

CENTRAL NEBRASKA COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP, INC.

Annual Report 2015

choices



Mission Statement

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

dreams



opportunities



Helping People. Changing Lives.
**community
Action**
PARTNERSHIP
COMMUNITY ACTION OF NEBRASKA

Mission Statement

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

Agency Year in Review

MOVING FULL SPEED AHEAD

As I reflect on the accomplishments of 2015, CNCAP has been extremely blessed by the dedication and commitment of the hardworking staff and Board Members associated with our agency. Although there were too many activities to list them all, I wanted to share some of the major undertakings in 2015.

2015... was definitely a year of many changes! One of the biggest transformations is that we are no longer Central Nebraska Community Services, Inc. Staff were involved in voting on the name and we are now "officially" Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership, Inc. (CNCAP) to align with the nationwide initiative of anti-poverty efforts of Community Action Agencies across the nation. CNCAP is excited to have Community Action Partnership as part of our name to show our pledge of embracing the promise of, "Helping People, Changing Lives" with the other 1000+ agencies across the country.

2015... Our mission statement has taken on a different look also. CNCAP strives to provide a wraparound approach empowering families to help them achieve stability and success. So, through our strategic planning process, we altered our mission statement which is now, "Partnering with individuals and families to encourage independence through community based solutions".

2015... Open houses were held at offices within our service area to celebrate 50 years of service! Community Action Agencies were established through Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty and with our agency's establishment in 1965, CNCAP wanted to share our remarkable productive history with everyone!

2015... CNCAP changed our employee assistance provider to Best Care EAP-based in Omaha. We are happy to provide this wonderful benefit to all the employees and their family members. In addition, through this partnership we were awarded a grant through the Department of Labor to provide an opportunity for a one-day training to expand the supervisory skills of staff.

2015... CNCAP worked with our Board of Directors to ensure our agency is meeting the Organizational Standards for the Community Services Block Grant- a new accountability element for Community Action. CNCAP was the first agency to be monitored by the State CSBG office on the organizational standards and received a very favorable review.

After sharing some of the highlights in 2015, the focus is now on 2016. What do we look forward to in 2016? CNCAP looks forward to new prospects of funding, new opportunities to help those in need, new champions for the work we are passionate about, and new partnerships to build upon our passion to serve. And, as part of Community Action efforts, CNCAP feels very privileged to have the opportunity to help individuals and families overcome their challenges and provide hope for a new beginning.

If you focus on results,

You will never change.

If you focus on Change,

You will get results.

~Jack Dixon

Warm Regards,
Cheryl Holcomb
Executive Director

Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership, Inc.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

CNCAP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Central Nebraska Community Services 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.

Roger Goldfish	President
Barb Wroblewski	Vice President
Doug Wrede	Secretary/Treasurer

Joan Barnes	Mike Feeken	Donna Garwood
Kristine Marshall	Jim Helgoth	Bob Thomas
Barry Fox	Nelva McNeff	Gary Quandt
Dee Dee Christen	Arizona Brooks	Hope Anderson
Carol Krikac	Larry Griffith	Michelle Schultz
Joyce Costello	Pam Harrington	Christy Wemhoff
Jay Meyer	Scott Friesen	Pat Heimes
Kathy Hirschman	Ralph Metschke	Ruth Boettcher

SENIOR MANAGEMENT

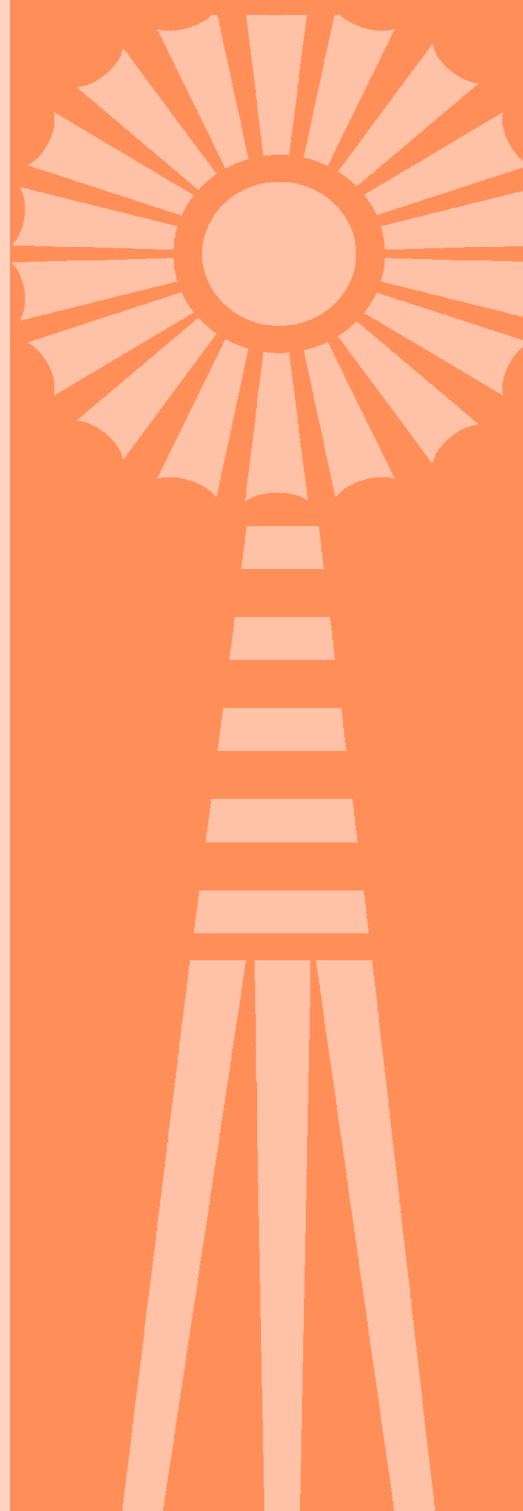
Cheryl Holcomb	Executive Director
Donna Obermiller	Deputy Director/Fiscal Director
Sue Obermiller	Early Childhood Programs Director
Emily Ripp	Health & Nutrition Director
Judy Hughes	Housing Director
Keli Forney	Family Outreach Director
Michael Peirce	Human Resource Director

THE PROMISE OF COMMUNITY ACTION

Community Action changes people's lives,
Embodies the spirit of hope,
Improves communities,
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.

Mission Statement

Partnering with individuals
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Mission Statement

To foster the healthy lifestyles of central Nebraskans through health promotion, prevention, and education.

Health and Nutrition Department

The Health and Nutrition Department offers a variety of wellness, prevention, intervention, and community service programs to individuals and families through-out the entire service area.

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. During 2015 CNCAP provided 32,201 packages.

EARLY DEVELOPMENT NETWORK (EDN) is a program to assist families who have children with disabilities (age 0 to 3) access resources that help them meet their determined goals.

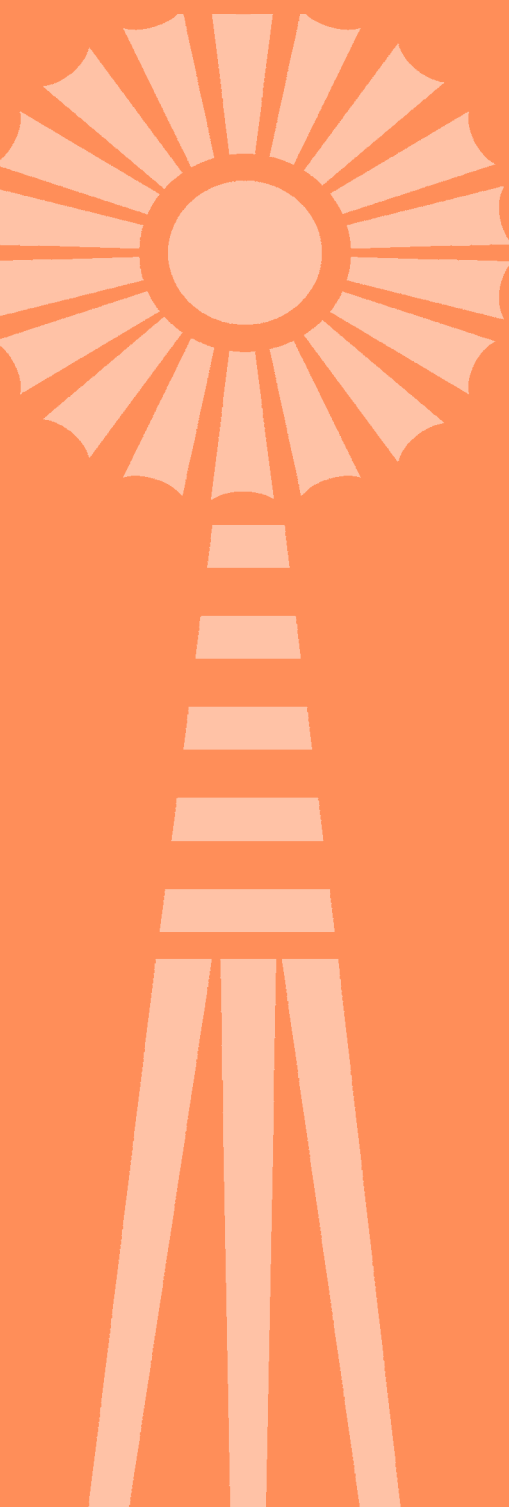
THE NEBRASKA WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN NUTRITION PROGRAM (WIC) provides healthy food at no cost and breastfeeding and nutrition information to keep pregnant women, infants and children under five, healthy and strong. WIC can connect clients with other important programs and resources to help them improve their health and achieve self-sufficiency. During 2015 CNCAP provided WIC services to 13,303 individuals.

SHERMAN COUNTY SENIOR CENTER offers a wide variety of energizing and enjoyable services designed for those who wish to maintain healthy and fulfilling lives. The center also has a nutrition program in which noon meals and home delivered meals are offered Monday through Friday. In 2015 approximately 8,950 meals were served.

NEBRASKA OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY SEAT BELT INITIATIVE/CUSTER COUNTY CAMPAIGN BUCKLE-UP TRAFFIC SAFETY PROJECT focuses on reducing fatal and injury crashes by increasing occupant restraint use and education, safe driving and riding practices.

IMMUNIZATIONS are offered through public immunization clinics in 13 towns across our service area. In 2015, 729 clients were served and 2,393 immunizations were given. By providing immunizations at rural mobile clinics we help ensure children receive important immunizations.

WOMAN-TO-WOMAN/DE MUJER A MUJER BREAST CANCER PREVENTION PROGRAM seeks to save lives through early detection of the disease. Hispanic, rural and elderly women in Hall, Hamilton, Merrick, Platte, Colfax, Boone, and Nance counties will be educated on the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Breast Self-Awareness plan: know your risk, get screened, know what is normal for you, and make healthy lifestyle choices.



Health and Nutrition Department

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

The Nebraska Respite Network is going the distance to spread the word about the services we provide. Respite is designed to give those caring for a loved one a temporary break from the stress associated with care giving. It is intended for those caring for family members with special needs, medical needs, developmental and physical disabilities, frailty, Alzheimer's, or for families who just need a break!

But, how do we get that word out to the masses? Respite covers 45 counties in the Central and Northern service area, so respite staff really rack up the miles. From August of 2015 to the end of 2015 one employee alone covered 5380.4 miles. In review of the vast coverage area, staff thought it would be fun to chart all the places

that respite had been, showing the journey of miles the program seeks to reach.

The map below shows the places the Respite word has been.

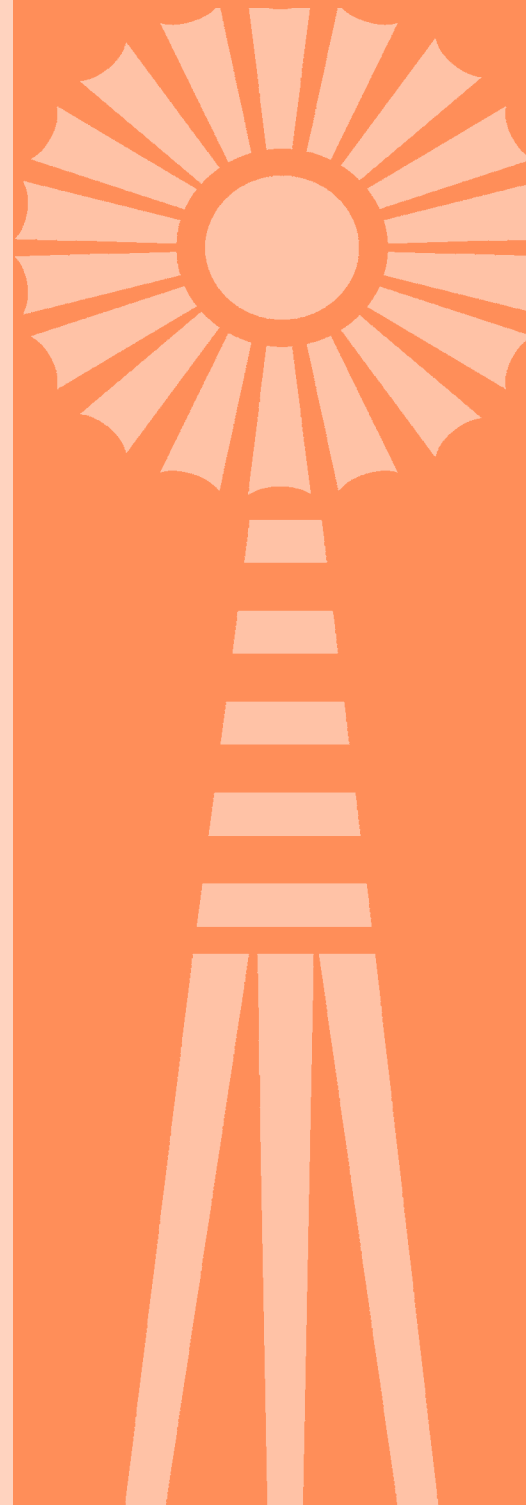
The Respite Network attends Health Fairs, Student Seminars, Parent meetings, Community meetings; as well as doing presentations at local churches, businesses, senior centers and about any place where they can bend an ear to share information about their program.

If you or someone you know would like to learn more about Lifespan Respite call 1-800-736-7491 and ask for Lydia Hovie, Peggy Jensen or Sheri Mostek.



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Mission Statement

Promoting partnerships with people and communities to overcome challenges, identifying needs and overcoming obstacles.

Family Outreach Department

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 will 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. Participants must commit to participating 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.

HALL COUNTY RAPID RE-HOUSING Assists homeless individuals and families obtain safe and stable housing. Participants must commit to participating 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: Hall County.

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 to overcome barriers. (If a client doesn't meet criteria to participate in other programs they are encouraged to participate in the HOPE program.) Available: All 21 counties.

PSH (PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR VETERANS) assists homeless Veterans with securing housing. Participants must 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.

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES (SSVF) 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: All 21 counties, including Adams, Buffalo, Lancaster, Saunders Counties and Western Nebraska.

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.

Family Outreach Department

GOING BEYOND HOUSING

A social worker had been noticing "Raymond" utilizing Catholic Social Services for meals and referred him to Cross Roads shelter, as well as CNCAP's Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program for housing.

Upon visiting with Raymond, the SSVF case manager found out he was living in a condemned building in a downtown area for 4 years, and, prior to this; he lived in his home that the city had condemned.

Once Raymond entered the SSVF program, he worked with the case manager and found an income based senior citizen housing unit. SSVF paid for the housing deposit and Catholic Social Services was able to provide Raymond with a few kitchen items, blankets and pillow, radio, couch and hygiene items. SSVF also assisted with purchasing Raymond a mattress, provided emergency food, and household items for the kitchen.

Then Raymond and the case manager worked closely with the Veterans Service Officer, Social Security office, and Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for benefits. The VA helped to provide a VA Pension until his SSI started. They also applied through DHHS for Medicare Part B and SNAP benefits.

Raymond budgeted with the SSVF case manager and was able to purchase a used vehicle for \$2000 but also enjoys walking to the library or for coffee when the weather is nice. Since Raymond has no family or friends, Raymond wished to set up funeral arrangements. Raymond and the case manager met with the Veteran's Service Officer (VSO) and made the necessary preparations. The VSO advised Raymond to create a will so the case manager contacted a lawyer that gives discounts to Veterans and helped Raymond with this process.

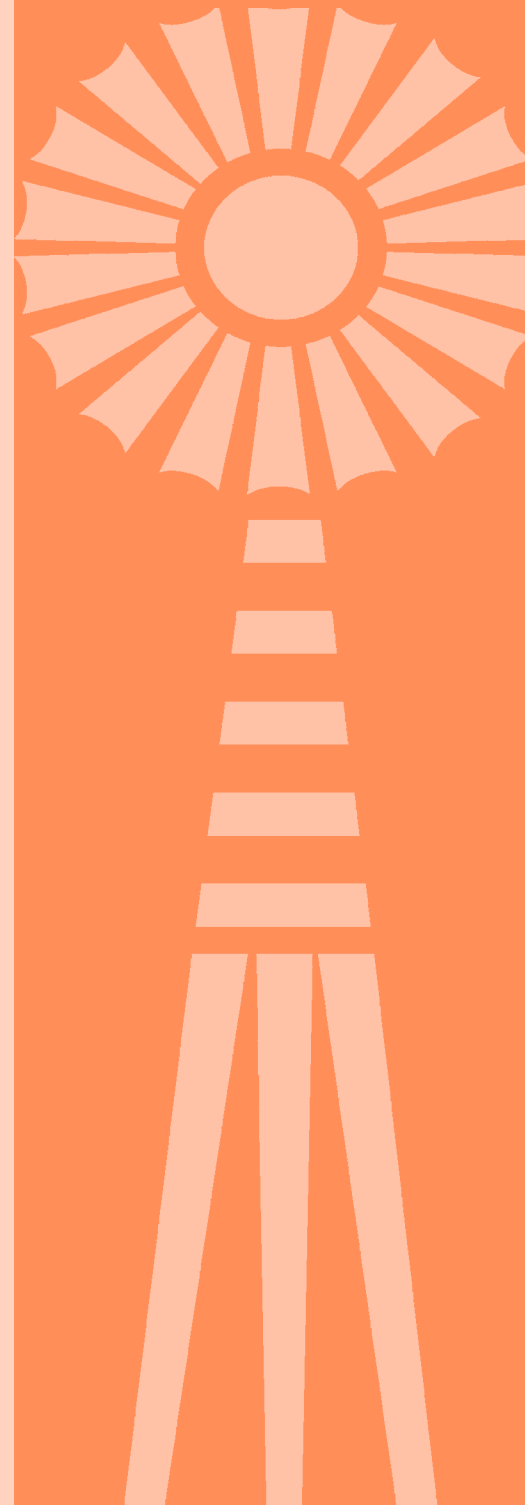
Raymond is comforted this has all been taken care of and just signed another year lease for his rental.



**"IN WAR THERE ARE NO UNWOUNDED SOLDIERS."
JOSE NAROSKY**

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Family Outreach Department

THE FUTURE'S LOOKING BRIGHT

After living in a domestic violence situation for several years, Denise and her daughter entered the THRIVES (Traditional Housing for Rural Independence Viability and Economic Stability) program. Denise had not worked in over 20 years and never had control over the household budget.

Because of the situation she lived in, Denise had to overcome severe anxiety to begin working again and learn how to become independent. The THRIVES program was able to help Denise find affordable housing for herself and her daughter. She also began working at a local high school as a paraprofessional for special needs children, receiving part-time hours.

Just recently, Denise was promoted to full-time status and received a raise which included benefits of insurance and vacation. She was ecstatic because she had never been able to work and earn her own money before.

Denise has made great strides at budgeting, saving money on a regular basis, and meal planning to maintain her household. She has also focused on her relationship with her daughter, as well as betterment of herself.

Denise has really taken on an independent role in her life since starting case management; she is more confident in her decisions and is embracing the changes she's made for her family. Overall Denise's accomplishments were significant!

*Name has been changed to protect the family

IT ALWAYS
SEEMS
IMPOSSIBLE
UNTIL
IT IS
DONE.

NELSON MANDELA

Early Childhood Programs

HEAD START/PRE-K

Head Start/Pre-K 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. Our 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 each child and referrals may be made for future evaluations by the parent or by staff.

Head Start/Pre-K 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/SIXPENCE

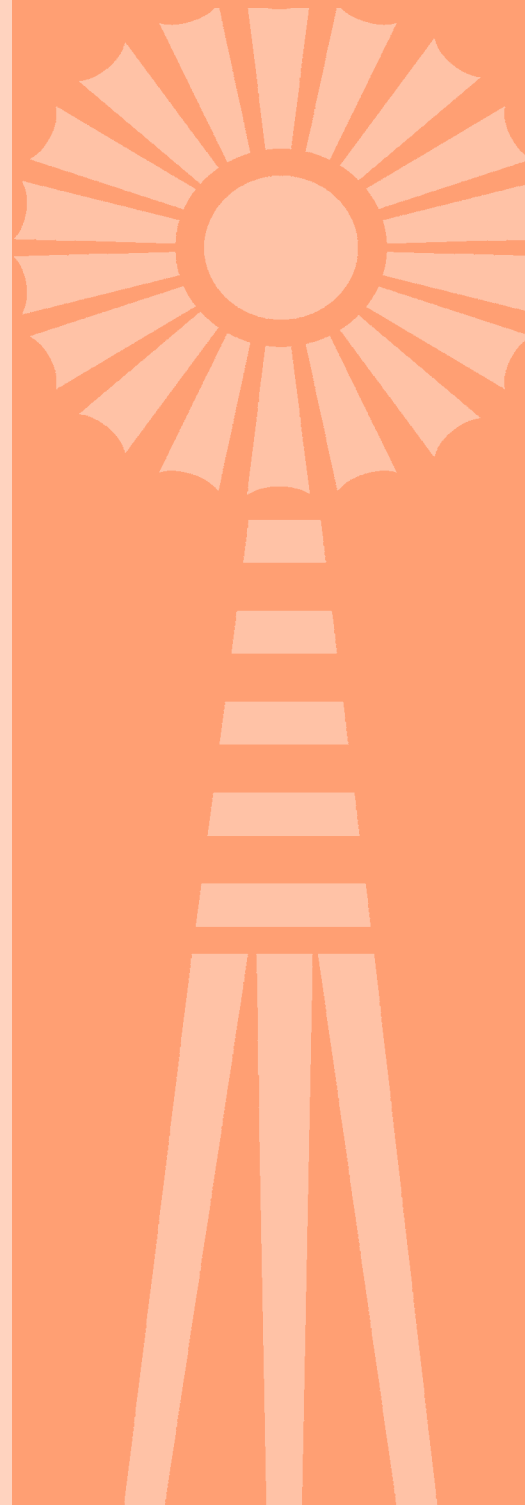
Early Head Start/Sixpence provides early, continuous, intensive and comprehensive child development and family support services to low-income infants and toddlers and their families, and pregnant women and their families. Every effort is made to meet the needs of all enrolled children. Ten percent of 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/Sixpence 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.

Mission Statement

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



Mission Statement

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

ACCORDING TO THE 2014-2015 PROGRAM INFORMATION REPORT HEAD START

- **97% OF CHILDREN WERE UP-TO-DATE ON A SCHEDULE OF PREVENTIVE AND PRIMARY HEALTH CARE**
- **98% OF CHILDREN COMPLETED DENTAL EXAMS**
- **23% NEEDED DENTAL TREATMENT**
- **92% OF THOSE NEEDING DENTAL TREATMENT, PERCENTAGE OF THOSE THAT RECEIVED DENTAL TREATMENT**
- **99% OF CHILDREN WITH A MEDICAL HOME**

EARLY HEAD START

- **96% OF CHILDREN WERE UP-TO DATE ON A SCHEDULE OF PREVENTIVE AND PRIMARY HEALTH CARE**
- **99% OF CHILDREN WITH A MEDICAL HOME**
- **100% OF CHILDREN WITH A DENTAL HOME**

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 un-served 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 School Districts to serve ages 0-3 (Aurora, Broken Bow, 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.

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 is results of our agency audit showed no areas of non-compliance.

Federal Review- over 1,700 Performance Standards were reviewed October 7-11, 2013. The final report showed no areas of non-compliance and we will be transitioning into the five year grant cycle.

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 2014-2015.

2014-2015 ACTUAL ENROLLMENT LEVELS:

Head Start: 385 actual children served
351 actual families served

Early Head Start: 291 actual prenatal women/children served
227 actual families served

2014-2015 FUNDED ENROLLMENT LEVELS:

Head Start: 373

Early Head Start: 179

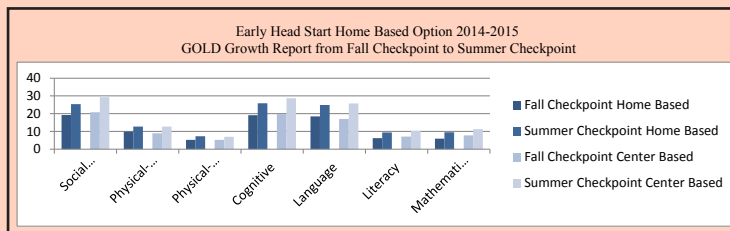
SCHOOL READINESS

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. Head Start and Early Head Start has a strong, clear, and comprehensive focus on all aspects of healthy development, including physical, cognitive, social and emotional development, all of which are essential to children getting ready for school. 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 and general knowledge, approaches to learning, physical health and well-being and motor 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 kindergarten, schools will be ready for children. Our School Readiness Goals align with our curriculum (High-Scope and Parents as Teachers), Nebraska Early Learning Guidelines, Teaching Strategies Goal assessment, and the Head Start and Early Head Start 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. The 2014-2015 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 chart. Literacy and Math showed the greatest gains. We showed over 91% of children meeting or exceeding their age expectations in Cognitive, Social Emotional, and Physical and Fine Motor. Language, Literacy and Math were the lower three domains in meeting age expectations. Staff reviewed their

individual data and made individualized goals for their children which included a variety of new activities, purchases of new materials, and parent education materials.

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 2014-2015 school year, we saw growth in all areas of development. Our greatest areas of growth were Science, Social Studies and The Arts.

Our Social Emotional scores continue to increase as well. We believe it is because of the Second Step curriculum that was purchased and implemented in the 2013-2014 school year. To further enhance this curriculum we were able to purchase books for each classroom that connected with the Social Emotional concepts being taught through the curriculum

CLASS ASSESSMENT

Classroom assessment scoring system (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.

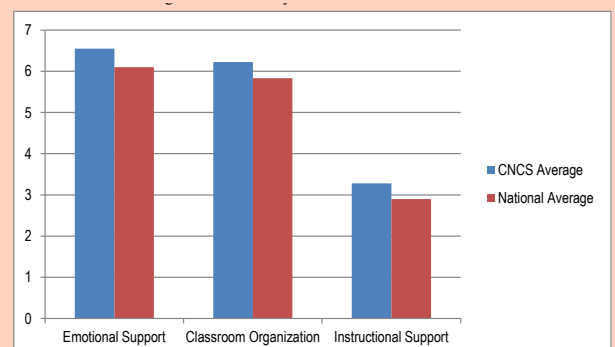
CLASS is organized to assess three broad domains of interactions among teachers and children: Emotional Support, Classroom Organization and Instructional Support. Each domain includes several dimensions. Collectively the dimensions assess the extent to which teacher

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 2014-2015, 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.



Mission Statement

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



his age. Working with Cordell and Mac for nine months on language activities, it is exciting to see how much Cordell's language has improved. According to Mac, "Ever since the program, Cordell has been learning more words and doing more activities with me and everybody." Cordell is now able to communicate his wants and needs and is better understood by his father and other family members.

2015 SUCCESS STORY

This Schuyler Early Head Start/Head Start family has overcome bad to worse situations. This family came to Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership asking for assistance when they moved here from Ohio in 2013. Miguelina (mom) filled out an application for two of her boys Bryan and Julian for Head Start and also added Emelyn for Early Head Start.

The boys began attending Head Start and the Early Head Start Family Consultant started doing Early Head Start visits with Emelyn. Soon after the boys started Head Start, they were both verified with language delays. Little by little mom started opening up during home visits. Head Start helped the family get assistance for food and bills because dad was unemployed.

With her hands full, mom wasn't keeping appointments or home visits. She cancelled almost every other week, or sometimes she would be too tired for a home visit. Months went by and mom found out she was pregnant. Although things weren't going so smooth for this family, mom always talked about how much she loved her children and how she wanted the best for them. It took a while for mom to fully start participating during home visits. Mom started keeping visits or calling me when needing to reschedule. She started coming to socializations and also participated in Head Start parent meetings. Mom also engaged more with Emelyn during home visits. Mom was always interested and appreciated any information given to her during her pregnancy.

Dad now has a job, and they moved to a better home. The family is engaged 100% in our programs. Emelyn is now in Head Start and mom had a baby girl named Yasmin who will be turning two in April. Mom is currently seven months pregnant making this a family of eight. This family has overcome difficulties and succeeded as a family by sticking together in good and bad.



Housing Department

Mission Statement

To provide choices for individuals and families in the selection of safe, affordable, and energy efficient housing.

OWNER-OCCUPIED REHABILITATION

The Housing Department administers funds for owner-occupied rehabilitation in numerous counties, cities, and villages. To be eligible for these funds the applicants have to income qualify and own the home they are residing in. When the rehabilitation work is completed the home must be brought up to the standards set by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development.

WEATHERIZATION

Income eligible applicants receive repairs and efficiency measures that result in saving energy. This program helps reduce the ever increasing costs to heat and cool the homes of Nebraska's low-income residents. This program is a grant to income eligible owners and renters and is available throughout the 21-county service area.

SECTION 8 RENT SUBSIDY

This program provides rent subsidy assistance through the issuance of vouchers to individuals and families. Income guidelines must be met and the landlord must be willing to participate in the program. Currently there are 48 entities that form the Central Nebraska Joint Housing Authority (CNJHA).

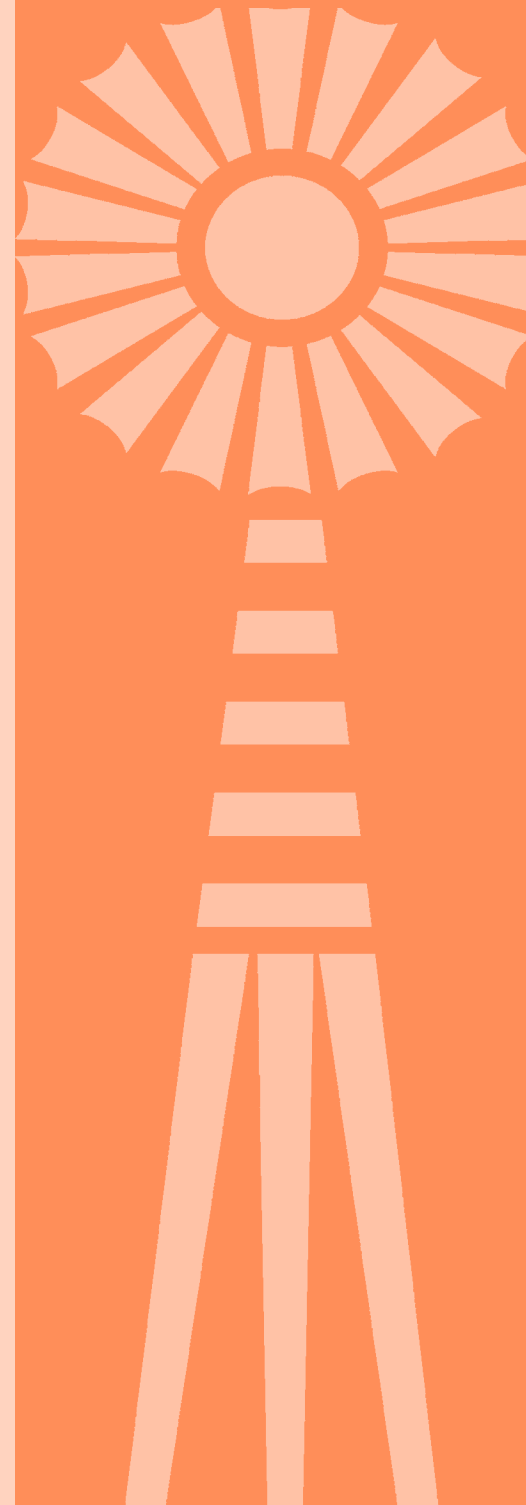
FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM (FSS)

This case management program supplies support services to Section 8 clients. FSS assists clients with long-term goals to overcome barriers and achieve economic self-sufficiency.

CNCAP AFFORDABLE RENTALS

The Housing Department manages rental units in Loup City, Central City, Ainsworth, Greeley, O'Neill, Cairo, Alda and Bassett. Income guidelines are attached to the rental units, plus the applicant must provide landlord and utility references and show ability to pay rent.

Weatherization staff have been diligently working in preparation of The Department of Energy's (DOE) Quality Control Mandate. Part of this process is to bring standardization and consistency between all sub-grantees within NeWAP (Nebraska Weatherization Assistance Program) system. In 2014, training has been much of the focus as field staff trainings became required certification. Energy Auditor and Crew Chief were two key points of 2014, with the final QCI (Quality Control Inspection) required by July 2015. The Nebraska Energy Office also created the NEO (Nebraska Energy Office) Weatherization portal. This website has allowed WAP (Weatherization Assistance Program) to become more streamlined with enhanced communication and real time information, using a cost efficient "greener" approach. Collaboration has also been a huge priority in the past year. Both field and office staff attended the Annual WAP (Weatherization Assistance Program) Director's meeting in Kearney. From those discussions a technical working group was established in Lincoln, bringing WAP (Weatherization Assistance Program) conversations full circle through the entire Community Action Network.



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Housing Department

We do better, together... From McCook, to Lincoln, to Loup City, to Grand Island spans over 420 miles. Collaborative efforts from the Nebraska Energy Office, CNCAP's Weatherization Staff, local Contractors & family members, achieve measurable success in spite of the distance.

The Tuesday before Thanksgiving brought an urgent call to the Housing Department's Weatherization (WZ) Staff. Pat from McCook was greatly concerned about her mother (Elizabeth) who is elderly and living without heat in Grand Island. After calling Tom Tabor at the Nebraska Energy Office she was referred to CNCAP for Weatherization Services. Upon receiving the referral, the WZ staff leaped into action in an effort to avert crisis ahead of an impending Thanksgiving ice storm.

Sharon Jonak (WZ Coordinator) & Larry Graff (Quality Control Inspector/Crew Chief) teamed up on paperwork to hand deliver it to Elizabeth. They were able to not only determine eligibility but also complete the housing inspection immediately following. Their quick action enabled a contractor to have temporary heat in place before the Thanksgiving Holiday and the expected storm. The actual furnace replacement occurred on the following Monday, 6 days after initial contact. But there were other dangers lurking

The Weatherization Crew was preparing to install insulation when their gas alarms began to go off. Upon opening the attic access, the crew was hit with a permeating odor. Unknown to the home owner, sewer gas was seeping into the attic through an improperly vented plumbing pipe. Once again, Sharon & Larry used CNCAP's 20 years of partnerships to have this issue remedied safely & quickly for the homeowner.



Elizabeth's family has since contacted the Weatherization staff in appreciation for all of the work done on her home. Most importantly, they were grateful for the timeliness of providing heat for their mother. "We are so impressed by all that was done, your program exceeded our expectation."

Housing Department

Mission Statement

To provide choices for individuals and families in the selection of safe, affordable, and energy efficient housing.

THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT STAFF RECEIVE CERTIFICATION

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
Certified Administrator

Housing Programs Assistant, Laura Hart, completed the required training and passed the three hour written examination to administer CDBG funds. Hart, a Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership employee of six years, has found her niche is in housing. This is what she had to say about her accomplishment...



"I grew up living not only impoverished but also experiencing homelessness & substandard housing.

Even when our living conditions improved we still might not have had heat or hot water. Oddly, I am very thankful for having this background. Not only has it built character in me, but it has also given me a type of credibility among the populations that I serve. I am by no means a walking billboard for the circumstances of my youth however, when needed; my experiences add transparency and authenticity to help achieve success, whatever that might look like.

There are some things that should not be privileges: access to safe housing, access to clean/hot water, access to heat in the winter months. And, yet we are seeing more & more rural families living in conditions that should be considered unacceptable. That's my goal; to improve housing in Central Nebraska. That's where my heart is, and that's where our future is, in the families of our communities."

QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTOR (QCI)

The Housing Department's Weatherization Staff have accomplished the Department of Energy's (DOE) mandate to have a Building Performance Institute (BP) certified Quality Control Inspector (QCI) on staff by July 1, 2015. Larry Graff received his QCI certification in June of 2015. Larry, who is in his 11th year of employment with CNCAP, can tell you it was a tough certification to achieve. The Housing staff is very proud of Larry's perseverance and dedication.



CENTRAL NEBRASKA COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP, INC.

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RURAL OFFICES

LOUP CITY CENTRAL OFFICE

626 'N' Street • (308) 745-0780
E-Mail: questions@centralnebraskacap.com

BROKEN BOW

924 East South E Street • (308) 872-6013

CENTRAL CITY

715 16th St. • (308) 946-3794

COLUMBUS

3286 53rd Avenue • (402) 564-1124

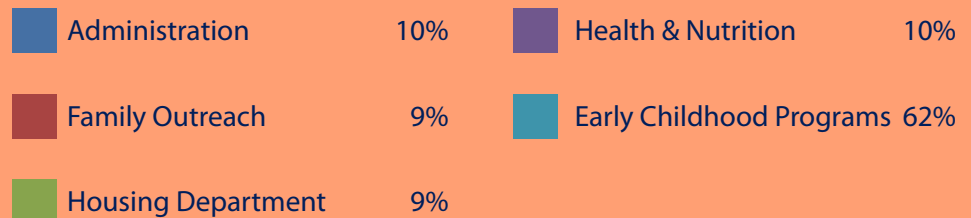
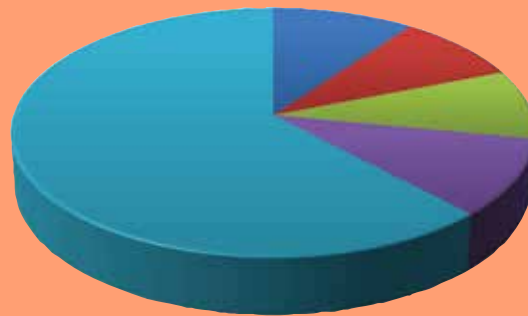
GRAND ISLAND

2525 W Lincoln Hwy • (308) 385-5500

O'NEILL

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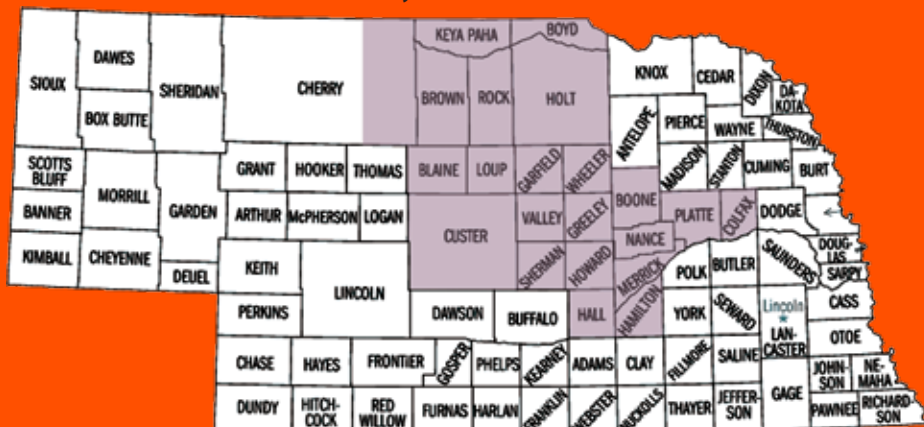
CORE PROGRAMS AND FUNDING AMOUNTS



TOTAL AGENCY FUNDING FOR 2015 \$12,141.198

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



CNCAP ADMINISTERS 49 PUBLIC & PRIVATE GRANT CONTRACTS THAT SUPPORTS 60 VARIOUS PROGRAMS.

CNCAP TAKES PRIDE IN ITS PROGRAMMATIC & FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY OF MULTIPLE AND DIVERSE FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AND PRIVATE DOLLARS.

SINCE OUR INCEPTION IN 1965, THE AGENCY'S BUDGET HAS GROWN FROM \$23,000 TO \$12 MILLION PRESENTLY, EMPLOYING 220+ EMPLOYEES.