**NNIP LA Camp Session 3 Friday October 19, 2018**

**Data Literacy**

**Leader: Eleanor Tutt**

**Notes: Rob Pitingolo**

Attendance: Eleanor Tutt, Nikki Zhu, Sarin A, Neal Wilson, Katie Pritchard, Fabrizo F, Denise Groesbeck, Jie Wu, Scott Hughes, Nick Redding, Bernita Smith, Jenna, Katie Wong, Sara, Mark O’Dell, Erik W, Elly S

Eleanor: What do you want to take away from this?

Sarin: Want to learn.

Katie W: Want to see what other people are doing.

Neal: Want to raise understanding.

Katie P: Work with neighborhood orgs and want to learn better ways.

Denise: We don’t put data out so much to neighborhood groups. We get info from them and then repackage it for them. They don’t have capacity so we help.

Jie: We’re going to work in a historic ward. We are combining some data. We need to do community meetings and share results. Really starting from literacy and doing a data walk.

Fabrizo: Interested in understanding an alignment of data users and providers. Very limited access.

Mark: We have a lot of community organizations that do this and would like to know how to work with then. We produce data tools and get questions from the public about them.

Bernita: Interested in learning how you work with partners on data days.

Scott: Looking at how best to approach neighborhood groups and engage them.

Erik: Teaching people how to use tools.

Elly: We are doing trainings around the county. Have been successful with turnout and interested in taking it a step further.

Nick: I’m here to listen.

Sara: we’ve been doing ad hoc trainings by request. We’d like to build up that part of our program.

Nikki: We’re building a metadata platform and would like data literacy to make sure we know what people are searching for and what keywords they use.

Eleanor: Do you teach it as literacy or are you trying to organize around a topic of data. Lot of resources in helping people build their data competencies. There are a lot of models. Gallery walk model. Data day model. Our data day is based on the Detroit discotheque. Has anyone have good success stories?

Sarin: We have a database. We ran analysis at census tract and presented it and people even know what census tract they live in. People don’t know block groups exist. We had to reaggregate to neighborhood. That’s a very small example. Among this group have you had good luck with stratifications. People don’t have time. They look at your page for a second.

Katie P: Good stratification is the quality data campaign. Mostly education but they do such a good job of saying that if you’re trying to convince a legislature, use it this way. Convince a principal, this way. It’s a great model. I haven’t seen an application on a neighborhood basis. It’s a great framework for thinking about audience.

Fabrizo: We’re working with attorney general on crime prevention. One thing we noticed is that data users don’t know they could get more if they overlay layers. The AGs in the U.S. they have little contact with other data. If we overlay other data, they are minded blown. We understand this is a data gap. The AG is now looking for different data layers.

Eleanor: One thing we’ve done is that if we train residents we bring in people who are the producers of the data. Our data 101 are a mix and leads to conversations and connections between residents and power. Those connections happen around data.

Elly: We are thinking about political districts like city council. Go back and ask for money later. It’s also expensive to aggregate. We haven’t had any outcome yet.

Katie P: We are doing liquor license by neighborhood. They wanted a heads up to protest if they don’t like the new ones.

Denise: Our county is small and we have regions. Planners work with groups in the community. Probably the biggest categories is that each area has an advisory council. There’s also neighborhood groups.

Eleanor: That was another theme - helping people ask better questions or requesting datasets. How do we let people know we are a resource?

Denise: We have planners but how do you engage? If you bring data to them there is almost a general sense. Doesn’t necessarily solve their problem.

Scott: Is there a literature collection on this.

Eleanor: There was a data inventory literacy. There’s also a project civic switchboard which is connecting libraries and data partners. Because of the type of connection there are a lot of resources on that website.

Bernita: We’re about to do a workshop for 500 cities. I decided we should do influencers meeting. Could be elected, health, stuff like that. I call it a screening. Give them an interest level and hopefully they will encourage people to come to the workshop. Every town is word of mouth. There is some urban/rural stigma. At least this way it’s not like we’re trying to overrun any other group. Then I thought about what you said and I think we have to apply in the workshop to present tools and improve health outcomes. Here are things other groups do. I still do have to figure out how to get them to ask the right questions.

Sarin: When we talk about literacy we only think user, not us. Methods we use are adopted from finance and old methods. Percent change is used but can be misused. We are so programmed to use it we don’t even question it. We need to be literate ourselves.

Fabrizo: We found that the city is growing faster than suburbs but the income growth isn’t the same. You need to transfer this to the public which is hard.

Eleanor: the reason we’ve done so much of this in general is to encourage people to push back and ask questions. Mona chalky (sp?) does hand drawn visualizations. It’s not neighborhood level but it’s resonating with regular people in the community. Teens are sharing it. Thinking about how she’s questioning a certain intentional fuzziness. Not making it seem like any metric is perfect.

Fabrizo: Check out bow tie economist. He does public speaking and is the perfect combination of literacy and comedy. He doesn’t presentations that are funny and understandable. That’s a way of providing data in another format.

Sara: I like storytelling with data. It has helped me.

Elly: We release data stories on our platform. Sometimes we partner with community groups. That’s probably the most popular part of our platform.

Eleanor: Most value comes in one on one conversations and being in communities. We host a data day festival. Different people share things. People who are tabling at data day were there the previous year. We’re looking for more community ambassadors.

Katie: It’s their data not ours. Once it’s theirs then how do we step back and learn. My slides aren’t what gets things across to people.

Jenna: When people host for the general public, do you go through grassroots groups? Do you have access to the public?

Nikki: We have a data day and announce our network but it’s meant for the public. Most of the audience is still from public sectors.

Bernita: How many?

Nikki: 100 - 200 people.

Elly: We get people on neighborhood councils. Kind of average people but super plugged in.

Eleanor: Data day helps with that. You and get artists or people from other sectors. Give them a press kit and help them reach their networks.

Jenna: Are you aiming and people who know data and want to know more or people who know little. Communities we work with aren’t really into data.

Fabrizo: If you do a workshop, groups have data. There is usually confusion and turf. How do you address that?

Denise: It’s under our IDS. We have agreements that spell out use of data. We’ve been able to work around cross walking data.

Sara: We don’t provide data we provide funding for community services. We have success when we offer how to use data in grants It’s a specific need as well as being part of equity strategy. That’s not a situation that many others of you may be in.

Elly: We aim our workshops at a super basic level. Some people don’t know how to use computers. We help them so other people can follow along. People who are advanced are happy to sit down. They just need time and space.

Eleanor: It’s worth digging into assumptions about ‘easy’. Someone in the room will be struggling

Katie P: In a lot of grassroots orgs they is often 1 person who you should get involved.

Eleanor: There’s a story of a woman impacted by violence who was looking for data to start a nonprofit. Sometimes having a presence in the community helps.

Bernita: Who to invite. People were just coming to the library even without a RSVP.

Denise: When you invite people to an open data meeting of any sort the vast majority are intimidated and think they don’t know enough to go.

Eleanor: We frame it as a family friendly festival. Focus on the fun. There are serious topics. Do you need food? Childcare?

Denise: If you provide food people come.

Jie; Does anyone speak at events? Community college? High school? Community college students are curious. I’m trying to customize the talk.

Denise: Good idea.

Jenna: Lamar goes out multiple times a week to present.

Fabrizo: We do those. It’s true that when we are invited it’s to present findings. When we deal with data it’s within that framework.

Erik: Thing in terms of utility. The data is out there so if you want it you will look for it. Provide examples of orgs who do stuff.

Jie: We are tracking that.

Denise: There’s a data collection our county does. From your phone, you can report a pothole. People are interested in that! We forget about the practical sometimes.

Erik: Using it as a means for more complicated issues to be addressed.

Neal: Comment yesterday about surveying and doing things on paper. If people don’t use computers are there strategies for data on paper.

Eleanor: Yes, that’s our whole thing. The first time we did these it was a mix of paper and computers. We learned that no computers work best. We print subsets of data and people make everything on paper. There have been amazing moments where a team looked at overdose data. The biggest number was on a Wed. A person from public health stood up and said why it happens. Even though there was no tech involved we found concrete stories.

Erik: What we do is broad. It’s open. Visualizations available. Then focused stuff.

Nikki: We tried to build data by legislative boundary. In the process of aggregating you lose accuracy. People just want a number.

Erik: PDFs sometimes are beneficial III Elected officials don’t care about stats stuff. The general trend is still there.

Jie: We had a new mayor who called to ask about 311 data. We did it for free but it was worth it. We said we would report what we find. We also did a lot of work for free from Harvey.

Eleanor: Data therapy from MIT. Our data bodies.

Bernita: Can people send the data days workshop. I’d like to attend them.