaven Community Wellbeing Survey of approximately 35,000 randomly-selected adults in every Connecticut zip code. This presentation will explore how these newly-available sources of neighborhood-based data might be applied to local activities in cities like Bridgeport, New Haven, and Hartford, and to statewide policies.

Changing the Way We Think about Violence Prevention in Oakland, CA

Rania Ahmed, Urban Strategies Council

Urban Strategies Council is contracted by the City of Oakland to coordinate a citywide community engagement project around violence prevention in Oakland. Findings from qualitative and quantitative research methods will help the newly established City of Oakland’s Department of Violence Prevention (DVP) better address three types of violence: homicides, domestic violence, and commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) in Oakland. Findings of this participatory research will guide:

- What the Department of Violence Prevention should do;
- The search and criteria for the Chief position;
- The City’s Oakland Unite Program’s spending plan on violence prevention.

Findings will be publicly shared in a two-day event: a pre-summit for city and community leaders and a summit for members of the community.

Vetting Data in the Hot Spots

Katie Pritchard, Data You Can Use

This presentation will highlight what Data You Can Use learned about building capacity and engaging residents around research when they looked at crime rates, resident perceptions of neighborhood conditions, safety and police behavior in the Amani neighborhood.