



AISP Newsletter: July 2016
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AISP Network Sites in the News

[Chapin Hall's Report Discusses the Importance and Best Practices of Sharing Data and its Impact on Afterschool Systems](#)



“There is no template or model for building effective collectives such as afterschool systems. However, we are learning from cities engaged in system building that key elements for developing and sustaining an afterschool system include strong leadership, coordination, effective use of data, and a comprehensive approach to quality. Effective afterschool systems use data to identify community needs, advocate for funding, distribute limited resources, develop and monitor quality standards, and create shared accountability.”

“We also are learning that cities face particular challenges in their efforts to collect and use data to their fullest potential. Indeed, a recent study found that

Additional Information

[Social Innovation Fund 2016 Pay for Success Administrative Data Pilot Grant Competition](#)

[Call to Action: Data-Driven Justice Initiative, Disrupting Cycle of Incarceration](#)



of cities with populations above 100,000 that were implementing some type of afterschool coordinating structure, only 34 percent had common data systems. It is challenging to gain access to data from multiple organizations, overcome privacy concerns, learn to use and interpret data, and select the right data to assess quality and impact. Moreover, many organizations and institutions in afterschool systems tend to view data mainly as a tool for monitoring and compliance rather than as part of a cycle of inquiry to support continuous improvement.”

“This report presents interim findings from a study of how afterschool systems develop the capacity to use data to its fullest potential and how the people, processes, and technology that form the data system affect the development of this capacity. The study, which began in the summer of 2013 and will conclude in the spring of 2017, is taking place in nine cities participating in the Next Generation Afterschool System-Building Initiative, funded by The Wallace Foundation.” Access the [full report](#).

Administrative Data in the News

[White House Administration Launches New Data-Driven Justice Initiative](#)

“To break the cycle of incarceration, the Administration is launching the Data-Driven Justice Initiative (DDJ) with a bipartisan coalition of 67 city, county, and state governments who have committed to using data-driven strategies to divert low-level offenders with mental illness out of the criminal justice system and change approaches to pre-trial incarceration, so that low-risk offenders no longer stay in jail simply because they cannot afford a bond. These innovative strategies, which have measurably



reduced jail populations in several communities, help stabilize individuals and families, better serve communities, and often save money in the process.”

Access the [complete article](#).

[The Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking’s First Public Meeting](#)



The Workforce Data Quality Campaign (WDQC) discusses the Commission’s first meeting: “The Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking met in public for the first time last week to begin its comprehensive examination of data inventory and infrastructure, database security, and statistical protocols related to federal policymaking.”

“The [bipartisan group of experts](#), who drew on their governmental, legal, academic, and technical experience, shared some of their aspirations, including:

- Making it easier for researchers to access data sets from government;
- Enabling better evaluation of government programs;
- Improving the quality of data and analysis used by policymakers;
- Making data available on a continual and timely basis, rather than having to resort to occasional assessments; and,
- Sharing, improving, and implementing best practices for ensuring privacy and security.”

Access the [complete article](#).

[WT Grant Foundation: Using Data to Produce Useful Research Evidence](#)



“Both researchers and policymakers have been calling for access to big data—

large volumes of digital information about individuals, their activities, and their interactions with different systems, including government. Others have gone so far as to argue that the “big data revolution,” which facilitates analysis of large-scale data sets drawn from administrative records or linked records from multiple sources, [will form the future of evidence based policymaking.](#)”

“Thanks to efforts underway at the federal, state, and local levels to integrate and allow access to a variety of data sets, some researchers are already tracking individuals over long periods of time and across multiple systems and institutions, yielding findings with the potential to challenge assumptions and generate new insights. For example, researchers have accessed, linked, and analyzed state education and federal labor statistics to learn about the [effects of state-wide economic downturns on school achievement](#), and others have used state-level accountability and test score data to better understand [shifts and correlates of racial and ethnic achievement gaps](#).” Access the [complete article](#).

[Urban Institute Discusses Utilizing Pay for Success to Fund Early Childhood Education](#)



“[Pay for success \(PFS\)](#) shifts financial risk from a traditional funder (usually government) to a new investor, who provides up-front capital to expand an evidence-based social program like preschool. The traditional funder only repays the investment if an independent evaluation shows that the program achieved agreed-upon outcomes, like kindergarten readiness.”

“To help practitioners identify innovative ways to fund high-quality, evidence-based ECE programs, the Urban Institute’s [Pay for Success Initiative](#) just released the first part of the [PFS Early Childhood Education Toolkit](#). This series of six papers, produced in collaboration with Urban experts and external

partners, offers an in-depth guide to designing and implementing PFS pro with a specific focus on ECE. State and local jurisdictions—and other stakeholders, including social service providers—will find a useful introductory guide to the evidence base for ECE and strategies to address the practical considerations that surround a new approach like PFS.” Access the [complete article](#).

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