NYS GIS association

2017 Award Nomination
*Please email completed form to nygis77@gmail.com

Date: 9/7/2017	Category: ☐ Lifetime Achievement ☐ Individual Contribution to the Profession ☐ GIS Champion ☐ You Tube Sensation ☐ UAV Innovation ☐ Geospatial Applications Program (*skip to entry form below*)

Nominee (please include name, address, phone, and email)

Submitted by (please include name, address, phone, and email)

Sector: ☐ Local Government ☐ State Government ☐ Tribal Government ☐ Private (For Profit) ☐ Private (non-Profit) ☐ Academic	Functional Area: ☐ Transportation ☐ Urban Planning ☐ Emergency Response ☐ Environmental ☐ Infrastructure ☐ Other (please note) _____

Narrative Description of Contribution. (Attach separate file or pages as necessary. Please refer to the Narrative Guidance for additional information on the narrative description.)

2017 NYS Geospatial Applications Awards Competition Entry Form

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Please use the below template to submit your entry for the **2017 NYS Geospatial Applications Awards Competition**. By entering the competition, you grant permission for the NYSGIS Association to publish and publicize your entry. Click here to view the 2016 submissions.

Required Information

Sponsoring Organization:
The Institute for Children, Poverty, and Homelessness (ICPH)

Stakeholder/Participant List (by Organization):
The Institute for Children, Poverty, and Homelessness (ICPH)

Title:
New York City Interactive Map of Student Homelessness

Abstract:
More than 140,000 children attending New York City public schools have experienced homelessness within the past six years–a 49% increase over the six years. Together, these children would form a city larger than White Plains and New Rochelle combined, with roughly the same population size as Syracuse, New York. Given the prevalence of homelessness among school-age students, educators and policymakers need to understand the heightened school instability and educational challenges that students experiencing homelessness face. In response, ICPH built an interactive map called the *New York City Interactive Map of Student Homelessness*, a critical tool to help educators and policymakers visualize the extent of student homelessness at the neighborhood and school level and develop geographically-sensitive interventions for children experiencing housing instability.

Statement of the Problem:
Student homelessness in New York City places children at risk for developmental delays, trauma, educational setbacks, and poor physical and mental health. While student homelessness impacts every school and neighborhood in New York City, the exact picture of what student homelessness looks like—and the community resources available to students experiencing housing instability—can vary dramatically by neighborhood and even by schools located within the same building. To develop programs that more effectively target students experiencing homelessness, school administrators, politicians, and policymakers need an easy-to-use tool that enables them to visualize and analyze the magnitude of student homelessness in their area of interest (albeit the school, district, or neighborhood level).

Response to the Problem:
The first of its kind, ICPH's *New York City Interactive Map of Student Homelessness* fills a critical gap for educators and policymakers interested in developing geographically-targeted supportive services for students facing the greatest risk of housing instability in New York City. Providing information on the number and percent of students experiencing homelessness in the City's public and charter schools, ICPH's interactive map allows stakeholders to drill down into the neighborhood and school level to understand the extent to which housing instability varies geographically. In addition, the map includes

the location of homeless shelters and the location of select community resources such as neighborhood health centers and immunization facilities, adult and continuing education service centers, City and State sponsored job centers, and much more. This information is a critical resource to not only help decision makers tailor supportive services to local needs, but also help families struggling with housing instability identify available community resources in their neighborhood.

Results:
Though the interactive map has been live for just six months, the map has already garnered close to 6,000 unique views. The interactive map has also generated awareness on student homelessness in local communities, appearing in publications such as *The Bronx Chronicle,* the *Bed-Stuy Patch*, *New York Nonprofit Media, Our Town, Queens Chronicle, Chalkbeat New York, Kings County Politics, DNAinfo, Sunnyside Post,* and *QNS.com*.

In addition, ICPH uses the interactive map as a tool to conduct outreach to public school officials who work closely with students experiencing homelessness and are often some of the first officials to identify a student's history of housing instability. ICPH has presented on student homelessness using the map to school nurses, social workers, members of the Students in Temporary Housing Unit, community members, and teachers representing New York City's 32 public school districts. ICPH also hosted a webinar with over 100 participants to demonstrate the use of the tool. We hope that this outreach effort will bring the issue of student homelessness to the forefront at the start of the new school year and will serve as a stepping stone to additional policies and programs that meet the unique educational needs of students experiencing homelessness.

Return on Investment/Cost-Benefit Analysis. Do your best to use the ROI benefit and cost formulas found at **GISCalc**. **Your project can then be used to strengthen GISCalc metrics:**
N/A

Key Participants: (Name, Organization, Title)
Kristen MacFarlane, ICPH, Senior GIS Analyst
Anna Shaw-Amoah, ICPH, Principal Policy Analyst

URL (if applicable): bit.ly//mapNYCHomelessStudents

Contact Information:

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