Introduction

1. The phrase “speak truth to power” is often traced to Quakers who opposed both sides of the Cold War.

4. Quantitative Data Analysis in a Collaboration Research Project

1. The AHS reports confidence intervals. Confidence intervals vary by sample size. The sample for Philadelphia is 530. The AHS used 90 percent confidence intervals. For the Philadelphia sample, an estimate of 10,000 homeowners would yield a 90 percent confidence interval of 5,400, meaning that the actual number might be between 4,600 and 15,400. (See U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development 1999, appendix D, table X2, p. D-10.)

2. In the Year 29 Consolidated Plan, which was in force during the year when we conducted our research, the Philadelphia OHCD defined extremely low income as less than 30 percent of the median family income (2003, 12).

3. For evidence supporting Philadelphia’s BSRP as effective in preventing homelessness and abandonment, see Research for Democracy 2001, 31.

4. First, we took the average BSRP cost per home-repair task. The BSRP kept more thorough records by repair task or case rather than per home, and homes could receive multiple repairs. For estimating the costs per home, the best data the BSRP office had on this issue were an unpublished chart entitled “Costs per Property, as Seen from May 2001 Through April of 2002, Basic Systems Repair Program.” This chart indicates that during the annual 2001–2002 period there were 1,400 closed properties (not cases).
5. “Everyday World Policy Analysis”

1. In this case, only some of the NTI funds represent an overall increase in BSRP funds. Of the $12 million dollars BSRP budgeted from NTI, only $5 million represent a net increase in the BSRP to fund Tier 2. The other $7 million were actually a swap between CDBG and NTI funds: $2.5 million went into adaptive modification, $2.5 million into rental rehab, and $5 million into an added childcare health and safety fund. CDBG moneys (instead of NTI funds) were used for these programs, and then NTI (instead of CDBG) funding went into BSRP instead.

2. Designation of repairs as “emergency repairs” also allows the city to waive federal lead-abatement requirements. Although this practice is an acknowledged concern, the requirement to address it would squeeze the budget and further reduce the city’s ability to make even the home repairs that BSRP currently provides.

3. Some “Tier 3” repairs were still reported for FY 29, but these repairs were in process prior to FY 29 and carried over.

4. All names used in this section are pseudonyms in order to protect confidentiality.

7. The Challenges of Doing Collaborative Research

1. Unless indicated otherwise, all quotes in this chapter are excerpts from our interviews with WCRP advocates and others involved in the home-repair study for low-income homeowners.