September 29, 2012

**Hello fellow community members,**

Congratulations to all of us on completing the first phase of development as a Community Data Collaborative!   At the September meeting we reviewed our efforts to date, and the group decided to:

* Continue collaborating with the Urban Institute over the upcoming year &
* Designate SCOPE as fiscal agent & liaison to the Urban Institute.  SCOPE will also provide facilitation of meetings and communications as determined to be appropriate by the Collaborative in Fiscal Year 2013.

Over the past two years, so much has grown in our community with regard to data efforts.  A few of the latest highlights:

**1.  THE SCHOOL DISTRICT DATA IS IN!**

The School District has organized the student data by neighborhood and submitted it to be uploaded onto the Online Community Platform. Thanks so much to Roy Pinchin, Leona Collesano, and Micki Ryan of the School District for all their work on this, and also thanks to Colleen McGue for the GIS technical guidance that she provided to Micki to facilitate data conversion.  This is a fabulous dataset, and it catapults our online platform into an altogether new league.

**2.  WEBSITE FOR THE COLLABORATIVE IS UPDATED!**

I’ve now uploaded lots of materials onto the “weebly” website established for the Collaborative.  You can check it out here:  [www.sccommunitydatacollaborative.weebly.com](http://www.sccommunitydatacollaborative.weebly.com/)

The website includes pages organized in terms of:

**1. Introduction**

* Description of the Collaborative and the reasons for its creation

**2. Collaborative Partners**

* List of 50 current participants in the Community Data Collaborative with email addresses
* List of 350+ participants in Community Data 2.0 workshops
* List of 360 participants in former Community Data efforts, 2001-2010
* Powerpoints & Minutes corresponding with monthly meetings of the Community Data Collaborative

**3. Online Data Platform**

* Link to current draft of Online Community Platform that the Collaborative is creating in partnership with the Urban Institute
* Original working doc sent to Urban Institute to establish site architecture
* Summary of preliminary ideas gathered to inform creation of Online Platform (October 2011)
* Spreadsheet of local Data Layers identified and submitted, to be uploaded to Online Community Platform (September 2012)
* Notes regarding modifications to Neighborhoods shapefile
* Instructions for conducting a Spatial Join in ArcGIS to organize data by neighborhoods
* Spreadsheet of 180 Community Indicators gathered & tracked in Sarasota County over the past decade
* Outline of Composite Map domains & layers developed as a precursor to the Online Community Platform
* “Data Dictionary” created to correspond with Composite Map (2011)

**4. Community Data 2.0 Workshops**

* List of 2,000+ ideas about community indicators generated by workshop participants
* List of input from 108 participants on which of the 180 original community indicators to KEEP TRACKING in Sarasota County
* Materials associated with each of the 6 Community Data 2.0 workshops, in terms of:
  + Co-hosts
  + Powerpoint presentations
  + Flier
  + News Release
  + Online Registration Form
  + Agenda
  + Map of participants
  + Packet of Materials Provided to Participants
  + Media stories relating to the workshop
  + Initial FY 2012 presentation to corresponding city/county commission
  + Final FY 2012 presentation to corresponding city/county commission

**5.  "Life is Good in Sarasota County"**Community Video Campaign

* Link to online video gallery
* Link to directions on how to contribute a story
* Copy of consent / story-coding form

**6.  Community Data Resources**

* Community Platform Comparisons spreadsheet
* Powerpoint on “Impervious Surface:  An Indicator of Watershed Well-Being with Relevance to Neighbors” by Laurel Corrao
* Progress Reports submitted to Sarasota County – April, July & September 2012

Any of the above information that is listed on the website but not yet available via hyperlink will be uploaded in the upcoming two weeks.

**3.  CD OF LOCAL DATA IS NOW AVAILABLE!**

While the Collaborative continues to work with the Urban Institute to get all of our local data uploaded onto the online platform, we’ve simultaneously organized all of the files so that they can be utilized by local partners in the meantime.  CDs will be delivered by Colleen McGue to the following people next week:

* Doug Ross of Continuing the Conversation
* Gregg Obarski of City of Sarasota
* Kyle Stevens of Economic Development Corporation
* Lisa Nisenson & John Lambie of Florida House
* Nita Hester of City of North Port
* Michael Drennon of Sarasota County Health Department
* Michelle Thorne of City of Venice
* Roy Pinchin & Micki Ryan of Sarasota County Schools
* Tim Dutton & Allison Pinto of Central-Cocoanut
* Trevor Meldaris of Sarasota County

If you would also like a copy of this CD, please contact Colleen at [cmcgue@scopexcel.org](mailto:cmcgue@scopexcel.org).

**A few words of thanks…**

It was a privilege to design and direct the community data and neighbor-led community change initiatives at SCOPE over the past two years, and as such to serve as a “[community doula](http://www.blog-scope.org/2012/09/18/scope-as-community-doula/)” of sorts with respect to the Community Data Collaborative.  It wouldn’t have happened without Tim Dutton.  As you probably know, he is unparalleled in his conceptual understanding of community and his ability to translate theory into local, real-world applications for the sake of positive community change.  A genuine public intellectual.  So thanks, Tim.

I also want to thank Colleen McGue for all the work she did, in terms of generating maps and keeping data organized as it came in from various data stewards so that it could be uploaded to the online platform by the Urban Institute.  She also worked with several of you to convert data so that it corresponded with neighborhood boundaries, and tracked down the sources and contact information for all of the data layers we’ve collected so far.   Her technical skills in GIS mapping have really helped to bring a place-based orientation to community data to life.

Though I won’t be at SCOPE any longer, I’ll still be here in Sarasota. I am so glad now to live in a county with a Data Collaborative, one with a neighbor-centric online community data platform to grow into.   Thanks to all of you for making it possible.  I’m really looking forward to continuing our collaboration.

Thanks,

Allison Pinto