

Steering Committee Call, January 8, 2009

Attending: Bob Brown, Matt Graham, Len Preston, Tammy Coxen, Jeremy Wu, Gary Yakimov, Tim Kestner, Ron Jarmin, Colleen Flannery, Dorothy Paugh, Greg Weeks, Duane Earn, Rich Froeschle, Rick Waklawek

Update on Technical Webinar Series, Need for Extraction Tool

Been trying to put together regional training program. Were going to do something with Bob Brown in his region. Due to travel restrictions, decided to replace that with a webinar series that addressed some technical issues. But the inability of sites to access the large data files is a significant barrier to moving forward with detailed training that steering committee would like to see.

Brought this to Jeremy et al yesterday. Have been working with Lars and others to determine mechanisms that would enable data to be extracted in smaller pieces, such as by year, or by a set of variables, etc.

Much discussion on technical possibilities. CSV format files are lowest common denominator, but file size is very large. Jeremy - Are at the very beginning stages of developing some SAS scripts that could do some extraction on the website and download files in desired format. However, currently under severe restrictions in terms of storage space for data. Viable option that can be developed, but only once these constraints are resolved. Ron - no easy way to solve this.

Overview of possible solutions:

1. Construct a set of smaller delivery files
2. Developing an extraction tool - either housed at Census, or something that would come long with the data that would split the data for storage at the state (tools would need to be written for all systems, or be system independent)
3. Use Data Ferret - could provide training on how to use for extraction (but not doing the analysis within Data Ferret). Steps:
 - a. Get data loaded in
 - b. Get understanding of what data elements would need to be extracted in order to develop a manual

Proposal for subcommittee to work on this issue and bring back reports to the committee. Members: Scott Bailey (WA), John Romanek (TX), Colleen Flannery (Census training), Walter Kidd (Census production team), Lars ?? (Census). Additional volunteers are invited. Need to identify State and Census co-chairs. Conference call of group in near future to get started. Tammy to schedule.

March workshop and steering committee meeting planning

Agenda under development, will be distributed electronically.

Have selected two proposals for presentations. One for work related to the Forest Service and one looking at worker flows in a small rural GA community.

Working on identifying dignitaries to speak at opening, etc.

Need to develop Steering Committee Agenda. Meeting will be Wednesday prior to workshop, and a full day, so expect that people will fly in on Tuesday night.

Plan to present on National MOU at Steering Committee - would like to invite two representatives from Harmonization group to attend. They would be invited/welcome to stay for the meeting if they liked.

Update on National MOU Harmonization work

Ongoing. Caucus meeting next week, hopefully.

General Program Updates

LED recognized by ...

Older Worker series accepted by Something on Aging...

NASWA winter policy forum - John and Greg were contacted, NASWA is trying to put together a 90 minute session on LED

Baltimore Re-employment conference Jan 27, from 9-11 - we have a pre-conference on data gleaning

Patti Becker retired on Friday, January 2

Technical subcommittee charter - Gary will send out draft charter for review next week.