

# CENTRAL NEBRASKA COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP

ANNUAL REPORT 2017



## MISSION STATEMENT

Partnering with individuals and families to encourage independence through community-based solutions.

# THE DEEP ROOTS OF COMMUNITY ACTION

In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson, gave a profound speech entitled The War on Poverty which was the promise to end poverty. In aligning with this pledge, the Economic Opportunity Act was passed which established the grassroots efforts of Community Action.

Three excerpts within that speech remain the genuine foundation of why Community Action remains dedicated in doing what we do.

President Johnson stated:

“What does this poverty mean to those who endure it? It means a daily struggle to secure the necessities for ever a meager existence. It means that the abundance, the comforts, the opportunities they see all around them are beyond their grasp. Worst of all, it means hopelessness for the young.”

“We must also strike down all the barriers which keep many from using those exits. The war on poverty is not a struggle simply to support people, to make them dependent on the generosity of others. It is a struggle to give people a chance. It is an effort to allow them to develop and use their capacities, as we have been allowed to develop and use ours, so that they can share, as others share, in the promise of this nation.”

“We do this, first of all, because it is right that we should...We do it also because helping some will increase the prosperity of all. Our fight against poverty will be an investment in the most valuable of our resources-the skills and strength of our people...It strikes at the causes, not just the consequences of poverty.”

**The words ...because it is right that we should are so profound that it puts emphasis on our obligation to help others that are experiencing a weakened state of their being.**

The words spoken by President Johnson create the deep-rooted inspiration that although we know it may be an overwhelming charge, all Community Action Agencies continue an unwavering unity to help build stronger communities. So, as we are continuously reminded of the words so eloquently spoken so long ago, we will continue to advocate not only for the people we serve, but for the continued efforts of the programs that help stabilize them. On behalf of the Board of Directors and the CNCAP staff, we will remain relentless in our endeavors to address the challenges faced by so many, so we may provide opportunities to help them overcome adversity.

***“Always have a willing hand to help someone, you might be the only one that does.”***

***Roy T. Bennett***

Respectfully,

**CHERYL HOLCOMB**

CNCAP Executive Director

# WAR ON POVERTY

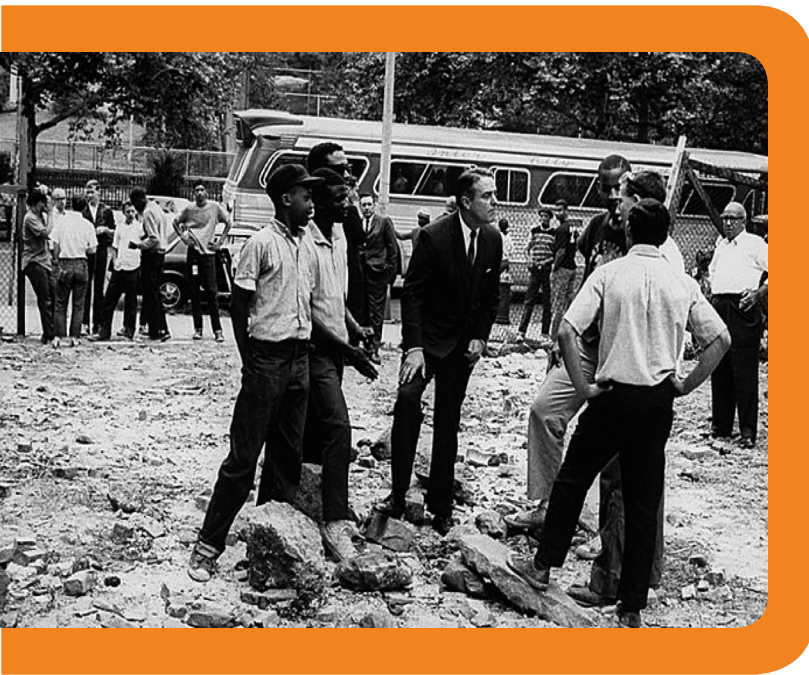
In Lyndon Johnson's 1964 State of the Union Speech, the president said:

*This administration today, here and now, declares unconditional war on poverty in America. I urge this Congress and all Americans to join with me in that effort.*

President Lyndon B. Johnson tapped Sgt. Shriver to be the architect of his signature program - the War on Poverty. Shriver created a myriad of programs including Head Start, Job Corps, VISTA, Community Action Program, Legal Services to the Poor, and Foster Grandparents, designed to help lift millions of Americans out of poverty. Like the Peace Corps, many of the programs started during the War on Poverty continue to serve Americans today.

The War on Poverty became the flagship initiative for the Johnson Administration. As Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity in the mid-1960s, Shriver developed a multi-faceted War on Poverty designed to transform the economic and social roots of the conflict over civil rights in America.

In Sgt. Shriver's words, "The simplest description of the War on Poverty is that it is a means of making life available for any and all pursuers. It does not try to make men good - because that is moralizing. It does not try to give men what they want - because that is catering. It does not try to give men false hopes - because that is deception. Instead, the War on Poverty tries only to create the conditions by which the good life can be lived - and that is humanism."



## ***The Promise of Community Action***

*Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people, help themselves and each other.*

# CENTRAL NEBRASKA COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP, INC.

## ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

### 2016-2017 CNCAP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership is governed by a 27 member Board of Directors representing the service region of 21 counties. The area includes 6 core counties that formulated the organization in the early 1960's along with 3 districts added to bring in a broad range of experience and representation. The tripartite board includes representatives from the private sector, public sector and the low income sector. This has proven a successful formula for long term agency governance.

### OFFICERS

Roger Goldfish	President, Valley County
Barb Wroblewski	Vice President, Howard County
Doug Wrede	Secretary, Treasurer, Greeley County

### ADDITIONAL BOARD MEMBERS

Joan Barnes, Valley County	Larry Griffith, Sherman County
Kristine Marshall, Valley County	Jean Kowalski, Sherman County
Barry Fox, Custer County	Scott Friesen, Sherman County
Dee Dee Christen, Custer County	Ralph Metschke, North Central
JoAnn Koontz, Custer County	Wayne Owens, North Central
Joyce Costello, Greeley County	Bob Thomas, North Central
Jay Meyer, Greeley County	Scott Arnold, South Central
Kathy Hirschman, Howard County	Hope Anderson, South Central
Mike Feeken, Howard County	Shawn Farritor, South Central
Jim Helgoth, Merrick County	Christy Wemhoff, East Central
Nelva McNeff, Merrick County	Pat Heimes, East Central
Arizona Brooks, Merrick County	Ruth Boettcher, East Central

### SENIOR MANAGEMENT

Cheryl Holcomb	Executive Director
Donna Obermiller	Deputy Director/Fiscal Director
Sue Obermiller	Early Childhood Programs Director
Judy Hughes	Housing Director
Keli Forney	Family Outreach Director
Michael Peirce	Human Resource Director

# CENTRAL NEBRASKA COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP, INC.

## LOCAL OFFICES

### LOUP CITY CENTRAL OFFICE

626 N Street, POB 509  
Loup City, NE 68853  
(308) 745-0780

### BROKEN BOW

924 East South E. Street, POB 43  
Broken Bow, NE 68822  
(308) 872-6013

### CENTRAL CITY

715 16th Street, POB 34  
Central City, NE 68826

### COLUMBUS

3286 53RD Ave.  
Columbus, NE 68601

### GRAND ISLAND

2525 Lincoln Hwy. West  
Grand Island, NE 68803

### O'NEILL

202 S. 10th Street  
O'Neill, NE 68763

## PRESCHOOL/HEAD START EARLY HEAD START- SIXPENCE CENTERS

### AINSWORTH PRESCHOOL/HEAD START EARLY HEAD START-EDN

119 N Main, POB 233  
Ainsworth, NE 69210  
(402) 387-1035

### ATKINSON EARLY HEAD START

406 E 2nd, POB 398  
Atkinson, NE 68713

### AURORA HEADSTART/SIXPENCE

1019 7TH St.  
Aurora, NE 68818  
(402) 694-4090

### BROKEN BOW EARLY HEAD START

924 E. SE, POB 276  
Broken Bow, NE 68822  
(308) 872-6540

### BURWELL PRESCHOOL/EARLY HEADSTART

237 I Str., POB 903  
Burwell, NE 68823  
(308) 346-4977

### CENTRAL CITY PRESCHOOL/HEAD START

1711 15th Ave.  
Central City, NE 68826  
(308) 946-3057

### CENTRAL CITY SIXPENCE

715 16TH St.  
Central City, NE 68826  
(308) 946-3173

### CENTURA PRESCHOOL/HEAD START

Box 430  
Cairo, NE 68824  
(308) 485-4465

### COLUMBUS PRE-K/HEAD START-EARLY HEAD START

3286 53RD Ave.  
(402) 564-1124

### FULLERTON HEAD START

206 N 3rd, POB 831  
Fullerton, NE 68638  
(308) 536-3127

### LOUP CITY PRE-K/HEADSTART- EARLY HEAD START-SIXPENCE

626 N St., POB 509  
Loup City, NE 68853  
(308) 745-0780

### O'NEILL EARLY HEAD START-EDN

202 S 10th St.  
O'Neill, NE 68763  
(402) 336-4309

### ORD HEADSTART - EARLY HEAD START-SIXPENCE

814 S 16TH ST.  
Ord, NE 68862  
#1 (308) 728-7039  
#2 (308) 728-3086

### SCHUYLER HEAD START -EARLY HEAD START-SIXPENCE

1014 W. 9th St.  
Schuyler, NE 68661  
(402) 352-5084

### ST. PAUL PRE-K/HEADSTART- SIXPENCE-EARLY HEAD START

710 7TH St., POB 372  
St. Paul, NE 68873  
(308) 754-7802

## FAMILY OUTREACH OFFICES

### BROKEN BOW COVERS CUSTER, BLAINE, LOUP COUNTIES

924 E. SE ST., POB 276  
Broken Bow, NE 68822  
(308) 872-6013

### CENTRAL CITY COVERS MERRICK, NANCE, HAMILTON COUNTIES

715 16th St., PO# 134  
Central City, NE 68826  
(308) 946-3794

### CHADRON (SSVF) COVERS WESTERN COUNTIES

127 N. 2nd St., Suite 105, POB 222  
Chadron, NE 69337  
(308) 730-2480

### COLUMBUS COVERS PLATTE, COLFAX, BOONE COUNTIES

3362 53rd Ave.  
Columbus, NE 68601  
(402) 564-1124

### GRAND ISLAND COVERS HALL, HOWARD COUNTIES

2525 Lincoln Hwy. West  
Grand Island, NE 68803  
(308) 385-5500

### LINCOLN (SSVF) COVERS LANCASTER, SAUNDERS COUNTIES

600 S. 70th St. Mail Stop 116  
Lincoln, NE 68510  
(308) 730-2414

### LOUP CITY COVERS SHERMAN, VALLEY, GARFIELD, GREELEY COUNTIES

626 N St., POB 509  
Loup City, NE 68853  
(308) 745-0780

### NORTH PLATTE (SSVF) COVERS WESTERN COUNTIES

109 E. 2nd St. Suite #2  
North Platte, NE 69101  
(308) 730-7307

### O'NEILL COVERS BROWN, ROCK, KEYA PAHA, CHERRY, HOLT, BOYD, WHEELER COUNTIES

202 S 10 St.  
O'Neill, NE 68763  
(402) 336-4298

### SCOTTSBLUFF (SSVF) COVERS WESTERN COUNTIES

3350 10 St.  
Gering, NE 69341  
(308) 730-7316

# 2017 AGENCY OUTCOMES

## ADMINISTRATION

- Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership employed 194 people
- CNCAP paid \$4,736,705 in staff salaries
- CNCAP paid \$1,205,718 in fringe

## EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

- 369 Children served through Head Start
- 185 Children served through Pre-K Partnerships
- 279 Children served through Early Head Start
- 37 Pregnant Women served through Early Head Start
- 106 Children served through Sixpence
- 125 Children served through Early Development Network

## HEALTH PROGRAMS

- 383 Women served through the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program
- 695 Children served through the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program
- 438 Infants served through the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program
- 284 Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women served through the Peer Counseling Program
- 479 clients served through the Immunization Program with 1520 vaccinations

## HOUSING DEPARTMENT

- 40 Households with 137 beneficiaries resided in scattered site rental housing owned by CNCAP
- 56 Houses weatherized benefitting 157 household members  
--Within the 56 households, 55% or 31 were elderly and/or 43% or 24 households were handicapped
- The average reduction for a household with natural gas could be 18.94%
- The average reduction for a household with electricity could be 13.77%
- The Central Nebraska Joint Housing Authority provided an average of 70 vouchers per month for rental subsidy. The Joint Housing Authority contracts with CNCAP to administer the program

## FAMILY OUTREACH DEPARTMENT

- 260 Beneficiaries stabilized their housing through the THRIVES program
- 340 Beneficiaries in veteran families were assisted through the Supportive Services for Veteran Families
- 39 Veterans assisted through the Veterans Rapid Rehousing Program
- 773 Beneficiaries received case management services
- 948 Beneficiaries received food through the Sherman County Mobile Food Pantry
- 2,376 Participants received food packages through the Commodity Supplemental Food Program
- 528 Beneficiaries received food through food pantries located in Loup City, Central City, and O'Neill
- 169 Households paid \$249,530 in debt
- 142 Households saved a total of \$99,897
- There was a total of \$2,493,017 recorded in unmet needs
- 29 Households and 40 beneficiaries assisted through the SOAR Program

# COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAMS

## WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN PROGRAM

The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program is dedicated to improving the health and nutritional status of pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children under the age of five.

The program provides education and information on healthy eating and provides nutritious foods to supplement diets. In recent years, WIC has expanded the benefits that participants may receive to include foods such as: cold and hot cereals, bread, tortillas or brown rice, juice, beans and peanut butter, eggs, milk and cheese, tuna and salmon, and fresh fruits and vegetables. Infants may receive infant formula, and when they reach the age of solids, are eligible for baby food.

### FOOD VALUES:

- A fully Breastfeeding Mom may get a food package valued at approximately \$70.42/month
- 6 month old fully breastfed infant may get a food package valued at approximately \$89.74/month
- A toddler may get a food package valued at approximately \$53.08/month
- A child under the age of five may get a food package valued at approximately \$50.38/ month
- Infant formula is provided, for the first six months, with values ranging from \$153.00 to \$343 depending on the type prescribed by the doctor. There may be times an infant is prescribed a specialty formula which is of higher value.

Values may change depending on the store where items are purchased.

## WIC PEER COUNSELING PROGRAM

The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) peer Counseling program adds a critical dimension in WIC's efforts to help new moms and moms-to-be with a variety of breastfeeding issues. Peer Counselors are mothers who have personal experience with breastfeeding and are trained to provide basic breastfeeding information and support to other mothers.

Peer counselors are knowledgeable with the resources available to WIC clients and have familiarity with the questions a new breastfeeding mother may ask. They also recognize when to refer mothers to other resources during critical periods when mothers may be experiencing difficulty.

The WIC peer counseling program constantly strives to provide the highest quality service and support to the participants so they have the best breastfeeding experience as possible.

## IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

Vaccinations for various illnesses and diseases are offered to individuals from birth to adults.

Vaccines for polio, chicken pox, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, rubella, measles, mumps, influenza Type B, pneumonia, HPV, meningitis, rotavirus, and, Hepatitis A and B.

# IT'S A TEAM EFFORT

WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) provides nutritional support and guidance to families with infants and children. WIC staff meets every month with families in an effort to encourage parents in making healthy lifestyle and nutritional choices for themselves and their children. A remarkable example of this is when Julie encountered the WIC program.

Julie faced many barriers to her goals to attend college when she enrolled into the WIC program as a teen mother. With the support of the WIC staff, her parents and her small community, she was able to breast feed her child for a whole year and graduate from high school.

Julie also worked with the Sixpence program which helps parents learn how to interact with their child(ren), provides parent support and early intervention referrals to those who need it.

With the help of her support systems and a determined attitude, Julie will graduate from college. Julie's future, as well as her daughter's, looks bright!

It is easy to make assumptions that teen parents are at risk, but when provided the adequate support to help them learn and grow into their parenthood; teen parents can be just as effective in their roles as adults.

The WIC and Sixpence programs were proud to be part of "the community" to help in the steps of success for Julie.





# FAMILY OUTREACH

## HOMELESS AND NEAR HOMELESS PERSONS ARE OFFERED SERVICES THROUGH:

**STABILITY ASSISTANCE** is provided to individuals/families to assist them with utility disconnects/deposits, past due rent, rent deposits or 1st month rent. Available: All 21 counties.

**NHAP** (Nebraska Homeless Assistance Project) assists individuals and families in homeless or near homeless crisis situations. Clients served can receive assistance for past due rent or utilities, deposits, and motel funds. Clients will also receive short-term case management to ensure permanent housing is maintained and to gain skills to help in reaching and maintaining self-sufficiency.

**THRIVES** (Traditional Housing for Rural Independence Viability and Economic Stability): Assists homeless individuals and families to obtain safe and stable housing. Clients participate in case management to enhance their skills and maintain their housing. Participants are linked to other resources to overcome challenges and help achieve stability. Available: All 21 counties

**HOPE** (Hope Offers People Empowerment) Case management provides opportunities for near-homeless/homeless families/individuals to neutralize the affects of their situation. Services help alleviate barriers in order for clients to reach their potential by stabilizing their household, building problem solving and life skills, and accessing resources. Available: All 21 counties.

**Vets RRH** (Veterans Rapid Re-Housing) assists homeless Veterans with a disability, with securing housing. Clients, individuals or Veterans may participate in case management to enhance their skills and maintain their housing. Participants are linked to other resources to help overcome challenges and help achieve stability. Services available: All 21 counties.

**SSVF** (Supportive Services for Veteran Families) provides housing stability through temporary financial assistance and case management services to Veteran households who would otherwise become homeless as well as assistance to rapidly re-house those who are homeless. Available: In original 21 counties and 41 other counties across the state.

**FOOD PANTRIES** Donated food, household and personal items are provided to low income families on an emergency basis. Available in Central City, Loup City and O'Neill.

**THE COMMUNITY HELP CENTER (CHC)** is designed to be the initial point to access services in the Hall County area. The CHC Coordinator will assess an individual's situation and link them to appropriate resources.

**PARTICIPATION IN SERVICE POINT** A statewide database system for tracking households and the services provided to them.

**THE SOAR PROGRAM** (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery) will provide assistance to individuals wanting to apply for disability. The SOAR Program is designed to increase access to the disability income benefit programs administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA) for eligible adults who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and have a mental illness and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder.

**SNAP OUTREACH** (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) assists individuals and families applying for SNAP benefits or renewing an application. Can assist getting required documentation and expediting the application. Serves all 21 counties.

**NEBRASKA RESPITE NETWORK** is a program which provides a statewide system for the coordination of respite resources that serves all ages (across the lifespan) and all disabilities.

**COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM (CSFP)** is a USDA program which provides income eligible persons 60 years of age and greater with nutritious food packages.

# FAMILY OUTREACH

## A HOMELESS DISABLED VETERAN

Jackie moved from Omaha to Grand Island to attend the Substance Abuse Treatment center at the Grand Island VA Hospital. After treatment she moved into the first place that she found. After a few months she had major issues with her neighbors breaking into her apartment, damaging her vehicle and harassing her when she left her apartment. She relapsed, became homeless and due to her PTSD issues made it near impossible to move forward and to live independently.

Jackie was referred to CNCAP – Veterans Rapid Re-Housing program by her VA Aftercare Recovery Counselor. She began working with her Case Manager and located a secure apartment building to live in.

First, we set goals to maintain her recovery treatment care by tracking her attendance at recovery group meetings. Then, we worked on managing her money through budgeting with the help of a payee. Last, we developed ways to repair her broken family relationships and learn to strive to become self-sufficient.

Jackie re-connected with her husband after his stay in treatment and now he is her full-time caregiver. Jackie started attending her VA Counseling appointments and recovery meetings. She enjoys her sessions and she now feels like she can handle everyday life.

While in Case Management, Jackie has managed to save over \$800, which she will use towards her future rent. She has paid over 4,000 dollars on her debt and now she can afford her bills and manage her debt on her own.

Today, Jackie has repaired her relationship with her mother and her son. She has found an apartment in Omaha and plans to live there with her husband. The most important thing is that Jackie is clean and sober for over a year and she does not feel the need to be totally isolated any longer.

I think Jackie's quote says it best. "Every story has an end, but in life, every ending is a new beginning". (Retired/ Disabled U.S. Army Veteran)

## KIMBERLY'S SUCCESS STORY (FAMILY OUTREACH)

I first met Kim in September of 2017, she was 20 years old and expecting a baby at the time, when she came to my office with her PALS worker. Kim had come to Nebraska in the summer of 2017 with a boyfriend, only expecting to visit some friends for a couple of weeks. A couple of weeks turned into being stranded here after her boyfriend was arrested. Kim had to sell his car to help him get out of jail, which meant no transportation back to Pennsylvania. Kim had been estranged from her drug addicted parents and therefore had no family support to turn to. Kim moved in with a friend but was unable to stay due to lease requirements. Kim contacted the police department who referred her to Central Plains Center for Services who put her in a hotel for 2 days. In the meantime, she was referred to CNCAP where she was accepted onto the THRIVES program and she was able to be housed right away.

While on the THRIVES case management program, she was referred to the Early Head Start program, and we worked on getting her Medicaid benefits transferred to Nebraska. Unfortunately Kim received very minimal care while in Pennsylvania and had not seen a doctor at all since coming to Nebraska. Through advocacy efforts a doctor was located that agreed to see Kim even though her benefits were not in place and she had no other means of payment. During her first visit it was discovered she had very low amniotic fluid and was immediately sent to Hastings for emergency delivery.

While Kim was in the hospital her case manager, Tiffany Foley, completed paperwork on her behalf for TANF and SNAP. It took just 24 hours for those results to come back and she was approved. When Kim was able to be released from the hospital she didn't have a car seat, baby clothes, diapers, bottles etc. Again through advocacy and the assistance of the THRIVES program we were able to assist Kim in getting needed items. The hospital also had some concerns regarding Kim leaving with her newborn. They did not feel she was as attentive to her new son's needs. After consultation, with her case manager and Early Head Start, it was deemed acceptable for her to leave the hospital with these supports in place. Her case manager, Tiffany, referred her to the PALS program, which offered even more support.

Once arriving at home, Kim did struggle quite a bit with having a newborn and learning to live on her own. She was having difficulty keeping up with daily chores like cleaning, laundry etc. Her case manager continued to work with her, helping her make out a schedule, having her get out of the house and go for walks to help relieve stress, and teaching skills to be a good mom.

About three to four weeks after the birth of her son, Jax, her case manager started to push her to get out and apply for jobs. Tiffany suggested she use the stroller a friend had provided and walk to places to apply. Tiffany reminded her to put on the application that she recently had a baby and that her 6 weeks of maternity leave wouldn't be up for another couple weeks. She filled out applications at 3 or 4 different places before eventually being hired by McDonald's. Kim was hired 1 week before her 6 weeks of leave was up.

Since beginning work at McDonalds in December 2017, Kim has done exceptionally well. Kim works close to full-time hours and a friend of hers watches Jax so she isn't paying a large amount for childcare. She has done great at keeping up with the daily chores, learning her parenting skills, and working. Kim has started saving \$50 for each check and in March plans to start saving \$100 each check.

Kim has a long road ahead of her but she is continuing to make tremendous strides towards being able to maintain her housing on her own and continues to seek out the necessary education she needs to be a good mother.

# EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

## HEAD START

Head Start programs support the mental, social and emotional development of children from ages 3-5. In addition to education services, programs provide children and their families with information and resources pertaining to health, nutrition, social and other services. Every effort is made to meet the needs of all enrolled children. Ten percent of our enrollments are children with special needs or disabilities. Head Start services are responsive to each child and family's ethnic, cultural and linguistic heritage. More specifically, the program consists of: Dental/health exams; Vision/hearing/language tests; Lead Screenings; Immunizations; Nutritious meals; Comprehensive curriculum; Educational Activities; School Readiness Activities; Transition Activities; Screenings and assessment are completed on your child on an on-going basis and referrals may be made for future evaluations by you or by staff with your permission.

Head Start encourages the role of parents as their child's first and most important teachers. Programs build relationships with families that support positive parent-child relationships, family well-being and connections to peers and community.

## EARLY HEAD START

Early Head Start provides early, continuous, intensive and comprehensive child development and family support services to low-income infants and toddlers and their families, and pregnant women and their families. Every effort is made to meet the needs of all enrolled children. Ten percent of our enrollments are children with special needs or disabilities. The Early Head Start Program also provides center-based and home-based services. Health and mental health services are also provided.

### THE GOALS OF EARLY HEAD START CONSIST OF:

- Providing a safe and developmentally enriching care giving which promotes the physical, cognitive, social and emotional development of infants and toddlers, and prepares them for future growth and development.
- Supports parents, both mothers and fathers, in their role as primary caregivers and teachers of their children, and families in meeting personal goals and achieving self-sufficiency across a wide variety of domains.
- Mobilizing communities to provide the resources and environment necessary to ensure a comprehensive, integrated array of services and support for families.
- Ensuring the provision of high quality responsive services to family through the development of trained, caring staff.

### ACCORDING TO THE 2016-2017 PROGRAM INFORMATION REPORT

#### HEAD START

- 94% of children were up-to-date on a schedule of preventive and primary health care
- 100% of children completed dental exams
- 21% needed dental treatment
- 87% of those needing dental treatment, percentage of those that received dental treatment
- 99% of children with a medical home (at the end of enrollment)

#### EARLY HEAD START

- 90% of children were up-to date on a schedule of preventive and primary health care
- 98% of children with a medical home (at the end of enrollment)
- 100% of children with a dental home (at the end of enrollment)

# EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

## PARTNERSHIPS

It is the intent of the Nebraska Department of Education to help school districts move away from service delivery models that segregate children based on income. School districts must make every attempt to serve otherwise unserved children and to partner with community programs such as Head Start, to provide the best experiences for each individual child and family.

- The Head Start Program has formal partnerships with 9 Public Schools (Ainsworth, Burwell, Central City, Centura, Columbus, Loup City, Ord, Schuyler and St. Paul).
- The Early Head Start Program also has a formal partnership with the Department of Education that funds the Sixpence Program which serves ages 0-3. (Aurora, Central city, Loup City, Ord, Schuyler, and St. Paul.
- Formal partnerships with DHHS for the EHS Infant/Toddler Grant.

## PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Parent and family engagement in Head Start/Early Head Start is about building relationships with families that support family well-being, strong relationships between parents and their children, and ongoing learning and development for both parents and children.

When we actively engage families all benefit: Children will be healthier and more ready for Kindergarten; Families will be more engaged in the program and in the public school; Programs will achieve higher levels of quality; Communities will provide stronger supports to the next generation

All parents have the opportunity to participate in the following activities: Parent Meetings; Socializations; Policy Council; Parent trainings; Male Engagement Activities; Annual Self-Assessment; Volunteer in the classroom; Bus monitors; Parent/Teacher Conferences.

**AUDIT** - Results of our agency audit showed no areas of non-compliance.

**FEDERAL REVIEW** - over 1,700 Performance Standards were reviewed October 7-11, 2013. We will have a Federal Review March 19-23, 2018

**NON-FEDERAL SHARE** - Through the help of parents, community members, and volunteers Head Start and Early Head Start was able to raise \$1,179,381 in non-federal share contributions for 2016-2017.

### 2016-2017 ACTUAL ENROLLMENT LEVELS:

**HEAD START:** 369 actual children served  
341 actual families served

**EARLY HEAD START:** 316 actual prenatal women/children served  
242 actual families served

### 2016-2017 FUNDED ENROLLMENT LEVELS:

**HEAD START:** 337

**EARLY HEAD START:** 197

# EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

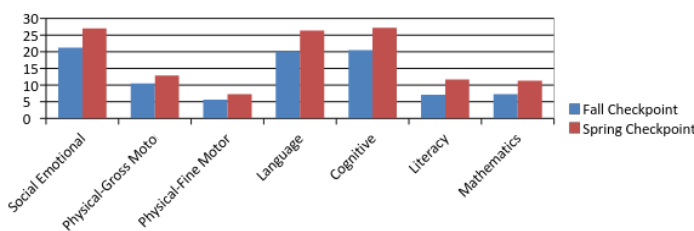
## SCHOOL READINESS

The Head Start Approach to School Readiness means that children are ready for school, families are ready to support their children’s learning, and schools are ready for children. Early Childhood Programs has revised our school readiness goals which are defined as “the expectations of children’s status and progress across domains of language and literacy development, cognition, approaches to learning, perceptual motor and physical development, and social and emotional development that will improve readiness for kindergarten goals” and that “appropriately reflect the ages of children, birth to five, participating in the program.” Head Start views school readiness as children possessing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success in school and for later learning and life.

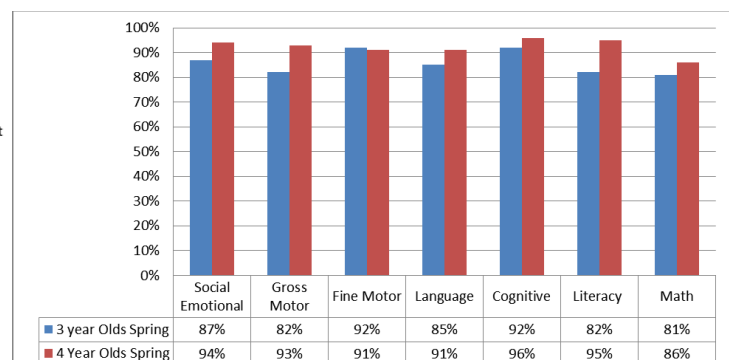
For parents and families, school readiness means they are engaged in the long-term, lifelong success of their child. Our programs and schools work together to promote school readiness and to engage families as their children make the transition to preschool and kindergarten. Our School Readiness Goals align with our curriculum (High-Scope and Parents as Teachers), Nebraska Early Learning Guidelines, Teaching Strategies GOLD assessment, and the Head Start and Early Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Frameworks. Early Head Start/Sixpence Home Based and Center Based programs serve over 200 children which we observe, assess, analyze and then plan to meet our School Readiness Goals. This past program year data was analyzed 3 times and our staff along with their Area Manager/Education Coordinator assessed goals for children and the agency. The 2016-2017 program year goals were to meet age expectations and to be able to demonstrate growth in all our objectives and dimensions on GOLD. We were able to show growth in all six domains as shown on the charts. Our greatest areas of growth overall in EHS were in the areas of Literacy and Math.

Head Start and our Pre K partnerships serve over 500 children throughout our service area. Our teaching staff observes these children and enters their observations into our online GOLD program. Three times per year teaching staff as well as Area Manager/Education Coordinators analyze reports to assess how our children are performing. We make changes in the classroom and agency based on this data. We also make individual plans for children to help them grow and reach our School Readiness goals. In the 2016-2017 school year we saw growth in all areas of development. Our greatest areas of growth were Science, Social Studies and The Arts again this year. This year we were able to purchase items to help teaching staff with transitions. The resource that was purchased gives staff activities that can be used during transition times to keep children busy but to also help them learn and meet outcomes.

**SUMMER 2016-SPRING 2017 EHS/SIXPENGE HOME-BASED-GROWTH REPORT**



**PERCENTAGES OF HEAD START/PRE-K 3 AND 4 YEAR OLDS MEETING AGE EXPECTATIONS SPRING 2017**



## MISSION STATEMENT

*Providing family strengths by recognizing individual values, encouraging teamwork, and creating links in the community.*

# EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

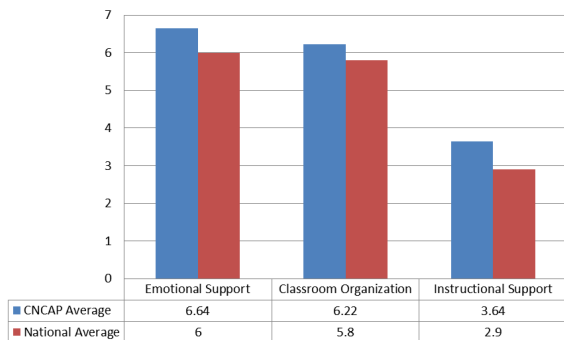
## CLASS ASSESSMENT

Classroom assessment scoring system (CLASS) is an observation instrument developed to assess effective teacher-child interactions. The CLASS dimensions are based on developmental theory and research suggesting that interactions between young children and caregivers are a primary mechanism of child development and learning (Hamre & Pianta, 2007; Morrison & Connor, 2002; Rieber, 1998; Rutter & Maughan, 2002; Sroufe, 1996; Thompson, 2006). CLASS focuses on the quality of classroom interactional processes. This focus differs from other measurement tools that address the content of the physical environment, available materials, or a specific curriculum. For CLASS, the physical environment (including materials) and curriculum matter in the context of how all teachers in the classroom put them to use in their interactions with children. This reflects the children’s interactions with all teachers in the classroom.

CLASS is organized to assess three broad domains of interactions among teachers and children: Emotional Support, Classroom Organization and Instructional Support. Each domain includes several dimensions. Collectively the dimensions assess the extent to which teacher are effectively supporting children’s development, both social and academic. Scoring is completed at the dimension level using a 7-point scale.

Research has shown that effective teacher-child interactions are an active and crucial ingredient for children’s social and academic development. More effective Emotional Support and Classroom Organization equal stronger social and emotional development and stronger self regulation. Classrooms that have scores of at least 5 on the CLASS assessment provide the level of support necessary to see gains in the children’s development. More effective Instructional Support equals stronger early academic development in math, language, and literacy. Classrooms that have scores of at least 3 on the CLASS assessment foster academic and language skills for children.

In the program year 2016-2017, the CLASS assessment was completed on all CNCAP Head Start/Pre-K classrooms. Below is a chart that shows what the national and CNCAP averages were for that year.



In 2016-2017, CNCAP Early Head Start Center Based classrooms were also assessed on Toddler CLASS.

Toddler CLASS is based on interactions between teachers and children in a group setting and classrooms assessed had children at the 15 to 36-month age level.

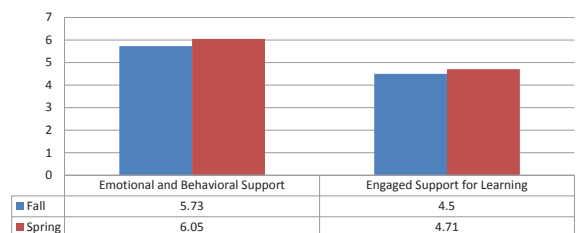
Toddler CLASS is organized to assess two broad domains of interactions among teachers and children: Emotional and Behavioral Support and Engaged Support for Learning. Each domain includes several dimensions. Scoring is completed at the dimension level using a 7-point scale. The Toddler Class assessment includes nearly all of the

same dimensions of child-teacher interactions as the Pre-K assessment but also provides developmentally sensitive descriptions of what these dimensions of interactions look like in toddler classrooms.

Research has shown that effective teacher-child interactions are an active and crucial ingredient for children’s social and academic development. More effective Emotional and Behavioral Support and Engaged Support for Learning equal stronger social and emotional development and stronger self regulation.

At this time there are no national averages to compare to for Toddler CLASS. Below is a chart that shows CNCAP averages from fall 2016 to spring 2017.

## CNCAP EHS CENTERBASED TODDLER CLASS SUMMARY 2016-2017



# EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

As a former Head Start student herself; Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership has been a part of Cena's whole life. Having lost her mother in 2003 at age 18, Cena utilized the food pantry and Emergency Assistance Programs when money was tight and she struggled to get by. Then in 2005 she became pregnant with her oldest son, Logan and enrolled in the Early Head Start Program.

The relationship that Cena would build with Stacy, her Home Visitor would become a source of stability and strength as she faced a series of uphill battles including; both of her sons being diagnosed with developmental delays. Through early intervention services Stacy was able to link Cena and her boys with the necessary referrals to speech, language, physical and occupation therapy programs. Having these already established connections was a huge asset when Logan was also diagnosed with Kidney Disease. Logan was able to recover completely yet with that battle over, Cena's family faced yet another when her partner & father to her boys, unexpectedly passed away.

Today, an active single mother of four; Cena's children ages 12, 7, 3 years and 6 months, have all been touched by Early Head Start and/or Head Start Programs. The comprehensive foundations of parent support and early childhood education have positively impacted the future of these children and in spite of hardship made transitioning into grade school a success! In addition to having the same employer for over 10 years, Cena is also committed to giving back to other families involved in Early Head Start and Head Start. She is currently on the Parent Advisory for Loup City, a Parent Group Officer, Policy Council Alternate and sits in on job interviews as a parent representative.

During the past 12 years Cena and her children have been able to benefit from a variety of other CNCAP programs such as the mobile food pantry, Immunizations, WIC, the Weatherization Assistance Program and even currently reside in a CNCAP affordable rental unit. Cena states that her relationship with Stacy has provided support and

encouragement during some of the darkest moments of her life and she didn't have to look far to find it.

Located right in Cena's hometown of Loup City, CNCAP touches the lives of low income families. Not having to commute to a larger neighboring city for resources saved her time and money. CNCAP empowers families like Cena's by focusing on those who matter the most; those right here at home!



## MISSION STATEMENT

*Providing family strengths by recognizing individual values, encouraging teamwork, and creating links in the community.*



# EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

## CNCAP HEAD START PARENT OF THE YEAR AWARD

### ANDREA OBERMILLER

It is my pleasure to announce the winner of the 2017 Head Start Parent of the Year Award to Andrea Obermiller of Loup City. Andrea was recognized at the Early Childhood Programs Celebration on May 5th.

Andrea is a busy mother of 2 children, Tayler age 8 and Ty age 5. She is a full-time R.N. at a busy Medical Clinic as well as working in a long term care facility on an as needed basis. When she is not running her children to their multiple activities or working as a nurse, she is helping her husband out on the ranch with their 350 head cow/calf operation.

Andrea has always tried to stay involved with her children's activities and programs including the preschool. Her son Ty is in his second year of the program, and she is currently the treasurer of the Parent Committee. Andrea has helped with organizing literacy activities during our parent group meetings as well as organizing the Dollar Per Child campaign this year. Andrea has volunteered multiple times throughout the years when both her children were enrolled in the program.

Andrea has been involved in starting the Parent Teacher Organization at the public school during the previous school year, and is currently the secretary/reporter for the PTO. She has also been actively involved in the fundraising and organizing of the numerous activities that we have organized over the past 2 years for the school students and their families including the children in the preschool program. Andrea is also the current co-leader of the Girl Scouts program for the past 3 years.

Besides being a preschool, PTO and Girl Scout volunteer, Andrea and her husband are also involved in coaching softball and volleyball and are excited to see the growth and accomplishments that sports has to offer our youth in Loup City over the next several years.

As Andrea continues to be involved in her children's activities and events, she would love to further her career as a nurse as well. She looks forward to continuing to help others with their medical needs as nursing has been such a rewarding career choice.



# HOUSING DEPARTMENT

**“FEELING GRATITUDE AND NOT EXPRESSING IT IS LIKE WRAPPING A PRESENT AND NOT GIVING IT.”**

**WILLIAM ARTHUR WARD**

Thank you cards are such a small gesture but to Sharon Jonak, Weatherization Coordinator they are small gifts and she has saved every single one during her 35 year career. Sharon first started with the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) in the early 1980s as a home inspector. Back then, the WAP program weatherized homes always starting on the north side, and then if there was enough money, another side of the house would be added until there was no money left. Now 35 years later, Sharon (still) works tirelessly to conform to the ever changing government requirements.

To date; there are twenty-two forms per house, two energy audits are performed per house as well as pre and post inspections. Crews must complete intensive training in Lead Safe Practices, OSHA 10/30, Confined Spaces and these days for Housing Inspectors, Building Performance Institute Quality Control Inspector Certification is required, “it’s just nuts” Sharon says.

However, what hasn’t changed much is the “average”. The “average” is the limit set by the funding source on the amount of money (per house) that can be spent on weatherization measures. The average spent per house when Sharon started was around \$1600; today is it \$7200. “That may sound like a lot” she says” but when you consider how much furnaces are, or if you have a 1900s era house, they require more (efficiency) materials.”

Still, it’s all worth it. Most of Sharon’s clients are low-income elderly folks living on fixed incomes. The hardest part of her job is when applicants are turned away for living in houses that are beyond the scope of Weatherization... which means they are beyond fixing. “It makes me feel like crying,” Sharon states. “We try to refer them to other agencies that can help them, so we can go back in to weatherize but it doesn’t happen very often. They need major things like electrical work, roofs, steps, and some foundations are caving in.

But, Sharon is hopeful. Having seen how far the program has come during her career, she is confident that one day, it will be possible to provide Weatherization services to all who are eligible, even those whose houses have major problems. In the meantime, she knows that Weatherization is making a difference, like it did for these clients on the next page.

# HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Dear Office Staff and Workers:

I would like take this means to thank you all for the great job you have done in weatherizing Grace's home. I cannot express our thanks and gratitude for everything you did to make her home more comfortable and cost efficient for her. It was beyond our expectations. What a great program for people who cannot afford the expense of doing it themselves.

The people who came to do the job were great. They were kind and considerate to Grace. I appreciate that. She is so happy and thankful as well.

Please tell everyone, Sharon, how much we appreciate the fine job you have all done.

I am so grateful for all the improvements that have been made on my home.

Larry and his crew were so efficient and nice.

The new furnace was not expected, but so appreciated and will make a huge difference.

Thank you!

Very pleased with experience. Top quality work performed. Wonderful people to work with beginning with application process through contractors. Sincerely grateful to receive this valuable assistance.

Dear Judy,

Sharon and the two men that worked so hard on my home.

Thank you so much. Your kindness is greatly appreciated. With these extreme low temperatures I was very grateful. Thank you for everything you do for me. Thank you for being there. You have been so helpful. I know you all work very hard for the benefit of others.

Thank you!

**CENTRAL NEBRASKA  
COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP, INC.**

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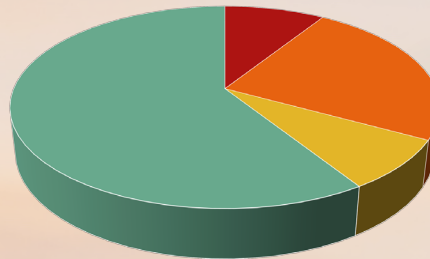
CENTRAL CITY  
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COLUMBUS  
3286 53rd Avenue • (402) 564-1124

GRAND ISLAND  
2525 W Lincoln Hwy • (308) 385-5500

O'NEILL  
202 S 10th • (402) 336-4298

**CORE PROGRAMS AND FUNDING AMOUNTS**

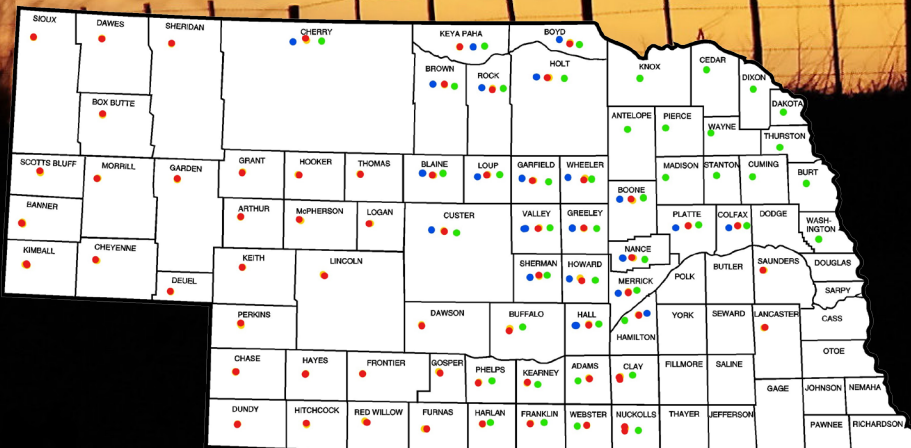


Administration/Health	9%
Family Outreach	24%
Housing Department	8%
Early Childhood Programs	59%

**TOTAL AGENCY FUNDING FOR 2016-2017**  
**\$12,636,486**

**CNCAP SERVES 21 COUNTIES IN NORTH CENTRAL NEBRASKA:**

Blaine, Boone, Boyd, Brown, Colfax, Custer, Garfield, Greeley, Hall, Hamilton, Holt, Howard, Keya Paha, Loup, Merrick, Nance, Platte, Rock, Sherman, Valley and Wheeler.



THE LIFESPAN RESPITE SERVICES PROGRAM COVERS 45 COUNTIES STATEWIDE AND THE SSVF (SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES) SERVES 62 COUNTIES.

- ORIGINAL 21 COUNTIES OF CNCAP
- COUNTIES SERVED BY SSVF
- COUNTIES SERVED BY LIFESPAN RESPITE