Helpful Harmful

Strengths

- Nonprofit employees are more motivated than for-profit peers.
- Many nonprofits work with data every day using tools like Excel
- Nonprofits are aware of the importance of data science, and are eager to start
- Nonprofits smaller scale allow them to be more adaptable.

Weaknesses

- Poor data hygiene of nonprofit data
- Nonprofit employees have poor data literacy
- Nonprofit employees have a lower salary than their for-profit peers.

Opportunities

- There is a large community of Data Scientists who volunteer time and expertise to help nonprofits
- Large tech companies, and government agencies offer grants to nonprofits interested in data modernization projects
- Media sentiment of data-driven nonprofits more positive than average.

Threats

- Third party consultants supplying data science services for nonprofits unintentionally disempower NPOs through a loss of data autonomy.
- Volunteers may self select flashy projects and overlook more mission relevant mundane tasks.
- Big tech provides advanced tools not relevant to the actual needs of nonprofits