PAULINE ZALDONIS

pzaldonis@gmail.com
https://paulinezaldonis.com

Researcher and analyst with ten years of experience in policy and data analysis in the public sector. Focused on making government data accessible and useful for decision-making. Seeking opportunities to improve users' experience with digital government services.

EMPLOYMENT

Connecticut Office of Policy and Management, Hartford, CT

Associate Research Analyst   March 2021–present
Research Analyst   November 2018–March 2021

- As part of the Data and Policy Analytics Division, working with the Chief Data Officer to support state agencies in taking a coordinated approach to data management, sharing, and use in accordance with the Connecticut State Data Plan
- Serving as the Agency Data Officer for OPM, maintaining an inventory of high value data sources at the agency and managing data requests from other agencies and the public
- Managing the CT Open Data Portal, developing automated processes for data preparation and publication, providing support to users and data publishers, and creating dashboards and visualizations using open data, including the development of the COVID-19 data portal
- Leading the annual reporting efforts for the GreenerGov CT initiative on sustainability in state government, designing reporting tools, managing the data collection process, and reporting on agency and statewide progress through an annual progress report and dashboard
- Developing documentation and guidance materials for Agency Data Officers and publishers to the Open Data Portal, including the Open Data Handbook and Data Visualization and Accessibility Guidelines, as well as collaborating on the Data Sharing Playbook
- Conducting analysis and developing data visualizations using R, Tableau, and Datawrapper to inform the public and decision makers
- Trained and mentored graduate and undergraduate student interns

Springfield Technical Community College, Springfield, MA

Senior Research Analyst   November 2017–November 2018

- As a member of the Institutional Research Office, wrote queries for data extraction, management, and analysis
- Responded to information requests from administrative and academic offices, drawing from a variety of data sources
- Prepared presentations and visualizations using Tableau and Excel to communicate findings to campus and external constituents

Economic and Public Policy Research Group, UMass Donahue Institute, Hadley, MA

Research Analyst   October 2015–November 2017

- As a part of the Population Estimates Program, collected, processed, and analyzed population data to ensure the accuracy of population estimates and counts for Massachusetts
- Managed the Group Quarters Review, an annual report submitted to the U.S. Census Bureau documenting the population in Massachusetts residing in group quarters and maintained the database of GQ facilities
- Developed protocols to process local assessment data and create a master address list of residential addresses for Massachusetts using Microsoft Excel and Access, ArcGIS, and Python
- Created data validation checks to check for errors in data processing
- Developed data visualizations using ArcGIS, Tableau, and Excel

Hartford Food System, Hartford, CT

Policy Analyst   September 2014–October 2015

- Conducted a program evaluation of the City of Hartford Advisory Commission on Food Policy through surveys, interviews, meeting observations, and a record review
- Coordinated the activities of the Advisory Commission on Food Policy, including the development of an annual report with policy recommendations for City leadership
- Supported the development of new language surrounding land use and urban agriculture which was included in the municipal code of the City of Hartford

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Hartford Food System, Hartford, CT (cont'd)

Program Coordinator   August 2014–October 2015
- Launched the Hartford Mobile Market, a mobile produce market that brings fresh fruits and vegetables to Hartford neighborhoods with limited healthy food access
- Coordinated with various stakeholders including funders, community partners, mobile market staff, farmers, wholesale vendors, and community members to manage daily market operations
- Developed and implemented data collection tools to track market data, including sales, number of customers served, implementation of state and federal nutrition assistance benefits, and percentage of local products offered on the mobile market

Outreach Coordinator   2011–2012
- Developed and implemented an outreach plan to increase the accessibility of Hartford Food System's farmers market for shoppers using state and federal nutrition assistance benefits

Insideschools.org at the Center for NYC Affairs, New York, NY

Graduate Assistant   2012–2014
- Researched public schools in New York City through site visits, interviews, and analysis of data from the Department of Education
- Wrote school reviews and blog posts for publication on Insideschools.org

Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá, Colombia

Fulbright English Teaching Assistant   2010–2011
- Planned and delivered six university classes on a weekly basis to foster the students' active learning experiences through communicative, task-based exercises

EDUCATION

UX Design Certificate   January 2024
Designlab - UX Academy

User-Centered Design Certificate   August 2022
The New School - Continuing and Professional Education

Master of Science in Urban Policy Analysis and Management   May 2014
The New School - Milano School of International Affairs, Management and Urban Policy

Bachelor of Arts in History and Latin American Studies   May 2010
Oberlin College

SPEAKING

- **CT Data Annual Conference**, Co-presenter, *What Are the Sate's Plans for Data: Shaping the State's Data Priorities*, October 2024
- **Connecticut Institute for Resilience & Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) Summit**, Panelist, *Data Equity for Enhanced Resilience: Bridging Gaps, Facilitating Sharing, & Shaping Tomorrow's Plans*, December 2023
- **CTData Unconference**, Presenter, *Developing Guidance for Creating Accessible Data Visualizations*, November 2023
- **CT Data Annual Conference**, Co-presenter, *Connecticut's State Data Office: Addressing State Data Gaps*, May 2023
- **All In: Data for Community Health National Meeting**, Co-presenter, *Metadata: Why It Is Essential for Ethical Use and How to Improve It*, November 2021
- **Tyler Tech Podcast**, Guest, *Connecticut's Data-Driven Approach to Back to School*, August 2021
- **Tyler Tech Connect**, Co-presenter, *Using Data to Support Local Decision Making in Schools During COVID-19*, April 2021

AWARDS & OTHER EXPERIENCE

- **Edie Windsor Scholarship**, Lesbians Who Tech, 2022
- **Applied Data Analytics Training**, Coleridge Initiative, March-July 2021
- **Fulbright Scholarship to Colombia**, U.S. Fulbright Program, August 2010