AISP Newsletter
March 2019

AISP Announcements

Using IDS to foster collaboration and innovation in early childhood policy

At the 2019 Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) biennial meeting—a three-day convening in Baltimore, MD focusing on the role of research and methodology in the advancement of the field of child development—AISP collaborator and Executive Director of the Penn Child Research Center, Katie Barghaus, hosted a panel on integrated data system (IDS) use cases in early childhood. The panel featured four AISP sites at various stages of development, each of which is using IDS to support their state or local government's early childhood policy priorities.

For a full recap of the panel, view our Twitter threads here: part one, part two.

Read the panel description and presentation abstracts here.

Explore #SRCD19 on Twitter or visit the SRCD website to learn more about the conference and host organization.

AISP Network Sites

Spotlight on NYC's Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence

As part of our ongoing efforts to highlight innovative uses of administrative data sharing across the AISP, we are excited to present a new Data Sharing Spotlight: A Typology of Transition-Age Youth by NYC's Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence (CIDI).

CIDI is a research and policy center located in the Office of the Mayor of the City of New York that conducts cross-agency research using linked administrative data to identify areas of service need. In order to accomplish this, CIDI works with City agencies to build a culture of trust that fosters interagency collaboration and promotes policy change, with the aim of improving the quality of services and effectiveness of government throughout the City of New York.

Building on a previous study from 2017, CIDI recently integrated administrative data from six sources—foster care, shelter, jail, supportive housing, subsidized housing, public housing, and hospital visits—to look at the three-year service utilization patterns of youth ages 18-21 who exited the NYC adult homeless system, the runaway and homeless youth system, and the foster care system between July 2011 and July 2013. The resulting report, released in 2018, provides practitioners and policy-makers with a more robust understanding of youth outcomes, which they are now using to inform NYC's evolving approach to youth homelessness prevention.

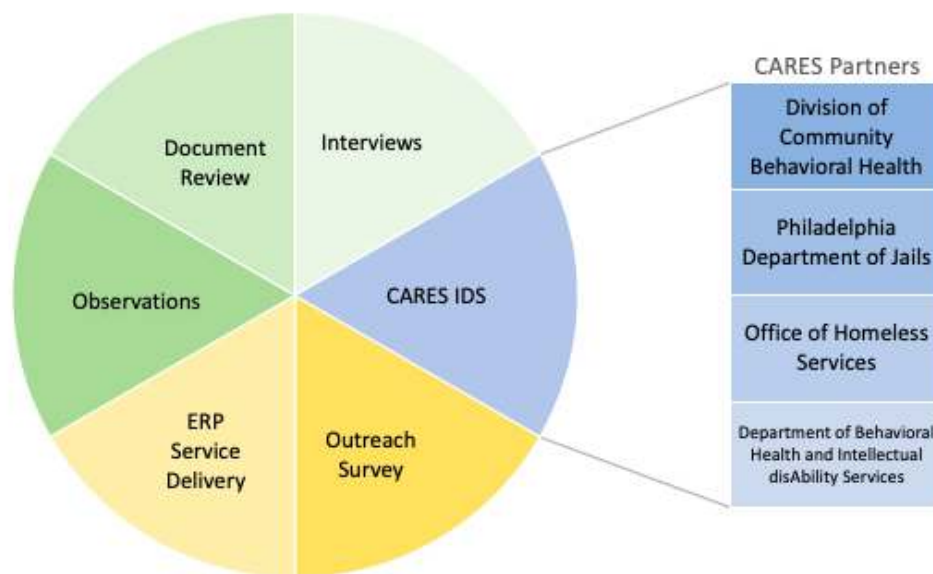Read the full Data Sharing Spotlight here.

Evaluation of Philadelphia's encampment closures draws on integrated data

A recent evaluation conducted by AISP co-founder Dennis Culhane and researchers at the University of Pennsylvania examined the City of Philadelphia's Encampment Resolution Pilot (ERP), an initiative to shut down two homeless encampments in the Kensington section of the

city. The closures are a part of city-wide efforts to combat the growing opioid crisis by connecting people suffering from addiction to help and supports. Leveraging newly collected qualitative data in combination with cross-agency administrative data, the evaluation monitored the pilot and assessed outcomes across the target population. In doing so, this report offers the most compelling and comprehensive evaluation of an encampment closure to date.

Philadelphia's ERP involved an extended period of active outreach to people in the encampments by city workers in an effort to facilitate access to housing, substance use treatment, and other services to people who would be displaced. Ad hoc records documenting outreach workers' sustained engagement with people sleeping at encampments were linked with administrative data covering a range of city services through the city's CARES integrated data system in order to evaluate residents' involvement with these city-based services prior to, during, and 4.5 months post-ERP. Evaluators also conducted stakeholder interviews, observed meetings, and examined relevant city records and media coverage to understand the impact of the pilot on the surrounding community and any resulting changes.

Among the persons displaced, 93% reported active drug use, 65% suffered from mental illness, and 57% had previously spent time in a homeless shelter. The use of integrated data allowed evaluators to gain actionable insight about these overlapping needs and service use patterns, and will be integral to future cross-agency efforts to address complex social issues like opioid addiction in Philadelphia. This report also offers a model of mixed-methods evaluation that builds on integrated administrative data and may be replicated in other states and localities engaged in robust data sharing efforts.

Read the full report here.
Additional press: Curbed Philadelphia, Philadelphia Inquirer, and Inquirer opinion page.

Three AISP sites link administrative data to study prevalence of dually involved youth

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> Integrated data systems or crosswalks between data systems that are protective of confidentiality are essential for [identifying dually involved youth].

A March post on the *Juvenile Justice Information Exchange* describes how the recently completed Dual System Youth Design Study used linked administrative data to develop a method for estimating the incidence of dual system involvement nationally. The study co-led by PIs Denise Herz and Carly Dierkhising of Cal State LA, also aimed to identify and define best practices for dual system youth (defined as youth involved in both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems). This project was funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), a component of the US Department of Justice.

In order to address both project goals, Herz and Dierkhising formed the Jurisdictional Case Study (JCS) and Linked Administrative Data (LAD) subcommittees. Though each group had a distinct charge, they first worked together to identify a common framework of dual system involvement that considers the timing of contact with each system as well as the pathway through which a youth moves from involvement with only the child welfare or juvenile justice system to involvement with both systems.

Once the framework was set, the LAD sites—NYC, Cuyahoga County, and Cook County—linked and analyzed administrative data for a cohort of youth who had their first juvenile justice petition between 2010 and 2014 (2013 to 2014 in New York City) in all three study sites.

The LAD Subcommittee found that there was a high, though varied, prevalence rate of crossover youth at each site. For dually involved youth, all three sites also found…

- Higher rates of African American over-representation and a higher proportion of females compared to the juvenile justice-only cohort
- Longer histories in the child welfare system, more placements and higher recidivism rates than youth in either the child welfare or juvenile justice system only

The authors conclude by emphasizing the continued importance of collaboration across the juvenile justice and child welfare sectors. As members of the AISP Network, all three LAD sites brought existing cross-agency relationships and data infrastructure to this project. If the methods and best practices identified by the Dual System Youth Design Study are to be implemented nationally, better data collection and increased data sharing across more states and counties will be essential.

Access the article here.
View the full report here.

IDS in the News

NABSE policy update on chronic absence suggests need for increased cross-agency collaboration

The National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) released a policy update in February 2019 emphasizing the role of state student health data in understanding and addressing the drivers of chronic absence. Chronic absence—missing 10% of school days or more —affected about 1 in 7 students during the 2015-16 school year, and is a more reliable predictor of school failure than test scores.

The federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) now requires schools to publicly display data on chronic absence, and 36 states as well as DC are now including chronic absence as a measure of success in their ESSA accountability systems. NASBE argues that this change positions state boards of education to help districts and schools better understand and make meaning from this measure. To that end, the authors recommend that boards work to support strategic partnerships, cross-agency data sharing, and shared accountability between local education agencies and other key players, including research institutions and other government agencies (i.e., housing and health). Ultimately, breaking down silos between the agencies that interact with students will broaden overall understanding of the drivers of and potential solutions to chronic absence, and allow districts and their partners to better address gaps in student access to resources and supports.

Are you a state education board or partner? Access the full NASBE policy brief here.

Want more guidance on cross-agency data sharing in compliance with FERPA and other federal law? See Integrated Data Systems and Student Privacy, from the US Department of Education's Privacy Technical Assistance Center (PTAC).

Upcoming Events

Register for the CARAN Summer Institute: Designing Research for Action

Join the Colorado Applied Research and Action Network (CARAN) on **June 12, 2019** for a full-day institute on designing research for action. The goal of the institute is to move your

research agenda beyond fulfilling gaps in the literature to driving social or health policy and practice. The deadline to apply is **May 1, 2019**. Register here.

Save the date: Metrolab Annual Summit

Metrolab is hosting their 2019 Annual Summit in Denver, CO on **September 19-20, 2019**. Registration details coming soon.

Resources & FYIs

Share your input: National Inventory of Data Sharing Collaborations for Health

The National Inventory of Data Sharing Collaborations for Health, a nationwide survey conducted by Data Across Sectors for Health on behalf of All In: Data for Community Health, is seeking input from local partnerships that are sharing data with other sectors to improve individual or community health. Complete the 15-minute survey here.

New tool for education partners on hosting a state data conference

The Data Quality Campaign's "Build a Culture of Data Use: Host a State Data Conference" is a tool to help states communicate and build relationships with stakeholders working closely with education data. Click here to access it.

ICYMI: Community Kickoff for new, open source predictive tools in child welfare

Urban Spatial and Predict-Align-Prevent recently hosted two online conferences to launch an open source community around new predictive tools for the fight against child

maltreatment. <u>Access more information about the online event</u> and <u>presentation slides here.</u>

ICYMI: "Digging into the SIPPRA NOFA" webinar

Third Sector CEO and Co-Founder Caroline Whistler hosted a webinar, "Digging into the Social Impact Partnerships to Pay for Results Act (SIPPRA) NOFA: Next Steps for Governments that May Not Meet All Requirements." <u>Access the recordings here</u> and <u>presentation slides here.</u>

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