

# National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership

*April 2 - 4, 2014*

*St. Louis, MO*

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## Meeting Guest List

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MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD INDICATORS PARTNERSHIP

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St. Louis, MO

## *Guest Cities*

**Charlotte, NC:** City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, and UNC Charlotte Urban Institute

Websites: [www.ui.uncc.edu](http://www.ui.uncc.edu), [ri.uncc.edu](http://ri.uncc.edu), [www.charmeck.org](http://www.charmeck.org))

The text below describes organizations that support the use of data and indicators for community improvement in Charlotte:

City of Charlotte- Neighborhood and Business Services

Neighborhood & Business Services is responsible for affordable housing, code enforcement, community engagement and economic development. N&BS provides a variety of public services to the City of Charlotte to help maintain and improve the quality of life in the city's neighborhoods.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Neighborhood Quality of Life Study

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Quality of Life Study is an ongoing neighborhood benchmarking initiative that began in 1993. The study tracks a wide range of indicators at the neighborhood level to provide a snapshot of neighborhood health. In the most recent iteration (2012), the geography was expanded to include the six other towns in Mecklenburg County; the range of data available was greatly increased; and all of the data are now presented in an interactive online dashboard:

<http://maps.co.mecklenburg.nc.us/goldashboard/>.

The study is commonly used by residents, service providers, government agencies, real estate agents, and universities to understand the dynamics of local neighborhoods and develop programs and service delivery strategies to Charlotte-Mecklenburg residents. The Study is a joint endeavor of the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, and UNC Charlotte.

Mecklenburg County- County Manager's Office

The Mecklenburg County Manager's Office is responsible for implementing policies established by the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners.

### UNC Charlotte Urban Institute

The UNC Charlotte Urban Institute is a nonprofit, nonpartisan applied research institute providing research and information to help the public understand the Charlotte region. Founded in 1969 as the University's research and community outreach center for urban and regional affairs, the institute connects faculty, staff, and students with community organizations and public institutions that address significant public policy issues in the 14-county region surrounding Charlotte. The institute is a division of UNC Charlotte's Metropolitan Studies and Extended Academic Programs. Among the institute's many programs and projects, the two listed below are the closest aligned with NNIP.

A future goal of the institute is to utilize aggregated data from the ISC Community Database to support the work of community data initiatives, including the Regional Indicators Project and Quality of Life Study. Such changes are currently being discussed as the institute undergoes a comprehensive strategic planning process.

Charlotte Regional Indicators Project provides objective, reliable, and relevant quality of life data for the 14-county Charlotte region. Launched in 2006, the project includes data across 11 theme areas at the county, state, region, and metropolitan levels, as well as specific datasets sponsored by local nonprofit partners. All data are accessible online (<http://ri.uncc.edu/>) in interactive charts, graphs, tables, and maps.

Institute for Social Capital (ISC) seeks to advance university research and increase the community's capacity for data-based planning and evaluation. Founded in 2004, ISC merged with the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute in 2012. At its core is an integrated database that connects existing administrative data from key agencies, such as Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Department and the Department of Social Services, to facilitate greater understanding of social and environmental variables that affect the community.

*Contacts: Rebecca Hefner, Community Research Manager, City of Charlotte; Katie Zager, Research Assistant, UNC Charlotte*

*Rebecca Hefner* joined the City of Charlotte in 2013. Her primary role is to facilitate the use of the Quality of Life Study by City departments and community partners to inform planning, program development, policy, and resident action. She also oversees the City's Speakers Bureau, working with City staff to increase the use of data in presentations and to open data from various departments to the community. Prior to joining the City, Rebecca served as Senior Researcher for the Council for Children's Rights where she promoted research-based policies and programs for children and families, and oversaw a community indicators project in



partnership with UNC Charlotte. Rebecca received her Masters of Public Administration from UNC Charlotte and her BFA in Historic Preservation from the Savannah College of Art and Design.

*Katie Zager* is a research assistant with UNC Charlotte Metropolitan Studies and Extended Academic Programs. She is currently working on her Master's degree in geography at UNC Charlotte. Her primary responsibilities include data collection and analysis for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Quality of Life Study. Her own research interests include urban environments and public health. She has regularly used neighborhood indicator data in her own work, and consults with outside groups on how to best use data from the QOL study. Katie has a bachelor's degree in geography from Macalester College.

### ***Durham, NC:*** Neighborhood Compass-City of Durham

Websites: <http://durhamnc.gov/ich/cb/nis/Pages/Home.aspx>,  
<http://durhamnc.gov/ich/as/ts/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.

City and County departments and local education and public health agencies are engaged in providing data and developing measurements for neighborhood areas of Durham County. Additional measurements for demographics, education, housing, infrastructure and amenities, safety, the environment, health, engagement and the economy are sourced from the Census Bureau. The project is scheduled for public release in May 2014.

*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 master's degree in City and Regional Planning from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has worked previously for the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center maintaining the Rural Data Bank and conducting economic analysis and reporting for Center programs.

***Newark, NJ:*** Joseph C. Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies,  
Rutgers University

Website: [www.cornwall.rutgers.edu](http://www.cornwall.rutgers.edu)

Affiliated with the Rutgers School of Public Affairs and Administration, the Cornwall Center facilitates research and learning exchanges among scholars and other stakeholders in the public, private, and non-profit sectors to address urban and metropolitan challenges. The Center's mission is to research and analyze complex issues facing urban areas, primarily metropolitan Newark and northern New Jersey, and ultimately generate solutions to those challenges.

Adhering to this mission, the Cornwall Center strives to be:

- A key resource in the production of “usable” knowledge for the public, private, and nonprofit sector development in Newark, northern New Jersey, and beyond.
- A central force convening key civil society individuals and institutions as they engage in and pursue the economic, political, and cultural revitalization of Newark.
- A forceful agent for the economic and administrative coordination and cooperation of Newark and its surrounding communities.
- A national model for what a university-based center can accomplish working with regional, local, and community partners.

Cornwall Center is the evaluator for the Newark Strong Healthy Communities Initiative (SHCI), a Living Cities Integration Initiative. Working closely with SHCI staff and an exhaustive list of partners from the public, private, non-profit, and philanthropic sectors, the Cornwall Center will evaluate SHCI’s success in implementing systemic changes and achieving neighborhood-specific outcomes. Integral to the ability to track key SHCI project outcomes, the Cornwall Center serves as the SHCI data partner - a role in which it provides SHCI and its partners with strategic support to collect, compile, analyze and report on quantitative and qualitative data based upon system-wide and neighborhood-level indicators. To achieve the tasks in its role as SHCI data partner, the Center aims to develop an interactive data platform that will track, analyze, and disseminate key neighborhood-level indicators.

*Contacts: Dr. Roland V. Anglin, Director and Associate Research Professor, and John Manieri, Research Associate*

*Roland Anglin’s* career spans over twenty years of working in the public, educational, and philanthropic sectors. In all his professional positions, Anglin has focused on promoting economic and community development in and for marginalized communities.

*John Manieri* leads the SHCI evaluation and the implementation of the SHCI neighborhood indicator data platform at the Cornwall Center. He works in close collaboration with SHCI staff and local stakeholders to develop a list of informative neighborhood -level indicators that will be used to measure specific SHCI-related outcomes. Mr. Manieri holds a MCRP Degree from Rutgers’ Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. Prior to his time at the Cornwall Center, he spent three years working in the municipal and private planning sectors in North Carolina.

## ***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 that 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. We recognize that we here in Utah, along with the rest of the nation, are 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. The increasing need for understanding trends at small-area geographies is coupled with an irreversible dearth of detailed neighborhood-level data from national sources due to the loss of the U.S. Census long form. We also recognize that administrative data acquired from local sources can be utilized to "backfill" for this loss and extend our understanding of neighborhood level changes.

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](http://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 nearly 100 Weave visualizations, which are primarily from the 2010 Census covering age, race/ethnicity, tenure, and household types. While we have information on every place and state legislative district in the state, we have developed more extensive offerings for Salt Lake City, which has its own portal, as well as Salt Lake County. 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. This summer we will begin 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.

## ***San Diego, CA:*** San Diego Regional Data Library

Website: [www.sandiegodata.org](http://www.sandiegodata.org) and <http://data.sandiegodata.org>

The San Diego Regional Data Library is developing sector-specific data libraries for homelessness, economic development and municipal government with a goal of making neighborhood level data more accessible to civic and social groups in San Diego County. Their programs consist of developing a central and satellite data repositories, recruiting volunteers for data analysis projects, and training the public on using the data with GIS tools and Tableau.

Other projects include crime analysis and predictive analytics, implementing the County's homeless count on mobile devices, and developing a municipal open data policy. The one thing they aren't doing is running an indicator site, but they will be supplying data to organizations that do.

*Contact: Eric Busboom, Director, San Diego Regional Data Library*

*Eric Busboom* graduated from Harvey Mudd College with a BS in physics. He has served as Process Consultant and Senior Software Engineer for Qualcomm Inc., as founder of Convenience Data Merchants, and as CTO for Proposal Technologies Network Inc. Eric is active in a local philanthropic organization, San Diego Social Venture Partners, and a local environmental nonprofit, San Diego Canyonlands.