

North Carolina Office of Strategic Partnerships



To learn more, visit [OSP's website](#) or email partnerships@osbm.nc.gov

WHAT DOES OSP DO AND WHY DOES IT MATTER?

The North Carolina Office of Strategic Partnerships (OSP) develops, launches, and enhances partnerships between state government and North Carolina's research and philanthropic sectors.

OSP works with state government and non-governmental partners on priority issues, develops and convenes networks of public sector and research experts, and provides learning and engagement opportunities. These efforts help to deepen connections between North Carolina state government and external research experts and to increase government's internal capacity to generate and use evidence to improve policy and programmatic functions.

PARTNERSHIPS INCLUDE...



State agencies

OSP works with state agencies across a wide range of issues, priorities, and types of engagement including short- and long-term; funded and pro bono; and with faculty, researchers, and students.

[Learn more here.](#)



Researchers

OSP leverages North Carolina's deep research resources through partnerships with universities, colleges, and other sources of expertise that generate and use evidence to inform government decision making.

[Learn more here.](#)



Philanthropy

OSP works with philanthropy and state government to educate each sector about the other, connect and foster relationships and partnerships, and collaborate on projects of shared interest.

[Learn more here.](#)

HOW DO PARTNERSHIPS WORK?

Partnerships are tailored to state agencies' needs and priorities, interest from potential partners, available resources, and other considerations. Some partnership opportunities are for short-term engagements of a few months or less; others require longer commitments. Project time frames, deadlines, funding possibilities (if needed), and deliverables are determined case by case. OSP prioritizes partnerships that are scalable, sustainable, and yield open-source knowledge and resources. OSP developed the [North Carolina Project Portal](#) to share opportunities for research partnerships with state agencies and for people to express interest in pursuing those opportunities.

HOW CAN I CONTINUE TO LEARN ABOUT OSP'S WORK?



Stay up to date through OSP's Highlights and Monthly Connect. Highlights is a monthly communication of e-news and resources. Monthly Connect is a series of virtual sessions featuring panel discussions on topics relevant to partnerships among state government, research institutions, philanthropy, and others.

[Sign up](#) for Highlights and Monthly Connect invites. See [past Highlights](#) and all [Monthly Connect recordings](#).





“Government-research partnerships are critical and OSP's approach to helping meaningful partnerships happen has meant all the difference. State agencies, community colleges, colleges, and universities across NC, including N.C. A&T, are increasingly engaged in this work. We look forward to ongoing cross-sector collaboration.”

DR. TONYA SMITH-JACKSON, PROVOST,
N.C. A&T STATE UNIVERSITY



“The Philanthropy Liaison position is truly one-of-a-kind, and I believe a model for other states that want to bridge philanthropy and government. Thank you for the education, knowledge sharing, relationship building, and strategic thought partnership.”

STEPHANIE KRIPA COOPER-
LEWTER, EXECUTIVE VICE
PRESIDENT, KATE B. REYNOLDS
CHARITABLE TRUST



“I've worked with OSP on behalf of two state agencies to develop, share, and launch research partnerships. These projects demonstrate the feasibility of collaboration between internal and external experts, and reinforce state government's commitment to using data and evidence to guide decisions.”

JENNIFER MUNDT, ASST. SECRETARY OF
CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, NC DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE

WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF PARTNERSHIPS?

Visit the [OSP website](#) or see [past Highlights](#) for a range of partnership opportunities. Explore the [NC Project Portal](#) to learn more about open, in-progress, and completed research partnerships and other collaborations with North Carolina state government and non-governmental partners. Some examples are below. (Agency partner in **bold**.)

- What can NCSOS learn from data collected from failed businesses about possible business survivorship interventions and resources that would be most likely to increase business success rates during the initial seven-year period? (**NC Department of the Secretary of State**)
- How much do NC teen court programs reduce recidivism among youth under 18? (**NC Department of Public Safety**)
- How can the NC Wildlife Resources Commission improve compliance with wildlife regulations and, in turn, public safety? (**NC Wildlife Resources Commission**)
- How can North Carolina improve voluntary compliance with tax filing and payment? (**NC Department of Revenue**)
- What are the current NCWorks Certified Career Pathways across the state and what is the impact of each pathway on training and certification achievement for participants? (**NC Department of Commerce**)
- Is there a difference in outcomes for juvenile offenders between counties where defense is provided by court-appointed counsel and counties where defense is through contract counsel or public defenders? (**NC Office of Indigent Defense Services**)

HOW ELSE DOES OSP ADVANCE EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY?

The North Carolina Office of Strategic Partnerships focuses on the use of research and evidence to inform policy and programmatic decisions. OSP is involved with local, state, and national efforts to build a culture of evidence and increase the use of evidence within government. [Learn more about those efforts here.](#)

OSP develops and shares resources about cross-sector partnerships and the importance of using research and data to inform decision making. For examples, see [Monthly Connects](#), [Philanthropy Liaison](#), and throughout the [OSP website](#).

NC Office of



Strategic Partnerships

THE OSP TEAM

Eliza Edwards
Deputy Director

Keegan Huynh
Program Support Specialist

Alicia James
Program Manager

Lori Ko
Intern

Tago Mharapara
Fulbright Fellow (with OSP and The Policy Lab at Brown University)

Jenni Owen
Director

Joy Vermillion Heinsohn
Philanthropy Liaison

Ruth Wygle
Doctoral Associate

David Yokum
Senior Advisor

Evidence Advisor (forthcoming)

OSP's Advisory Group is listed [here](#).

Questions? Email partnerships@osbm.nc.gov