Helping Neighborhoods Find and Use Small Area Data
to Inform Crime Reduction

Community Service Provider Reviews:
Then and Now

Data is information about people's lives

How do we make meaning in data?
How do you interpret what you see?
Where do you see your own story in the data?

Survey Results

33 Respondents

55%	Community-based organizations
27%	Residents
9%	City or County employees
9%	Other

Data already being used

45%	City of Milwaukee Housing and Property
45%	City of Milwaukee Maps
41%	City of Milwaukee Public Safety
33%	City of Milwaukee City Services
33%	Other
16%	City of Milwaukee Elections and Campaigns

Neighborhood Represented:

Amani: 2	Lindsay Heights
Burnham Park	Metcalfe Park
Citywide: 5	MPD Districts 2, 4, 7
Clarke Square: 2	Milwaukee Southside
Sherman Park	Near Southside
Garden Homes	Park West
Harambee	Riverwest
Havenwoods	Silver City: 2
Hillside	Thurston Woods
Layton Blvd	Walnut Hill
Layton Park	West Hope
	53210

Top Partners

Artists Working in Education
Block Watch Captains in Grasslyn Manor
Boys & Girls Club
Building Neighborhood Capacity Program
Bureau of Prisons
Center Street Library
Children's Outing Association Goldin Center
Children's Hospital Health Navigators
City of Milwaukee Attorney's Office
City of Milwaukee Municipal Court
City of Milwaukee Office of Violence Prevention
Clarke Square Neighborhood Initiative - 2
Department of Neighborhood Services - 2
Department of Public Works
District Block Watch Council
Dominican Center
DYFS Community Advocates
Greater Milwaukee Committee
Greater Milwaukee Foundation
Greater Praise Church of God in Christ
Harambee Neighborhood Improvement District
Havenwood Center
Layton Blvd West Neighborhood
Lighthouse Church
LISC - 4
Longfellow School Mujeres Con Poder
Marquette University
MATC
Medical College of Wisconsin - 2
Metcalfe Park Community Bridges
Middle Ground
Milwaukee County Behavioral Health - 2

Milwaukee County Circuit Court
Milwaukee County DA's Office - 2
Milwaukee County District Attorney - 2
Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force
Milwaukee Police Department - 12
Milwaukee Public Schools
MIRACLE Network at Progressive Baptist Church
NAACP
Next Door
Northwestern Mutual
Riverworks Business Improvement District
Running Rebels
Safe & Sound - 5
Scale Up Milwaukee
Sherman Park Citizens Patrol
Sherman Park Community Association
Silver Spring Center
Social Development Commission - 2
Sojourner Family Peace Center - 2
Southside Organize Committee - 2
SPCA
U.S. Marshals
U.S. Probation
United Methodist Children Services (Washington Park, Sherman Park)
Washington Park Partners
WAVE
Wisconsin Department of Corrections Probation/Parole - 2
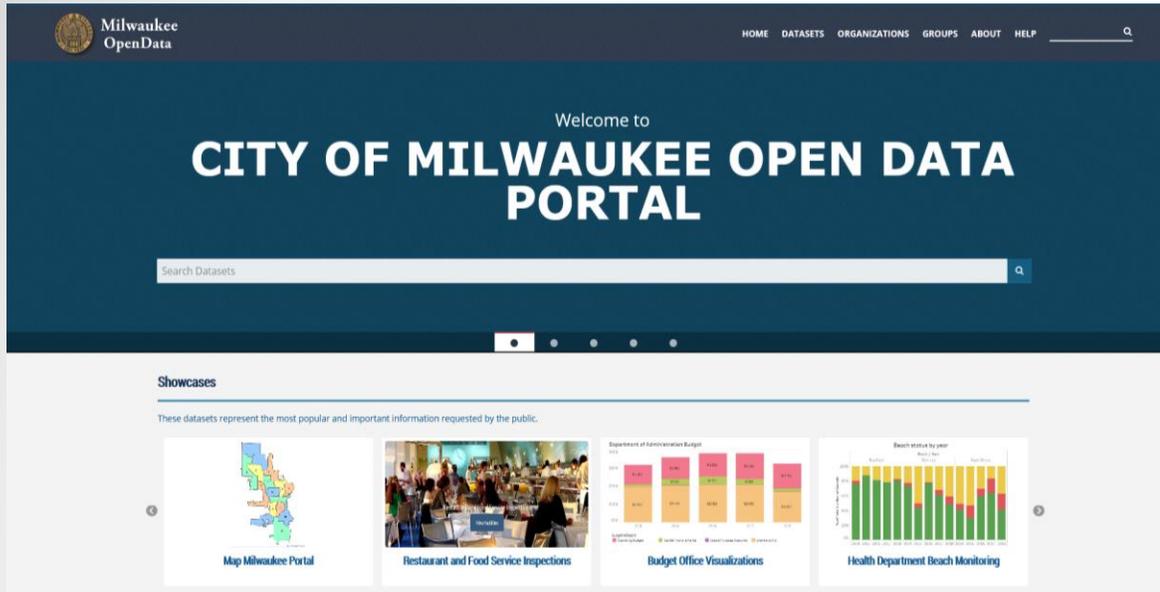Wisconsin Public Defender's Office
Wraparound Milwaukee

What do you think about using data to bring about change?

❖ Having the right data is key

❖ Data helps us recognize troubled areas

❖ Data is a great way to inform recommendations

❖ We would like to have some data that we can't get now like calls for service and arrests made in our focus neighborhoods

❖ We need to learn about best practices

❖ Data should be focused on individuals who are not committing crimes in order to figure out how best to intervene and deter criminal activity

❖ Data are very important in tackling the problem. We should learn about the weapons used and their sources

Concerns

❖ We need to assure that each community receives resources based upon information that is shared

❖ Data can be skewed unfairly for people of color, the homeless, etc.

❖ Data is a good start, but more research is needed

❖ I would like more information on who the community service providers are before making a decision to become involved

❖ Sharing data is good as long as we are careful not to make assumptions about the story the data tell

❖ Who will hold onto the data, who will have access to get the data and who is best to interpret what the data is telling us?

❖ I don't believe acquiring more data will bring about change as we seem to collect sufficient data now, however because it's the Homicide Review Commission, more change might come from it due to a presence of higher authority that can provoke the initial steps toward change

❖ The issue would be finding extensive and reliable data to share. There has been an issue over the years of having less detailed data available, for example traffic/crash data has gotten less detailed. This makes it harder to use data to gain a fuller picture of our communities.

❖ It's important to use data to bring about change; however it's equally if not more important to collect data in such a way that it is respectful to and meaningful for the community and research participants.
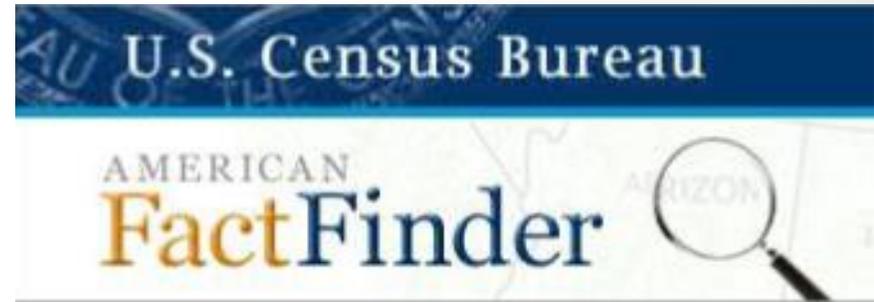
https://data.milwaukee.gov/

http://www.healthcompassmilwaukee.org/

DataShare

https://factfinder.census.gov/

- Vacant buildings and lots
- Tax delinquent properties
- Liquor Licensed properties
- Foreclosed properties
- Property assessments
- Lead service line data
- Problem landlord properties
- City-owned/maintained properties
- Property sales price
- Crime data
- Code enforcement citations
- Presence of lead lines
- Jobs available

Application Gallery

Property Information

Reference maps with property boundaries and detailed property attribute data from MPROP. Use this application as your starting point for learning the new Map Milwaukee applications, or as a foundation to add map services as layers.

http://www.milwaukee.gov/mapmilwaukee/parcelinfo
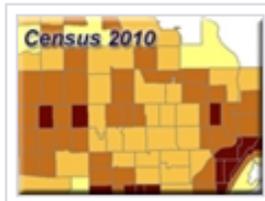
Census 2010

Thematic census tract maps representing Census 2010 data. Additional statistics available in the attribute data (just click on a tract).

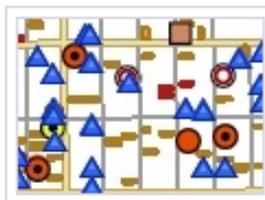http://www.milwaukee.gov/mapmilwaukee/census2010

Green Infrastructure Planning

Maps to support the City of Milwaukee Environmental Collaboration Office (ECO) with planning and compliance with MMSD's Regional Green Infrastructure Plan

April, 2015 - New layers: MCAMLIS planimetric features.

http://www.milwaukee.gov/mapmilwaukee/greeninfrastructure

Strong Neighborhoods Plan

Maps and data from numerous City of Milwaukee departments to support the work of Mayor Barrett's Strong Neighborhoods Plan and share this information with community stakeholders and the public. Maps include information about foreclosures, pending demolitions, city-owned real estate, and more.

How To

PDF Tip Sheets for Map Applications

The Basics

Map Layers Panel and Legend

Add Map Services as Layers

Add or Remove Features to the Selected List

Export Property Data to a Spreadsheet

Data Documentation

PDF documents with detailed data definitions, descriptions, and guidance.

GIS Web Services

Map Applications and Their Map Services

MPROP

Strong Neighborhood Plan Master Dataset (10/1/2016)

Crime Incidents
Aldermanic District 5
City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin
10.01.2018
Date of Incident

Last week — Red
3 weeks ago — Green
2 weeks ago — Orange
4 weeks ago — Blue

Crime Categories
△ Homicide
□ Assault
Ⓢ Sex Offenses
✚ Robbery
⊗ Criminal Damage to Property
◐ Locked Vehicle Entry
⊙ Burglary
☆ Vehicle Theft
○ Theft
◇ Arson

Calls for Service
◉ Shootings
⊙ Shots Fired

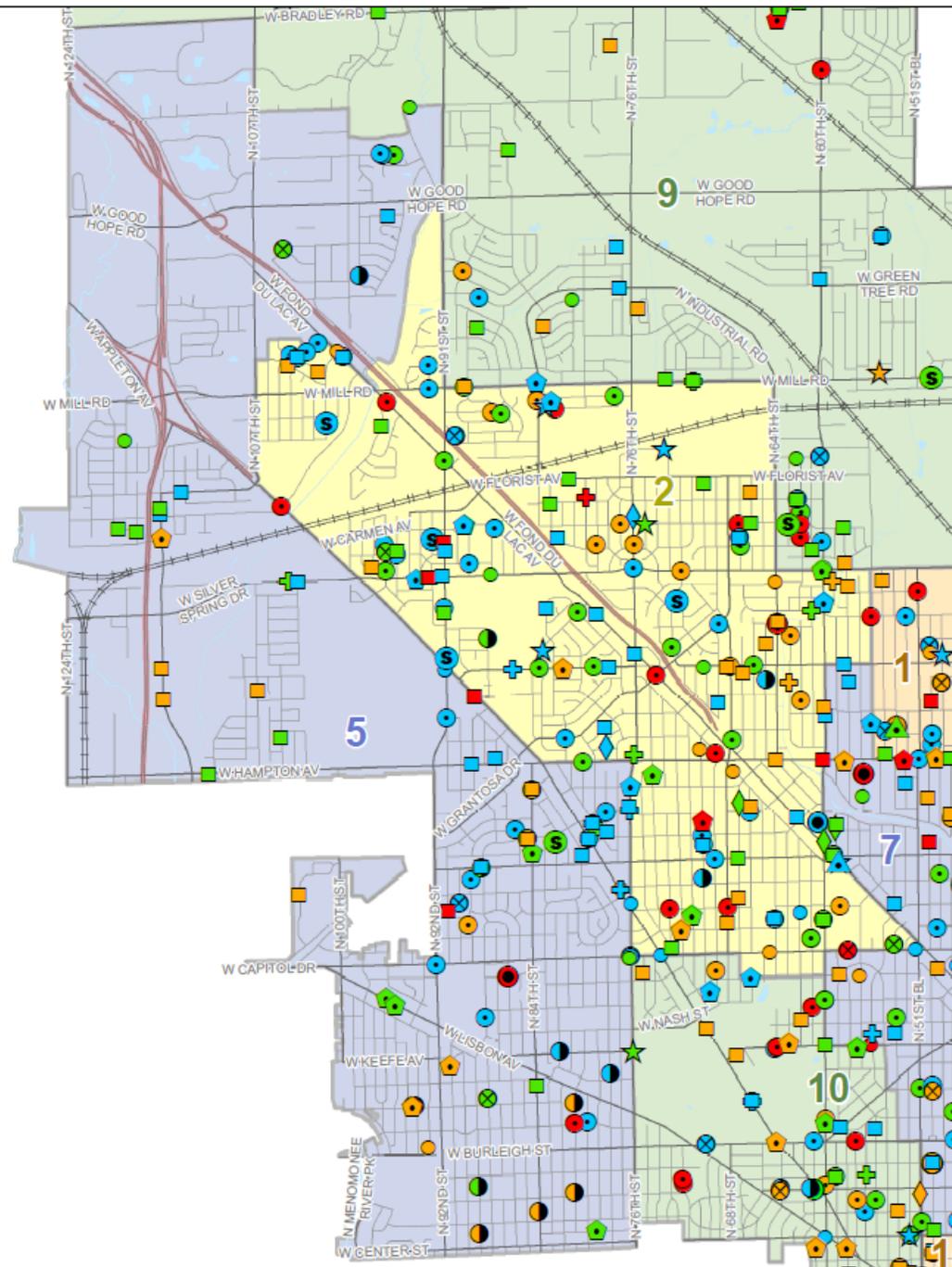Aldermanic Districts

Reference Information
— Freeways
⊢⊣ Railroads
☐ Waterways
— Major Streets
— Streets

0 0.325 0.65 1.3 Miles

Map prepared by: City of Milwaukee ITMD-GIS
Source of crime data: MPD

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the content, accuracy, timeliness or
completeness of any of the information
presented, due to data collection methods.
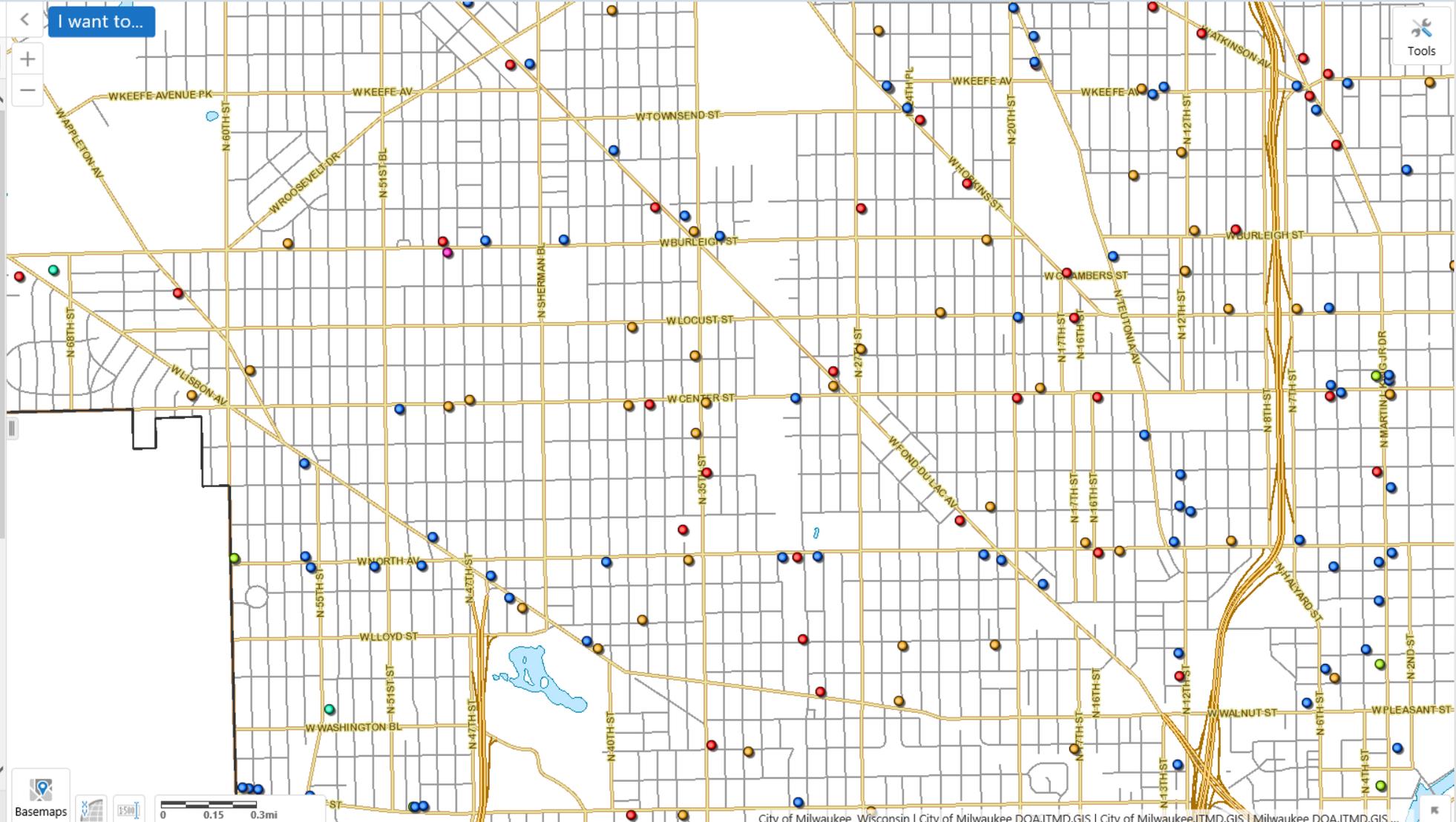The City of Milwaukee assumes no liability.

The DataJourney

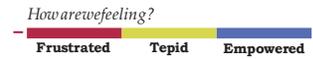How do our six user personas interact with data in their decisionmaking?

Community Activist — Robert

GOAL:
Robert sees a road in his neighborhood that he believes to be dangerous. He wants the road redesigned to be safer.

He raises the issue:
1. at a meeting for his neighborhood association.
2. with his alder.

Robert begins gathering traffic data, such as crash statistics and traffic counts, to bolster his point.

The traffic data is available via the city's open data portal but Robert doesn't know to check there.

Robert uses a city contact to gain access to relevant data in the form of statistical reports about his neighborhood and others.

Robert analyzes this data and combines with anecdotes from his neighbors about the dangerous traffic patterns in his neighborhood, and photographs he takes himself, and presents it to his neighborhood association, alder, and friends and contacts in the city.

After a year of lobbying and advocacy, Robert's proposed change of adding a speed bump is incorporated into his neighborhood's transportation plan, an important step towards redesigning the traffic patterns in his neighborhood.

Robert gathers anecdotes from these meetings

While a member of his neighborhood association transportation committee, Robert met someone from the city's traffic engineering department. The contact shares the data with Robert via email

Small CBO Director — Barbara

GOAL:
Barbara's funding, a mix of private foundations, city, and federal grants, requires that she demonstrate need and impact for her work quantitatively.

Her administrative data is straightforward—Barbara reports on the number of clients she has served, and the kinds of services provided.

Neither Barbara nor her team have strong data analysis skills, and they're already stretched thin for time to gather and process information.

Finding relevant data about housing and families-in-need at the level of granularity she needs is a huge barrier. Showing change over time is even harder.

Barbara has developed an ad hoc strategy. She uses Google, talks to partners on the local Neighborhood Resource Team, and pulls from the Neighborhood Indicators Project, census data, and the Race to Equity report.

This legwork allows her to check the boxes. But it comes up short when she really wants to tell the story of what is happening in her organization's area of operation.

Barbara knows the need for her services are acute. If they weren't, she wouldn't have to turn away clients. But she must demonstrate impact quantitatively

Connector — Sylvia

GOAL:
Sylvia wants to help those working in Madison's neediest neighborhoods to use data and form connections to solve problems.

Through her position at UW, She recently met Barbara *(above)* at a local community-based organization conference. Sylvia learned that Barbara is exploring possibly expanding her organization's work to new neighborhoods.

Together they look for data on which neighborhoods have high rates of poverty, highest rent burden, and highest percentages of affordable units, but they aren't able to find data at the neighborhood level.

Sylvia asks a contact in the city where to find neighborhood level poverty data, and the contact suggests looking for data on free or reduced-price lunches.

Once she has gathered this data, Sylvia helps Barbara put together a map of Madison neighborhoods indicating poverty levels, which Barbara can use to identify where she plans to scale her program.

She refers Barbara to the appropriate people in the city planning department and offers to support the negotiation of a data sharing agreement to ensure Barbara has sustained access to the data that informs her indicators each year.

To expand, Barbara needs data to decide which neighborhoods are most in need of her services, and, how she can measure whether her work is having an impact

Sylvia knows this contact through her regular attendance at city public events

LESSONS (Community Activist):

1. Information sharing is first-and-foremost network-based. A contact in the city is essential to accessing and understanding neighborhood-relevant data.

2. Enacting neighborhood change requires long-term, sustained engagement with neighborhood and city stakeholders.

3. Community activists have an appetite for evidence, and know how to apply evidence toward neighborhood advocacy, but often need help converting data into evidence.

4. Quantitative indicators can help ground anecdotes in evidence, and strengthen arguments for neighborhood improvements.

LESSONS (Small CBO Director):

1. Small organizations frequently lack the time and the capacity to gather and manipulate raw data. As a result, there is a strong preference for working with existing indicators.

2. When an organization is working at the neighborhood level, anecdotes are often sufficient to measure impact. It is when an organization begin to scale their work that quantitative data becomes more important and meaningful.

3. Nevertheless, there are clear benefits if small organizations can access data that is operationally relevant, assuming it is not burdensome to doing so, especially in the context of grant reports/applications and setting programmatic priorities.

LESSONS (Connector):

1. In the absence of clearly known city 'data owners', connectors are the hubs that bring together those who need data with those who have it. These people have a unique skill set in that they are savvy enough with data to work with raw numbers, and knowledgeable about city processes to know who to speak to about different kinds of data.

2. Certain connectors are clear, like the Applied Population Lab's Neighborhood Indicators Project. Others exhibit potential and should be explored, such as the library system, UW, and city residents who have technology and data skills, and are willing to volunteer their time.

Next Steps

Convene Cross Sector Group	Group presents at neighborhood meeting	Group revises and presents at Community Service Provider meeting	Group revises and presents at MHRC Executive Committee meeting
Nonprofits, MPD & residents review data, create presentation	**Share data, present recommendations, create action plan**	**Bimonthly. Share data, discuss recommendations**	**Quarterly. Share data, discuss recommendations, determine action items**