



8/28/2009 Executive Director Update, September 3rd Executive Committee Meeting

Meetings & Contacts

- I met with Gary Young, Executive Vice President for Government Relations and Public Policy at Cooper. He is interested in working with the citywide **health database** to look at admissions related to environmental toxin exposures, particularly heavy metals in the Waterfront South neighborhood. (He is working on his Public Health PhD at Johns Hopkins, dealing with environmental justice issues) He would also like to involve me/CamConnect in more **publications** using the database.
- I also met with Charles Ansert, Director of Housing Development, Center for Family Services, who was looking for some insight into properties he would like to develop with a McKinney (homeless services) grant. I put him in touch with Liza Nolan at CCDA.
- The Camden Census office asked me to speak as a Census data user at their **press kick-off event** along with Councilwoman Dana Redd & Mayor Faison about the importance of the 2010 count. The event generated NJN news footage and an AP article (picked up by the Inquirer, CBS3 and several NJ papers) featuring CamConnect. I had the opportunity to meet some of the local Census staff, who raised the possibility of an informational meeting run by CamConnect for our members. I need to follow up to see if Census would fund an event.

Projects

- CCOP accepted the **survey analysis** proposal for \$2,637. They have delivered the first batch of data and I have started setting up the database.
- I am still waiting to hear back from LEAP Academy charter school about the flat fee contract I provided. In the meantime we completed a LEAP **student map update** for the current year and I started work on their **data management** project on a fee for service basis.
- While he **continues to catalog data** and help out with mapping work Aaron is also making further **enhancements to the website** including
 - a news clipping page with a video player
 - links to academic publications citing CamConnect
 - a Google custom search box
 - indications of link type (pdf, external, powerpoint, etc...)
 - a contact form, improved error page & webmaster email address
 - redirecting non-members to the membership information & application
 - an improved and improving description of services
 - more consistent menus and easier to read link colors

In addition to making much needed updates, the changes should make the site easier to maintain and update in the future.

- Heart of Camden is paying \$5000 in clean air/environmental grant money they have already been awarded to CamConnect for an **analysis and presentation of alternatives to the DRPA-proposed light rail station locations** in Waterfront South along the proposed Camden-Glenborough extension line
- Under the auspices of the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers, we provided some **summary hospital utilization data** for a free clinic at Lourdes. I used the opportunity to do more **data cleaning** (on patient genders), as well.

New Data & Sources

- Sean Brown has obtained extensive **election data** through OPRA from the county board of elections, which we will be scanning and digitizing for future reports.
- CCOP provided an additional list of **imminent hazard properties** from the city for our ongoing abandoned housing data collection project. While the topic has absorbed virtually none of my time in the past month it has been the material for which CamConnect was cited in two news stories.
- CRA & Planning Director Sandy Johnson has provided publishable ZIP level January and June 2009 **foreclosure and mortgage delinquency data** for the city from a private data producer via the public affairs office of the Philadelphia Federal Reserve. She will continue to provide the data quarterly. I have enquired about obtaining historical data.

Funding

- We are continuing to work on a **news aggregation and analysis grant proposal**.
- What had seemed to be a promising **NIH RFP** turns out to have prohibitive requirements for the applicant organization's full time staff size (3).
- Sandy Johnson has said that she will have a check issued for the **CRA's membership dues**.
- Our access to software discounts via TechSoup, which we used to subscribe to GrantStation, buy Adobe Creative Suite and Quickbooks saving some \$2,500 dollars (with several thousand more planned) has been **revoked** because we are a fiscally sponsored entity. Apparently our several months of access were an oversight on TechSoup's part.
- We received some \$7,000 in **two previously missing checks** from CPAC.

Administrative & Logistical

- My new **computer** purchase is subject to an additional, previously unknown & unrequested, round of signatures for the Foundation.
- I am planning to be out of the office on **vacation from September 24th through October 1st**, which would be our next executive committee meeting, so we will need to reschedule or skip a meeting.
- I would like to attend the **NNIP semiannual meeting** in Chicago on October 14-16th, but need to find some way of purchasing the tickets and accommodations, which I cannot carry on my personal credit card. I will look into the Emergency Department's business travel procedures, but suspect I will need another alternative. I would greatly appreciate suggestions.