

From Data to Action: Strategies for Quality, Usability, and Impact

### Introduction



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.



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"For starters, I think we should find out who made the coffee that day."

















### Welcome



### Which path would you take?



### **Grow where planted: Conditions**





**Leadership buy-in and support** for using data and evaluation

**Resources** including staff that are allocated and/or committed to data and evaluation practices

Commitment to continuously learning and growing as an organization

**Established data and evaluation practices** 

### **Grow where planted: Practices**





Strategies for collecting and using data

Logic models

An evaluation and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) plan

A data dictionary (i.e., codebook)

Documentation on procedures for analysis

Measurements of outputs, outcomes, and targets

Visualizations of results from data analysis to communicate value

### **Grow where planted: Practices**





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# Data practices that support quality data

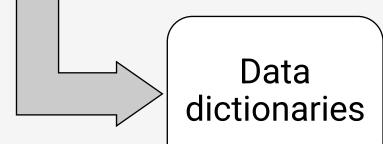


Data strategy

 is a vision (purpose) for how your program will collect, store, manage, share and use data

Data inventory & procedure

 tells you what type of data you have, where it's located, and what you do with it (documentation on procedures for analysis)



 tells you specifics for the individual data records and what they contain (valid values, recode values, full text descriptions)

## **Dirty data**





Inaccurate data that
disrupts your database and
negatively impacts the
integrity and usability of
your data.

## Most common types of dirty data





Repetitive leads and account information



Not compliant to regulations



Old and irrelevant information



Missing records or values



Fake or unreliable information



Non-standard values



**Hoarded Data** 

Unused data, or data that is multiple locations

## **Guess the dirty data**



A nonprofit organization has two records for the same client in their database. One record is under "John Smith" and another under "J. Smith," leading to confusion across program teams.

**Duplicate** 

An employee stores a file containing unencrypted donor credit card information in a shared cloud folder, exposing sensitive data to unauthorized staff members.

Insecure

A nonprofit continues to use a list of email contacts from 5 years ago for their newsletter. Many addresses are no longer valid, resulting in bounced emails and missed outreach opportunities.

Outdated

A survey dataset lacks responses for the question about household income, making it difficult to analyze the relationship between income and education level.

Incomplete

A data entry mistake results in a donor's contribution being recorded as \$1,000 instead of \$10,000, leading to incorrect financial reporting.

**Inaccurate** 

In one database, a client's state is recorded as "TX" while in another, it's written out as "Texas," leading to challenges in merging datasets for analysis.

**Inconsistent** 

A program manager keeps detailed donor engagement notes in a personal spreadsheet instead of the shared CRM system, making it difficult for others to access important information when needed.

**Hoarded** 

# Tips for keeping data clean





Run a check and merge duplicates



#### **Insecure Data**

Delete unusable records and use legallycompliant software system



#### **Outdated Data**

Purge before important to new systems



#### **Incomplete Data**

Automate data capture for comprehensive records



#### **Inaccurate Data**

Monitor data entry points, curb arrival in the system



#### **Inconsistent Data**

Follow a centralized approach and standard file-naming conventions



#### **Hoarded Data**

Focus on data for critical periods and remove everything else

# More tips to support data integrity



#### **Metrics**

- Accuracy and precision
- Completeness
- Consistency

### **Spot checking**

- Dependent or related fields
- Identify rules
- Identify potential issues
- Verify with source

#### **Descriptive Statistics**

- Count
- Mix/Max
- Average/Mean
- Standard Deviation

#### **Compare results**

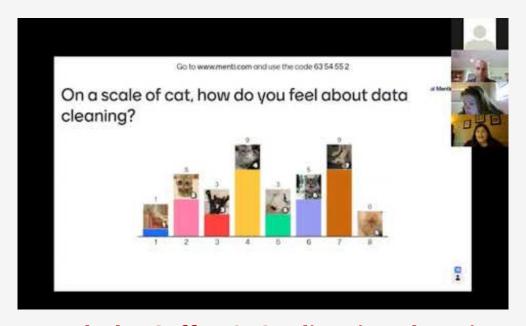
- Previous results
- Expected results



# **Learn and grow with Coffee & Quality**



**Watch the Coffee & Quality virtual session** 



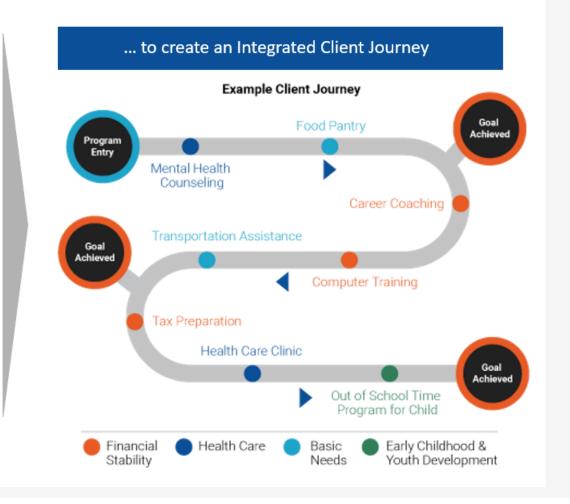
**Watch the Coffee & Quality virtual session** 

### Guided by data and research, the integrated client journey (ICJ)



#### An integrated approach

# Three areas of focus ... Right agency expertise connected Integrated coaching and client support Client journey tool and resource map

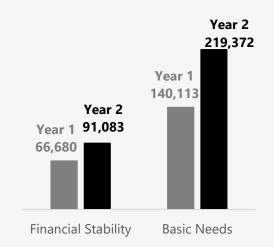


## Using data for action



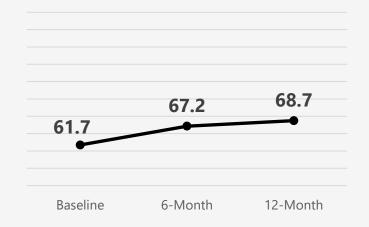
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Collaborative effort brings about **more clients served** 



Overall, individuals increase
their self-sufficiency and wellbeing as they journey toward
financial stability while
working with a navigator







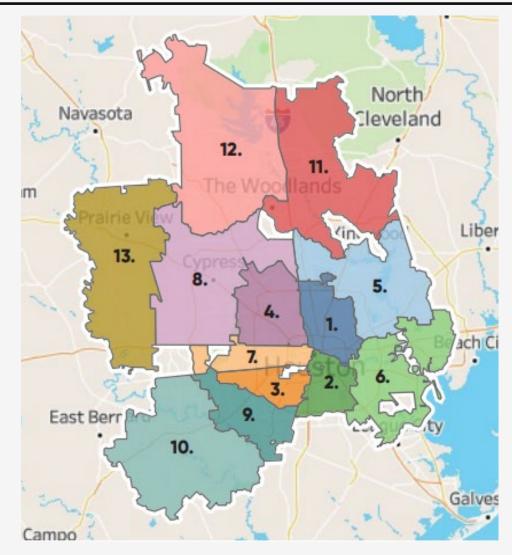
Legal services as critical need for clients on their path to financial stability

## Using data for action (from)



# Regional Approach using ALICE data, 211 data and community-level data





### Using data for action (to)

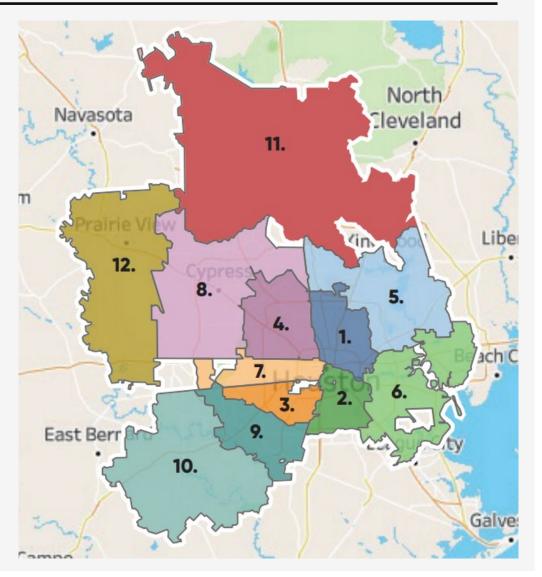


- 1. Northeast HC
- 2. Southeast HC
- 3. Southwest HC
- 4. Northwest HC
- 5. Far Northeast HC
- 6. Far Southeast HC

- 7. West HC
- 8. Far Northwest HC
- 9. Northeast FBC
- 10. Southwest FBC
- 11. Montgomery County
- 12. Waller County

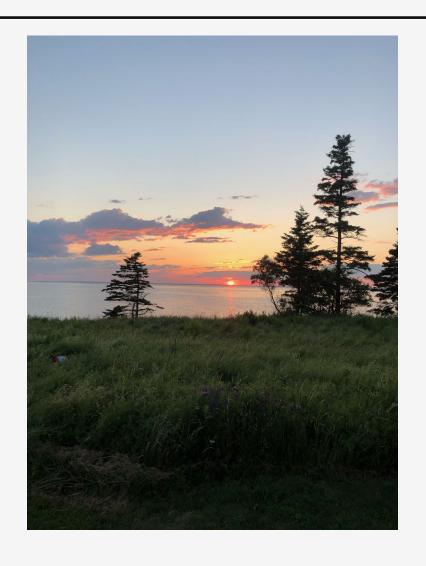
#### **Interactive Regional Dashboard:**





### **Reflection – One minute**





One key takeaway you learned

One question you still have

One action you will take based on what you learned

### **Opportunities to engage with Coffee & Quality**



Attend Coffee & Quality quarterly sessions

Check out introductory videos for basics on data, evaluation and CQI



Explore library of past Coffee & Quality recordings

Dig into **findings from Case Study** via webinar and research brief

Watch out for Fellows Program & Learning Cohort applications

Go to webpage www.unitedwayhouston.org/coffee to learn more