



**COORDINATION AND DATA-SHARING SUPPORT  
THE EQUITABLE DELIVERY OF FINANCIAL AID  
AND OTHER SERVICES AFTER DISASTERS**

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NCAPER believes that after disasters, coordination and data-sharing among service providers, should be utilized to ensure that relief is equitably distributed and not duplicated. During the covid-19 crisis, some in the field are already utilizing these strategies. While covid-19 presents our sector with unprecedented nationwide need, coordination and data-sharing should be considered after all disasters.

Data-sharing is also a valuable tool to build broader sector understanding and knowledge of how crises impact people, organizations and communities in the near and long term.

History provides guidance about why and how coordination and data-sharing serve the charitable sector, as well as potential models for how the arts and cultural sector could create local or nationwide mechanisms to ensure that, months from now, remaining unmet needs of individual artists, cultural workers and arts organizations are uncovered, processed and met.

Additionally, we offer the advice of an economist about methods for ethically sharing data, whether for application or survey purposes.

**DATA-SHARING**

James Marrone of the RAND Corporation, with whom NCAPER Steering Committee member Amy Schwartzman collaborated on the design of a survey after Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico provides the following guidance:

"...[i]t is definitely a good idea to share information. This could be done in two ways. First, if the data is anonymized so that people cannot be identified, then there would be no issue with sharing the data. However, if you still want to be sure, you can state in the consent form that the responses may be shared with other groups. You could state explicitly that the responses will be anonymous and the individual will not be able to be identified from his/her responses, but the responses may be shared with other groups who are involved with arts funding and arts recovery; they will NOT be shared for commercial purposes.

Since anonymous data is not necessarily helpful when organizations are trying to see overlap in populations, the second way you could share data would be with

the person's consent. You could have a separate question or two, perhaps at the end, prefaced by the statement that other organizations may be interested in the data because they may have funding opportunities. The respondent could check a box saying 'yes' they agree to let their information be shared with other groups, including personal contact information. You could also gather additional personal contact information in that section, which would then only be collected for people who want it to be shared and protect the anonymity of others. If people see that they might benefit from sharing information, in terms of getting additional grant opportunities, that will incentivize them to share their information."

Jim is willing to talk with organizations interested in developing surveys or applications (for free, we believe!!!). Please contact [motoole@ncaper.org](mailto:motoole@ncaper.org) if you are interested in speaking with him. Also, please see the end of this document for the guidance we provided artists, artisans and arts organizations in Puerto Rico about completing the survey we designed to better understand their demographics and recovery needs after Hurricane Maria.

## GUIDANCE FROM 9/11

After 9/11, because of the panoply of uncoordinated resources that arose and a vast duplication of financial aid which arose as a consequence of this lack of coordination, the NYS Attorney General considered intervening in the work of the many charities delivering support to impacted New Yorkers. Rather than face AG oversight, 13 social service organizations including the Red Cross, Catholic Charities and the UJA Federation joined to create the 9/11 United Services Group to coordinate their delivery of services and financial aid. They also created a database of all the individuals each of their organizations was supporting, and to what extent, so all of them could see when given individuals' needs had been fully met, while others remained unmet. It was only through sharing this information that all were able to ensure that the needs of as many as possible were equitably met without duplication. The group also utilized the database to provide individuals with notification of new resources and information.

Later, they united to create the Unmet Needs Roundtable, a model through which unmet needs can be presented to a group of funders for consideration. Individuals apply and other individuals work up files on their remaining needs which are then presented to the Roundtable members. Unmet needs will assuredly exist for artists, cultural workers and arts organizations in relation to covid-19 months from now. More detailed information about this model can be found at [www.unmetneedsroundtable.org](http://www.unmetneedsroundtable.org) and in the following document: [https://www.nydis.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/UNR\\_ProgramProfile.pdf](https://www.nydis.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/UNR_ProgramProfile.pdf)

The National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (NVOAD) incorporates this model into their Long-Term Recovery Groups, voluntary consortia created to discuss

and meet ongoing long-term recovery needs in communities after disasters.  
<https://www.nvoad.org/mdocs-posts/long-term-recovery-guide/>

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What follows is the introductory information sent to all potential survey participants regarding the impact of Hurricane Maria upon them in Puerto Rico. The research was conducted by NCAPER Steering Committee Member Amy Schwartzman under the auspices of the RAND Corporation, for whom she worked on the Recovery Plan for Puerto Rico.

*“Title of research study:* Understanding the Arts Landscape in Puerto Rico

*Investigators:* Amy Schwartzman is conducting this survey for the RAND Corporation, an independent nonprofit research institution, to inform the Puerto Rico Recovery Plan. Amy is an independent arts recovery expert who has worked to help the arts sector after other disasters, including with the New York Arts Recovery Fund after 9/11.

*Why am I being invited to take part in a research study?*

We are looking to get a better understanding of Puerto Rico's arts and artistic communities. We are gathering data on characteristics of the community before Hurricane Maria, as well as changes since the hurricane. We will be surveying local people engaged in artistic occupations and representatives of arts organizations. This survey is for working artists and artisans in all art forms and disciplines (visual, performing and literary arts, as well as multidisciplinary artists; generative/creative artists (i.e., those who create work); interpretive artists (i.e., those who perform work); teaching artists; small artist businesses; for-profit and not-for-profit arts organizations in all disciplines, performance spaces, galleries, and organizations that serve the arts/cultural sector in similar ways. If you are a cultural worker in some other capacity or involved with technical support of the arts, we also invite you to complete this questionnaire.

*Why is this research being done?*

This project is seeking to understand the experience of artists and arts organizations in Puerto Rico before and after Hurricane Maria. Specifically, we will ask about the following:

- Type and amount of artistic activity in the years prior to Hurricane Maria.
- Income derived from artistic practice, as well as other sources of income
- Changes to income and artistic output since the hurricane.
- Sources of funding or material aid for recovering losses and damage since the hurricane.

- Remaining needs that still have not been addressed.

*How long will the research last?*

We expect that individuals will spend 30-45 minutes participating in the survey for this study.

*How many people will be studied?*

We expect about 250 people will participate in this research study.

*What happens if I say yes, I want to be in this research?*

You are free to decide whether you wish to participate in this study. If you decide to participate, you will fill out the questionnaire attached to this form.

*What happens if I say yes, but I change my mind later?*

You can stop taking the survey at any time, and it will not be held against you.

*Can I be personally identified if I participate?*

Your responses will be anonymous. This survey does not ask for your name or for any personally identifiable information such as phone numbers or email addresses. You will not be able to be identified based on your answers, and the researchers will not know who you are. The only way anyone will know you participated in this study is if you inform them.

*Who can I talk to if I have questions or concerns?*

This research has been reviewed and approved by the RAND Human Subjects Protection Committee. If you have questions about your rights as a research participant or need to report a research-related injury or concern, you can contact RAND's Human Subjects Protection Committee toll-free at XXXX or by emailing XXXX. If possible, when you contact the Committee, please reference Study XXXX. Your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team.

If you have questions or concerns about the research specifically you may talk to the research team by contacting the research team via XXXX.

*Do you give your consent to participate?*

Yes

No"