# Data Matters: Social Services Delivery and Disaster Research

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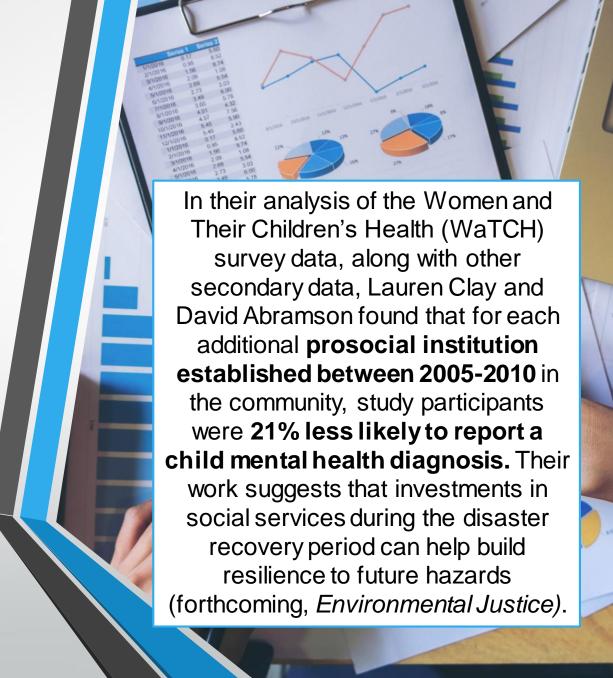
## **Data Matters**

- Data can help us to identify successes, gaps, and challenges
- Longitudinal data helps to measure progress over time
- Data can set the course for where we want to go and inspire change toward a more just and equitable world
- When we are relentlessly empirical, and committed to creating more effective organizations, building stronger communities, and promoting equality in opportunity, we can garner support – financial, political, social – for evidence-informed action in the disaster social services realm



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# **Data Limitations**

- Can be costly, time consuming, and difficult to collect primary disaster social services data
  - This is true during non-disaster times, when social service agencies serving vulnerable populations are already over-taxed
  - During disasters, when these agencies switch to response mode, data collection may become more difficult or even impossible











# Building Capacities to Protect Children in Disasters

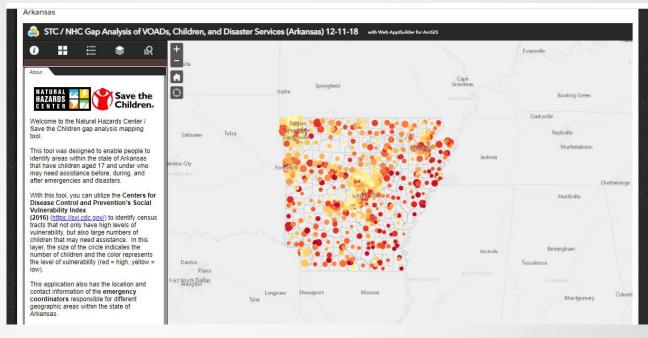


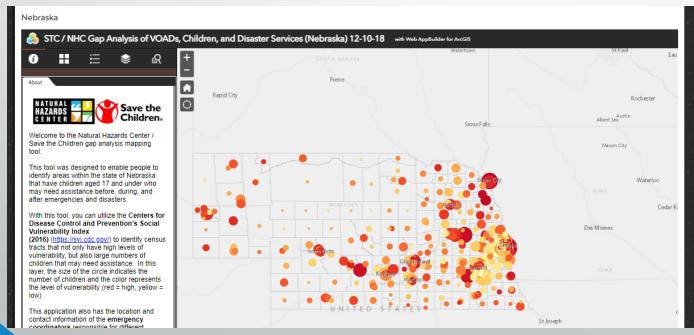






Interactive Data Maps:
Potentially Vulnerable Children
in Arkansas and Nebraska





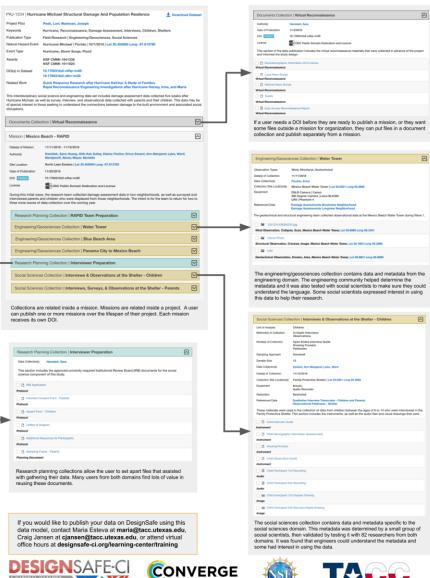
# Data Matters: NSF-Supported Cyberinfrastructure for Disaster Social Science and Public Health Data Sharing

### **DesignSafe Field Research Publications**

### A Flexible Data Model for both Engineers and Social Scientists

Authors: Craig Jansen, Maria Esteva, Keith Strmiska, Nathanael Rosenheim, Elaina Sutley

- · This publication interface allows two different domains to publish together or independently
- . In order to reflect a wide array of different work in the field, users have the flexibility to build their own data structure
- An easy-to-use interface allows the user to organize data and fill-in metadata themselves
- . Users can publish incrementally over the lifespan of a project, receive multiple DOIs, and have it all related under a single project











### **Data Matters**

- Quantitative data often drive policy change but these data are most effective when coupled with stories grounded in lived reality
- The richest data on social services are often at the local level, but without additional resources, these data can be difficult to scale-up and scale-out
- We need support for local, state, and national efforts to support disaster research on social service delivery

