Supporting the Federal Equity Agenda in Your Community

Wednesday morning 11:15 am – 12:15 pm

NNIP partners provide data and assistance in using data to inform local advocacy, planning, and decisionmaking towards equity and well-being across neighborhoods. The Biden Administration's awareness of the importance of place and disaggregated data, paired with a commitment to racial equity, offers new opportunities for NNIP Partners to support local actors – governments, nonprofits, foundations, and neighborhood groups – in their interactions with federally-funded programs. NNIP Partners can support these actors to submit of successful applications, implement programs and distribute funds, monitor progress, and hold grantees accountable for their proposed outcomes.

The purpose of this session is to learn about and explore how NNIP Partners can provide data and data services to help local places take advantage of federal programs and initiatives that strengthen communities.

In this session, Denice Ross, the Chief Data Scientist of the United States and NNIP alumna from New Orleans, will reflect on the role of local data intermediaries and how it has changed over the past couple decades. She will then offer suggestions for how NNIP Partners can assist their communities in seeking and executing federal programs, as well as participate in advocacy to prompt federal agencies to produce more useful neighborhood data and data tools.

Following Denice's remarks, we will devote most of the session to questions and responses from meeting participants.

Speaker Bio:

Denice Ross serves as the U.S. Chief Data Scientist in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Previously, Denice was a Senior Fellow at the National Conference on Citizenship, where she led a multidisciplinary group of stakeholders to coordinate support for a high-quality census despite a pandemic and unprecedented political pressure. She also co-authored the data series "Pandemic to Prosperity," with a special focus on Southern states and their path

to an equitable recovery. She also was a Fellow at the Beeck Center for Social Impact and Innovation, providing startup support for the new State Chief Data Officer Network. At New America, she was a data strategy lead and studied climate security and the power of networks to advance progress on big challenges.

As a Presidential Innovation Fellow in the Obama Administration, she co-founded the White House Police Data Initiative to increase transparency and accountability and worked with the Department of Energy on crowdsourcing private-sector data to improve community resilience in disaster-impacted areas. Earlier, she served as Director of Enterprise Information for the City of New Orleans, where she established their open data initiative, now recognized as one of the most successful in the country. She also served as Deputy Director of the Greater New Orleans Community Data Center, the NNIP partner in New Orleans (now called The Data Center) and was an active member of the NNIP community of practice.

Resources:

A Vision for Equitable Data: [Recommendations from the Equitable Data Working Group](#) (PDF)

[CMRA - Climate Mapping For Resilience and Adaptation (arcgis.com)](#)