Applied Sociology: The Role of GIS in Evaluating Non-Profit Programs

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What is the Center for Community Initiatives (CCI)?

• Applied Sociological Center dedicated to providing high quality research and evaluation support to Non-Profits in Northeast Florida
• Mixed Methodological Approach
  - Quantitative and Qualitative Methods
  - Old and New Methods
• Started in 1994 by two Sociologists and a Criminologist
• A Dozen faculty and 100+ students
• Worked with 60 agencies and brought in about $3.2 million

• SO? Why am I here at a GIS conference?
Back in 1994...
Where are our Clients?
The Bridge of Northeast Florida
Location of Foster Homes June 2002

- Child Specific
- Adoption
- Regular
- Medically Needy
- Therapeutic

Regular: 530
Therapeutic: 49
Medically Needy: 26
Adoption: 3
Child Specific: 44
Total: 652

Source: ICWSIS
Where do we serve our Clients?
Hungry & Homeless in the River City: Establishing Agency and Identity for those Most in Need

Legend
Distributor
- Bread of the Mighty
- Second Harvest
- Florida Gateway
What else can we do with Maps?
Pine Forest
1. Close Relia Street to truck traffic.
2. Close Kelly Street with a cul-de-sac 300 feet north of Southern Avenue.
3. Extend Freeman Road to Sessions Lane.
4. Extend Sessions Lane to Grand Road.
5. Extend Jemigan Road from St. Augustine Road to Victor Street.
6. Close Larson Street west of Linder Avenue.
7. Extend Larson to St. Augustine Road.
8. Close Thomas Court.

Legend:
- Residential
- Business
- Multi-Unit Apartment
- Government Owned
- Church
- Vacant Lot
1. Extend Freeman Road to White Avenue.
2. Extend Thomas Court, Calton Road and Wright Avenue to the new Freeman Road extension.
3. Extend Sessions Lane to Grand Road.
4. Extend Hamlin Avenue through Vans Avenue to Johnson Avenue.
5. Extend Vans Avenue to Southern Avenue.
6. Extend Johnson Avenue to Victor Street.
What came out of the Pine Forest Report?
CITY LEADERS CELEBRATE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT GROUNDBREAKING!!!!
What have we learned?

To look at things geographically

To teach non-profits the value of mapping

To apply techniques that were not designed for Sociology

Future - Client “tracking” models (Participant/Homeless)