**Libraries and non-profits: Leveraging data analytics for community impact**

**Learner Guide**

<https://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction/data-for-good.html>

Libraries are well-positioned to provide data analysis services to a variety of community groups, from nonprofits to government agencies, enabling them to gain insights into their operations and constituents. Recognizing the potential of data analytics, the Providence Public Library in Rhode Island (PPL) created "Data for Good," a project to train teens and adults in data analysis and provide these services to local nonprofits. PPL collaborated with library staff in Georgia and Texas to develop data analytics programming. Using the newly developed skills and the Data for Good (D4G) curriculum, participating library staff were able to bring their knowledge to local community members, organizations, and colleagues.

Presenters from libraries in Georgia, Texas, and Rhode Island will share their experiences in using the D4G curriculum, their successes in working with community partners, and innovative ideas for utilizing AI in data analysis. We will introduce you to the resources made freely available through IMLS funding (LG-250160-OLS-21) to libraries interested in learning about data analytics or implementing a data analysis training program.

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| **What are your personal and team goals for viewing this webinar?** | |
| **Personal Goals** |  |
| **Team Goals** |  |
| **Making the case for data analytics** | |
| The Data for Good (D4G) project provides libraries with the opportunities to both highlight the important skill sets needed for deeper data analysis and to grow those skills sets with both staff and patrons, from teens to adults. Through the stories shared in the webinar and in the case studies from participating libraries, you’ve heard a variety of ways the curriculum was brought to the community and the impactful outcomes of the work for partner organizations. What are key messages to help you make the case for this work? | |
| **Local collaborators** | |
| Which local organizations might you be able to collaborate with to provide data analytics services and programming? These could be government, public, private, non-profit or philanthropic organizations, among others. For an extended list of options, review potential partners for collaboration in WebJunction’s [Community Partnership and Collaboration Guide](http://www.webjunction.org/documents/webjunction/Community_Partner_Collaboration_Guide.html). List those agencies and contacts you could connect with and anything you know about their organization’s data analytics needs. | |
| **Key factors and adaptations** | |
| What key factors or potential adaptations will you need to consider in order to implement D4G in your library or community?   * Staff capacity * Finding individuals with expertise in data analytics * Gauging interest among colleagues for a collaborative approach * Building relationships with community members and partners | |
| **Preparing your team** | |
| As you consider your external collaborators, identify staff or volunteers who work with the library as you prepare your team:   * Who might be on the team? * Who has the skills and knowledge to teach data analytics and visualization? * Who has relationships with nonprofits that may be interested in being a client? * Who has relationships with teens? * Who has the time to devote to designing, planning, and implementing the initiative? * What do we need to learn in order to launch a Data for Good initiative? | |
| **Exploring paid internships** | |
| Several of the partner libraries in the Data for Good program offered an hourly wage to teens who participated. Consider if this would be a possibility for your library, starting with potential sources of funding. | |
| **Action Plan: (include next steps, who, when, etc.)** | |
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