

NNIP

Partner Reports

December 2006

NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD INDICATORS PARTNERSHIP
AND THE URBAN INSTITUTE

Baltimore

BALTIMORE NEIGHBORHOOD INDICATORS ALLIANCE

December 2006

1. Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006 (headlines)

Starting July 1, BNIA transferred operations from the Citizens Housing and Planning Authority (CPHA) to the Jacob France Institute of the University of Baltimore (BNIA-JFI). The Jacob France Institute is the economic research center for the University of Baltimore. Matthew Kachura was made Program Manager and Peter Armstrong was hired as GIS Analyst for BNIA-JFI. Matthew has a background in economic and workforce development and has been with the Jacob France Institute for 9 years. Peter was employed as the GIS Analyst for BNIA and moved to the Jacob France Institute when BNIA's operations transferred over to the University.

2. What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?

BNIA-JFI produced two reports for Healthy Neighborhoods, Inc (HNI). Healthy Neighborhoods helps strong but undervalued Baltimore neighborhoods increase home values, market their communities, create high standards for property improvements, and forge strong connections among neighbors. The HNI reports detail trends for six housing indicators for sets of target blocks for each of the 10 HNI areas.

BNIA-JFI continues to provide information, data, and other services to a variety of community and neighborhood groups, educational institutions, and other organizations as part of its mission.

3. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

BNIA-JFI is currently developing a strategic plan. This will include conducting a market analysis, creating publications and reports including Vital Signs, making improvements to the website, and identifying new sources for funding.

BNIA-JFI is currently working on developing a set of indicators for the Enterprise Foundation. These indicators will be used to track the changing conditions occurring within the Westside of Baltimore City. BNIA-JFI is also creating a series of maps to supplement the indicators and database for the Westside.

BNIA-JFI is exploring a project with Social Compact and the Baltimore City Department of Planning. This project will entail collecting data for all of Baltimore City and then implementing a “DrillDown” of several neighborhoods. Information from this report will be used to attract retail and services to underserved neighborhoods in Baltimore City. BNIA-JFI will maintain and update the database used for this analysis and will disseminate the results of “DrillDown” analyses.

BNIA-JFI will be creating a set of neighborhood indicators based on the Vital Signs database to be used in several Goldseker Foundation neighborhoods. These indicators will be used to track the changing conditions of these areas.

BNIA-JFI is currently working on updating and producing *Vital Signs V*. *Vital Signs* consists of 40 outcome indicators in seven different topic areas. The data will show changes at the Community Statistical Area (CSA) showing the change in conditions from 2001 to 2005.

4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Please describe.

BNIA-JFI has added the Dun and Bradstreet iMarket database, new business license database, and is exploring adding various databases that are part of the Jacob France Institute.

BNIA-JFI through the possible project with Social Compact will be adding several new databases. These include data from utility providers, the Motor Vehicle Administration, and other proprietary databases.

The prior BNIA website was moved over to the University of Baltimore. BNIA-JFI will be working with the Community Center for Technology Services (CCTS) of the University of Baltimore to make various changes and improvements to the website. These changes may include a survey of users and a data/information request form. Additionally, reports issued by BNIA-JFI will also be accessible through the website.

5. What upcoming events/activities (with dates) present an opportunity to showcase NNIP?

Camden

CAMCONNECT

December 2006

1. Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006 (headlines)

Camden Demographics regional comparison report featured on Governor's website; see

<http://www.nj.gov/camdencoosearch/>

Produced several new reports and data summaries (see below)

Attracted 50 people to 3rd annual Camden Data Open House; see

<http://www.camconnect.org/CamdenDataOpenHouse2006.html>

Produced 2-page summary on Camden Data designed for community audience; see

<http://www.camconnect.org/CamdenNumbersData.html>

Increased number of members from 30 to 50

2. What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?

Reports

Camden Demographics – regional comparison of Census data

http://www.camconnect.org/documents/camden_facts_2006.pdf

Camden ER Discharge Data 2003 – analysis of causes of hospitalization by geography

<http://www.camconnect.org/CamdenHealthData.html>

Various Camden QuickFacts handouts – school violence, state budget earmarks, poverty

Presentations

“Poorest City in America?” – analysis of poverty measures and Camden's ranking by the ACS as the poorest city in the country. This was presented at CAMConnect's annual Data Open House, which drew approximately 50 people.

<http://www.camconnect.org/CamdenDataOpenHouse2006.html>

3. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

Camden Facts 2007 – our last comprehensive citywide report was published almost four years ago and an update was identified by our members as a top priority. This update will be complete in the next few months and will have data on a number of topics.

Hospital discharge data – we have emergency department and inpatient billing records from all 3 hospitals in Camden, and have been working on developing a profile of health care in the City. This dataset includes patient name, address, age, insurance status, diagnosis codes, and race. We have developed a database that can generate summary queries and reports, such as a profile of frequent hospital visitors (more than 10 visits). Our analysis has shown that 20% of the patients are responsible for 40% of the hospital visits, and that certain areas of the city with concentrations of senior housing are much more likely to have a higher percentage of residents hospitalized for things like hypertension and diabetes. We prepared a summary report for 2003 data and are working to develop a way to use this data for health interventions.

4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Please describe.

No especially notable new data or website improvements since Dallas meeting

5. What upcoming events/activities (with dates) present an opportunity to showcase NNIP?

None scheduled

Chattanooga

COMMUNITY RESEARCH COUNCIL

December 2006

1. Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006 (headlines)
 - CRC Releases 2006 State of Chattanooga Region Report; Bi-Annual Report to Track More than 60 Different Indicators at Neighborhood Level
 - CRC publishes Closing the Gap: Rising Educational Attainment in Hamilton County, an analysis of U.S. Census and American Community Survey data for 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000 and 2005.
 - CRC publishes Murder in Midsize Cities, a focus on recently reported national increases in violent crime and murder that are part of a five year, double digit increase in murder in midsize cities.
 - CRC completes report tracking impact of TennCare cuts in Southeast Tennessee.
 - CRC receives additional funding from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation to complete a detailed analysis of what other Southeastern cities and non-profit organizations are doing in the field of local government performance measurement.
 - A series of reports on Arts, Education, Environment and Community and Economic Development for the Benwood Foundation, one of Chattanooga's largest local philanthropies.

2. What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?
 - The State of Chattanooga Region Report, with presentations to the Chattanooga City Council, Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga and Leadership Chattanooga
 - Inside/Outside: Internal and Citizen Perspectives on Performance Measurement in Chattanooga, Tennessee presented to the Government Finance Officers Association, Association of Government Accountant's Second Annual National Performance Management Conference and Governing's Managing Performance '06 Conference.
 - Closing the Gap: Rising Educational Attainment in Hamilton County
 - Murder in Midsize Cities

3. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?
 - Completion and public release of TennCare Impact Analysis

- Completion of report on Local Government Performance Measurement in the Southeast and begin efforts to organize regional practitioners network
 - Work with two local foundations and local public school system on research related to current local trends and best practices in teacher recruitment and preparation.
 - Production of scorecard for neighborhood revitalization initiative tracking progress by using parcel based data on housing sales, crime, home ownership and building permits
 - Completion of report on migration trends using utility data to assess the characteristics of populations (age, place of origin) moving into Hamilton County.
 - Completion of first Downtown Scorecard, using survey research and administrative data to develop baseline measures to track change in Chattanooga's Downtown.
 - Completion of preliminary evaluation of County Parents as First Teachers program
 - Participation in City funded research consortium on multicultural affairs
4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Please describe.
- State of Chattanooga Region Report included neighborhood level and parcel level data on more than sixty different indicators based on administrative data
 - A website survey was conducted in Summer 2006. Implementation of recommendations is planned for 2007.
5. What upcoming events/activities (with dates) present an opportunity to showcase NNIP?

Chicago

METROPOLITAN CHICAGO INFORMATION CENTER (MCIC)

December 2006

Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006?

- In October 2006, the U.S. Census Bureau officially designated MCIC as one of 58 Census Information Centers (CIC's) in the country. Inaugurated in 1988, the CIC Program is a cooperative venture between the U.S. Census Bureau and national level, community-based organizations, colleges and universities to serve as auxiliary census data distribution centers reaching underserved populations.

As a CIC, MCIC has priority access to a wide variety of U.S. Census datasets, updates and reports; advanced query access to microdata files; priority access to the new American Community Survey (ACS); and priority access to 2010 census data, as it becomes available in 2011. Learn more about the Census Information Center Program at www.census.gov/clo/www/cic.

- John Jiang, MCIC Director of Information Services, attended the International ESRI (producers of GIS software) Users Conference in San Diego. He brought back many new ideas and techniques, and has been exploring their potential application to our current projects. John created a Raster maps (pixel-based) for the Urban Institute Informal Arts Participation study as one example of how point-level data can be presented more analytically through the use of overlapping “spheres of geographic influence” to understand the neighborhood impact of nearby amenities. He also created a Race Diversity map as an experiment with alternative formulae for calculating diversity, used frequently in our indexing work. The map also uses an interesting technique for layering data on a visual display.
- As we look to leverage our developing institutional database, we recognize the need for better integration of and access to our datasets. A staff team is developing protocols and conventions for making our ever-growing institutional database more transparent and useful.

What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

- MCIC has recently been commissioned by Partnership for New Communities (PNC) to develop an annually updateable Index of Community Development. This is follow-on work to last year's Chain Reaction grocery store and retail development study with PNC. PNC works to support the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) Plan for transformation by

informing the civic/business community about the Plan and its progress, and securing funding to improve the economic infrastructure and development of the transformation communities. The proposed activities are coordinated with projects funded by the MacArthur Foundation in connection with the LISC Chicago New Communities Program, and with data from other MCIC engagements.

- The National Science Foundation: Ethnic Communities Survey includes interviews in the native language with first generation Chinese, Philippine, Ukrainian, and Mexican immigrants to the Chicago area. The purpose of the study is to look at how immigrants influence host societies, rather than the more customary “assimilation” studies. MCIC is the data collection partner in this UIC-DePaul-IIT collaboration.
- Strengthening Families Illinois, a collaborative initiative between early childhood centers and families that works to build protective factors around children to reduce abuse and neglect, launched an evaluation of the program. Periodic outcome measures identify what is working well and what is challenging the implementation of the initiative. Strengthening Families is using a database developed by MCIC to manage information collected from program participants at childcare and education programs around the state. MCIC is analyzing the data collected and producing periodic reports that illustrate the progress of the initiative.

What important reports have you produced?

- *Navigating the Naturalization Trail: Mexican Nationality and U.S. Citizenship*
This is the second paper in a series of papers written by Garth Taylor, MCIC President, and the University of Notre Dame, Institute of Latino Studies. The report, “Navigating the Naturalization Trail: Mexican Nationality and U.S. Citizenship”, examines why Mexican immigrants to the Chicago region seek, or do not seek, naturalization as U.S. citizens. Reasons most frequently expressed for becoming a U.S. citizen were: benefits for self or family; opportunity and quality of life; legal rights / civil rights / political participation; and family reunification. The paper is posted on the MCIC website, www.mcic.org.
- **More than a Pastime: Informal Arts Improve Communities and Increase Formal Arts Participation**
MCIC recently partnered with The Urban Institute in Washington DC to evaluate local datasets and measure community participation in arts and cultural activities in the City of Chicago. The research goal was to integrate arts and culture-related measures into neighborhood quality of life indicator models. The paper is posted on the MCIC website, www.mcic.org.

What important data presentations have you delivered?

June

Latino United Banking Forum

Chicago, IL

"The Emerging Markets and Financial Services in the Latino Community: Problems and Strategies," presented in the context of the recent immigrant debate (see associated paper, listed above).

October

HUD

Washington, DC

Design of area indicators of need/effectiveness of CDBG investment - strong tie to HMDA, CRA, and parcel-based indicators being developed with advice and support of NNIP.

October

Alliance for Economic Inclusion

Chicago

The FDIC invited MCIC to present a research agenda to inform the activities of the newly formed Alliance for Economic Inclusion at its founding meeting on October 11. The Alliance was formed to bring those without traditional bank accounts into the financial fold, beginning with two pilot City of Chicago communities: Austin and Englewood/Auburn Gresham.

November

Grantmakers in the Arts – Annual Meeting

Boston, MA

Panel discussion of indicators of informal arts activities from a variety of project partners, nationwide, and how arts and culture-related measures can be integrated into neighborhood quality of life indicator models (see associated paper, listed above).

Cleveland

CENTER ON URBAN POVERTY AND SOCIAL CHANGE,
CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
December 2006

1. Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006 (headlines)

Renamed from Center on Urban Poverty and Social Change to Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development – Over the past several years the Poverty Center has incorporated a number of functions related to community development. These include coordinating the Stokes Fellows program, which brings community development professionals from all over the country to advance their professional development at the Mandel School; partnering with the public and nonprofit community development agencies on neighborhood revitalization; incorporating numerous community development indicators into our newly-improved and expanded on-line community information database, NEO CANDO; education and training in community development; conducting research on community development topics; and convening community development specialists for discussions of issues important to the field.

Stark/Canton, OH Partnership – The Center is currently entering into a partnership with the COMPASS project headed by the United Way of Stark County, OH (Canton, OH). Cities are not just independent islands; rather, they work as a regional system. NEO CANDO already has the infrastructure for a regional context and provides federal and state data warehoused to all 17 counties. The partnership with COMPASS serves as a model of how regional cooperation of data sharing can work. The staff of COMPASS will collect, clean data, and maintain ownership of local data, but use NEO CANDO as a portal for public access. The COMPASS staff will also serve as local ambassadors to promote and provide NEO CANDO training to the agencies and people of Stark County. The Center believes that this partnership will work because it keeps the on-the-ground functions local to those who have a stake in these communities.

NEO CANDO training materials – The Center has been engaged in developing a training curriculum for its NEO CANDO database. The focus of the training was to make people aware of the power of NEO CANDO, the depth of its database and appropriate ways users should use data. The results of the training include a participants guide, a users guide, a facilitators guide, a quick reference sheet and an interactive web/cd tutorial. The intended audience of the training is people working for non-profit and public entities such as community development professionals and

employees at various levels of government. Materials from the training curriculum are being incorporated into the classroom here at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University.

<http://neocando.case.edu/cando/index.jsp?tPage=train>

Participate in Vacant Properties Coordinating Council – This coordinating council is concerned with broader policy reform in the arena of vacant and abandoned property. Representatives from the Cleveland’s community development industry, the City of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, the Northeast Ohio First Suburbs Consortium, and foundations sit on the council. Additions to the parcel report within NEO CANDO are as a result of the interaction with the Vacant Property Coordinating Council.

2. What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?

“Select Topics from How Are They Managing” is a summary of topical briefs supplementing the report, “How Are They Managing,” which is a longitudinal study that looks at the experiences of those in Cuyahoga County, OH leaving welfare.

“Cuyahoga County Early Care & Education Capacity Report” was released in October of 2006 to determine child care capacity for a universal prekindergarten program sponsored by the Cuyahoga County Invest in Children (IIC) program. This analysis looks explicitly at the system for serving preschool age children in the County and explores how a universal prekindergarten approach might build on the existing service system. This report used family structure data from Census PUMS, population estimates, and information on current availability of childcare from Starting Point data to estimate the supply and demand for child care slots. Using these data, the projected childcare slot demand among 3-5 year olds county-wide could range from a slot surplus of approximately 300 to a slot gap of approximately 6,300.

Presented “Northeast Ohio Community and Neighborhood Data for Organizing (NEO CANDO): Democratizing Information for Change” to the Case Western Reserve University research community at the 2006 Research ShowCase.

http://ora.ra.cwru.edu/showcase/06_SHOWCASE_EVENTPROGRAM.pdf

3. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

Calculating new indicators that identify “at-risk” properties

Foreclosures, flipping, fraudulent and subprime lending, and vacant and abandoned housing are issues that plague neighborhoods within the City of Cleveland and the inner ring suburbs of Cuyahoga County. We propose creating an inventory of market vulnerable properties by crafting new parcel based indicators from combining data from different sources including: sales transfers, mortgage recordings, foreclosure filings, and utility data. Indicators created will center on the abuse of properties and look factors such as the frequency of sheriff sale, the disparity between sales price, market value and recent loan value, and calculate the likelihood that a property could either be or become vacant and abandoned.

4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Please describe.
 - a. Business Patterns – Provided by Dataplace. Includes the addition of Zip Code Tabulation Areas as a new geography to NEO CANDO. In the process of aggregating all administrative data to Zip Code Tabulation areas. IRS data will follow.
 - b. Proficiency Tests for Cleveland Municipal School District – Finally moved the last piece of data from legacy CAN DO system to NEO CANDO.
 - c. New parcel data – To be used in our analysis on foreclosures and subprime lending. Also, will be integrated into NEO CANDO so neighborhood organizations can be informed about vacant and abandoned property in the areas they serve.
 - Foreclosure filings
 - Water shutoffs (abandoned accounts and suspended accounts for nonpayment)
 - Low water usage (someone is paying water bill, but not using water. This could be an clue that a house COULD become abandoned)
 - d. NEO CANDO Online User Group (<mailto:neocandousers@case.edu>)
 - Keeps users up-to-date on new NEO CANDO functionality and data sources
 - Allows users to exchange information on how they use NEO CANDO
 - Allows users to share success stories
 - Serves as a mechanism to provide feedback to NEO CANDO staff
 - Acts as a forum to ask questions to the universe of NEO CANDO users

<http://neocando.case.edu/cando/index.jsp?tPage=usergroup>

Columbus

COMMUNITY RESEARCH PARTNERS (CRP)

December 2006

Key accomplishments

- August 2006 – Hired a new GIS Analyst, David Norris.
- October 2006 – Investing in Workers Conference – included both governor candidates and several other speakers; well attended with over 300 people.
- November 2006 – Completed the migration of DataSource, the Franklin County Community Data System to Avencia, Inc. in Philadelphia as the new host.

Important Reports

- June 2006 – Finished the Columbus/Franklin County Community Action Agency Research Report – a community needs assessment to assist the city/county task force design a new community action agency in Franklin County. The report was included in the task force's submission to the state for CAA designation, and it was so designated in November.
- December 2006 – Columbus Neighborhood Typology Analysis was completed and has been sent to the client (City of Columbus) for final review before publishing to our website. The report uses cluster analysis and discriminant analysis of housing market data to create a useful market typology for Columbus neighborhoods.
- We completed Year 1 of the Community Properties of Ohio evaluation – CPO is a nonprofit property management agency that also provides connections to social services in its communities.

Analysis/Program Efforts

- We are in the process of hiring a Senior Research Associate to focus exclusively on Workforce Development policy issues.
- We have recently finished a research design for an Ohio Vacant Properties Study that will start in January 2007, sponsored by Rebuild Ohio.
- We are in the process of collecting data for a Central Ohio Benchmarking Study. We've selected 14 MSAs to compare Columbus MSA to, and are collecting data on 75+ indicators.
- We will be updating our 2003 Disparities Report for United Way of Central Ohio.
- We have been working on the evaluation of a Teacher Quality Enhancement Program for the Columbus Public School District.
- We have been working on the evaluation of the Rebuilding Lives homelessness program.

- We are working on a new training curriculum to add to our current basics training for DataSource. The new curriculum will focus on grant writers and their use of the data.

New Data

- We acquired data from the Ohio Department of Health on vital statistics (births and deaths data) that will soon be on DataSource.
- We also acquired foreclosures data from the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas through a subscription service with a local legal and business newspaper.

Events

- We are working on a “Data Day” type event for sometime in April. We haven’t laid out the details, yet.

Dallas

FOUNDATION FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

December 2006

1. Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006 (headlines)

In October, we release the 2006 Wholeness Index, which provides a comprehensive, quantitative perspective on quality of life in Dallas. During the same month, we completed a major migration of our Dallas Indicators site from a proprietary, custom system to Dot Net Nuke. Presently, we are working on a data update for our Analyze Dallas site.

2. What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?

At the 2nd Annual Williams Institute Conference in October, we released the Wholeness Index, a quantitative index of disparity in quality of life. This first annual Wholeness Index Report, which reported a “wholeness score” for the City of Dallas that measured the absence of disparity across different neighborhoods. Further, it provided a component score for each of the 12 indicators of quality of life. The report also detailed the concentration of high-performing and low-performing neighborhoods. This initial release will be coupled with the Institutes 2007 policy forums, where best practices research will be released to direct improvement efforts. The Wholeness Index will be replicated annually in Dallas, and is being used by politicians and civic organizations to frame the public policy debate.

3. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

We are currently working closely with the Dallas Foundation to conduct a comprehensive review of early childhood wellbeing in the Dallas area. Specifically, we’re examining indicators of wellbeing across dimensions of health, safety, and economic security, among others, and will be developing a childhood wellbeing index. This report will also include a significant best practices component desired to complement each of the weaknesses and strengths identified in Dallas. In addition to informing the public policy arena, grant making institutions are considering the report as a tool for aligning funded programs with actual need.

4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Please describe.

We have upgraded the Dallas Indicators site by moving it from its original platform (custom-built and hard-coded) to a Dot Net Nuke platform. The Dot Net Nuke platform provides a great deal of customization and flexibility in administering the site as we continue to add new features, without requiring us to constantly go back to our software developers for new code. In addition, we are looking at integrating our Dallas Indicators site (data accompanied by interpretive analysis) with our Analyze Dallas site (data engine) within the next 18 months. The development of interactive mapping capabilities for both systems continues.

5. What upcoming events/activities (with dates) present an opportunity to showcase NNIP?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| January 24 th , 2007 | We have been asked to brief the Community Affairs Vice Presidents from each of the 12 regional Federal Reserve Banks on the wholeness-based approach to understanding quality of life. |
| February 1, 2007 | We have been asked to keynote and MC the North Texas Affordable Housing Coalition Conference, centered on our neighborhood-based approach to modeling wholeness and housing. |
| Early March-April | We will be assisting the Dallas Foundation with the release of their Childhood Wellbeing report, which will present neighborhood-based approaches to assessing and addressing well-being. |

Denver

THE PITON FOUNDATION

December 2006

1. Briefly, what are your key accomplishments from the last year (headlines)

Piton provides data and analysis support for Community Organization's Action Event.

Piton Foundation staff worked closely with Metro Organizations for People (MOP) to develop materials for its community action in November, 2006. Piton helped on two components of the action. Like many urban school districts, Denver Public Schools is facing a budget crisis and is losing membership to suburban school districts and private schools. Residents in low income communities are fearful that their schools may be closed as the district attempts to reorganize. Piton analyzed student performance, choice patterns, and facility capacity and generated graphics to inform attendees about these characteristics in schools around near northeast Denver. Piton also helped to develop and analyze a survey of MOP members around the shortcoming of Colorado's health care system.

Piton prepares for launch of new website.

Over the past 6 months, staff has spent a great deal of time working with developers to meet the requirements and specifications for a complete redesign of our current website. The launch was delayed and is now planned to take place in January, 2007.

2. What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?

The Positive Effects of Early Education on School Readiness.

This report is a first-time study of assessment data from kindergarten students in Denver Public Schools, further corroborating the importance of early education on children's readiness for school.

Key findings include:

- Only 14% of DPS students in the study had the benefit of attending a district preschool program and full-day kindergarten, while 39% participated only in a traditional half-day kindergarten program.
- Participating in a preschool program and full-day kindergarten significantly improved the odds of all children – regardless of income or language – reading at grade level or above when they start first grade.

- For low-income children, attending full-day kindergarten and preschool in DPS increased their odds of reading at grade level to 74%, compared to just a 48% chance if they only attended half-day kindergarten and no preschool.

Metro Denver Earned Income Tax Credits Analysis

This analysis of the Earned Income Tax Credit (Fall 2006) that analyzed data from the IRS from 2000-2003, shows both the overall impact of the credit in Metro Denver as well as an indication of the shift spatial location of where low income workers live.

Key findings include:

- Of all the metro counties, Denver has the largest number and the highest percentage of taxpayers receiving the Earned Income Tax Credit.
- The suburban counties are seeing larger increases than Denver in the percentage of their taxpayers receiving the tax credit.
- In Aurora, the percentage of taxpayers receiving the EITC increased from 13.0% in 2000 to almost 16% in 2003, surpassing the percentage of Denver taxpayers receiving the credit.
- Other cities in the inner suburbs, like Northglenn, Thornton, Westminster and Arvada, are experiencing sizable increases in the percentage of taxpayers receiving the EITC, while Denver's inner-city neighborhoods are seeing less growth, and in some cases, a decrease.

Opening Closed Doors: Lessons from Colorado's First Independent Charter School

This document is the culmination of Augenblick, Palaich & Associates' recent work examining the closure of Cole Middle School in Denver, and the subsequent re-opening of the school as "Cole College Prep" (CCP) – an independent charter school franchised by the KIPP Foundation.

3. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

Current Year, Age Specific Population Estimates. We are working with Denver Public Schools (DPS), The City of County of Denver and a major newspaper to develop neighborhood level, school age population estimates. The model relies on student level dataset geocoded by the place of residence for DPS students and uses a ratio method to estimate the number of children living in the neighborhood who do not attend a DPS school.

Metadata Management System. Piton has worked with a local developer to create a system to collect important characteristics of the datasets used by the foundation. The system allows Piton technical staff to upload file locations, key words / meta-tags, data

dictionaries, external agency contacts, maintenance schedules, confidentiality levels, etc. all in a an easy user interface.

4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Describe.

Data Acquisitions:

Earned Income Tax Credit (zip code level)

Includes, number and amount of total and EITC returns, as well as numerous other variables.

Denver Public Schools facility data

Includes level of capacity, building condition, and cost of operations.

Foreclosures

Point in time analysis from the City and County of Denver.

Web Site Improvements

A completely redesigned site will be launched by the end of January 2007.

Major improvements include:

- A fresh graphic design
- New data retrieval tool for neighborhood and school level data
- A flash based mapping application
- An online data request system to allow users to inquire for more information

5. What new connections/contacts with other organizations have you made that might interest other partners?

Rocky Mountain News. Piton is working closely with education reporters to develop data and analysis for an upcoming major story.

Denver Public Schools. While Piton has had a long standing relationship with the district we are now providing direct technical analysis support. Over the past six months, Piton has worked with the district to develop a modeling framework as it considers tough school facility closing decisions. In addition, Piton staff has been asked to review the district's forecasting methods

Denver Social Networks. Piton is a member of a local partnership working to adopt social network practices to improve the lives of low income residents in Denver. Partners include local TANF contractors, as well as two post-secondary education institutions (Emily Griffith Opportunity School and Community College of Denver)

Piton Strengthening Communities Program Redesign. Formerly known as Strengthening Neighborhoods, The Piton Foundation's Strengthening Communities program is now approaching its work differently. One component of the redesign involves a more intense focus on developing stronger relationships with community organizations. These organizations will likely include Metro Organizations for People, 9 to 5, Padres Unidos, and the Front Range Economic Strategy Center (FRESC)

6. What upcoming events/activities (with dates) present an opportunity to showcase NNIP?

We hope to present our new indicator site and mapping application at the Community Indicator Conference in the Fall 07

-

Des Moines

CHILD AND FAMILY POLICY CENTER

December 2006

1. Accomplishments Since April, 2006

CFPC has conducted substantial work on the Making Connections cross-site survey regarding its data on young children.

CFPC has produced a revised draft of the NNIP/SECPTAN publication on neighborhood analysis of early childhood and school readiness data.

CFPC has produced a report for Des Moines Making Connections on early elementary attendance and is supporting Hedy Chang and her work with the Annie E. Casey Foundation on addressing early elementary attendance problems.

2. Important Reports and Data Presentations

CFPC has completed two new SECPTAN publications – *Beyond Parallel Play* (local governance in supporting school readiness) and *Village Building and School Readiness* (community building strategies in supporting school readiness).

CFPC has completed an Early Elementary School Attendance report that provides neighborhood-level analysis on this streamlined indicator for Making Connections.

CFPC has completed a report on preschool programs in Polk County that provide a comprehensive picture of publicly-funded preschool programs and their funding across five different funding sources.

3. Current Analytic Work

CFPC continues to concentrate on early childhood and school readiness analyses. CFPC is doing work in mapping a variety of early childhood programs and services and their funding sources and amounts, including: home visiting and family support programs, care coordination services under health programs, and child care services.

4. New Data or System Improvements

None

5. Upcoming Events and Activities

CFPC is ready to work with the Urban Institute to schedule a meeting with potential funders on neighborhood-level analyses of early childhood and school readiness issues. CFPC is participating in a Casey Foundation planning meeting in January regarding Making Connections CHAPSS (children healthy and prepared for success in school) and will share the NNIP neighborhood-level analysis work at the meeting.

Hartford

HARTFORD INFO, HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY
December 2006

1. Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006 (headlines)

Acquired and made available new data from variety of sources

Continued to build other content on site (documents, news articles, summaries of City Council meetings)

Worked with city councilman on series of public programs on key issues

Participated in city/region strategic planning project "Hartford 2010"

Added streaming video and audio of public programs to site

Formed a partnership with City IT department to achieve interactive mapping next year

Launched community indicators pilot project

2. What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?

Offered public programs supported by data and information available on our site. Program topics include:

Workforce development

Property taxes

State funding for education

A major water district project in the region

Programs related to a large landfill in Hartford

3. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Please describe.

Acquired and made accessible data from Hartford Public Schools, Hartford Police Department, State Department of Children and Families, State Department of Social Services

Improvements to web site include enhanced searching capabilities

5. What upcoming events/activities (with dates) present an opportunity to showcase NNIP?

We will have at least two public programs in the spring – not yet planned. We always include brief description of NNIP in the program.

Memphis

MEMPHIS CBANA-INFOWORKS

December 2006

1. Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006 (headlines)

CBANA-InfoWorks Memphis (Brookings Urban Markets Initiative) Property Transaction Database fully implemented. First cycle of data collection in four Memphis neighborhoods completed for 2006. Includes all sales, property transfers, purchase home equity, and refinancing loans and other transactions in detailed chain of title and descriptive database.

CBANA-InfoWorks' Phyllis Betts chairs Tennessee-Shelby County Infant Mortality Initiative Data Committee. Designs neighborhood-level data collection strategy; SUDS to host neighborhood database.

- Emphasis on neighborhood level analysis to drive interventions for infant mortality and pre-conception health among high-risk population; community and neighborhood indicators will undergird this strategy. Governor's office facilitating access to zip/address level health data.

C3R-InfoWorks' Richard Janikowski, using parcel-level analysis to track crime patterns, works with Memphis Police Department Blue CRUSH (Crime Reduction Using Statistical History) initiative to reduce crime in second half of 2006 by 20%.

- Blue Crush links with community groups to explain the strategy, reduce fear, and encourage appropriate kinds of citizen input.

2. What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?

An Analysis of 2004 Home Mortgage Disclosure Act Data and the Impact of Lending and Foreclosure on Memphis Neighborhoods; with Community Development Council of Greater Memphis. June 2006. www.memhiscommunitydevelopment.com

- Presentations for community development corporations, mortgage bankers, City of Memphis Division of Housing and Community Development, and Shelby County Anti-Predatory Lending Coalition.

The State of Children in Memphis and Shelby County: A Reference Guide Compiled by The Urban Child Institute (Phyllis Betts, CO-PI). (Includes extensive neighborhood-level data and analysis (based in part on Charlie Bruner's census-tract level early childhood risk factor database.) July 2006. www.theurbanchildinstitute.org

- Ongoing monthly discussions with selected groups of stakeholders

Creating and Implementing Strategic Law Enforcement Partnerships for Problem Places. (Based on parcel-level analysis of problem properties and work done in conjunction with the Problem Properties Collaborative and the Memphis Police Department Blue CRUSH initiative.) LISC Conference on Commercial Development. Miami. November 2006.

Neighborhood Housing Markets and the Memphis Model: Linking Information to Neighborhood Action in Memphis, Tennessee. Metropolitan Policy Program. The Brookings Institution. November 2006. www.brookings.edu/metro

HOPE VI Dixie Homes Baseline Report. (Includes extensive neighborhood level analysis, based on detailed, parcel level housing and crime data (among other neighborhood-level indicators.) December 2006.

<https://umdrive.memphis.edu/leharri/public/DixieHomesHOPEVIEvaluationBaseline2006.pdf>

- Findings from this and other HOPE VI reports presented to government agencies and non-profits interested in workforce development and neighborhood revitalization.

3. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

Neighborhood-level analysis of infant mortality and precursors. In conjunction with Tennessee-Shelby County Infant Mortality Initiative.

Exploring neighborhood-level database partnership with Tennessee State Department of Children's Services.

Neighborhood-level analysis of bankruptcy, credit, and other household financial data. Exploring partnership with Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis/Memphis branch to share, access, and collect data. Bankruptcy survey (with the RISE Foundation and the Memphis DEBTS Collaborative, n = 1000) implemented in federal court; data collection nearing completion.

4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Please describe.

Address level birth data in conjunction with Infant Mortality Initiative. In the process of acquiring detailed birth outcomes data as well address-level death certificate data (for all age groups, with implications for other health indicators.)

5. What upcoming events/activities (with dates) present an opportunity to showcase NNIP?

Fall 2007 regional data conference under consideration.

Milwaukee

NONPROFIT CENTER MILWAUKEE

December 2006

1. Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006 (headlines)

During 2006, the Nonprofit Center served 69 unique agencies and completed approximately 174 projects ranging from a simple demographic request to a complex market study and comprehensive neighborhood profile. Over 370 hours of service were provided to Community Development Block Grant funded organizations through a contingency account established by the Block Grant Administration. The Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee's Data Center Program could not have accomplished this work and more without the assistance of 11 interns who volunteered over 1577 hours to assist in the completion of these projects.

This fall we have been building a comprehensive new website for the Making Connections Milwaukee initiative. The site will contain program, staff, data and educational materials of value to residents. The site is being built using “WIKI” technology to make it easier for others to add content to the pages.

Analysis of housing market trends included a detailed assessment of the pace of change and its effects on residents. Some parts of Milwaukee are experiencing “gentrification” – common elsewhere but new to a “weak market” city such as Milwaukee. Of additional interest are neighborhoods where the values are still low, but the relative increase in value is still affecting those who were spending a high proportion of their income on housing. (Very recent trends are different, and give Milwaukee time to address program and policy options.)

We completed a detailed analysis of likely population changes and how they might guide the Milwaukee Boys and Girls Club in locating new sites for large or small program extension. Spatial analysis of current participation patterns and population estimates led to maps showing concentrations of underserved youth.

2. What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?

Workshops presented within the Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee's Training Series:

May –Creating Effective Visuals for Your Presentations

June – Creating Effective Databases for Your Organization

August – Gentrification in Milwaukee: Recognizing the Positive While Addressing the Negative Impact

August – Integrating Your Website Into Your Organization’s Communication Strategy

November – Make Your Own Maps: A Guide to Internet and Desktop Programs Your Organization Can Use

November – Affording and Maintaining Home Ownership in Rising Housing Markets

Making Connections Milwaukee Documentary Film – Eyes on the Prize: A Milwaukee Project – Data Center Staff Featured in Interview presenting demographics data

Attended the following meetings and conferences: ESRI User Conference, Urban Affairs Association, International Fair Credit Conference - Brussels

Presentations:

“An Overview of the American Community Survey”, April 2006, Urban Affairs Association. (A pessimistic perspective of the long term value of the survey for neighborhood analysis or impact evaluation.)

-GIS Day presentations in Milwaukee

-Presentation to a Making Connections Milwaukee Civic Forum on Re-entry

3. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

Gentrification Analysis and Housing Studies

The Data Center has developed several models for calculating potential Equity Growth among participants in Home Buyer Counseling Agency Programs. The models use both market trend and mortgage term data.

HMDA – The Data Center will soon be starting a statewide analysis for the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA) of minority lending patterns using data from HMDA and WHEDA’s own lending data.

4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Please describe.

The Data Center will soon have complete hands-on access to the Birth Records (from 1992) for the City of Milwaukee. That will allow us to do spatial analysis mapping and more detailed indicator development.

Several Home Buyer / Credit counseling agencies in Milwaukee are now sharing loan and client counseling data with us.

5. What upcoming events/activities (with dates) present an opportunity to showcase NNIP?

Presenting a Spatial Analyst Workshop for the NIJ Crime Mapping Conference in March.

Presenting a neighborhood case analysis of the Hmong-American community in Milwaukee to the Urban Affairs Association in April.

NIJ Crime Mapping Conference (Spatial Analyst Workshop), Urban Affairs Association Conference (Hmong Community Patterns)

Nashville

NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCE CENTER

December 2006

1. *Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006 (headlines)*

NRC Continues to Organize Neighborhoods in Davidson County

We currently provide extensive support to over a dozen neighborhood organizations, including: Nolensville Road Community Partnership, Neighbors Reaching Out, Robertson-Urbandale-Nations Neighborhood Association, South Nashville Action People, Trimble Action Group, Organized Neighbors of Edgehill, Cleveland Park Neighborhood Association, Glenciff Neighborhood Association, Rayon City Neighbors, Antioch Revitalization Team, and others.

NRC Provides Information for Nashville Neighborhoods to Take Action

Over the course of the past twelve months, Neighborhoods Resource Center has fulfilled 21 requests for maps, statistics, and neighborhood-level information for various local non-profit agencies, and 17 additional requests for local neighborhood organizations. We have completely updated our website, adding links to sample maps and reports that are recently created. (see http://www.tnrc.net/information/sample_maps.htm)

Neighborhoods Resource Center completely restructured the GettingToWork.Net website, adding interactive web mapping technology. The site was created to help Nashville residents find job opportunities, transportation, social service providers, etc. near the places where they live, work, and play. Users can now dynamically display important geographic data, such as the locations of bus routes, daycare providers, schools, churches, job training centers, health clinics, grocery stores, etc.

In September 2006, Neighborhoods Resource Center was honored by the US Department of Commerce and the US Census Bureau to serve as one of 58 federal Census Information Centers in the nation. As a CIC agency, NRC will serve as a repository of census data and reports, making more information available to underserved communities in and around Nashville.

NRC Provides the Training Nashville Residents Need to Take Action

Since April 2006, Neighborhoods Resource Center has sponsored a dozen leadership training events, focused on a variety of topics. Here are some of the events we've led:

- **Leadership Training 101: Basic Training**
- **Making the Media Work for Your Neighborhood**
- **Holding an Election Forum**
- **Getting to Know Stakeholders in Your Neighborhood**
- **Understanding the Metro Codes Department**
- **The Future of Neighborhoods Summit**
- **Habitat for Humanity Homeownership Training**

2. *What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?*

Here are a few examples of the work we've provided to Nashville neighborhoods since April 2006:

Maps to Foster Communication with Stakeholders – Organized Neighbors of Edgehill

Frequently, the Organized Neighbors of Edgehill (ONE) hold meetings with police officers and decision makers to talk about criminal activities in the Edgehill area. Last spring, ONE requested four large crime density maps that depict various violent crimes (e.g. assaults, sex offenses, homicides, and kidnappings). ONE used the maps at a meeting between residents and the police, with a goal of making the neighborhood a safer place to live.

In a follow-up evaluation, Arlene Lane (the individual who requested the information) reported that “the maps were great! We used them at a police meeting attended by 70 people including Chief Serpas and several other high ranking police officials...The residents felt that the maps were very helpful and gave them insight into not only where the deepest concentration of crime occurred, but also the different types of crime that occurred.”

Information to Start a New Neighborhood Organization – Woodbine Neighbors

Woodbine Neighbors is a newly-formed neighborhood group in South-Central Davidson County. The group approached NRC to help them define neighborhood boundaries.

The maps we created helped the group get organized for some of their first meetings. In October, Woodbine Neighbors was one of a select number of organizations chosen to participate in a mayor-sponsored public square dedication marking Nashville's 200th year as a city.

Information to Help Secure Grant Funding – St Luke's Community House

NRC mapped out the locations of senior citizens involved in various St Luke's programs (Mobile Meals, Adopt-a-Family, Commodities Delivery, etc.). The information we provided was included in a federal grant proposal that would allow St Luke's to purchase a handicapped-accessible passenger van for providing transportation to disabled residents, and other individuals in poor health.

Recently, St Luke's was awarded the \$40,000 grant, and staff members are currently working out details regarding van purchase, maintenance, and fundraising for the required 10% match.

Information to Encourage Neighborhood Investment – Trimble Action Group

NRC provided detailed land use maps and information to the Trimble Action Group—an organization that represents a South Nashville neighborhood that suffers from an overabundance of vacant land and rental properties.

The information we provided helped neighborhood leaders identify dilapidated properties and isolate individuals who own multiple properties that consistently remain in substandard conditions.

TAG is using this information in meetings with affordable housing developers and various city officials as the group works toward redevelopment of the area. For instance, TAG is holding monthly meetings with representatives from the Nashville Housing Fund to discuss the issue of neighborhood redevelopment.

3. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

We recently added interactive mapping technology to www.gettingtowork.net (a website designed and maintained by NRC), and are currently tweaking the site, trying to minimize the amount of lag between user refreshes. We hope to create a method by which users can input their home address to immediately zoom to the neighborhood where they reside.

4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Describe.

New Data - We've added several new datasets to our directory of GIS data, including: Grocery Stores / Retail Variety Stores (Source: American Business Directory); Public Health Clinics (from various online listings); FDIC-Insured Institutions (Source: www.fdic.gov); and United States Post Offices (Source: www.usps.gov); various datasets from the US Census Bureau.

Web Improvements - We completely redesigned www.gettingtowork.net, a website developed to help Nashville residents find job opportunities, transportation, social service providers, etc. near their homes and workplaces.

We integrated MapServer technology into the website, creating an interactive map interface that allows users to zoom to an area of interest, and view businesses / facilities of interest, including, but not limited to, Job Training Centers, Licensed Child Care Facilities, Public Schools, Public Libraries, Public Housing Complexes, Public Health Clinics, Post Offices, and Grocery Stores.

5. What new connections/contacts with other organizations have you made that might interest other partners?

In September 2006, the United States Census Bureau designated the Neighborhoods Resource Center as one of 60 Census Information Centers in the country. As an official repository of Census Bureau Data, we receive a wide variety of data products, as well as technical expertise provided by US Census Bureau staff. With this new designation, Neighborhoods Resource Center is able to further our mission of serving low- and moderate-income, resident-led neighborhood organizations in Nashville and Davidson County.

6. What upcoming events/activities (with dates) present an opportunity to showcase NNIP?

We often mention our membership with NNIP at meetings and leadership training events when we discuss Information Services with local non-profit organizations and neighborhood groups. Furthermore, we've highlighted our NNIP affiliation in grant applications, and in the reports we send to funders. In the future, we'll continue to mention our affiliation with NNIP, as it's a distinction we're extremely proud of.

New Orleans

GREATER NEW ORLEANS COMMUNITY DATA CENTER

December 2006

1. Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006 (headlines)
 - Published monthly (or more frequent) updated maps of child care facilities, afterschool programs, hospitals, clinics, and public schools.
 - New demographic estimates released in October had significant limitations in their analysis, in particular the comparative data for pre- and post-Katrina. As a result, we quickly performed our own analysis, consulting with experts at the Census and CDC, as well as the data professionals involved in creating the estimates at the state and local levels, and published our first “just in time” learning materials since the storm, on the subject of comparing these new numbers to the right reference numbers (“apples to apples”). This went out as an e-newsletter. Additionally, we created an informational page on gnocdc.org right next to the links to the estimate data, entitled “What numbers can I compare these with?” for web visitors at large. The “apples to apples” concept addressed in these learning materials influenced the entire community’s interpretation of these recent population estimates. It was incorporated into analyses published by the Louisiana Recovery Authority (which is responsible for disseminating the \$10.4 billion in CDBG funding that Louisiana has received from the federal government, the Unified New Orleans Planning commission, the Times Picayune and the creators of the estimates themselves – the Louisiana Public Health Institute.

2. What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?
 - Presented at the regional conference of the Association of Fundraising Professionals: June 6th “Using Data for More Effective Proposals” -- an overview of currently available population and demographic estimates, housing damage information, fair market rent data, mental health projections, resource data, as well as illustrations of how and when to use client data to demonstrate need in a post-disaster context.
 - Presentation for Boggs Center/Literacy Alliance strategic planning session: July 26th “New Orleans Demographics Post-Katrina”
 - Presentation at Joint Statistical Conference in Seattle: Aug 9th “Local Data Coordination and Dissemination in Post-Katrina New Orleans”
 - Presentation for LA Department of Health and Hospitals annual conference: Aug 31st “Data Dissemination in Post-Katrina New Orleans”

- Presentation for Public/Private Ventures: Sept 15th “Capacity of the nonprofit sector in post-Katrina New Orleans”
- Specialized consulting for the Brookings Institution to support their development of the document: “Building a Better New Orleans: A Review of and Plan for Progress One Year after Hurricane Katrina”
- Specialized consulting for the Louisiana Health Care Redesign Collaborative to support their use of population estimates to inform health care planning and systems redesign.

3. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

Given the dramatic change in demographics, resources (day care centers, schools, etc.) from pre-Katrina to post-Katrina, compounded by the unprecedented rate of ongoing change in the population and the available resources, all data with more than a few months lag time to publication are essentially useless.

With this in mind we have worked with a variety of demographic estimators who are using admittedly “creative” methods to produce timely population and demographic estimates. We have assisted commercial and governmental estimators by identifying limitations in their modeling inputs. And recently have begun brokering a relationship between the local business sector and the health sector which has developed the capacity to produce real-time population and demographic estimates based on sample surveys, to fund these such surveying efforts on a quarterly bases in the hurricane-affected parishes.

We have worked with nonprofit partners (providing them with substantial technical assistance and coaching) to develop systems for gathering real time information on day care centers, hospitals, clinics, schools and afterschool programs.

We developed a new design element for our resource maps with a “Best Used By...” date on each map, and then a referral to gnocdc.org for the newest version. Behind the scenes, we created a protocol for updating the maps efficiently by the expiration date – and set different expiration date intervals for data with different volatilities. For example, child care centers are opening up slowly, and therefore only require a monthly update, but open schools were changing rapidly, so we update them weekly.

4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Please describe.

We “mothballed” the 1,000 pre-Katrina web pages. Our objective was to ensure that the pages were still an accessible, functional archive, but one that requires no maintenance and is designed to clearly denote the content’s archival status. We researched best practices in academic web design and web journalism, but found no precedent for this type of project.

Therefore, we had to create design and navigation standards de novo. We developed a method within our pre-Katrina template-based page creator infrastructure to apply the mothball design and navigation to the pre-Katrina data. For pages outside the page creator system that contain more custom content (such as the 73 neighborhood snapshots) we have developed a method for performing successive batch search-and-replaces to mothball that content.

We moved the “Storm Impact Data” off of the home page (since this content, although frequently accessed still, is more relevant to audiences such as researchers and students who are not part of our primary audience). Additionally, we have been diligent to remove content as it becomes no longer relevant (such as population estimates from the State that bridged the gap before the official demographic estimates were released). And, we added a link to the newly-produced annotated collection of research relevant to post-Katrina nonprofit planning created by the Urban Institute.

We’ve been making incremental progress toward a web site “refresh” – knowing that the pre-Katrina design was not serving us as well as it needs to, and in particular that the information architecture has grown less usable over time since the storm. We will launch the new design in January and it will coincide with our new publishing partnership of the Katrina Index with The Brookings Institution. The redesign focuses on improving the usability and access to our materials. The new design also brings a new level of professionalism and credibility to the Data Center web site at a critical time when we need to maintain our position as the neutral, trusted local data intermediary.

Philadelphia

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND URBAN STUDIES
December 2006

1. Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006 (headlines)

MPIP has been awarded a 2 year continuation grant from the William Penn Foundation, stressing 1) and expanded, interactive web-site; 2) a limited set of annual indicators that focus on trend lines within each indicator area; 3) periodic, topical "mini-reports" released through e-announcements and on the project web-site; and 4) intensive work with civic partners to develop actionable research in the areas of economic development, education, youth, and balanced development.

2. What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?

"Where We Stand: Community Indicators for Metropolitan Philadelphia, 2006"

3. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

- Cleaning and assessing ES-202 data for employment and industry analyses for the regions
- Analysis of ACS and building permit data to examine multi-family residential development in suburban communities
- Regional assessment of standardized school testing performance

4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Please describe.

We have just begun a major revamping of the project web-site to facilitate mapping on demand, and customized data download capacities (with Avencia, Inc.)

5. What upcoming events/activities (with dates) present an opportunity to showcase NNIP?

We are working toward a spring 2007 roll-out of the new web-site, which will feature a more explicit link to NNIP.

Providence

THE PROVIDENCE PLAN

December 2006

1. Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006 (headlines)

Linking statewide education, health, and housing datasets by address/plat-lot; Creating student mobility metrics for schools and districts statewide; Studying correlations between student level assessments and student mobility; Studying relationship of GED attainment and wage outcomes; Supplying data and maps to Planning Department for comprehensive plan update; Forming new data relationship with R.I. Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF); Formalizing permanent data sharing agreement with Providence School Department

2. What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?

Two presentations at the CDC's Community Health Assessment Initiative Conference in Atlanta- one on ProvPlan's guiding principles around neighborhood and finer-level analysis and web distribution, the other on the Ready to Learn Providence indicator development process; Presentation of data tools to new Americorps members working in Providence community health centers; New Roots Providence training of 40 community and faith-based organizations in use of data and tools toward their organizations goals; National CityMatch Conference – examples of how data informs programmatic initiatives and impacts local health policy; Presentation of initial student mobility research findings to Governor's Education Advisor.

3. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

Establishing formal relationship and data sharing agreement with R.I. Department of Human Services to access Family Independence Program, Licensed Child Care Providers, and other data on a regular basis; Feinstein High School GIS Workshop; Statewide teen birth analysis; Building partnerships with Brown University School of Public Health and Rhode Island Hospital to develop neighborhood health indicators; Expanding partnership with Department of Health to include Initiative for Healthy Weight goals to map nutrition and physical activity indicators; Providence Police Department's Crime Mapper (Google

Mashup); KML layers for Providence neighborhoods, buildings, etc. (Google Earth compatible)

4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Please describe.

Fall 2005 student level assessment data for all public schools in Rhode Island; Lead poisoning data by address for all of Rhode Island; Housing certificates of conformance for Rhode Island; Subsidized low/moderate housing statewide with address, funding type, unit count, etc.; Crossroads Rhode Island's extensive list of community organizations; 3-inch resolution aerials and planimetric data for Providence; IRS summary tables/ Census microdata; EDC Statewide Mapping Application – additional municipalities, updated business data, user friendly improvements; Providence Neighborhood Mapper – blockgroup mapping layers for Maternal Risk Indicators and 2005 tax roll data; New servers, remote back-up; Redesign of virtual data warehouse

5. What upcoming events/activities (with dates) present an opportunity to showcase NNIP?

Nothing to report at this time.

Sacramento

COMMUNITY SERVICES PLANNING COUNCIL

December 2006

1. Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006 (headlines)

1) The **Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness** was unanimously approved by both the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors and the Sacramento City Council on September 26, 2006. CSPC provided research and project management to develop the plan. (Media advisory attached.)

<http://www.communitycouncil.org/level-3/homeless-plan.html>

2) **2006 Sacramento County Children’s Report Card**

The *2006 Sacramento County Children’s Report Card* presents findings for 43 indicators in five result areas: economics, education, health, safety, and social and emotional well-being—and a section on demographics. For the 2006 *Children’s Report Card*, we returned to the citizens of Sacramento County to ask their assistance in creating and updating this living community document. In the fall of 2005 more than 500 individuals, 36 percent of whom were youth under the age of 24, provided input on the relevance and importance of the indicators and identified additional key issues for possible inclusion. This input was gathered through a series of twenty-nine meetings in various neighborhoods that recognized the diversity in our county.

In response to the community input gathered, this report contains five new indicators:

- Nutrition and Fitness
- Youth Development Assets
- Community Safety
- Access to Technology
- Special Needs

Also, some indicators were combined, for example two of the indicators in the Education section, School Enrollment and Children Who are Not in School, became a single indicator this year called School Enrollment and Attendance. The reader will also notice the word “youth” included in the vision statement and used more throughout the report card in recognition of the youth development movement in Sacramento County.

For the 2006 *Children's Report Card*, more than 100 community members participated in the steering committee and the five subcommittees over the past year, contributing more than 800 hours of their time. The photos included in the report card were provided by numerous community organizations and reflect the children and young people who live in Sacramento County.

http://www.communitycouncil.org/level-3/2006_ReportCard10-04-06.pdf

2. What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?

1) **2006 Sacramento County Children's Report Card** (see above.)

http://www.communitycouncil.org/level-3/2006_ReportCard10-04-06.pdf

2) **Sacramento County Snapshot** – Presentation of Maps and charts compiled for the Sacramento County at the sub-county (ZIP Code) level. Includes information on language, education level, income and poverty, public assistance, and health & safety.

3) **Resources for Community Assessment** – Training on how to do a community assessment.

3. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

1) **Capital Region Healthy Futures Project** – Working with government, private, and non-profit leaders to conduct a Nine-County Community Assessment.

2) **Seniors and Housing** – Sacramento County.

4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Please describe.

We work with a wide range of public data sets. No system or web site improvements yet, but hope to make some changes in 2007.

Seattle

PUBLIC HEALTH, SEATTLE & KING COUNTY

December 2006

1. Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006 (headlines)

Reports spur increased concern about Health Disparities:

Increased concern about persistent health disparities among local policymakers based on Health of King County and Communities Count reports has spurred heightened interest in developing policies to eliminate health disparities from the King County Board of Health. The Board requested a report on evidence-based approaches to eliminate health disparities. (See #3 for more detail) <http://www.metrokc.gov/health/hokc>
<http://www.communitiescount.org/>

School readiness a Washington State priority: Measuring School Readiness at the Community Level:

Public Health - Seattle & King County and the United Way of King County continued to support community engagement in neighborhoods in the Highline School District neighborhoods (Making Connections White Center district) in response to school readiness data. Presentations and discussion were provided with the Making Connections Trusted Advocates/CHAPPS group. Also, with the assistance of Para Los Ninos, school readiness presentation/discussions were conducted with 4 Latino parent groups. The EDI has gained visibility through a presentation to the Washington Early Learning Council and support from the Gates Foundation.

2. What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?

Over 40 presentations on Communities Count 2005 occurred throughout 2006. Notably, the City of Seattle briefings and discussions focused on persistent inequities by income, race and education and helped to inform the City of Seattle Race and Social Justice Initiative sponsored by the Mayor.

The Burien City received a presentation about school readiness in Burien that was influential in the Council budgeting \$50,000 to address school readiness.

With the assistance of a King County Council member, highlights of Health of King County were presented at city council meetings of five suburban cities in South King

County. The South County Human Service Forum, which was organized to support the effective delivery of human services in this area, cited the report in promoting the Earned Income Tax Credit, a plan to end homelessness, early childhood interventions, a school-based domestic violence curriculum and physical activity (e.g., assembling an inventory and creating maps of trails, paths and walking areas).

1. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

Health disparities: A committee of community-based organizations, public clinics, policymakers and PHSKC staff will make recommendations in early 2007 informed by a literature review focusing on diabetes, asthma and obesity. This report will receive attention and potential funding and prioritization by policymakers and county elected officials and decision-makers.

Early Childhood development: Over the next 10 years, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will partner with other public and private entities through [Thrive by Five: The Washington Early Learning Fund](#) to help all Washington families' access affordable, quality early learning for their children. White Center is one of two Early Learning Initiative community-wide intervention projects in Washington State. PHSKC has provided data and evaluation technical assistance for this initiative and will have a continuing role in the initiative.

Arts and Culture indicators: Continued work to integrate arts and culture indicators in quality-of-life assessments using the framework developed by the Arts and Culture Indicators Project. Over the next six months, we will explore what data are available on the existence of ethnic and cultural heritage organizations in Seattle, Bellevue and the 37 suburban cities in King County, what policies are in place in cities that support arts and culture presence and whether policies linked investments with enhanced neighborhood vitality in King County communities, especially moderate and low-income communities.

PSHKC formed the Vulnerable Populations Action Team (VPAT) to coordinate countywide public health preparedness efforts with a wide variety of community partners. The goal of this effort is to ensure that pandemic planning (preparedness, response, recovery) incorporates Vulnerable Populations. VPAT has identified population segments considered especially at risk during public health emergencies and conducted a GIS assessment utilizing existing data regarding vulnerable populations gathered from 18 agencies, including King County Metro and Seattle School District. Sixteen maps were prepared identifying key geographic areas and concentrations of vulnerable populations. The maps were utilized recently by VPAT to target carbon monoxide poisoning prevention messaging in response to a wind storm and subsequent

widespread power outage. The maps helped to identify needed areas for outreach to limited English proficiency communities and ethnic media.

4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Please describe.

VistaPHw, a nationally recognized web-base data analysis system developed and updated at PHSKC has added automated mapping and chart production functions. These enhancements allow users to produce maps where color, breaks, labeling and titles are customized; and charts which allow the user to specify technical attributes (e.g., confidence intervals or not), different types (e.g., line, bar and column), colors and labels. The charts and maps are driven by real-time data analyses. These products can be saved for later use or sent to Excel and other programs for inclusion into presentations and reports.

We have updated VistaPHw with county- and state-level data from across the U.S. Users with local data can compare their area with their county, other counties, states or the U.S. as a whole. National data include birth risk factors, causes of death and infant mortality.

5. What upcoming events/activities (with dates) present an opportunity to showcase NNIP?

Suggest showing uses of HMDA and parcel-level data to other local health jurisdictions in Washington state at a Regional Assessment meeting run by the Washington State Department of Health.

Washington D.C.

NEIGHBORHOODINFO DC (THE URBAN INSTITUTE AND THE DC LOCAL INITIATIVES SUPPORT CORPORATION)

December 2006

1. Briefly, what are your key accomplishments since April 2006 (headlines)

Published first two issues of new quarterly *District of Columbia Housing Monitor* series.

Released new *Housing in the Nation's Capital* report examining the relationship between housing, schools, and population changes.

Published new brief on food stamps and access to supermarkets in D.C.

2. What important reports have you produced? What important data presentations have you delivered?

NeighborhoodInfo DC data have contributed to the following reports:

Housing in the Nation's Capital 2006

Every Kid Counts in the District of Columbia, 13th Annual Fact Book 2006

District of Columbia Housing Monitor, Spring 2006 and Summer 2006

Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice in the District of Columbia (released 2006)

Food Stamp Participation and Market Access in the District of Columbia

3. What new analysis/program efforts are you working on?

The most significant new effort is the role NeighborhoodInfo DC is playing in monitoring the housing market in Washington, D.C. We have compiled data on housing market trends in neighborhoods throughout the city and are tracking the status of federally-subsidized housing projects (such as Section 8 housing). This information is instrumental in helping local organizations work with tenants and housing providers to maintain the District's supply of affordable housing. As a result of these efforts, NeighborhoodInfo DC is being recommended to the incoming Fenty administration as a key partner in monitoring the city's progress towards attaining the affordable housing goals set forth by the new mayor.

A second significant set of new partnerships is with the D.C. Public Schools, the D.C. Public Charter School Board, and the State Education Office. NeighborhoodInfo DC is working closely with these entities to assess and monitor the status of public education in the District of Columbia. The initial product from these collaborations was the latest *Housing in the Nation's Capital* report, which focused on the relationship between housing, schools, and population growth in the city. Ongoing efforts are examining issues such as student mobility and determinants of student performance.

We have been recently awarded a three-year grant from the World Bank to work directly with nonprofit organizations in Ward 7 to help them evaluate the impacts of their work with high school students. NeighborhoodInfo DC data will play a key part in developing the community-based assessment component of the evaluation.

4. Have you acquired new data (other than routine updates)? Have you completed any notable system or web site improvements? Please describe.

We have acquired new data on students in public and public charter schools, including residential addresses.

We are also working with the Fannie Mae Foundation to develop a cobranded DataPlace web site for Washington, D.C. The new cobranded site will include both national DataPlace data and local data from NeighborhoodInfo DC.

5. What upcoming events/activities (with dates) present an opportunity to showcase NNIP?

The next Housing Monitor Forum will be held Jan. 30, Feb. 1, or Feb. 2.