



Overcoming Challenges in Data Sharing and Linkages

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Breaking Down Data Silos in Higher Education



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Challenges in Higher Education Data

Institutions struggle to track graduate outcomes, earnings, and demonstrate ROI while protecting student privacy.



DISC's Role in Data Integration

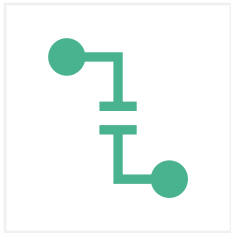
DISC supports states by integrating education-to-workforce data systems and providing legal and technical assistance.



State Success Stories

Connecticut, California, and Nebraska have transformed data systems to track outcomes, comply with laws, and overcome barriers.

Connecticut: Modernizing systems



The Problem

Identified issues with data movement, security vulnerabilities, and declines in data quality



DISC's Approach

Validated risks with an Enhanced Privacy and Security Assessment

Recommended system improvements including a secure enclave

Facilitated consensus among stakeholders



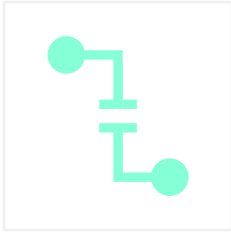
Impact

Development of **modernized system** including development of a secure enclave

Reduced security vulnerabilities

Increased **capacity** to develop actionable information

Nebraska: From Legal Gridlock to Data Flow



The Problem

One institution's unique FERPA interpretation threatened to unravel Nebraska's data sharing agreement, despite all other partners finding no compliance issues



DISC's Approach

Independently **verified** FERPA compliance of existing agreements

Facilitated transparent **dialogue** between all parties

Uncovered the hidden **issue**: data quality concerns had been misdiagnosed as legal barriers

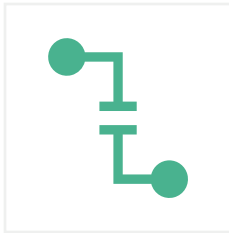


Impact

Preserved existing agreements and **validated** legal framework

Uncovered underlying data quality issues and governance solutions to resolve them

The Universal Financial Aid Confusion



The Problem

New Federal Student Aid guidance left institutions confused on data sharing requirements with state SLDS



DISC's Approach

Mobilized specialized legal and technical experts to develop clear, actionable guidance

Crafted individualized approaches respecting each state's statutory requirements

Delivered resources and expertise at no cost to states



Impact

States gain clarity from a trusted source

Supplemented legal expertise to allow states to move forward

Established precedent that other states can follow without starting from scratch

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SHEEO Basic Needs Data Academy
Convening

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October 9, 2025 • Phoenix, AZ

About the Coleridge Initiative

Our mission: To work with government agencies to ensure that data are more effectively used for public decision-making

Our platform: The Administrative Data Research Facility (ADRF) is a secure, FedRAMP-authorized, cloud-based environment that enables government agencies to link their longitudinal data with other states and agencies

Our approach: value, communities, practice

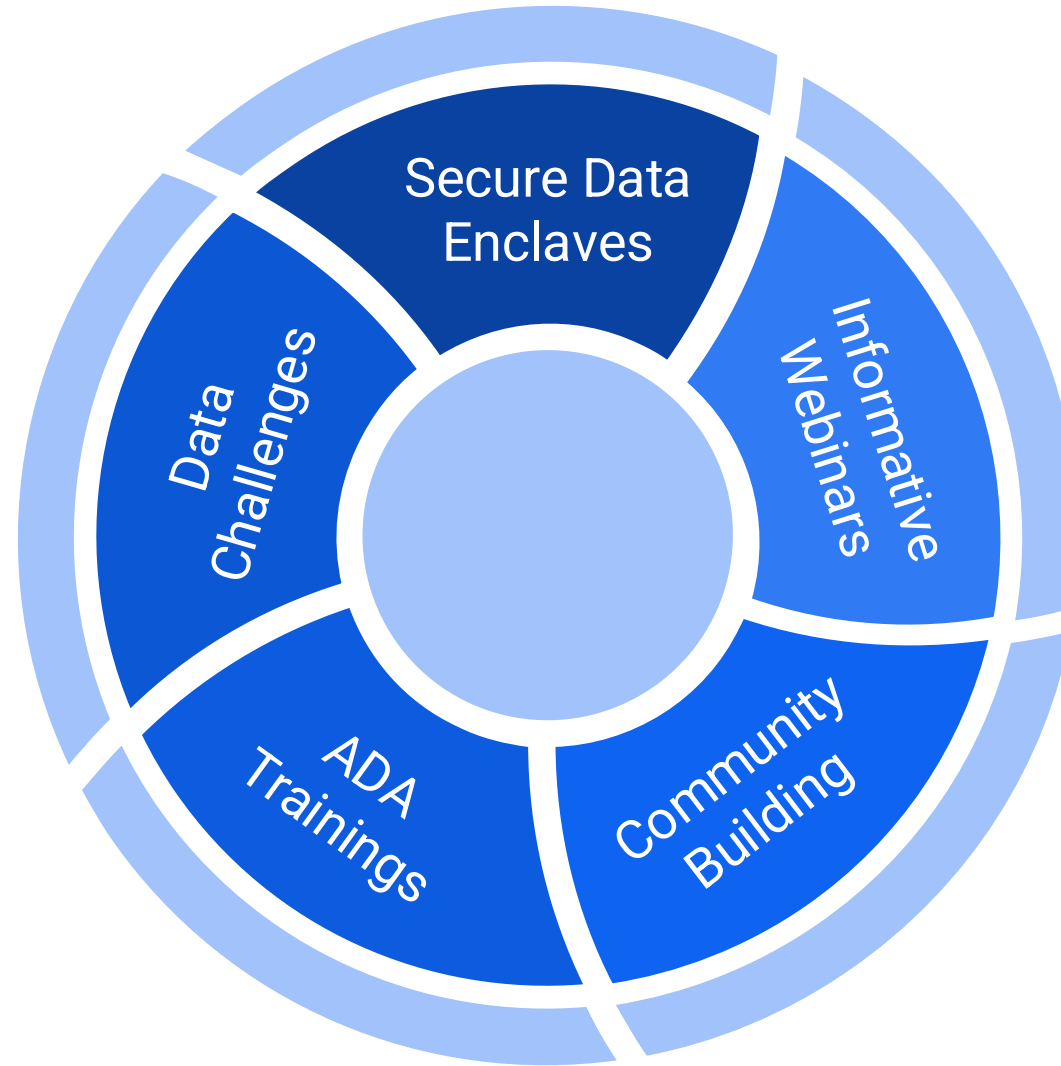
Create **value** from securely linking administrative data within and across state lines

Build new **communities** from new data assets

Move from projects to products to **practice** from the careful use of data



Coleridge's Multi-Faced Approach



Some Success Stories

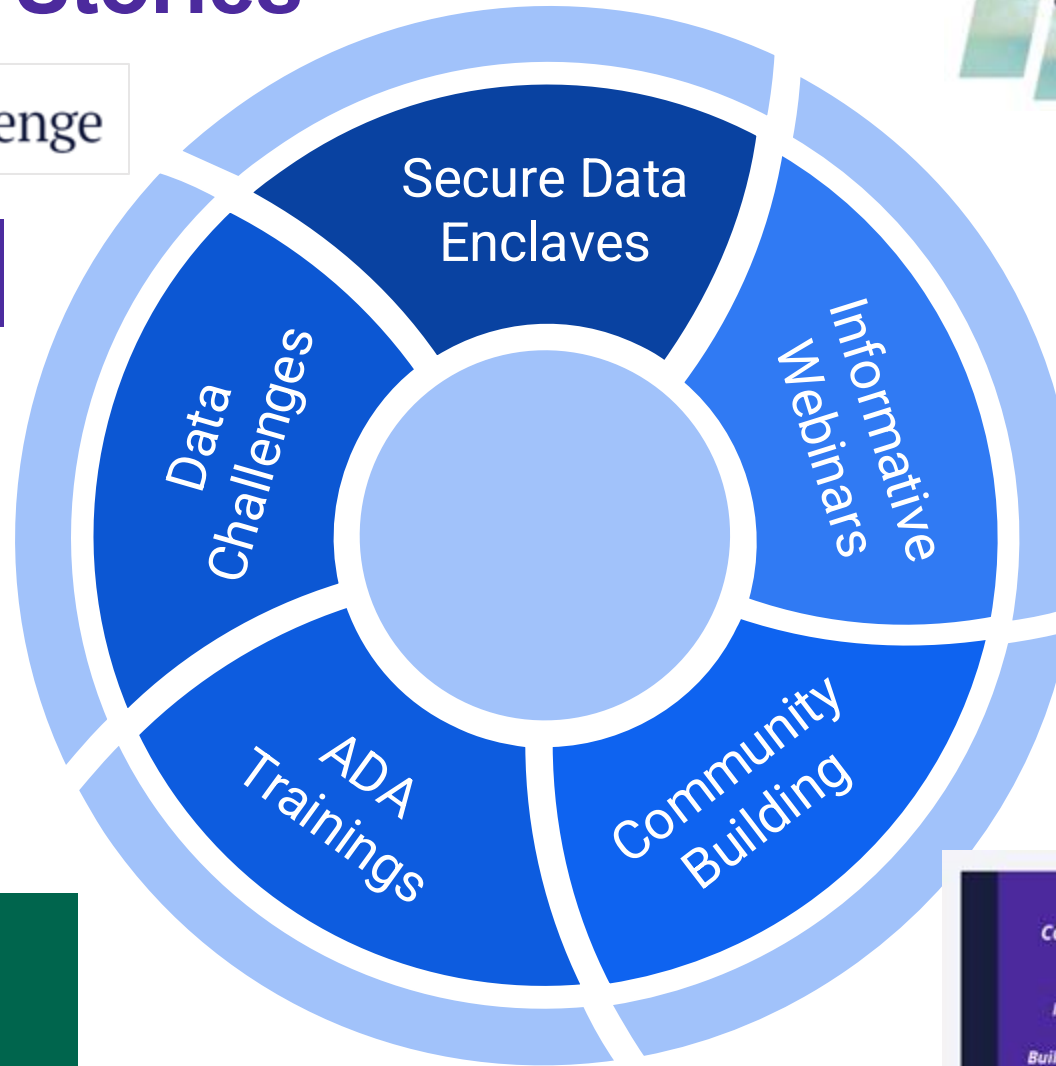
Democratizing our Data Challenge

State IMPACT Collaborative

Multi-State Data Collaboratives

Applied Data Analytics Training Programs

Short Course Series in Data Visualization and Analytics



Democratizing our Data Challenge (DDC) Projects

- The DDC was designed to develop and scale innovative product ideas for understanding public policy and programs by using government administrative data hosted in the ADRF
- The goal is to transform the secure and safe use of data and evidence to inform policy
- [Link to Completed Projects](#)



DDC Projects

Data Hashing Application

The Coleridge Initiative developed ADRF Hasher to allow data providers to protect the privacy and confidentiality of their data prior to its transmission to ADRF.

Coleridge Initiative ADRF Hasher (1.0.0.6)

Target File

Source File Name: C:\Sample-1.csv

Target Folder: C:\

Target File Name: Sample-1_HASHED_100920_1643.csv

Column Separator: | ☒ Include Headers in Output File

Default Secret Key ☒

Select columns to be hashed and hash rule

Source Header	Hash	Hash Rule	Target Header	Included in Output File
ID	☐		ID	☒
SSN	☒	SSN	SSN	☒
FNAME	☒	Name	FNAME	☒
MNAME	☐		MNAME	☒
LNAME	☒	Name	LNAME	☒
Address	☐		Address	☒
City	☐		City	☐
State	☐		State	☐
ZIP	☐		ZIP	☐
Data1	☒	Other	Data1	☒
Data2	☐		Data2	☐

Target File Preview - Displaying First 13 Rows Only

ID	SSN	FNAME	MNAME	LNAME	Address	Data1
555555	704d07721cb6	bdf132587588	Deer	408aee87odd	563 Lookout St.	d98b94554bb3
10101010	5572c7bedd56	d59958eb29a	Cat	5865983748c	9044 Littleton	36e8ec7ed55c
346712	2018ae09589	a62d949ca9a6	Mouse	2e0869913e8	777 Liberty Str	796bbb56fce4f
987654	2421fa7219ef7	87c1974c226e	Fish	c335efbd9055	92 North Fairw	2da148b9ec31
23232323	0e0ce65ea37d	149471846a8	Duck	bc225969cac5	5238 Baker Dri	48937bcd73b
234231	5572c7bedd56	1a3d8be58996	Gore	9dec277e9d1	81 La Sierra Rd	49426daf3a26
66345	7eb022c1a33	932012ed874	Bush	4cc57e83515d	1600 Pennsylv	d98b94554bb3
88876	8ac3e730bbf0	0febaee13730	Reagan	fcbb69982e7d3	563 Lookout St.	36e8ec7ed55c
98787	2421fa7219ef7	26da079dc08	Carter	1b53078963cb	9044 Littleton	796bbb56fce4f
2345	49b1e657e41c	9ab28e78319c	Ford	db5a275b53b	777 Liberty Str	2da148b9ec31
3456	7ef77985d9b3	b53666680e3	Nixon	d5b5280287a	92 North Fairw	48937bcd73b
1234	b6239835da6	bdf132587588	Kennedy	c13327049929	5238 Baker Dri	49426daf3a26
5436	1d6bbb284017	932012ed874	Washington	d3c9a64a149	81 La Sierra Rd	8fa5bb8c0fc18



Coleridge Initiative Data Hasher

Thank you!

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