
PROJECT PLAN: ASSET MAPPING OF COMMUNITY ANCHOR INSTITUTIONS IN KANSAS

Kansas EPSCoR ARISE Project

ABSTRACT

Within communities, there are enduring institutions that influence the local economy and provide resources and services to community members known as “anchor institutions.” The definition of community anchor institutions may vary based on the needs of each region, however common examples include public libraries, hospitals, churches, schools, community shelters, cultural centers, and more. The goal of this project is to create an interactive asset map of community anchor institutions in Kansas. By understanding resource density and accessibility state-wide, communities will be better equipped to identify patterns in health, social, and economic disparities.

1 INTRODUCTION

Within communities, there are enduring institutions that influence the local economy and provide resources and services to community members known as “anchor institutions.” The definition of community anchor institutions may vary based on the needs of each region, however common examples include public libraries, hospitals, churches, schools, community shelters, cultural centers, and more. These multi-sector institutions provide employment, access to resources, assistance programs, public health engagement, and spaces to build community. They work to stabilize communities during times of changing physical and economic landscapes. Many anchor institutions also step in to enhance community resiliency during times of disaster, such as a school or a church that becomes a shelter for community members during an extreme weather event. As the intensity and frequency of these events continue to increase, assessing the resiliency of communities and their support from anchor institutions is an essential step in preparation and mitigation of disaster.

The goal of this project is to create an interactive asset map of community anchor institutions in Kansas. A map of assets will provide a greater understanding of resource density and accessibility state-wide, allowing communities to be better equipped in identifying patterns in health, social, and economic disparities.

2 BASELINE OR INITIAL ANALYSIS

Data for this project will come from a variety of sources, see below. The first step of analysis will be to create a data library for each of the sources of data that includes the metadata for each dataset as well as a data map that shows how each dataset can be integrated with other data used for the project.

Additionally, initial analysis will determine the scope and reach of each institution included in the analysis which will enhance the integration of data across sources.

3 FINAL ANALYSIS

The final analysis will include a report on the relationship between the community anchor institutions analyzed and community well-being metrics from sources like the American Community Survey. This will be presented in a final report. If possible, it will also be incorporated into the mapping platform created as a deliverable for the sponsoring partner.

4 FINAL GOALS & EVALUATION

The final goal of this project will be an online platform that provides map layers for different types of community anchor institutions in Kansas. The map will give users the ability to select various layers for each type of anchor institution based on the source of data for those institutions and the category of anchor institution of interest.

An ideal platform would include analysis of relationships between types of anchor institutions and some insights about how asset density relates to community well-being. These insights and visualizations will exist with the goal of informing local and state decision-makers.

5 RELATED WORK

- Anchor Institutions Task Force (2013). Anchor Institutions: An Interpretive Review Essay, Marga, Inc. Retrieved from
 - o https://ubwp.buffalo.edu/aps-cus/wp-content/uploads/sites/16/2015/07/Literature_Review_2013.pdf
- Turin, Tanvir & Shahid, Maaz & Vaska, Marcua. (2019). Asset Mapping as a Tool for Identifying Resources in Community Health: A Methodological Overview. Journal of Biomedical Analytics.
 - o <https://jbiomedanalytics.org/index.php/biomed/article/view/22/10>

6 DATA & TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The data for the asset map should include data on a variety of different sources including those below:

- Anchor Institutions:
 - o General:
 - Data Axle
 - Includes business records on grocery stores, hospitals, urgent care, doctor's offices, pharmacies, and more.
 - National Neighborhood Data Archive
 - <https://nanda.isr.umich.edu/>
 - National Structure Inventory
 - <https://www.hec.usace.army.mil/confluence/nsi/userguides/download-tool>
 - Economic Development
 - <https://ksdata.ku.edu/ksdata/apps/ResourceNet/>
 - o Parks & Public Green Spaces
 - National Parks Service
 - <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/gisandmapping/tools-and-data.htm>
 - o Religious Data
 - US Religion Census
 - <https://www.usreligioncensus.org/index.php>
 - Association of Religion Data Archives
 - <https://www.thearda.com/menu-selection-landing-page?topmenu=Data%20Archive>
 - o Educational Data
 - <https://datacentral.ksde.org/>
 - o Public Libraries
 - <https://www.ala.org/pla/data/fieldsurvey>

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- <https://www.imls.gov/research-tools/data-collection>
 - o Geographic Data
 - Geo-political boundaries such as counties, urban areas, and tribal lands
 - Water treatment plant data
 - The distance water has to travel may impact water quality and thus water inequities
 - o Health Care
 - Doctor's Offices, Urgent care, Hospitals
 - American Hospital Association Guide
 - o Media
 - Weekly and Daily Newspaper data – from Editor and Publisher
 - o Transportation
 - <https://www.bts.gov/>
 - Resiliency Efforts:
 - o Find Your Tornado Shelter
 - <https://findyourtornadoshelter.com/>
 - o Extreme weather shelters (hot/cold)