About Peace-Work

An all-volunteer organization, Peace-Work projects are often in the area of academic and policy research, with volunteers as likely to be found working with government economic data to write a position paper for publication as to work hand-in-hand with a social justice organization. With a practice focusing on issue-driven advocacy, projects have included human trafficking, education performance metrics, root cause analysis of homelessness, the impact of racial bias and descriptive statistics of privilege, among others.

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Peace-Work (PCWRK)

Description:

Peace-Work is a volunteer cooperative of statisticians, data scientists and other researchers applying analytics to issue-driven advocacy. Peace-Work was established in 2014 by a group of analytic colleagues with a long history in individual statistical advocacy.

Stakeholder(s):

- **David Corliss**: Founder and Director
- Statisticians
- Data Scientists
- Students: Participation is encouraged from everyone from students through the most experienced and entry-level analytic workers
- Analytic Workers
- Social Justice Organizations

Vision

Pro bono activity becomes a normal, ordinary part of a career in data science, statistics and analytics.

Mission

To apply analytics to issue-driven advocacy

Values

- **Data**: The writer Frederick Buechner observed a person’s calling is found “where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet.” Participation in the growing Data for Good movement provides opportunities to use our technical skills to support the organizations, projects and causes we care about the most.

- **Pro Bono Activity**: As the movement continues to grow, we can envision a day when pro bono activity is considered to be more than an added benefit, becoming a normal, ordinary part of a career in data science, statistics and analytics.

Advocacy
1. Connections

*Connect volunteers with organizations and datasets*

**Stakeholder(s)**

| Volunteers | Organizations |

Peace-Work operates by connecting volunteers with organizations and datasets, often from governments and other official sources, to address issues volunteers care about deeply.

1.1. Projects

*Break larger statistical projects into small pieces*

With no full-time staff, larger statistical projects are broken into small pieces to accommodate volunteers busy schedules.

1.2. Events

*Invite conference participants to contribute to projects targeting local issues*

Peace-Work has recently begun sponsoring events at analytic conferences. Called “Distributed Justice Events”, these activities invite conference participants to contribute volunteer hours during the conference on projects targeting local issues.

**Stakeholder(s):**

- Analytic Conferences
- Localities
- Volunteers
2. SAS University Edition

Promote the use of SAS University Edition

Stakeholder(s)
Researchers

While volunteers rely on the software tools of their own choosing, SAS is used in many projects. Peace-Work actively promotes the use of SAS University Edition as a powerful analytic tool with extensive statistical, machine learning and big data capabilities available to their researchers for free.