

# COMMUNITIES IN ACTION

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2026 ASA President

**ASA**  
AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION  
Promoting the Practice and Profession of Statistics®



# AGENDA



- Welcome and Introductions
- Initiative Overview
- Breakout Rooms
- Insights from Breakout Rooms
- Closing Q&A



# PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

I chose that theme because the professional community encompasses numerous communities

- practice areas
- geographic regions
- career stages
- research interests
- industry sectors
- functional roles...

creating networks of colleagues who share common professional challenges and goals.



# Communities in Action



①

We belong to school boards, civic organizations, and many other communities where we live and work.

②

In a sense, it is a call for action, a grassroots level activity, and opportunity to help our local communities by being an active presence and a spokesperson for statistics and data science.



# GOAL



The goal is to equip members with practical **tips and tools** that enable them to apply their statistical and data expertise to address real challenges in their communities.

By sharing resources, best practices, and concrete strategies, we aim to **make community engagement** more accessible and actionable.



# STORIES



I had the opportunity to go on Capitol Hill to discuss the support for statistics and data in the criminal justice area and to describe the important work of the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Steve Pierson, ASA director of science policy was my guide.



Inspiration for this initiative is the work that former president **Kathy Ensor**. She collaborates with city and public health professionals to pinpoint, monitor, and predict public health risks.



Jenny Thompson, Chair



Matt Brems



Daniel Elchert



Daifeng Han



Fred Hulting



Regina Nuzzo



# STEERING COMMITTEE



# GETTING STARTED

- Repository with a toolkit which includes:
  - Advice on how to build relationships,
  - Examples of initial outreach messages, and
  - Examples of effective presentation strategies
- A mentoring program to support and sustain the initiative.
- Sustainable engagement channels between data experts and partner communities.
- Identify and secure external funding sources to support the project's implementation and long-term sustainability.



# Commitment

## A Few Hours

Participate in a career day at a school.

Spend 2-3 hours creating a clean master list can unlock significant value for an organization that doesn't have technical staff.

Teach a 2-hour workshop at a library or community center on how to spot misleading statistics in the news.

## More Time

Develop models to help organizations anticipate needs, like predicting food bank demand or analyzing calls for service data to improve emergency response.

Analyze available datasets on issues like school funding disparities, or housing affordability then present findings at city council meetings, school board hearings, or state legislative committee sessions.

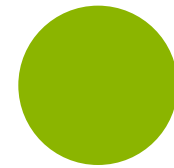




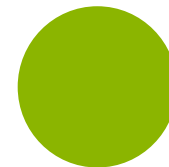
**TODAY WE START BY LISTENING**

**THE BREAKOUT GROUPS WILL HELP US**

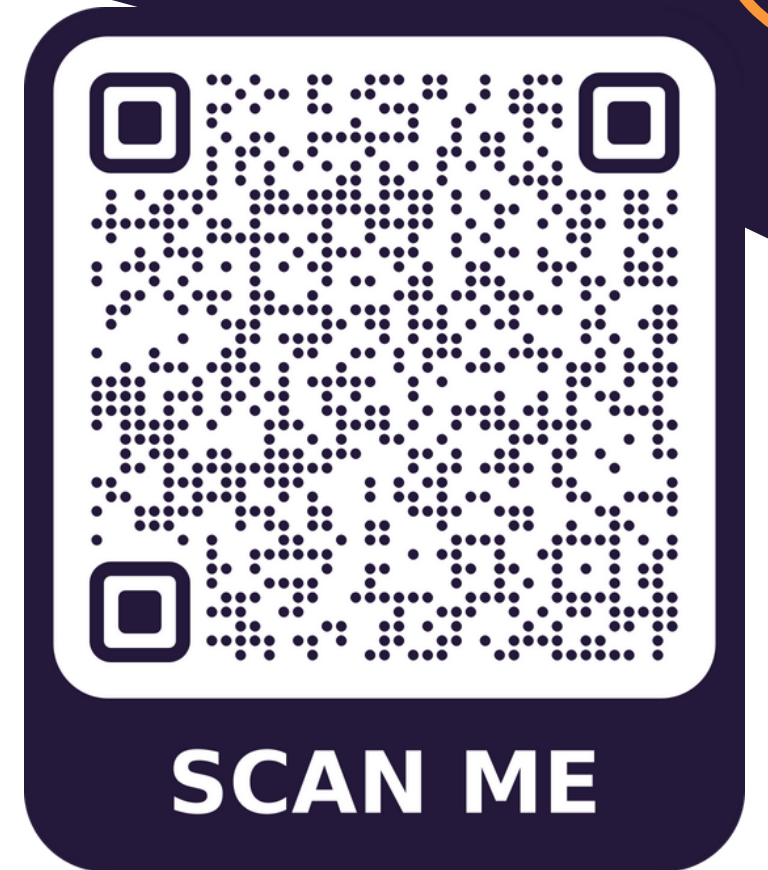
**UNDERSTAND HOW YOU  
WANT TO BE INVOLVED.**



**EXPLORE YOUR INTERESTS,  
BANDWIDTH, AND IDEAS FOR  
COLLABORATION TO GUIDE THE  
NEXT STEPS.**



# THANK YOU!



<https://community.amstat.org/commaction/home>