

National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership

October 22-24, 2014

Denver, CO

Partner Staff Attendee List

<i>Name</i>	<i>Partner City</i>	<i>Email</i>
Katya Abazajian	Urban Institute	KAbazaji@urban.org
Leah Hendey	Urban Institute	lhendey@urban.org
Kait Hildner	Urban Institute	khildner@urban.org
Tom Kingsley	Urban Institute	tkingsle@urban.org
Kathy Pettit	Urban Institute	kpettit@urban.org
Rob Pitingolo	Urban Institute	rpitingolo@urban.org
Maia Woluchem	Urban Institute	MWoluche@urban.org
Mike Carnathan	Atlanta	mcarnathan@atlantaregional.com
Susan Millea	Austin	smillea@cohtx.org
Seema Iyer	Baltimore	siyer@ubalt.edu
Jessica Martin	Boston	Jessica.Martin@tbf.org
Anise Vance	Boston	anise.vance@tbf.org
Josh Wheeling	Camden	wheeling@camconnect.org
Ashley Clark	Charlotte	Ashley.Clark@uncc.edu
Rebecca Hefner	Charlotte	rhefner@charlottenc.gov
Laura Simmons	Charlotte	Laura.Simmons@uncc.edu
Timothy Tibbs	Charlotte	Timothy.Tibbs@mecklenburgcountync.gov
April Hirsh	Cleveland	april.hirsh@case.edu
Devin Keithley	Columbus	dkeithley@researchpartners.org
Aaron Schill	Columbus	aschill@researchpartners.org

<i>Name</i>	<i>Partner City</i>	<i>Email</i>
Tim Bray	Dallas	timothy.bray@iupr.utdallas.edu
Anthony Galvan	Dallas	anthony.galvan@utdallas.edu
Matt Barry	Denver	mbarry@piton.org
Qing Liu	Denver	liu.qing.1984@gmail.com
Laia Mitchell	Denver	laiacmitchell@gmail.com
Lisa Montagu	Denver	lmontagu@piton.org
Jennifer Newcomer	Denver	jNewcomer@piton.org
Yelena Onnen	Denver	yonnen@piton.org
Mingming Zhang	Denver	mzhang@piton.org
Erica Raleigh	Detroit	erica@datadrivendetroit.org
Noah Urban	Detroit	noah@datadrivendetroit.org
Jay Colbert	Indianapolis	jtcolber@iupui.edu
Sharon Kandris	Indianapolis	skandris@iupui.edu
Phyllis Betts	Memphis	pbetts@memphis.edu
Lisa Pittman	Miami	lisa.pittman@thechildrenstrust.org
Michael Barndt	Milwaukee	mbarndt@nonprofitcentermilwaukee.org
Todd Clausen	Milwaukee	tclausen@nonprofitcentermilwaukee.org
Jeff Matson	Minneapolis-St. Paul	jmatson@umn.edu
Mark Abraham	New Haven	mark@ctdatahaven.org
George Hobor	New Orleans	georgeh@datacenterresearch.org
Sean Capperis	New York	capperis@exchange.law.nyu.edu
Max Weselcouch	New York	Weselcouch@exchange.law.nyu.edu
John Garvey	Oakland	johng@urbanstrategies.org

<i>Name</i>	<i>Partner City</i>	<i>Email</i>
Steve King	Oakland	stevek@urbanstrategies.org
Spike Spiker	Oakland	steves@urbanstrategies.org
Denise Groesbeck	Pinellas County, FL	dgroesbeck@jwbpinellas.org
Sabina Deitrick	Pittsburgh	sabinad@pitt.edu
Bob Gradeck	Pittsburgh	rmg44@pitt.edu
Sheila Martin	Portland	sheilam@pdx.edu
Margrete Merrick	Portland	merrickm@pdx.edu
Andrew Bramson	Providence	abramson@provplan.org
Rebecca Lee	Providence	rlee@provplan.org
Kimberly Pierson	Providence	kpierson@provplan.org
Charlotte-Anne Lucas	San Antonio	calucas@nowcastsa.org
Stephanie Martinez	San Antonio	stephanie.a.martinez@uth.tmc.edu
Laura McKieran	San Antonio	Laura.C.McKieran@uth.tmc.edu
Bill Waldrop	San Antonio	editor@wilcharmedia.com
Stephanie Farquhar	Seattle	stephanie.farquhar@kingcounty.gov
Eleanor Tutt	St. Louis	eleanor@risestl.org
Peter Tatian	Washington, DC	ptatian@urban.org

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Meeting Guest List

<i>Name</i>	<i>Organization</i>	<i>Email</i>
Sandra Allen	Early Success Coalition	Sandra.Allen@lebonheur.org
Pat Auspos	Aspen Institute Roundtable on Community Change	pata@aspenroundtable.org
Katie Buitrago	Woodstock Institute	kbuitrago@woodstockinst.org
Arthur Burris	Living Cities	aburris@livingcities.org
Darren Cotton	University of Buffalo	dpcotton@buffalo.edu
Jake Cowan	Consultant	jake@jakecowan.com
Spencer Cowan	Woodstock Institute	scowan@woodstockinst.org
Doni Crawford	Neighborhood Allies	crawford.doni@gmail.com
Leah Donelan	Nonprofit Center for Northeast Florida	ldonelan@NonprofitCtr.org
Luis Duarte	Gary Community Investments	lduarte@garycic.com
Sarah Duda	Depaul University	sduda1@depaul.edu
Jim Farnam	Farnam Associates, LLC	jf@farnamllc.com
Dan Ferreira	City of Hartford	dferreira@hartford.gov
Scott Gaul	Hartford Foundation for Public Giving	sgaul@hfp.org
Matt Gee	University of Chicago	mattgee@gmail.com
Florencia Gutierrez	Annie E. Casey Foundation	FGutierrez@aecf.org
Cindy Guy	Annie E. Casey Foundation	cguy@aecf.org
Jodi Hardin	Civic Canopy	Jodi@civicanopy.org

<i>Name</i>	<i>Organization</i>	<i>Email</i>
Alaina Harkness	John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation	aharknes@macfound.org
Kat Hartman	Consultant	kat.a.hartman@gmail.com
Payton Heins	Center for Community Progress	pheins@communityprogress.net
Sarah Hughes	Colorado Children's Campaign	Sarah@coloradokids.org
Nigel Jacob	Living Cities	njacob@livingcities.org
Greg Kerwin	Code for America	gregk@codeforamerica.org
John Killeen	City of Durham	John.Killeen@durhamnc.gov
Jen Leonard	Center for Community Progress	jleonard@communityprogress.net
Carrie Makarewicz	University of Colorado at Denver	carrie.makarewicz@ucdenver.edu
Scotty Martin	Denver Office of Budget and Management	scotty.martin@denvergov.org
Bryce Merrill	Western States Arts Federation	bryce.merrill@westaf.org
Dan Milam	Salt Lake City Corporation	dan.milam@slc.com
Sarah Munro	University of Utah	s.munro@partners.utah.edu
Tamir Novotny	Living Cities	tnovotny@livingcities.org
Richard Parks	University of Southern California	richard@price.usc.edu
Pam Perlich	Bureau of Economic and Business Research University of Utah	Pam.Perlich@utah.edu
Chris Peterson	Sorenson Unity Center	chris.peterson@slcgov.com
Tony Pickett	Urban Land Conservancy	tpickett@urbanlandc.org
Lisa Piscopo	Denver Mayor's Office of Children's Affairs	lisa.piscopo@denvergov.org
Tom Pollak	Urban Institute	tpollak@urban.org
Michelle Riordan	Connecticut Data Collaborative	mrn@ctdata.org

<i>Name</i>	<i>Organization</i>	<i>Email</i>
Jeff Romine	Denver Office of Economic Development	Jeff.Romine@denvergov.org
Ken Schroepfel	University of Colorado Denver	ken.schroepfel@ucdenver.edu
Ellen Seidmann	Urban Institute	ellensseidman@gmail.com
Geoff Smith	Depaul University	gsmith33@depaul.edu
Katy Spurlock	Urban Child Institute	kspurlock@theurbanchildinstitute.org
Ashley Summers	Denver Regional Council of Governments	asummers@drcog.org
Amy Terpstra	Heartland Alliance	ATerpstra@heartlandalliance.org
Dace West	The Denver Foundation	dwest@denverfoundation.org
Jordan Wirfs-Brock	Consultant	jordanwb@gmail.com

MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD INDICATORS PARTNERSHIP

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Guest Cities

Buffalo, NY: University of Buffalo Regional Institute

Websites: <http://regional-institute.buffalo.edu>, www.oneregionforward.org,
<http://rkn.buffalo.edu>

A major research and public policy division of the University at Buffalo, the UB Regional Institute provides objective analysis to drive crucial decisions for its public, private and nonprofit partners in the Buffalo Niagara region and beyond. Drawing on diverse experience and a deeply rooted passion for independent research and public engagement, the institute generates clear, actionable insights that advance communities and organizations. In addition to university faculty and academic researchers, the institute's partners include governments, foundations, businesses, civic groups and nonprofits. In 2011, the Regional Institute merged with the Urban Design Project, a research center focused on urban planning and design. Together, the two form the research enterprise of the UB School of Architecture and Planning.

Current work includes: serving as the technical, research, and engagement team supporting Buffalo Niagara's HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning initiative (www.oneregionforward.org); providing research support to the Buffalo Promise Neighborhood's efforts to develop a "cradle-to-career" continuum of academic and community supports for schoolchildren living in a disadvantaged Buffalo neighborhood (www.buffalopromiseneighborhood.org); helping to strengthen the safety net in communities across Buffalo Niagara where residents are struggling the most with analysis, community insight, and best practices through the John R. Oishei Foundation's Mobile Safety-Net Team (<http://www.msntwny.org/>); and assisting our Regional Economic Development Council with its strategic planning process and implementation of targeting a \$1 Billion investment pledged by Governor Cuomo to strengthen the Buffalo Niagara regional economy (<http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/content/western-new-york>).

Contact: Darren Cotton, Associate Planner

Darren Cotton is an associate planner at the University at Buffalo Regional Institute (UBRI) with a focus on communications, public engagement, participatory planning, and community development. Through his work on One Regional Forward as well as

the Buffalo Green Code, he has seen the evolution of public participation from a vehicle used to inform, to a tool used to build networks of support around plan implementation. Outside of UBRI, Darren is also Executive Director of the nonprofit University Heights Tool Library. His time as a grassroots activist has helped inform his planning process and drive for meaningful community engagement through non-traditional avenues like mobile technology and social networking. Darren holds a master's degree in urban planning from the University at Buffalo and a bachelor's degree in international studies and linguistics from the University at Buffalo.

Durham, NC: Neighborhood Compass-City of Durham

Websites: <http://compass.durhamnc.gov>

<http://durhamnc.gov/ich/cb/nis/Pages/Home.aspx>.

Neighborhood Compass - City of Durham, Neighborhood Improvement Services

The Neighborhood Compass is a project of the City of Durham, housed in Neighborhood Improvement Services (NIS) in collaboration with the Durham City/County GIS office. The project objective is to provide data through an interactive web portal that allows local government and residents to track progress on neighborhood improvement efforts and shifts in our overall quality of life. The Compass will help local government allocate resources and establish partnerships to track neighborhood quality of life, increase accountability, and target services to improve community conditions. Neighborhood & homeowners associations, nonprofits, businesses, academic institutions, and others can align resources with Neighborhood Compass data to advocate for change, guide program development and the use of resources, and inform neighborhood projects.

Neighborhood Improvement Services Department works to preserve and improve quality of life conditions for Durham residents, and to encourage active participation in neighborhood redevelopment and public policy and decision making dialogue. The department is responsible for enforcement of quality of life ordinances and state statutes including the City's Minimum Housing Code, the State of North Carolina's Unsafe Building Statute. The department's rapid responders, known as the Impact Team, remediate non-compliant housing properties; abate public nuisances; and conduct neighborhood service projects. The department's Community Engagement staff provides outreach and education to Durham residents and community organizations.

Guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#), the department helps ensure that Durham has thriving, livable neighborhoods by providing the highest quality of services to engage and educate the community, eradicate blight, ensure safer neighborhoods, and enhance neighborhood revitalization.

City/County GIS – Technology Solutions aligns the City's information technology infrastructure and systems to the business needs of the City's departments. It designs, implements and maintains the technology hardware, applications and programs. Guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#), Technology Solutions ensures that its services support making Durham a great place to live, work and play by helping provide a well-managed city and stewardship of the City's physical assets.

Contact: John Killeen, Neighborhood Compass Project Manager, City of Durham

John Killeen manages the Neighborhood Compass for Neighborhood Improvement Services with City/County GIS analysts Tyler Waring and Rob Cushman as well as staff and community advisors. John received a MCRP degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and worked previously for the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center maintaining the Rural Data Bank and conducting statewide economic analysis.

Salt Lake City, UT: Utah Community Data Project

Website: <http://ucdp.utah.edu/>

The Utah Community Data Project, or UCDP, is housed within the Bureau of Economic and Business Research at the University of Utah's David Eccles School of Business and is dedicated to uncovering insights into our changing communities and to provide topical analyses on underlying trends. Utah, along with the rest of the nation, is in the midst of a great demographic, economic, and cultural transformation. Because these changes have occurred in Utah recently and quite rapidly, many decision makers are not fully aware of character and magnitude of these changes. Consequently, most institutions have not yet adapted their policies, programs, and facilities to these new realities. Most importantly, this increasing complexity and diversity varies dramatically by neighborhood and community.

Initial funding for our work, beginning in 2013, has come from Salt Lake County through a Sustainable Communities grant, Salt Lake City as contract research, the University of Utah administration, and the David Eccles School of Business. Late in 2013 we launched our ucdp.utah.edu production system. With the help of our DESB IT group, we implemented a suite of open source on-line analytic processing and visualization tools, including Weave. Now that our platform is in place, we have begun to build-out content. At present we have 125 Weave visualizations. While many are primarily basic demographics (including age, race and ethnicity, rental and ownership of homes), we now include data from the Salt Lake City School District on lunch assistance and languages spoken at home. We have health outcome data from the Department of Health. We also developed a 2000 to 2010 tract level change data set. We built a data set to create common

geography for the decennial data. Changes can then be examined over the 10-year period. The Salt Lake City portion of this work is at:

<http://ucdp.utah.edu/county/salt-lake-county/salt-lake-city/slc-2000-2010/>

The Salt Lake City content will continue to be more fully built out with as a result of the UCDP involvement in the Capital City Education effort. This is a cradle-to-career initiative from Mayor Becker with technical support from the National League of Cities. We have and will continue to be utilizing Salt Lake City School District data to develop community metrics and to support this effort. The Salt Lake City portion of our work includes a collection of publications and reports. Our Salt Lake County portal contains detailed Housing reports prepared for the HUD grant, as well as many Weave visualizations.

UCDP will continue to collect, store, and disseminate an ever-expanding collection community data in an online system that will be rich in customized cross-tabulations, dynamic data visualizations, and interactive geospatial representations. Although this will be a significant advance for Utah, it is not sufficient. We have begun to implement our post-censal estimates program of population, households, and housing units at the tract level. Here we will utilize building permits as well as microdata from vital records. We will continue to work with community partners to design and implement a suite of community indicators that will better inform strategic planning processes as well as program performance evaluations. Our work program includes demographic metrics as well as community indicators tracking economic stability, educational equity, health disparities, affordable housing opportunities, and other topics. These types of community indicators are necessary in order to identify and evaluate the effectiveness of community investments. Our Utah Community Foundation is supportive of our efforts as well.

Contact: Pam Perlich, Director , Utah Community Data Project

Pam Perlich specializes in Utah demographics, applied regional economic studies, and economic and demographic modeling, and has published extensively in these areas. She works as a Senior Research Economist in the Bureau of Economic and Business Research, joining BEBR in 2000. Before BEBR, she worked for seven years in the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, concentrating on long-term economic and demographic projections. In addition, she is Adjunct Professor in the Department of City & Metropolitan Planning, College of Architecture + Planning. She is actively engaged in the community, regularly giving public presentations and also serving on numerous boards and commissions. Pamela received her Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Utah and B.S. in Economics and Business from the University of Tulsa.