NNIP Milwaukee Meeting, June 14, 2019

**New Policing Index and Updates on Policing Work**

Leader: Kathy Pettit

Notetaker: Camille Anoll

**Attendees:** Anthony Galvan, Dallas; Camille Seaberry, Data Haven; Carrie Koss Vallejo, Data You Can Use, Milwaukee; Rachel Borashko, CRI, Grand Rapids; Denise Linn Riedl, City of South Bend, Indiana; Swati Goya’s, Illinois Public Health Institute

**Microsoft work update from Kathy:**

NNIP did a survey of partners and heard about sites’ data holdings, perceived community interests and specific projects like Anthony from Dallas's project

Project site: <https://www.neighborhoodindicators.org/activities/projects/catalyzing-community-criminal-justice-reform-data>

Summary brief: <https://www.neighborhoodindicators.org/library/catalog/potential-catalyzing-criminal-justice-reform-data>

Project list: <https://www.neighborhoodindicators.org/library/catalog/nnip-partners-criminal-justice-projects-summer-2018>

Microsoft has focused specifically on policing and community relationships. Now, we are working on a deeper dive protect in LA city with USC - The project is now led by a new person, Tracy Lloyd, in the Justice Policy Center at Urban. Due to timing we have to work with open data: Arrests, Call for Service, and Arrests from LA open data portal.

Tracy has an idea of geospatially looking at community initiated calls for police (911 calls) vs. police initiated interactions. The project will test some machine learning methodologies.

If something works, it will show a typology for showing how neighborhoods are experiencing policing.

There is some appetite possibly for police to be engaged in the results.

**Other aspects:**

**Camille S:** Concerned that this is another map of "these neighborhoods of color are dangerous"

Kathy: The LA partner has good community contacts and is thinking through how to engage the community around this.

LA school police force is the largest in the country so expect the impact on youth will be very high, but the data has been hidden in the past. Right now, the relationship between school arrests and community arrests are unclear.

The city pulled down use of force data.

The Price Center received a separate grant from Microsoft to also expand their criminal justice data publicly (beyond arrests). They are pretty early around figuring out what the data stories will come up with.

**Anthony:** what are the outcomes that are being measured?

**Kathy:** just descriptive at the moment, not causal.

**Carrie:** We worked with Amani, who felt comfortable with the police. we created door hanger with the Dominican Center, that says "this is how your neighbors and maybe you have responded to how they feel about the police" to communicate the data back to the community.

**Camille S:** what is the index? what is the goal? Things like this, get a large investment and a deliverable, but it tells us what we already know.

**Kathy:**  in addition to the local audience, it will be a showcase for the type of analysis that is possible for other cities to learn from. Tracy is interested in categorizing types of calls. We are exploring Power BI dashboards [Anthony shared their [Community Indicators dashboard](http://www.healthyntexas.org/index.php?module=Tiles&controller=index&action=display&alias=exploredata) built with Power BI

The largest local impact will likely be more from the more engaged data stories.

**Anthony:** We did natural language analysis of 311 call notes data, and categorized the calls by what type of complaints.

**Kathy:** We also want to look at how many youth are stopped.

**Anthony:** Are they included in the public data? In Dallas, they are not if they are the arrestee.

**Kathy:** There is no PII, just age.

**Anthony:** Dallas has the caller of the 911 name listed.

**Carrie:** Due to a relationship with PD, we were able to get some information that is not publicly accessible--like how many Asian youth are arrested?

**Camille S:** A lot of experience with this, and it depends on the PD and who is asking.

In New Haven, advocates (not DataHaven related) wanted the internal affairs log, because we know the escalation rate of complaints against police is really low. One of our partners made a FOIA request (with Yale law email), what we got was hand written log sheets with no order. We had Yale undergrads to enter the data.

We have been working for an ordinance to get better data.

**Kathy:** Much in Grand Rapids?

**Rachel:** I don't know what is available from the GRPD, but we have gotten some data from Flint. We have data from community surveys, but we are overhauling that right now. We have a question about safety but working on having more about the effect of police on that.

**Camille S:** We have questions you can steal. We have "Agree disagree scales" for "Do police do a good job of making your community safe?", "have you been unfairly stopped by the police?", How many times? in what locations? (with a list).

Then we need to figure out what we do about the data.

**Kathy:** We are going through a PII review. We have a full [data policy](https://octo.dc.gov/node/123997) around how data is used in the city. Our chief data officer Barnie Krucoff did it. There were people really devoted to FOIA looking at it. It is the only full data policy that I have seen from a city. They also started a committee to develop a PII policy. I was concerned that it would still allow for receiving PII through research agreements when justified.. The government does collect so much PII, so if they aren't using that data they need to not collect it.

**Anthony:** Praise Texas is the name of the assessment tool that the courts developed that only used admin data. You get people who have already gone through and then run it through the risk assessment tool to see what they would have gotten for bail based on the data instead. Medium risk offenders were spending more time in jail then high risk offenders.

([Anthony’s Ignite from LA](https://www.neighborhoodindicators.org/library/catalog/algorithmic-justice-all-can-big-data-replace-cash-bail))

**Kathy:** Twin Cities is also doing a lot of grass-roots work around bail reform. But the PD is not that cooperative. RWJF is talking about work on mass incarceration, but they are focusing on research on intergenerational effects of incarceration.

**Camille S:** Is the Praise Texas risk assessment tool propriety? Because they are all black boxes.

**Anthony:** We know all the components and could probably get the weights. The formula might also be available already.

**Kathy:** Milwaukee has PD community meetings at the Dominican Center.

**Carrie:** Recently the PD wanted to do community outreach by having kids in to take pictures in the jail cells and didn't understand why this would be a terrible idea.

**Swati:** Started at DASH about a month ago. DASH might have work on policing.

**Camille A:** CeaseFire in Chicago is a public health-based intervention to de-escalate violent encounters and defuse tension among individuals in the community based on a community health worker model

**Camille S:** We will have CeaseFire events where they try to do a 3 day no shooting events. There was an example in BridgePort, CT that is talked about by like CeaseFire, but it's very different.

**Kathy:** is policing and legislation in the news?

**Rachel:** There was a community survey that we learned "we are racist too" but there is nothing being done about it.

**Camille S:** Through not work involvement, through the Fusion Foundation, we have a program that gives small grants to non-staffed non-profits. and it came out of a person being shot by the BPD during the protests and then was charged. There is BPDWatch.org where they list PD officers and their badge number based on publicly data available.

We had a resource when people would say New Haven is not Ferguson, but here is a website that has incidents of police brutality.

**Anthony:** Because we are a Right to Work state, the Police union doesn't have much power.

There are two sets of data of use of force information. The data isn't good because there are different variables. We take the manual for level of force by level of resistance that would be appropriate for application and they can go one level above. So we note the level of force to level of resistance. and how the police escalated in level of force.

**Denise:** Did you use timing of those levels?

**Anthony:** That would be interesting. But we also have if that force was successful. Which is attractive to the PD, because it would tell them if certain levels of force actually work.

**Camille S:** how do they define level of force?

**Rachel:** and level of resistance.

**Anthony**: it is subjective by the police. A lot of PDs have public police manuals. A lot have data that is basically missing--classified in ways that you can't tell the level of force or resistance. There is a designation something like "resistance is unspecified" which in some analysis we took it out and some we left it in.

**Denise:** I worked on court data in Chicago before South Bend. We helped a few data tech orgs that were doing duplication work, so we brought them together. The courts are FOIA exempt and so there are orgs that just have interns sit in court and take notes.

The [Chicago Data Collective](https://chicagodatacollaborative.org) used to be seeded by the McCormick Foundation. lts goal - media institutions and advocacy- would pay in as membership questions. Questions about who we would say no to - a political campaign? Lucy Parsons lab was part of it.

**Camille S**- Baltimore - [BPD Watch](https://www.bpdwatch.com) is forked from LPL open oversight projects - platform for database of all the cops in the dept.

Another Baltimore project with court data is to scrape the state court system lookup of cases. We have not published it because we are unsure what to do with the data because it has name, addresses, and we don't want to facilitate bad things happening. We have a diagram and script runs.

**Anthony**: we have an organization - an organization weekly request the docket, then scraped for the docket, and searches each case and creates database.

**Carrie K-V** - importance of data documentation.

**Camille A-** You can find peoples name, address, and grandchildren's name publicly.

**Rachel -** my dad was a corrections officer and he was protective of the address and wanted to protect

**Anthony -** shared the levels of resistance by the person in the police manual - but one of them is an "arrest" but that is not a reason that is interpretable.