

Yale University President's Public Service Fellowship
Summer 2021

Proposal for Fellow working remotely for organization

- Organization: **DataHaven**
- Full street address of organization: **129 Church St., Suite 605, New Haven, CT 06510**
- Website: **<http://www.ctdatahaven.org>**
- Name and title of person who will be the Fellow's direct supervisor: **Mark Abraham, Executive Director**
- Phone number and e-mail address of proposed direct supervisor:

203.500.7059, info@ctdatahaven.org
- Placement dates:

June 1-Aug 13
- Are placement dates flexible? Are you able to accommodate a Fellow working in a different time zone? **Yes and Yes**
- Proposed 37.5 hour per week work schedule: **Flexible**
- Organization description:

At DataHaven, we have a 25-year history of public service to Greater New Haven and Connecticut. Our work focuses on collecting, interpreting, and sharing public data related to social, economic, and health issues. Local stakeholders apply this information to create informed solutions to problems in their communities. Municipal governments, state agencies, community foundations, non-profit organizations, health care providers, educational institutions, students, and residents regularly use our services or partner with us to produce cross-sector reports. DataHaven is a formal partner of the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership (NNIP), a collaborative national effort by the Urban Institute of Washington, DC, to further the development and use of neighborhood information systems in local policymaking and community building.

- **Write a 1-2 sentence summary of the work that the Fellow would be conducting:**

The Fellow will support the work of DataHaven to implement the 2021 Community Wellbeing Survey and 2022 Community Index, a major program that tracks social, economic, and well-being indicators at the state and local level, in close partnership with over 125 Connecticut-based organizations including many located in New Haven. These programs were first launched in 2012, and have grown significantly over time. PPSF fellows and Yale interns supported our 2013, 2016, and 2019 Community Index reports and were recognized as contributors.

- Write a more complete description of the specific project you propose and list the duties/outcomes expected of the Fellow.

The President's Public Service Fellow at DataHaven will be tasked with assessing and communicating data on trends in community health, civic life, economic vitality, and well-being in New Haven, Greater New Haven and Connecticut. The Fellow will be tasked with analyzing quantitative and qualitative data; writing sections of the final research publication(s); writing news articles, blog posts, or other online resources to communicate data findings to general audiences; collaborating with other organizations; and proofreading/copyediting. He or she will have an opportunity to be listed as a co-author on publications.

DataHaven's nationally recognized Community Wellbeing Survey conducted interviews with nearly 35,000 Connecticut residents from every town, city, and region in 2015, 2018, and 2020. The Fellow would have an opportunity to be one of the first users of the new 2021 dataset as it is gathered in real-time. This survey creates local-level public information that is not available from any other source, allowing comparability of data gathered across diverse regions, neighborhoods, and small population groups. The data can support detailed analyses of quality of life in the New Haven region and comparisons to similar regions around the state, focusing on topics that are most meaningful to our communities—such as public health, family economic security, housing, and civic vitality. Community Wellbeing Survey data, along with other public data sources, informed DataHaven's Greater New Haven Community Index publication, a comprehensive assessment of quality of life in the region. Our Community Index publication will be published again in 2022, but we will be writing much of it beginning in spring 2021.

Given the broad scope of the Community Wellbeing Survey and the Community Index, the Fellow is likely to have the latitude to focus on topics with the greatest relevance to their professional and academic goals. The Fellow's research will

emphasize the study of opportunities and challenges faced by the City of New Haven and the State of Connecticut, including its neighborhoods, and sub-populations within the region, including racial or ethnic minorities. As an ongoing process, the Fellow will work with DataHaven staff to disseminate research to community partners and the public. The Fellow will produce written, web-based, and/or graphical analyses that can help the general public understand data about their communities. This might include but is not limited to producing online or print newspaper articles, web resources, infographics, reports, or brochures. There are also opportunities to collect qualitative data (e.g., youth focus groups) that complement the program's extensive quantitative data.

- List specific skills/experience required for this work:

Required:

1. Interest in and understanding of diverse communities, urban populations, and related issues such as K-12 education, workforce development, poverty, housing, economic development, health equity, and/or public health.
2. Strong research and writing skills.
3. Experience working with, analyzing and/or formatting data sets in R or Excel, and a general appreciation for or love of data.
4. Experience working in the R statistical package and with version control in Github is preferred, but not an absolute requirement given that the responsibilities of the fellow may vary depending on placement.

Helpful, but not required:

1. Experience with design programs (such as Adobe CS6, Photoshop, Tableau), statistical analysis software (such as R, Python, SPSS), mapping software (GIS, etc.).
2. Knowledge of or experience in analyzing large survey datasets.

- Equipment/resources you will provide to help Fellow conduct work:

A computer and email address may be made available if needed. Staff calls are generally taken via Zoom.

- Briefly describe the work that Yale PPSF Fellows have done with your organization in the past and present. If you have not worked with Yale Fellows, describe any work that Yale students have done with your organization.

DataHaven regularly works with undergraduate and graduate students from Yale and other nearby universities as interns, fellows, and work-study participants. Mark Abraham, Executive Director of DataHaven, has supervised over 25 Community-Based

Learning (CBL) students, interns, and Urban Fellows from Yale University since 2010, including four during summer 2020. These students were recognized as contributors to our Community Index report, and worked on data collection, writing and communications. Many students have published short pieces or op-eds in publications such as the Connecticut Mirror, New Haven Independent, and various national blogs.

DataHaven is also working directly with a large number of Yale University faculty, staff and students on their academic research projects. For example, we serve on the advisory committee of the National Clinician Scholars Program (a program for resident physicians at the Yale School of Medicine that involves many community organizations throughout New Haven).

