Kids Integrated Data System (KIDS)

1st Fully Integrated Municipal Data System

Integrates All Records for Children & Youth age 0 to 21

Provides GIS-based Data for
Policy Analysis, Community Planning & Research

Individual & Aggregate
Kids Integrated Data System (KIDS)

WHO  University Researchers, Public Service Providers, & local Foundation

Co-Founders:  John Fantuzzo, Dennis Culhane, & Trevor Hadley

WHAT  Integrated Individual Child/ Youth Data

- Dept. Human Services
- Vital Statistics
- Dept. Health
- Dept. of Behavioral Health (mental health)
- School District
- Family Court
- Office of Emergency Shelter & Services
Value of Building Research Capacity with Municipal Administrative Data

• It is there.
• An infrastructure exists to collect it and maintain it.
• It can be used to inform decisions at multiple levels.
• It can be used to build comprehensive models to foster understanding and to stimulate strategic planning.
• It can create dialogue across agencies serving the same populations of children.
• It can be used to share with the community to build support and focus community-wide action.
MAKE RISKS VISIBLE

KIDS Integrated Data System:
DISCOVER PROTECTIVE FACTORS

KIDS Integrated Data System:
STRATEGIC PLANNING TO IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

KIDS Integrated Data System:
What KIDS **IS** -
Archival system where data are integrated for specified cohorts to create research-ready file extracts

What KIDS **IS NOT** -
A live data warehouse
Where did we begin?

What

Establish Partnerships

How

TWO-WAY

with Whom

FINDINGS

Important Data Questions

Build Capacity

Change
Challenges of Collaboration: A Tale of Two Realities

Government Policy & Practice

Academic Research
Government Policy & Practice

Data infrastructure?
Research capacity?
We don’t give it out, only collect it
“I study the market research, analyze any changes in our customer base, then drink gallons of coffee until I hallucinate a big pink rabbit who tells me what to do.”
Time for partnerships?
Value of *applied* research?
“SCIENCE” – not evaluation

Tenure clock is ticking . . .

Politics in the Academy

Publish or Perish
Integration of Diverse Realities

Policy

Research

KIDS
HOW Partnership Agreements & Protocol:

- Memos of Understanding w/ City & State
- City & Penn Research Review Process

**GET**
Legal & ethical agreements to get individual data from multiple municipal agencies

**INTEGRATE**
Scientific processes to integrate data with precision

**USE**
City research & evaluation applications

**SHARE**
Networks established to share findings with relevant stakeholders and policy makers

**Improve**
Improvement of policies, practices, data resulting from the research

KIDS Partnership Process
KIDS Legal Issues

**HIPAA**: Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act

**FERPA**: Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act

Requirements for Use of Information:

✓ *Practical Use* for agencies

✓ *Security Standards & Protocol* for data use
KIDS Ethical Issues

FEARS

The research will not benefit our agency

Disconnects between Research & Practice

We will lose control of how our data are used

The findings may contradict our own reports

Researchers will take our data and run with no regard for us or our work with children

Negative findings will be shared without our input creating misunderstandings
**Purpose**: Govern all KIDS research projects to ensure agency-research connections

**Process**:  
• Each agency provides 1 representative  
• All research proposals are reviewed & voted  
• Approved projects must adhere to KIDS Researcher Agreements  
• Researcher conducts research & informs the Policy Group at every step
KIDS Integration Process:

- Routine data-dumps from agencies
- Scientific audit system for “research-ready” data
- KIDS Policy Group Approval for specific projects
- Dataset integration tailored to project parameters
- De-identified or aggregate data shared with researchers
Data are audited for quality and consistency

Validity checks between data systems

*Link-King* software scores integration results for reliability

All linking is on a project basis (cost-effective)

Matching routines are saved for longitudinal studies
Examples of KIDS Studies

- How do multiple risk factors impact school readiness?
- What is the overlap between DOE Special Education Services and Community Mental Health Services?
- How are educational outcomes affected by experiences in multiple public systems (e.g., Child Welfare & Shelter Services)?
- What are the educational outcomes for children using different homelessness support services?
- What are the characteristics of Out-of-School youth?
- Are there disparities in care for children with ADHD?
Responses to Research Findings

- National funding for Out-of-School Youth interventions
- Built Capacity: Early Care & Education Interview
- Principal Training Academy for Kindergarten Transitions
- Latino Taskforce on Early Childhood Education
- Grant funding to establish a Summer Academy for children with no prior preschool experience
- Pilot project: Social Workers in Homeless shelters
Thank You

For More Information about KIDS:

Heather L. Rouse, Ph.D.
KIDS Research Director
University of Pennsylvania

rouseh@gse.upenn.edu