Learning Module – Vital Signs for the MUND Collection

In this Project, you will be examining data from the Vital Signs report produced annually by the Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance (BNIA) at the University of Baltimore. All of your answer should be focused on three communities that cover the planning areas for the 1967 Model Urban Neighborhood Demonstration (MUND).

- Midway/Coldstream Data Profile Map
- Greater Charles Village/Barclay Data Profile Map
- Medfield/Hapmden/Woodberry/Remington Data Profile Map

Follow these steps with your Instructor

Step 1 – Why Do We Need Neighborhood Data?

Go to BNIA webpage by clicking here. Look over the "Who We Are" statement on the home page. What kinds of information would you need to understand the quality of life in a neighborhood? Why is it necessary to know key data about a neighborhood?

Step 2 – How to Find Indicators that Link to a Theme

Still on the main page, click on the button above the map that says "Vital Signs by Topic Area". All of the indicators for Baltimore neighborhoods are organized into chapters (Crime and Safety, Sustainability, etc).

Let's say you are interested in the socioeconomic make up of a community. You would click on "Census Demographics" to get information on population, race, income, and poverty-levels.

Now, looking at the list of indicators on the left side of that same page, click on an indicator that deals with poverty such as "Percent of Children Living Below the Poverty Line".

In the table on the right-hand side, you get the latest year's data for all neighborhoods as well as for the City of Baltimore overall. What is the "Percent of Children Living Below the Poverty Line" in Baltimore City today?

Then, scroll down in the table to find one or more of the communities listed above. Is the "Percent of Children Living Below the Poverty Line" higher or lower than the citywide average?

Step 3 – Learning More about a Community

Still on the same page, select one of the Community Statistical Area (CSA) listed above. Let's say you are interested in learning more about Greater Charles Village/Barclay. Click on that community in the data table for "Percent of Children Living Below the Poverty Line".

This will bring you to a page with the full list of categories of indicators such as Crime and Safety, Sustainability and Census Demographics. This time, if you click on the topic that closely matches your theme, you will see all the data for that CSA.

Let's click on Census Demographics again. What is the "Percent of Residents— Black/African American"? What does this data tell you about that community?

You can always go back to the main page by clicking on the BNIA icon in the header of the webpage.

- For more information check out this Video: [How navigate the BNIA Website](#) (2 mins)

Assignment (Due for Next Class):

Answer the following questions:
A. Provide a brief description about your research theme?

B. Select indicators that most closely connect to or provide data for your research theme.

C. How does this information help your understanding of these neighborhoods? Write a 200-300 word narrative describing the neighborhood using the indicators you selected above in part B.