If not now... a grassroots coalition for NPO access to Administrative Data

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If not now . . . a grassroots coalition for NPO access to Administrative Data

November 14, 2018
The problem

Nonprofits cannot access information that could help them to address social problems and make evidence-based decisions.
The opportunity

Nonprofits have the social capital to activate politicians and overcome bureaucratic barriers.

If they chose to engage, they are a credible ally to communicate benefits of increased data linkage and sharing to the public.
Recidivism interventions: what’s the impact?
Complex needs, multiple services.
Fragmented information system: barrier to evidence-based policy & advocacy
Access to **data** is a missing link

**Supply**
Creating Data Infrastructure

**Demand**
Using Data for Social Good

- **Enabling Policies & Legislation**
  Encouraging effective and ethical data infrastructure development

- **Data Infrastructure**
  Data collection, combination, and sharing which enables the creation of evidence-bases.

- **Evidence-Based Decisions**
  Enabling advocates, service providers, funders, and policymakers to better achieve their goals.

- **Research & Analytical Tools**
  Allowing decision-makers to incorporate evidence into their actions.

*POWERED BY DATA*
Administrative data sharing!
Wait. **What is administrative data?**

- Survey Data
- Open Data
- Operational Data ✓
Administrative data-sharing

Government Agency → Government Agency

Government Agency → Non-Profit

*POWERED BY DATA*
Administrative data sharing can help...

- evaluate impact.
- integrate service delivery
- support evidence-based policy.
MIGRANT EMPLOYMENT DATA LAB: HOW IT COULD WORK

**STEP 1**
Nonprofit submits cohort data

**STEP 2**
Data lab links to tax records

**STEP 3**
Data lab creates statistical control group

**STEP 4**
Nonprofit receives aggregated report
What could **YOU** do with more access to government administrative data?

- What **baseline info** could you get more accurately?
- What **client outcomes** could you track more effectively?
- What **policy impacts** could you verify more clearly?
- How might you **integrate services** to better serve clients?
Increased use of government data involves significant risks.
Additional risks / downsides to admin data use

- Restricting nonprofits’ autonomy
- Amplifying existing inequities
- Faulty interpretation
ETHICAL IMPERATIVE

Communities most impacted must be included.
STRATEGIC IMPERATIVE

A more powerful, **convincing** coalition.
Three key stakeholder groups.

- Funders
- Service Providers
- Advocacy Groups
Our civil society coalition approach...

- Connects diverse stakeholders
- Mitigates social risks
- Provides a clear social license
Powered by Data is developing this coalition with four co-convening partners...

...and over 40 additional nonprofit service providers, foundations, and advocacy groups who are actively engaged in this process.
Moving slowly to build alignment and momentum

1. **CONVENE SEPARATELY** (2018)
   - Funders roundtable
   - Service Providers roundtable
   - Beneficiary Advocates roundtable

   - Shared governance framework
   - Research: Use cases & Policy analysis

3. **CONVENE TOGETHER** (2019)
   - Cross-stakeholder gathering

4. **MOVING FORWARD** (2019-2020+)
   - Shared principles?
   - Policy agenda?
   - Pilot projects?
   - Ongoing coordination / oversight?

*POWERED BY DATA*

We are here!