

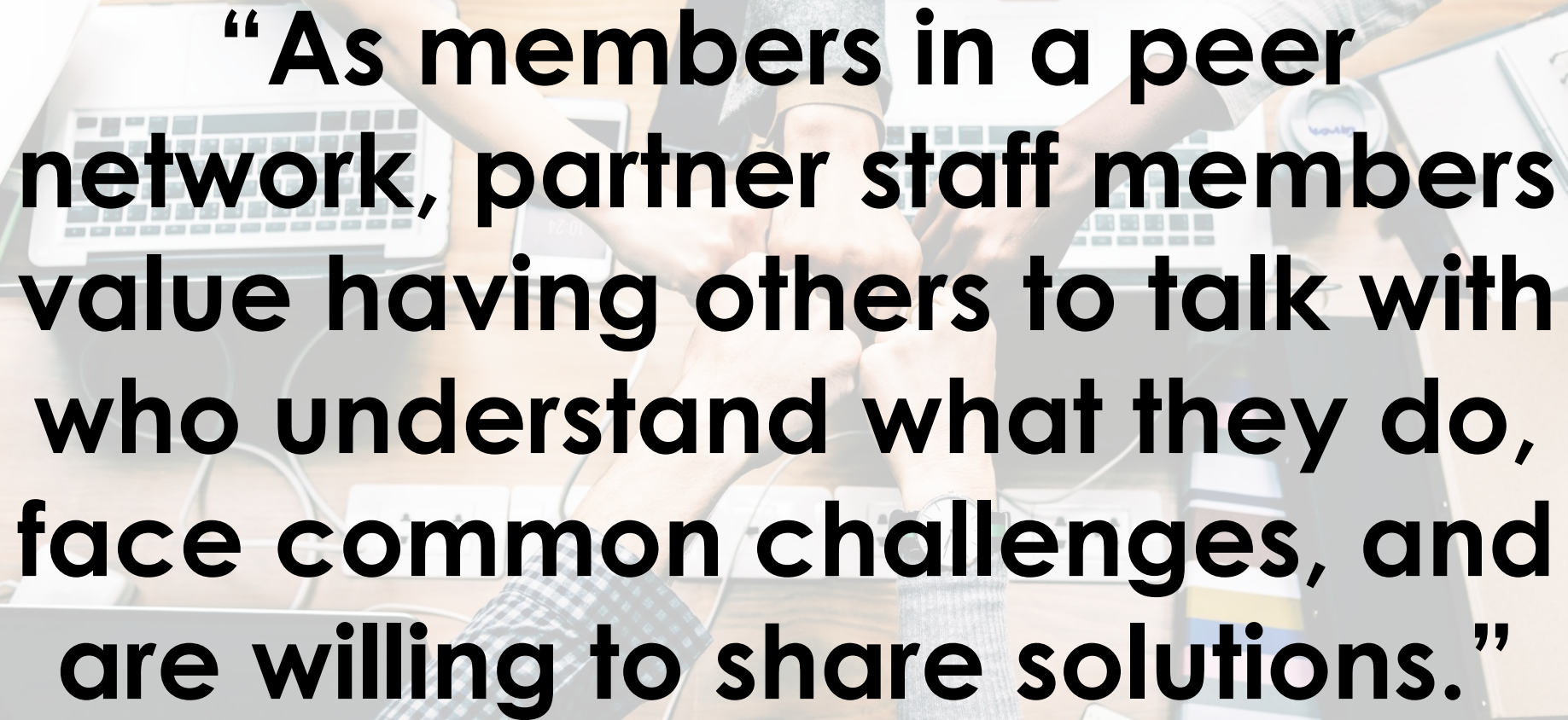
# Why YOU Should Participate in the NNIP Network

Rob Pitingolo

June 2019

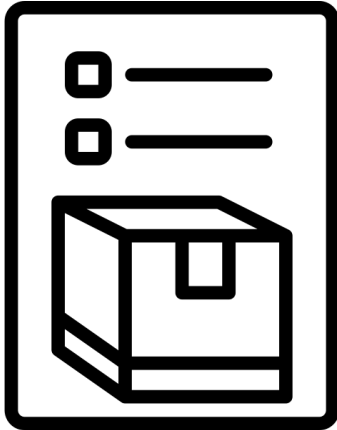
NNIP Partnership Meeting, Milwaukee, WI



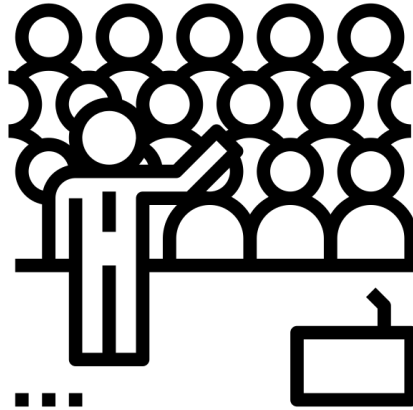
A group of people's hands are clasped together in a circle on a wooden desk, symbolizing teamwork and collaboration. The background is slightly blurred, showing office equipment like laptops and papers.

**“As members in a peer network, partner staff members value having others to talk with who understand what they do, face common challenges, and are willing to share solutions.”**

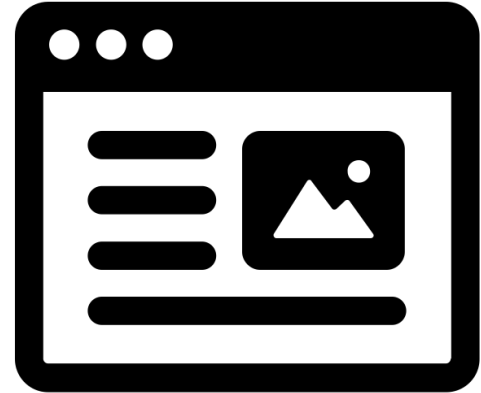
# Formal Expectations for Participation



**Data  
Inventory**



**Meetings**

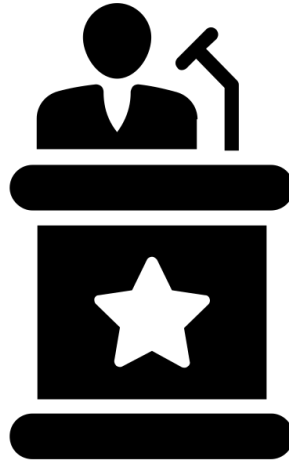


**NNIP  
Website**

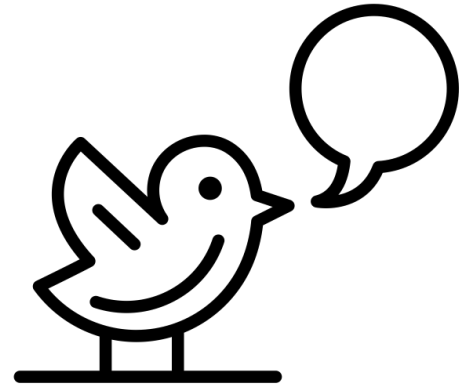
# Informal Ways to Participate



**Call a  
Partner**

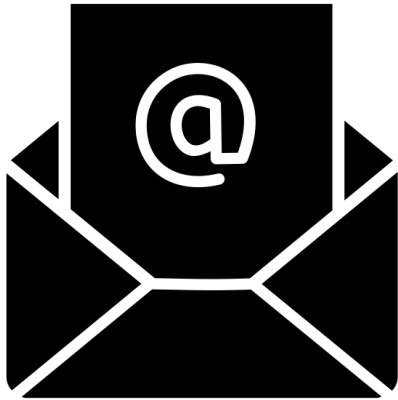


**Mention  
NNIP**



**Social  
Media**

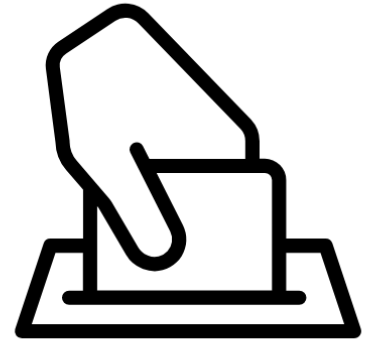
# More Formal Ways to Participate



**Respond  
to HQ**



**Present on an  
Idea Showcase**



**Run for the  
Executive  
Committee**

## How Can I Participate in NNIP?

Membership in peer-learning networks like NNIP provides a variety of benefits to its partner organizations and staff. You benefit from the vast knowledge of the more than 30 partner organizations that share their expertise, work jointly on cross-city projects, and together promote the broader application of data to support informed decisionmaking and positive policy change in our communities.

### Networks Matter!

Social networks improve the efficiency of the exchange, absorption, and application of information. NNIP members learn from others members that share their goals of using data to create positive change in their communities. They help them sort through the massive amounts of information about data sources, techniques for data analysis and visualization, technology, community engagement, organizational management, and fundraising. NNIP partners help other partners identify and use the data, strategies, and tools that work. These peer-to-peer interactions strengthen the benefits of the network for all members.

NNIP HQ supports the peer learning by providing the infrastructure that brings members together, records and shares their knowledge more broadly, and facilitates collaborative support for improving local and national policy.

### Network Stewardship Takes Many Forms

NNIP has established a few formal expectations of NNIP partners to share knowledge in order to maintain the strength of the peer-learning environment. Active engagement by partners with NNIP keeps the network activities focused on the issues and activities that will provide the greatest benefit to partner organizations. But not every staff member at each partner organization needs to participate in NNIP in the same way, and not all of them are formal or facilitated by the NNIP HQ staff. This variation in type and level of participation gives you the ability to increase your engagement and take leadership in the network when desired and when it maximizes benefits for your organization. Check out the next page for ways to join the fun!

### Formal Expectations of NNIP Partners

- Contribute to knowledge sharing and the supportive network
- Submit updates online on recent partner activities at least semi-annually
- Submit updates to your local data inventory
- Regularly attend and participate in meetings
- Check in annually with NNIP Headquarters staff
- Recognize and promote the network in presentations to local and national audiences
- Acknowledge NNIP on your website

### Informal Ways to Participate

- Introduce new staff to the network
- Answer a call from a partner
- Respond to a post on the google group
- Invite a partner to speak at your local event
- Document your work to share with other partners.
- Reach out to newer NNIP partners
- Tweet with #NNIP
- Follow the NNIP Partner Twitter list
- Network with NNIP members at other conferences
- Use NNIP SWAG and logo to show your pride in the network!!
- Introduce NNIP to potential funders
- Acknowledge NNIP in presentations

### More Formal Ways to Participate

- Answer NNIP HQ surveys and emails
- Be a buddy at a partner meeting
- Present at a partner meeting, webinar or idea showcase
- Organize a meeting session or webinar
- Participate in work group or affinity group
- Start or lead a work group or affinity group
- Present for NNIP at a national conference or event
- Participate in a cross-site project
- Serve on the NNIP executive committee

### Example Network Activity: Cross-site Projects

In partnership with [Living Cities](#) and [Code for America](#), the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership is exploring how civic technologists, data specialists, and local government leaders can work more effectively together to address pressing problems affecting low-income residents. We believe that data and tech can only be used to

	Your Organization	NNIP Network	
		Median	Maximum
<b>Partner Meeting Attendance</b>			
Date of last meeting attended	October-18		
Presented at the Los Angeles or Atlanta Meeting	Yes		
Pct. of last 5 meetings attended	100%	100%	100%
Buddied at the Los Angeles or Atlanta Meeting	Yes		
<b>Updated Content on the NNIP Website - Last 6 Months</b>			
Publications added	3	0	3
Activities added	2	0	4
Total content	5	0	5
Display NNIP Partner Badge and Link to Website	Yes		
<b>Data Inventory</b>			
Date last updated	8/16/2018		
Data Inventory up-to-date	Up-to-Date		
Current SNIP score	2	4	10
<b>Webinar Participation</b>			
Presented in one of last 3 webinars	No		
Pct. of last 3 webinars attended	67%	33%	100%
<b>Additional Participation of Note</b>			
Member of the Executive Committee	No		
Voted in Executive Committee election	Yes		
Completed the Census survey	Yes		
Completed the Diversity survey	Yes		
Completed the Criminal Justice survey	Yes		
Completed the Data Visualization survey	Yes		
Extra credit & self-reported contributions (described below)	Yes		

*Spoke with South Bend about NNIP & MetroLab.*

*Helped Urban Institute researchers on financial security after disasters.*

*Reviewed NNIP student guide.*

# 2019 NNIP Participation Reports





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Outline

## NNIP Partner Shout-out

NNIP admin document by NNIP HQ

2017

Urban Institute (NNIP Coordinator)

[neighborhoodindicators.org/shoutout](https://neighborhoodindicators.org/shoutout)

Please use this form to tell us about interactions that you've had with other NNIP partners or a time that another partner helped you out. Big or small, we want to hear your stories!

### NNIP Shoutout Form

The strong connections between partners have made NNIP a successful peer-learning network. But we don't always hear about the great collaboration happening and we want to be able to recognize people for their contributions to strengthening NNIP.

Please use this form to tell us about interactions that you've had with other NNIP partners or a time that another partner helped you out. Big or small, we want to hear your stories!

\* Required

Email address \*

Your email







“So lucky to be part of a community that facilitates this type of collaboration-- we hope it helps to make a measure that works across lots of different cities!”



# 12 cities helped San Antonio







Pittsburgh helped several partners





Be Like  
Bob



## NNIP Partners' Guide to the Network

Last Updated: November 9, 2018

Welcome to the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership (NNIP)!

Coordinated by the Urban Institute, NNIP consists of independent organizations in over 30 cities that have a shared mission to help community stakeholders use neighborhood data for better decisionmaking. The network was founded in 1996 by six partner organizations as a peer network of local data intermediaries. The founding organizations believed that by democratizing information, they could give residents and community organizations a stronger voice in improving their neighborhoods.

This guide is intended to help new NNIP Partner staff learn the basics about the network and how to get involved. Always feel free to email NNIP staff (nnip@urban.org) with any ideas or questions.



### More Online Guid

#### NNIP's Resou Involving Stu Services

Updated December 31, [read more]

#### NNIP Lessons Sharing

Updated September 14, [read more]

#### NNIP Policy G

Updated July 18, 2018 [read more]

#### Using Local B development)

Updated April 8, 2015 [read more]

## Who is NNIP?

Last Updated: May 15, 2017

NNIP is a peer learning network composed of four types of collaborators:

### NNIP Partners

Organizations become NNIP partners when they demonstrate that as data intermediaries they use data to improve lives in their local communities. These organizations represent different types of institutions - universities, independent nonprofits and other institutions. As data intermediaries, all NNIP partner organizations:

- assemble, clean, and transform data;
- disseminate information and apply the data to achieve impact; and
- use data to strengthen civic capacity and governance

For a full explanation of the role of local data intermediaries, see Chapter 2 of NNIP's Guide to Starting a Local Data Intermediary.

### NNIP HQ

The **Urban Institute** (also known as NNIP HQ) coordinates the network, organizes and plans the two meetings each year, fundraises for network activities, and manages cross-site projects. They also maintain the NNIP website and coordinate the **Executive Committee** – an elected group of six staff members from partner organizations who make decisions that govern NNIP.

### NNIP's Alumni Network

Individuals who previously contributed to the NNIP network but who have left partner organizations can continue



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## Participating in the NNIP Network!

Last Updated: July 25, 2018

NNIP members help one another identify and harness different data sources, techniques for data analysis and visualization, technology, community engagement, organizational management, and fundraising. NNIP HQ supports the network's peer learning by providing the infrastructure that brings members together, records and shares their knowledge more broadly, and facilitates collaborative support for improving local and national policy.

Urban-NNIP staff want to hear about how you have contributed to the network or how a fellow partner has helped you - you can report either in our quick NNIP [shout-out form](#). This helps us keep tabs on topics of interest, recognize individuals, and report back to funders on impact.

While we've established formal expectations for NNIP organizations, partners can engage with the network in a multitude of different ways.

### Formal Ways to Participate:

- Respond to NNIP HQ surveys and emails in a timely manner
- Be a buddy (i.e. mentor a new partner at their first partner meeting)
- Present your work at a partner meeting, webinar or idea showcase
- Organize a meeting session at the NNIP partners meeting or a partners webinar
- Present for NNIP at a national conference or event
- Serve on the NNIP executive committee

### Informal Ways to Participate:

- Invite a partner from another city to speak at your local event
- Document your work to share with other partners
- Tweet with #NNIP

### More Online Guides:

#### **NNIP's Resources and Guide to Involving Students in Data Services**

Updated December 31, 2018

[\[read more\]](#)

#### **NNIP Lessons on Local Data Sharing**

Updated September 14, 2018

[\[read more\]](#)

#### **NNIP Policy Guide**

Updated July 18, 2018

[\[read more\]](#)

#### **Using Local Business Data (in development)**

Updated April 8, 2015

[\[read more\]](#)



# Call to Action: Go and Participate in NNIP!

