

# Vicky Johnson-Dahl

Washington, DC • [vickyjohnsondahl.com](http://vickyjohnsondahl.com)

## **Geographic Information Officer/Cartographer** 02/2019 – present

**Macfadden/PAE & WWC Global, Washington, DC**

Expert in cartography, data analysis, information visualization, and project management for the USAID Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI) in support of conflict prevention and stabilization as part of the Creative Digital Team and Field Programs Division.

- Conceptualizes and designs reliable, accurate maps, infographics, and other visual content used in both daily reporting and high level policy and decision-making at levels up to and including the White House and National Security Council
- Manages the diverse map, geospatial data, and product needs of OTI programs across Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and Latin America
- Writes and edits data summaries and content to accompany visuals
- Creates, gathers, verifies, and refines datasets from a wide variety of sources
- Leads the Watch Country Small Group, dedicated to researching and refining media and geodata on emerging areas of interest to the office
- Advises on data standards & ethics regarding secure information
- Works cooperatively as part of a team of geospatial specialists, graphic designers, and media advisors; engages in regular peer review and collaborates on projects with others across the bureau and agency
- Liaises with GIS professionals across the public and private sectors
- Deploys on assignment to field offices. Past assignments include providing mentorship and technical training, implementing field data collection exercises, and designing information products in Germany, Kenya, Iraq, Moldova, Poland, and Tunisia

## **GIS Analyst/Cartographer**

05/2017 – 02/2019

**Macfadden, Washington, DC**

Provided GIS, cartographic, and graphic design expertise to the USAID Office of Food For Peace (FFP) in support of humanitarian missions worldwide as part of the Information Support Unit and Policy, Partnerships, Program, and Communications Division.

- Initiated the growth of the scope of work from basic thematic maps to a full portfolio of sophisticated geospatial and visual design products
- Created an average of 20 products per month, including infographics, ESRI StoryMaps, layered PDFs, and animated GIFs in addition to highly regarded cartography
- Managed the unique needs of nine different regional units
- Contributed geographic content for briefers for principals on key FFP responses and office priorities
- Designed the 2016 and 2017 FFP Annual Reports, redesigned FFP's country-specific factsheets, and contributed graphics for other public-facing information products

## **Project Cartographer (Freelance, intermittent)**

11/2015 – 07/2018

## **EDUCATION**

University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Madison, WI, remote  
MSc. GIS Development (in progress, expected graduation 2024)

The George Washington University  
Washington, DC  
BA. Geography; minor Geographic Information Systems

## **SECURITY CLEARANCE**

Secret (Active)

## **TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS**

ArcMap | ArcGIS Online | QGIS  
OpenStreetMap | Imagery Analysis | D3  
Python | Mapbox Studio | HTML/CSS | R  
Adobe Creative Cloud (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign) | Leaflet  
Javascript | Java | Google Earth Engine  
Felt | CARTO | AerialOD | GeoJSON

## **LEADERSHIP**

North American Cartographic Information Society (NACIS)  
- Board Member/Director at-Large (2021-2023)  
- New Attendee Ambassador (2020-2022)

## **PUBLISHED WORKS**

Johnson-Dahl, Vicky. "Buffalo in 50 Maps" *Belt Publishing*. Book, 2023. Print.

Johnson, Victoria. "Bookscapes." *Muse Magazine*. Article, May/June 2012: 13-17. Print.

Johnson, Victoria. "Maphead" *Barnesandnoble.com*. Book review, September 2011. Web.

Johnson, Victoria. "Fun With Maps" *The Awl*. Regular column, 2011-2013. Web.

## **AWARDS**

USAID/CPS Bureau Visionary Award  
Creative Digital Team (2021)

### **APA Consulting, Denver, CO**

Conducted statistical analysis and created high quality maps for domestic education reporting publications.

### **GIS Specialist/Cartographer 09/2012 – 05/2017**

#### **Macfadden, Washington, DC**

Provided GIS and cartographic services to the USAID Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs (OAPA) as part of the Program Office and Data teams in support of missions in Kabul and Islamabad and coordinated with field-based staff to provide continuous coverage in a demanding, high-pressure environment.

- Created complex, accurate maps and infographics for use in strategic programming, monitoring, and evaluation
- Conducted satellite imagery analysis and provided geospatial consultation
- Developed and implemented consistent internal design standards
- Maintained and updated a pair of country-specific geodata repositories
- Collaborated with GIS professionals across the Federal government
- Led training for mission staff in Kabul, Afghanistan and Islamabad, Pakistan

### **Intermediate GIS Analyst/Cartographer 04/2010 – 07/2012**

#### **New Light Technologies Inc., Washington, DC**

Supported geospatial technology consulting projects for Federal government and local clients. Contributed to annual development and release of Census web-based labor force mapping and analysis application for emergency management uses.

- Produced detailed, effective maps and graphics for a variety of clients
- Researched, evaluated, analyzed, and geoprocessed large scale datasets related to U.S. population and workforce statistics
- Developed a set of cohesive base map aesthetics
- Wrote and edited technical documentation
- Major programs and clients included:
  - *OnTheMap and OnTheMap for Emergency Management, Center for Economic Studies, Census Bureau, Suitland, MD*
  - *National Capital Region Childhood Poverty Report, Child Trends, Washington, DC*

### **GIS Technician 03/2009 - 04/2010**

#### **ASRC Federal at Census Bureau, Geography Division, Suitland, MD**

Processed raw data into spatially accurate map layers to be included in Census Bureau's Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing system (TIGER/Line) shapefiles.

### **GIS Operator 07/2008 - 12/2008**

#### **Waitakere City Council Parks and GIS Departments,**

#### **Auckland, New Zealand**

Provided GIS & cartography services for two departments within a local government office to create maps and geographic information databases in order to index and maintain park assets and provide geospatial solutions to citizen inquiries.

USAID/OTI Certificate of Excellence Individual (2020)

USAID/OTI Certificate of Excellence Creative Digital Team (2020)

USAID/OTI Collaborate, Learn, and Adapt Award Middle East Team (2020)

USAID Superior Honor Group Award OAPA Program Office (2016)

USAID/OAPA Individual Certificate of Appreciation OAPA Data Team (2014)

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

“Buffalo in 50 Maps in 30 Minutes” Rochester GIS SIG, Rochester, NY (remote). April 2023

“Percussion Cartography” NACIS Annual Meeting, Online. October 2021

“Speculative Fiction Cartography: Mapping the State of Lafayette, 1928” NACIS Annual Meeting, Tacoma, WA. October 2019

“How Far Is A Sandwich? Cartographic Representations of Linear Distance.” NACIS Annual Meeting, Norfolk, VA. October 2018

“A Field Guide to 20th Century Airline Route Maps.” NACIS Annual Meeting, Montreal, QC. October 2017

“It's A Map Map Map Map World: Cartography, Cinema, and Adventure.” NACIS Annual Meeting, Colorado Springs, CO. October 2016

“The First OSM Edit Project.” State of the Map US, New York City, NY. June 2015.

“The Lands Beyond: Cartography in Fantasy Literature.” New York Map Society, New York City, NY. April 2013.