

**NATIONAL
STATE DATA CENTER
STEERING COMMITTEE**

Bob Coats (NC), *Chair*
Dan Veroff (WI), *Vice Chair*
Suzan Reagan (NM), *Co-Secretary*
Charles Rynerson (OR), *Co-Secretary*

*Representing a Network of 1,800
SDC/BIDC Data Centers and Affiliates
Nationwide*

Allen Barnes (AZ)
Amy Bittner (WY)
Mary Craigle (MT)
Todd Graham (MN)
Pam Schenker (FL)

We Bring Value-Added Census Data and Education to the User

**State Data Center (SDC)
Steering Committee Conference Call**
Tuesday, September 8, 2015
2:00 pm EDT

<i>Steering Committee (SC) including:</i>	<i>Customer Liaison and Marketing Services Office (CLMSO):</i>	<i>Special Guests from Census Bureau:</i>	<i>Census Information Centers (CIC) Liason:</i>
Allen Barnes Amy Bittner Bob Coats Charles Rynerson Dan Veroff Mary Craigle Pam Schenker Suzan Reagan	Lakiva Pullins Tom Edwards Toni Hall		Melanie Poulter

The meeting started at 2:00 PM EDT

SDC Steering Committee discussion prior to Census Bureau staff joining

Discussion of conversations with Lakiva. Mary's was this morning. [Lakiva had individual phone calls with each SDC Steering Committee member].

Amy: There is now a 2020 Census subscription list. FSCPEs got the announcement of it, but SDCs have not yet.

Discussion of possible misalignment between Census Bureau's concept of dissemination and SDC network's concept.

Dan: This brings up the concept of what is dissemination. Is it sending out tweets that are retweeted, or does it involve explanation of the data?

Bob: There is an education component; it is more than just publishing data.

Pam: Maybe we should ask if we were to start the network from scratch now, what would it look like?

Census Bureau staff joined the call at 2:15 pm.

Bob: Need for partnership, cyclical conversation, benefits of being an SDC as we move forward.

Hello Lakiva and Tom.

Bob: A recap last few minutes of steering committee.

Lakiva: Been talking to all of you and I know how important the SDC program is. Referring to her conversation with Mary, the annual report could be improved to collect more relevant data, and could include graphics and summaries. The Clearinghouse could be a resource to show CB staff, including her boss Stephen Buckner, what the SDCs are doing. The Clearinghouse website has so much information on it. No one is looking at it and it may have fallen by the way side. My goal is to make sure that the SDC's are seen and heard.

Bob: Disheartening to have this discussion again, we have been doing the annual report since the dawn of time.

Bob: The report is done for the Bureau. The SDC's live in this widening gap of published data versus education and understanding data.

Charles: Bob you are right. Our biggest customers are state and local government accessing data.

Bob: There are lots of folks that don't know we are here. They google the data and think that's all but it's not necessarily right. There are benefits on both sides. Data are coming out with new products that need training on. The Census is really good at in house development. Work with the SDC's to make products come out with the data user in mind.

Mary: Cost savings to the Census Bureau from the work of the SDCs..

Amy: Have you been in touch with people about 2020?

Lakiva: We don't get anything before you do.

Amy: Gov delivery subscription for updates on 2020.

Tom: Came out just today.

Amy: Can I send out to list serve?

Tom: You can absolutely send it out. They sent out to others last Friday.

Bob: Good item to bring up to keep us on the same page. There is a need for a line item in the budget for SDC's. The CLMSO budget for the annual meeting is in the overhead amount and it gets cut first.

Amy: For the 2010 Kick off meeting, what budget was that paid out of?

Lakiva: not out of our division directly.

Bob: Decennial at the time?

Lakiva: This is so touching for me as you are all so passionate about this.

Bob: You are in a tough spot coming into the program as you are planning for the future while learning the past.

Lakiva: I'm learning so much.

Bob: Looking at the joint call for fall meeting. What is the future of the partnership looking like? A need for an explanation of terms such as what dissemination means to Census and SDC's. The Clearinghouse site topic should be for the business meeting. SDC webinars and training for BAS, GUPS, and other programs leading to 2020.

Tom: Approached Steve a couple of times. Partnership meetings and the like are not flushed out. Like the administrative records and what roll and the uncertainty right now for the programs. What's best at this point of the programs?

Bob: Any time the Census is requesting the locals for assistance, addressing, shape files: definitions. That is a partnership. Requesting WIC and TANF data from local services department brings on some apprehension by the locals. The Census Bureau is evaluating if it's getting the right type of data. We need to know so that the locals don't become as ratcheted up about it. SDC's could help explain this to people within their state if they knew who the contacts were.

Amy: E-mail about WIC and SNAP data.

Tom: What e-mails? Send the e-mail, definitely if you find it. Follow up with a phone call. Sounds like you want to know what role that you should be playing.

Amy: Found it; from back in May. Has all the states listed and the who and what.

Tom: Taking a quick look here. I'll get back to you on this.

Amy: There may be an updated list.

Tom: This is good news as there is someone who used to be in CLMSO. Ok I'll check in with this.

Dan: Again to echo Bob's comment, might be that we aren't doing nonresponse follow up, but we need to 'know' to support the Census when they are doing the work.

Lakiva: Follow-up on the City SDK session that took place in NC.

Bob: We were able to expand a little on it. They already had an agenda. Are they going to do this in all states; then yes on the agenda for next month.

Lakiva: Business meeting SDK on the agenda

Bob: Value on this is so SDC can know what to expect.

Lakiva: Didn't want to forget that.

Bob: Talking about not forgetting; the ACS 1st release coming out.

--media advisory has come out

Bob: Can we send out to the list serve. Also, send out to the state list serve as well.

Tom: it wouldn't hurt send out to Affiliates.

Census Information Centers (CIC) Report

Melanie: Had a conference call in August. We have a new format for our meetings. Staff has reached out to 8 local CIC's who are not active. Was able to contact 6 of the 8 and is still working on the others. The group looked at an analysis of annual report. We are continuing to reviewing it. The CIC Steering Committee is working closer with CLMSO to improve the information collected. Momi is reaching out to get a seventh steering committee member. Discussion on core competencies for CIC's and the gaps they have as well. Barbara shared the recorded webinar for accessing Census information. In person training which hasn't happened is a hindrance. We are trying to find training opportunity to strengthen CIC competencies.

Bob: Joint topic

Melanie: Yes for our new representative they need to understand the significance of the network and how important it is.

Regional Office Conference Calls

Tom: Denver Region call will be next week the Sept 16 and in LA on Sept 17. (The LA Regional call ended up being cancelled). Following in November are for Atlanta, Chicago, Philly and NY. Schedule is aimed at third Thursday of the month. Invitations to the whole network are forthcoming.

Bob: Is there room for all?

Tom: Just lead SDC or coordinating agency.

Pam: BIDC if the lead is the coord should it be wise to invite?

Tom: Will not turn anyone away. We don't have a problem, but not going to send out to them.

Pam: Are these taking the place of local calls?

Tom: We are formalizing these calls as not all areas were holding them.

Pam: Ok thanks

Tom: We are also working on a calendar of events in SharePoint. We are hoping to roll this calendar out soon.

Lakiva: We have a staff with experience and working on it right now.

Tom: Went to Delaware SDC It was good to have a meeting and talk about what they have and what they need.

Bob: Little past 3 o'clock. Is there anything else to bring up before we close? Maybe during one of the business meetings we can have further discussions.

Call ended 3:10 EST