



# Cultivating Opportunities.



# Realizing Dreams.



## Nebraska Children

AND FAMILIES FOUNDATION

2005 ANNUAL REPORT

Bringing people together  
to achieve the best results  
for children and families





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# Cultivating Opportunities. Realizing Dreams.

NEBRASKA COMMUNITIES share a common thread of fulfilling a vision for a prosperous life through diligence and determination. As times have changed, so have the challenges. Yet, our collective vision of communities where families can provide the best environment for children to thrive remains unchanged.

As you will find in our 2005 Annual Report, the foundation's endeavors are broad and diverse, yet all part of a comprehensive approach to a solid prevention effort. Through our innovative system of grant making, programs, technical assistance and education, we are helping dreams become realities. Our mission is *bringing people together to achieve the best results for children and families*, which means that all of our goals are met through partnerships. Throughout our history, we have been very fortunate to work with outstanding people from the public and private sectors who share our vision.

When communities come together around a particular issue, or even multiple issues, the foundation serves as a partner and advisor. In 2005, we worked with community leaders to develop strategies and provide funding for reducing the incidence of child maltreatment, juvenile crime and substance abuse, family violence and other destructive behaviors. We also helped communities address the need for quality early childhood services to ensure that children receive the highest level of care and education in their most critical years of development.

We invested in research using a nationally recognized tool called the Service Array in Child Welfare. This allowed us to facilitate discussions and discover the bridges and gaps in family support services within 28 counties and communities. Over 200,000 Nebraska citizens, including parents and caregivers, provided their ideas on how prevention systems can be improved for the benefit of their children, families and local economy.

The result of our work is a greater understanding of the diverse needs and cultures of communities. In

All of our goals are met through partnerships. We have been very fortunate to work with outstanding people from the public and private sectors who share our vision.

turn, we can continue to provide the most appropriate levels of support to sustain prevention-based programs. Research continues to indicate that investing in prevention results in significant savings over time – up to \$8 on every dollar. Imagine if the need for costly services such as drug and alcohol rehabilitation, corrections and incarceration could be drastically reduced. Our citizens would be able to allocate resources to more sustainable ventures, such as creating jobs and enhancing educational opportunities.

Investments in quality early childhood services have demonstrated some of the most remarkable economic returns, such that economists and business leaders are contributing to a national dialogue on the issue. When children have the opportunity to arrive at school ready to learn, they are more successful as students and, ultimately, as adults. In 2005, we developed a coalition of partners who successfully advocated for expanding access to quality early childhood services. This policy benefits children throughout the state, especially those most in need. We are working toward a system in which no child will fail in school because they lack care or quality learning experiences in their early years.

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*Letter from the Board President and Executive Director*

Our initiatives continued to provide support to community-based services by offering educational opportunities and developing statewide networks. Prevent Child Abuse Nebraska and the Nebraska Fatherhood Initiative have united a cross-section of professionals to enhance Nebraska's systems by preventing child maltreatment and encouraging healthy father involvement. Our Community Learning Center Network, which fosters school/community partnerships throughout the state, included over 150 private and public partners by the end of 2005. Our Positive Youth Development programs provided support to youth transitioning from foster care to independent living, and offered Native American youth the opportunity to plan and attend a conference on leadership.

We are committed to cultivating opportunities and realizing dreams in Nebraska communities. It is truly through our partners, grantees, volunteers and donors that we are able to fulfill our mission. We thank all of our constituents for their role in this successful year at the foundation, and we invite new partners to join us in this inspiring work.


Sincerely,



Cathie Petsch  
President, Board of Directors



Mary Jo Pankoke  
Executive Director



When children have the opportunity to arrive at school ready to learn, they are more successful as students and, ultimately, as adults.





# Supported Programs

## Funded for 2005

<b>Panhandle Partnership for Health and Human Services</b>	<b>\$12,500.00</b>
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*Sioux, Dawes, Sheridan, Box Butte, Scotts Bluff, Morrill, Garden, Banner, Kimball, Cheyenne and Deuel Counties*

<b><i>Children's Outreach Program</i></b>	<b><i>\$12,500.00</i></b>
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Children's Outreach Program is a free home visitation program for all families with newborns residing in the eleven Panhandle counties of Nebraska, providing health assessments, safety check lists, education, assessments of the home, proper usage of infant safety seats, as well as referrals when needed.

<b>Dawes County Family Preservation Coalition</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>
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*Dawes County*

<b><i>Dawes County Family Preservation Coalition</i></b>	<b><i>\$500.00</i></b>
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The coalition uses funding to provide administrative support for financial tracking and reporting.

<b><i>Crawford RSVP: Intergenerational/Youth/Parenting</i></b>	<b><i>\$3,430.00</i></b>
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RSVP provides much of Crawford's continuum of care, pairing youth and senior volunteers in mentoring situations. RSVP also offers parenting classes in which the participants become invested in their learning.

<b><i>Family Advocate Program</i></b>	<b><i>\$20,335.00</i></b>
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This model uses strategies to assist children and families in gathering information on their assets, interests and needs. Community systems support children and families by developing a unique, individualized family success plan in the least restrictive, least intrusive manner.

<b><i>Family Rescue Services</i></b>	<b><i>\$735.00</i></b>
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This service is an educational project that focuses on developing healthy relationships, setting appropriate personal boundaries and understanding the cycle of violence. In collaboration with area schools, youth and community groups educate the public on topics such as domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, sexual harassment and child abuse.

<b>Northeast Nebraska Regional Continuum of Care</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
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*Dodge County*

<b><i>Northeast Nebraska Regional Continuum of Care</i></b>	<b><i>\$10,000.00</i></b>
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The mission of this group is to empower individuals and families who are homeless or near homeless to move toward self-sufficiency and an enhanced quality of life. The group accomplishes this by providing housing and services to individuals and families in need.

<b>Omaha Healthy Start General Council</b>	<b>\$48,000.00</b>
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*Douglas County*

<b><i>Omaha Healthy Start - Fathers for a Lifetime</i></b>	<b><i>\$48,000.00</i></b>
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This program is centered on the Fathers for a Lifetime program, which promotes greater public awareness about responsible fatherhood and provides fathers with community-based resources to support them in becoming better parents.

<b>Essential Pregnancy Services</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>
<i>Douglas County</i>	
<b>Fathers' Program</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>
This program focuses on fathers and male caregivers and includes sessions for fathers and children, fathers and mothers, educational periods or private counseling to program participants.	
<b>Community Youth Council, Grand Island</b>	<b>\$18,000.00</b>
<i>Hall County</i>	
<b>Youth Leadership Tomorrow</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
This program is a nine-month interactive leadership development program for high school sophomores, which provides hands-on experience in government processes, management, decision making and community outreach.	
<b>Multicultural Coalition and Center</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>
The Multicultural Coalition and Center is a centralized human service resource center that provides educational, legal, housing, translation and other services for minorities to enhance their integration into the community. These programs include Newcomer Orientation Courses and Diversity Training for area businesses, minority groups and service organizations.	
<b>2-1-1 Call for Help</b>	<b>\$14,900.00</b>
<i>Hall, Hamilton, Howard and Merrick Counties</i>	
<b>2-1-1 Call for Help</b>	<b>\$14,900.00</b>
This program assists people in finding the help they need when they need it most. The number is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week with multi-language availability.	
<b>Lincoln Action Program</b>	<b>\$28,000.00</b>
<i>Lancaster County</i>	
<b>Lincoln Free to Grow</b>	<b>\$28,000.00</b>
Lincoln Free to Grow is an innovative program to protect children by strengthening families in the neighborhoods where they live in order to prevent child abuse and neglect, alcohol and drug abuse and other dangers. Based on research, Lincoln Free to Grow focuses on the family and community environments with the goal of preventing or reducing problems that put young children at risk.	
<b>"Take a Break" Respite Council</b>	<b>\$50,000.00</b>
<i>Lancaster County</i>	
<b>"Take a Break – TAB"</b>	<b>\$50,000.00</b>
The purpose of TAB is to offer a break for family caregivers so they have relief from day-to-day stresses of childrearing, which leads to a reduction in the incidence of child abuse, neglect and out-of-home placement.	

## Supported Programs: 2005

<b>CEDARS ECDC Parent Circle</b>	<b>\$44,000.00</b>
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*Lancaster County*

<b><i>Therapeutic Child Care</i></b>	<b><i>\$44,000.00</i></b>
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This project provides support and therapy to very young children with potential and verified emotional/behavioral disabilities and to their families in an intensive, all-day individualized child care program. Children and families are prepared to transition back into the “typical” child care setting. During visits with a mental health therapist from CEDARS and child and family specialists, children and families work on related issues in the classroom and the home.

<b>Community Connections of Lincoln County, Inc.</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>
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*Lincoln County*

<b><i>Community Connections of Lincoln County, Inc.</i></b>	<b><i>\$45,000.00</i></b>
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This program is dedicated to planning and implementing action that furthers the quality of life for children and families in Lincoln County. Several of the committees and programs include: (1) Healthy For Life, which promotes good health through physical activity, good eating habits and good sense lifestyle choices; (2) Our Town, which enables community groups to come together and create a sense of pride throughout North Platte and Lincoln County; (3) S.W.A.T., which works to generate ideas for youth-oriented activities and community service; and (4) High Expectations Mentoring Program, which provides youth in grades K-5 with experiences and learning opportunities through one-on-one mentoring.

<b>Merrick County Family Support Services / MCFSS Prevention Through Action</b>	<b>\$7,400.00</b>
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*Merrick County*

<b><i>Merrick County Youth Council / Good Beginnings</i></b>	<b><i>\$7,400.00</i></b>
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This program focuses on delinquency prevention and parent education. High school students serve on the Merrick County Youth Council and play an active role in reducing the drug and alcohol problem by identifying solutions and implementing a strategic plan. Support for parent education is provided by Good Beginnings and conducted by a registered home-health nurse. Follow-up opportunities are also offered with a mentor.

<b>Human Interagency Services</b>	<b>\$15,583.00</b>
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*Nuckolls County*

<b><i>Good Beginnings / Safe Start</i></b>	<b><i>\$15,583.00</i></b>
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This is a combined program that assists area families by providing access to comprehensive health, educational and human services through home visitations delivered by professional staff. It works with children ages zero to five years.

<b>Omaha Tribe of Nebraska</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>
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*Omaha Tribe of Nebraska*

<b><i>Strengthening Family Partnerships</i></b>	<b><i>\$45,000.00</i></b>
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The Family Preservation Project is an evolving, comprehensive community-based program created in response to issues that youth and their families experience on the Omaha Reservation. The mission is to assist families by providing a community-based continuum of care system and promoting healthy lifestyles through education and direct support systems.



<b>Phelps County Family Action Support Team, Inc. (FAST)</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
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*Phelps County*

<b><i>Phelps County Family Action Support Team, Inc. (FAST)</i></b>	<b><i>\$10,000.00</i></b>
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FAST successfully develops and administers programs that focus on adult/youth mentoring services to stimulate growth in relationship skills and family communication.

<b>Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Domestic Violence Community Council</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>
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*Ponca Tribe of Nebraska*

<b><i>Ponca Tribe Domestic Violence Program</i></b>	<b><i>\$30,000.00</i></b>
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This is a domestic violence program that refers victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and/or stalking to services that promote integrity and self-sufficiency. The services provide additional resources for assistance and support such as victim relocation expenses, victim transportation, home repairs and victim's child-related expenses. The primary focus of the program is Native Americans and their children.

<b>Southwest Nebraska Child Advocacy Team</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>
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*Red Willow County*

<b><i>IMPACT</i></b>	<b><i>\$45,000.00</i></b>
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IMPACT is a project from the Southwest Nebraska Child Advocacy Team, which advocates for child abuse/neglect prevention through parent education, parent support and other programs. New programs are introduced for at-risk youth between ages eight and eighteen.

<b>Santee Sioux Nation</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>
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*Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska*

<b><i>Strengthening Families</i></b>	<b><i>\$30,000.00</i></b>
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Strengthening Families is a program that helps prevent substance abuse, promote family preservation and provide family violence education activities at the community level in the Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska.

<b>Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska</b>	<b>\$30,118.00</b>
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*Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska*

<b><i>Violence Intervention / Family Preservation</i></b>	<b><i>\$30,118.00</i></b>
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The Violence Prevention/Family Preservation Program of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska seeks to break the cycle of violence through violence intervention, education, counseling and positive experiences for families involved in domestic violence.

<b>York County Community Health Coalition</b>	<b>\$9,000.00</b>
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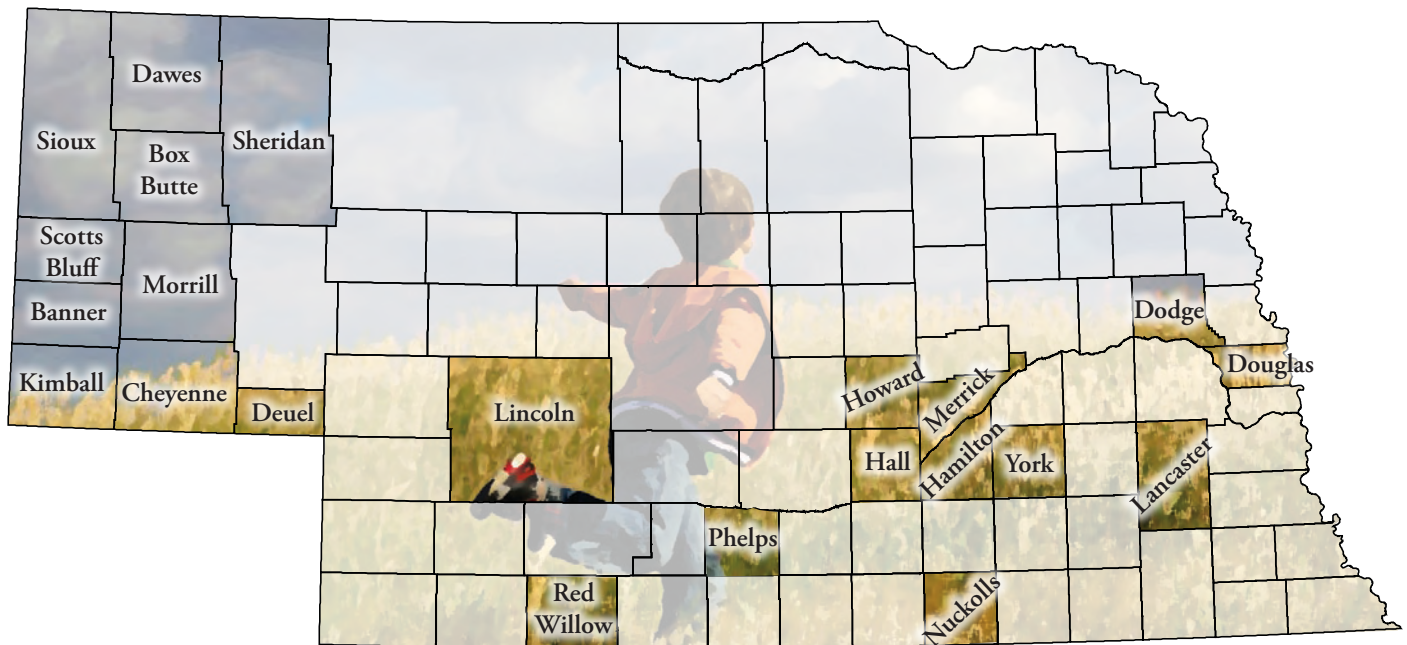
*York County*

<b><i>First Steps</i></b>	<b><i>\$9,000.00</i></b>
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First Steps is an early learning, home visitation program available to parents in York County with children from birth to age five. Community volunteer mentors conduct home visits and educate families about children's health, safety, parent/child bonding, effective communication, nurturing children's development and positive parenting.

<b>TOTAL NEBRASKA CHILDREN AND FAMILIES FOUNDATION FUNDING FOR 2005</b>	<b>\$537,501.00</b>
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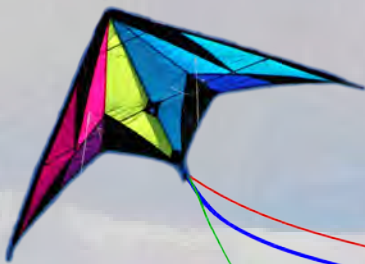
## Counties and Tribes Served



### Tribes

Omaha Tribe (*Thurston, Burt, Cuming and Wayne Counties*)  
 Ponca Tribe (*Douglas, Knox, Lancaster and Madison Counties*)  
 Santee Sioux Tribe (*Knox County*)  
 Winnebago Tribe (*Thurston County*)

## Success Story



When Carrie, a 28 year old single mother of two, discovered that she was expecting twins, she turned to First Steps, a program funded in part by NCFF. She knew that she needed to educate herself more fully about parenting and develop the skills that would enable her to care more effectively for her growing family.

Program staff began by conducting frequent home visits with Carrie to identify her specific needs and help her set realistic goals. Working with First Steps personnel, Carrie was able to obtain appropriate prenatal care so that her babies would be born healthy. The program also connected Carrie with other community resources that provide assistance for parents facing significant material or financial challenges.

First Steps worked with Carrie to give her twins the start they needed to grow up safe, healthy and happy – and NCFF helped make it happen.

# In-House Initiatives

## Report of Activities 2005

### Prevent Child Abuse Nebraska



- The fourth annual statewide child abuse and neglect conference, Children Need Everyday Heroes, provided educational and informative sessions to 480 individuals who work with children and families in Nebraska.
- Six new members joined the statewide Child Abuse Prevention Network in the following areas: Panhandle, Hastings, Superior, Valentine, Columbus and Northeast. The number of members now exceeds twenty. The Prevention Network provides communities with a forum for exchanging information, current research and successful child abuse prevention strategies.
- Governor Dave Heineman signed a proclamation at the Capitol on April 13, declaring April "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in Nebraska.
- Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Month packets were distributed throughout the state as a resource for strengthening prevention efforts at the community level.

### Positive Youth Development



- Camp Catch-Up, a camp that unites Nebraska siblings who live in separate foster care settings, was successful in 2005 with a record-breaking 64 campers.
- The Foster Youth Council and the Governor's Youth Advisory Council developed and promoted the Foster Youth Bill of Rights, which was adopted as a resolution by the Nebraska Legislature. The purpose of the resolution is to ensure and improve timely and safe permanent placements for children in foster care.
- The Circle of Nations had a successful third annual Native American Youth Conference, providing youth with cultural and leadership opportunities.

*\*Used with permission. Artist: George Blue Bird. The Circle of Courage is a Trademark of Circle of Courage, Inc. For more information, see Web site: [www.reclaiming.com](http://www.reclaiming.com) or e-mail [courage@reclaiming.com](mailto:courage@reclaiming.com).*

### Nebraska Community Learning Center Network



- The network, which fosters school/community partnerships throughout the state, included over 150 private and public partners at the end of 2005.
- A monthly "Hot Topics Conference Call" and quarterly e-newsletter were launched to keep network partners connected and informed.
- The network assisted in planning the second annual Hours of Opportunity Conference, a professional development conference for those who work with youth-oriented initiatives and organizations, after-school activities, camps, child care centers and other programs.



## In-House Initiatives Report of Activities

### Nebraska Fatherhood Initiative



NEFI partnered with the National Fatherhood Initiative to train nine community agencies from across the state in the “24/7 Dad” curriculum, which provides strategies for promoting healthy father involvement. Approximately forty-five fathers in various communities have completed the course.

In November 2005, the initiative partnered with Alegen Health Care Systems in Omaha to provide the “Boot Camp for New Dads” curriculum for over 75 fathers in 2005.

The initiative completed the first phase of the Nebraska Head Start Fatherhood Project, which began in 2004. This project is a collaboration with the Department of Education and Dr. Joseph White of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. During this phase, we surveyed 1,400 Head Start employees and 21 Head Start agencies to assess father-friendliness.

### Weigh Cool™



The foundation partnered with the YMCA in Lincoln to be part of a national “Activate America” initiative. A team consisting of Lincoln-based community partners convened in Washington, D.C. to address the issue of declining health among children and families due to obesity and lack of physical activity.

Weigh Cool™ will be a collaborative, community-wide public awareness program in Lincoln to provide the public with information on healthy eating and active living habits. This program will be developed and implemented through schools and other youth-serving organizations, and will involve a variety of partners and funders including the Community Health Endowment of Lincoln.

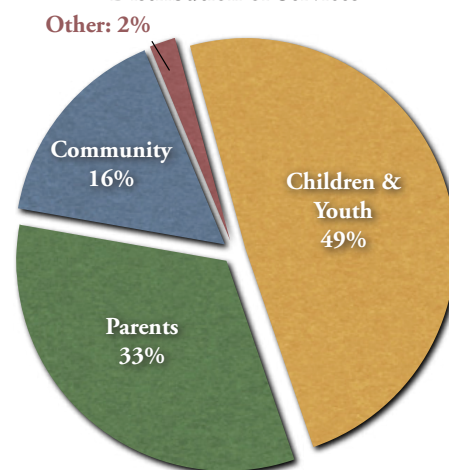
After its initial implementation, the foundation plans to foster additional Weigh Cool™ efforts in communities throughout Nebraska.

# Performance Report

## Who was served

- 16 implementation projects were funded by NCFE.
- Seven of the funded projects specifically targeted minority populations.
- The funded projects targeted a blend of services for children, youth, families, and/or communities. The majority of their efforts were on children and youth (49%) or parents (33%).
- Direct services were provided to 1,835 families and 2,442 children/youth.
- Indirect services were provided to 35,989 families and 24,295 children.
- Forty-five percent of the program services were provided to minorities.

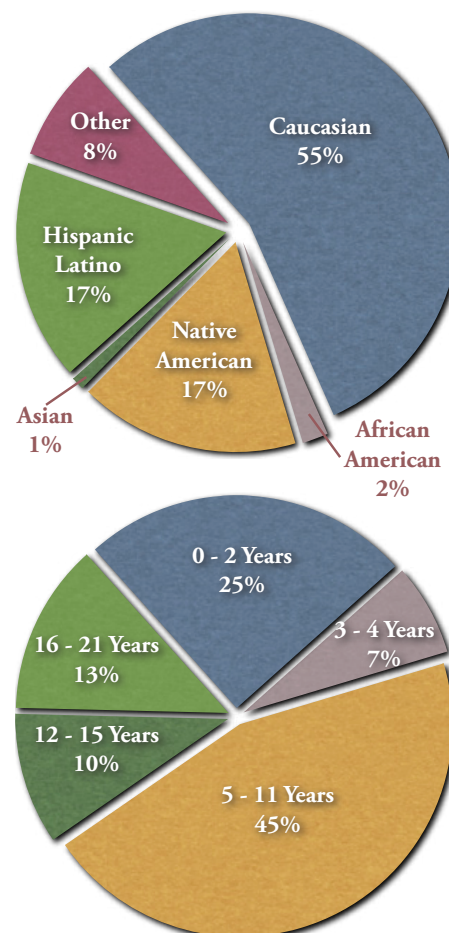
Distribution of Services



## Outcomes

- Two programs indicated that youth had improved school behavior and/or decreased dropout rates.
- The majority of the children in an after-school program met or exceeded district standards in reading (68%) or math (70%).
- Two parenting programs resulted in decreased CPS referrals or resulted in parents gaining custody of their children.
- Two programs demonstrated positive outcomes that resulted in success in school, such as improved study habits and improved behavior at school.
- Parents learned leadership skills in a program that helped them to support other families or participate in activities to improve their community (4.3 out of 5 on the satisfaction survey).
- Community councils had a very positive rating of collaboration (3.6 out of 4 on the Working Together surveys).
- Crime dropped at a greater rate in the Clinton neighborhood than all other Lincoln neighborhoods. This is thought to be a consequence of neighborhood revitalization efforts connected with the Free to Grow program.

Demographics



Data Source: *Nebraska Children and Families Foundation Annual Evaluation Report 2004-2005*. Munroe-Meyer Institute, March 2006.

A full report is available at [www.NebraskaChildren.org](http://www.NebraskaChildren.org)



# Individual Donors

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GRANDMOTHER'S		WAITT CORP. INVESTMENTS
		WELLS FARGO BANK
		WOMEN'S FUND OF GREATER OMAHA

# Private Grants

**NEBRASKA EDUCATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS:** Supporting early childhood education and training statewide, using a curriculum called Parenting Counts, developed by the Talaris Institute

**SUSAN A. BUFFETT FOUNDATION:** Supporting early childhood public awareness and engagement efforts

**AFTER SCHOOL ALLIANCE:** Supporting the sixth annual *Lights On After School* event, which promotes the benefits of community learning centers

**NEBRASKA FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK:** Supporting the creation of a Nebraska chapter of the World Association for Infant Mental Health, an organization that allows professionals to share information and resources on best practices in the field

**DILLON FOUNDATION:** Supporting Camp Catch-Up, a program that unites siblings who live in separate foster care settings for a weekend of bonding and activities

**PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AMERICA:** Supporting Prevent Child Abuse Nebraska and the Circle of Parents program, which helps parents build supportive relationships and learn valuable parenting skills

# Foundation

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January to June, 2005

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Lincoln Public Schools*

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June to December, 2005

*Executive Committee*

Cathie Petsch, President  
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Carol Russell, Vice President  
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*University of Nebraska - Omaha*

Carmen Maurer  
*University of Nebraska System*

Teri Teutsch  
*MediBadge, Inc.*

J. Eric Buchanan  
*University of Nebraska Foundation*

Mike McQuillan  
*McQuillan & McQuillan, PC*

George Watson, Jr.  
*Crites, Shaffer, Connealy, Watson &  
Harford and Chadron State College*

Roger Doerr  
*Hastings College*

Marta Nieves  
*Journey Consulting*

Tim White  
*Rinder Printing Company*

John Harms  
*Western Nebraska Community  
College, Scottsbluff*

Dave Polson  
*Sterling Digital Networks*

Steve Wild  
*Quantum Alliance*

Dr. Eric Jolly  
*Science Museum of Minnesota*

Kate Sullivan  
*Cedar Rapids State Bank and  
BlueStem Beef*

Carole Woods Harris  
*Nebraska State Board of Education*







# Foundation Staff

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## *Administration*

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Mary Jo Pankoke  
*Executive Director*

Stacy Umbenhower  
*Director of Finance*

Kimberly Cantrell  
*Office Manager*

Suzy Thompson  
*Administrative Assistant*

## *Fund Development and Marketing*

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Mary Colacurci  
*Director of Development*

Kelly Medwick  
*Director of Marketing and  
Communications*

## *Policy and Advocacy*

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Jessie Rasmussen  
*Early Childhood Policy Director*

## *Program and Initiatives*

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Kim Boyce  
*Director of Community  
Development*

Jessica Hilderbrand  
*Program Assistant, Nebraska Foster  
Youth Initiative*

Cynthia Filip  
*Program Coordinator, Positive  
Youth Development Programs*

Corin Kaye  
*Program Coordinator, Nebraska  
Foster Youth Initiative*

LaRon Henderson  
*Program Director, Nebraska  
Fatherhood Initiative*

Lynn Murray Smith  
*Program Director, Prevent Child  
Abuse Nebraska*

# Financial Statements

## Statements of Financial Position: December 31, 2005 and 2004

Assets	2005	2004
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,434,355	\$ 1,519,628
Certificate of deposit	104,169	100,000
Accrued interest receivable	—	1,606
Grants and pledges receivable	111,978	115,318
Prepaid rent	2,293	—
Total current assets	2,652,795	1,736,552
<b>Long-term Grants Receivable</b>	—	56,250
<b>Property and Equipment, at Cost, Net</b>	87,798	38,574
Total assets	\$ 2,740,593	\$ 1,831,376
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 56,324	\$ 6,010
Accrued expenses	5,480	4,969
Refundable advance	—	6,448
Unearned grant revenue	2,312,487	1,533,935
Total current liabilities	2,374,291	1,551,362
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted	143,003	91,288
Temporarily restricted	223,299	188,726
Total net assets	366,302	280,014
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 2,740,593	\$ 1,831,376



### Independent Accountants' Report on Financial Statements

Board of Directors  
Nebraska Children and  
Families Foundation  
Lincoln, Nebraska

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of Nebraska Children and Families Foundation as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Foundation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Nebraska Children and Families Foundation as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

/s/ BKO, LLP

January 20, 2006

1221 N Street, Suite 800 Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-2030 402 478-7600 Fax 402 478-7688  
1101 South 101st Street, Suite 410 Omaha, Nebraska 68124-1009 402 592-1040 Fax 402 592-1772

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Beyond Your Numbers

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## Statements of Activities: Years Ended December 31, 2005 and 2004

	2005			2004		
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
<b>Revenues, Gains and Other Support</b>						
Federal and state grants	\$ 2,037,511	\$ —	\$ 2,037,511	\$ 1,578,130	\$ —	\$ 1,578,130
Other agency grants	15,900	176,986	192,886	3,912	19,000	22,912
Interest income	46,745	—	46,745	19,558	—	19,558
Contributions and donations	121,253	5,833	127,086	146,618	—	146,618
Net assets released from restrictions	148,246	(148,246)	—	142,378	(142,378)	—
	2,369,655	34,573	2,404,228	1,890,596	(123,378)	1,767,218
<b>Expenses</b>						
Children and family programs	1,891,008	—	1,891,008	1,548,677	—	1,548,677
Administrative	348,568	—	348,568	258,351	—	258,351
Fund raising	78,364	—	78,364	93,381	—	93,381
Total expenses	2,317,940	—	2,317,940	1,900,409	—	1,900,409
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	51,715	34,573	86,288	(9,813)	(123,378)	(133,191)
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</b>	91,288	188,726	280,014	101,101	312,104	413,205
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	\$ 143,003	\$ 223,299	\$ 366,302	\$ 91,288	\$ 188,726	\$ 280,014

# Financial Statements

## Statements of Cash Flows: Years Ended December 31, 2005 and 2004

	2005	2004
<b>Operating Activities</b>		
Change in net assets	\$ 86,288	\$ (133,191)
Items not requiring operating activities cash flows		
Depreciation	12,576	11,890
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	1,057	3,028
Changes in		
Grants and accrued interest receivable	61,196	46,982
Prepays	(2,293)	—
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	10,710	(3,403)
Refundable advance	(6,448)	6,448
Unearned grant revenue	778,552	593,712
Net cash provided by operating activities	941,638	525,466
<b>Investing Activities</b>		
Proceeds from maturity of certificate of deposit	100,000	—
Purchase of certificate of deposit	(104,169)	—
Purchase of property and equipment	(22,742)	(11,554)
Net cash used in investing activities	(26,911)	(11,554)
<b>Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	914,727	513,912
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year</b>	1,519,628	1,005,716
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year</b>	\$ 2,434,355	\$ 1,519,628
<b>Supplemental Cash Flows Information</b>		
Accounts payable incurred for purchase of property and equipment	\$ 40,114	\$ —



## Notes to Financial Statements

### Note 1

#### Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

##### Nature of Operations

Nebraska Children and Families Foundation is a non-profit foundation formed June 1997. The Foundation primarily earns revenue through federal and state grants. The Foundation has an application process whereby communities may apply for funding from the Foundation and then work in partnership with them in order to improve the health and well being of children and families of all cultural backgrounds in the State of Nebraska.

The Foundation also administers six in-house initiatives, to provide research, education and training in these areas:

- ♦ Prevent Child Abuse Nebraska, a chartered chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America
- ♦ The Nebraska Fatherhood Initiative, to raise awareness of the importance of fathers
- ♦ The Community Learning Center Network, to promote school-based services
- ♦ The Foster Youth Initiative, to support youth as they transition to independent living

- ♦ The Youth Development Project, to involve youth in leadership opportunities
- ♦ Weigh Cool™, to address child obesity

##### Cash Equivalents

The Foundation considers all liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents. At December 31, 2005 and 2004, cash equivalents consisted of a money market account.

##### Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are depreciated on straight line and accelerated methods over the estimated useful life of each asset.

Donated property and equipment are reported at fair market value as an increase in unrestricted net assets unless use of the assets are restricted by the donor.

##### Net Assets

Temporarily restricted net assets are those whose use by the Foundation has been limited by donors to a specific time period or purpose.



**Note 1: Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - Continued**

**Grants**

The Foundation is the recipient of federal and state grants to fund its primary programs. Government grants are recorded as revenue when the related approved expenditures are made. Federal and state grant receivables are stated at the amount by which program expenditures are yet to be reimbursed. Unearned grant revenue is recognized to the extent grant receipts exceed approved expenditures.

**Contributions**

Gifts of cash and other assets received are reported as unrestricted revenue and net assets, unless subject to purpose and time restrictions. Unconditional gifts expected to be collected in subsequent years are reported as grants receivable and temporarily restricted revenues in the year awarded. When a donor stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions. Gifts having donor stipulations which are satisfied in the period the gift is received, are reported as unrestricted revenue and net assets.

In addition to receiving cash contributions, the Foundation receives in-kind contributions of services from various donors. It is the policy of the Foundation to record the estimated fair value of certain in-kind donations as an expense in its financial statements, and similarly increase contribution revenue by the same amount. For the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004, \$6,127 and \$45,266 respectively, was received in in-kind contributions.

Conditional promises to give are not included as revenue until the conditions are substantially met.

**Expense Allocations**

Certain expenses of the Foundation relate to both program and supporting services. The allocation of these expenses is based on estimates of benefits derived from the expense.

**Income Taxes**

The Foundation has been recognized as tax exempt pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and a similar section of state law. Thus, no income taxes have been provided for in these financial statements.

**Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues, expenses and other changes in net assets during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Note 2**

**Grant Commitments**

**Grants and Pledges Receivable**

Grants and pledges receivable at December 31 consist of the following:

	2005	2004
Grants receivable due in		
Less than one year	\$ 57,250	\$ 82,000
One to five years	—	56,250
Total grants receivable	57,250	138,250
Pledges receivable	5,833	—
Federal and state grant reimbursements	48,895	33,318
	<u>\$ 111,978</u>	<u>\$ 171,568</u>

These receivables are reflected in the financial statements as follows:

	2005	2004
Grants and pledges receivable - current	\$ 111,978	\$ 115,318
Long-term grants receivable	—	56,250
	<u>\$ 111,978</u>	<u>\$ 171,568</u>

**Unearned Grant Revenue**

The Foundation receives its federal and state grant support through periodic payments. Unearned grant revenue consists of federal and state grant receipts that exceed approved expenditures.

**Note 3**

**Property and Equipment**

Property and equipment consisted of the following at December 31:

	2005	2004
Furniture and equipment	\$ 136,135	\$ 76,803
Less accumulated depreciation	48,337	38,229
	<u>\$ 87,798</u>	<u>\$ 38,574</u>

**Note 4**

**Net Assets**

**Temporarily Restricted Net Assets**

Temporarily restricted net assets at December 31 are available for the following purposes or periods:

	2005	2004
Family program expenses	\$ 217,466	\$ 188,726
For periods after December 31, 2005	5,833	—
	<u>\$ 223,299</u>	<u>\$ 188,726</u>

## Notes to Financial Statements

**Note 4: Net Assets - Continued****Net Assets Released From Restrictions**

Net assets were released from donor restrictions by incurring expenses satisfying the restricted purposes.

	2005	2004
Family program expenses	\$ 148,246	\$ 142,378

**Note 5****Leases****Operating**

The Foundation leased its current office space under an operating lease which expired December 31, 2005. Rental expense totaled \$30,230 and \$22,256 for December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively.

The Foundation moved into newly renovated office space, in the same office building, in early January 2006. The new noncancelable operating lease executed in early 2006 is for a ten year term. The Foundation will also be responsible for a prorata share of increases in direct building operating expenses over the lease term.

Future minimum lease payments as of the lease signing in 2006 are:

2006	\$ 53,780
2007	55,370
2008	55,370
2009	58,200
2010	58,770
Later years	305,900
	<u>\$ 587,390</u>

The Foundation anticipates its share of leasehold improvements related to this new space will approximate \$28,000, which will be capitalized in 2006.

**Note 6****Defined Contribution Plan**

The Foundation has a simplified employee pension plan covering substantially all employees. The Foundation's contributions to the plan are determined annually by the Board of Directors. Total Foundation contributions were \$16,371 and \$16,213 for 2005 and 2004, respectively.

**Note 7****Significant Estimates and Concentrations**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require disclosure of certain significant estimates and current vulnerabilities due to certain concentrations. Those matters include the following:

**Grant Funding**

The Foundation receives a significant amount of its revenues from federal and state grants. These grants are obtained on an annual basis, and not receiving one or more of these grants would have a material effect on the Foundation. Federal financial assistance programs are subject to financial and compliance audits. The amount of expenditures, if any, which may be disallowed by the granting agencies is not determinable at this time; however, the Foundation does not believe that such amounts would be significant.

## FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHT:

# The 2005 Grace Abbott Awards



The ballroom of the Country Club of Lincoln was filled with watering cans of colorful tulips on March 24 for the third annual Grace Abbott Awards banquet honoring Mike Alesio and First National Bank.

The award, given by the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, honors both an individual and an organization doing extraordinary work to benefit the lives of children and families in Nebraska. This year, Gov. Dave Heineman congratulated the honorees from the podium.

NCFF raised over \$21,000 from the event.

Cathie Petsch, president of the NCFF board of directors, served as master of ceremonies; honorary co-chairs were Donna Tubach-Davis and Lynn Wilson, BryanLGH Health System; event co-chairs were Lucy Buntain Comine and Carol Russell; event committee included Sharon Cirone and Robyn Wilson; and community volunteers included Carl and Karen Brasee and Marc LeBaron.

Event sponsors included Lincoln Plating; Cline, Williams, Wright, Johnson & Oldfather, LLP; The Susan A. Buffett Foundation; First National Bank; Lincoln Journal Star; Sterling Digital Networks; BryanLGH Medical Center; Thompson Realty Group; and Valentino's.

*Story by Pamela S. Thompson*





# Examining Nebraska's Prevention Systems

In 2005, the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, partnered with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, the Crime Commission and the Juvenile Justice Institute for a community-based assessment and planning project. The Service Array in Child Welfare evaluation tool provided the foundation for the process. The tool, developed by the Children's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, focuses on a complete range of child welfare services.

A primary purpose of the Nebraska project was to evaluate the capacity for developing a prevention system. The prevention system includes a cross-section of program areas such as housing, early childhood, public health, youth development, substance abuse prevention, behavioral health, health care access and child abuse prevention. Communities looked beyond individual program areas to the interrelationship of these resources. Discussions also focused on the extent to which local collaborations enter into joint planning, shared resources, and shared decision making for prevention. Such activities are the foundation of developing a sustainable prevention system.

Twenty-eight counties/communities including over 248,000 citizens from various regions of the state were included in the process. The project focused on communities in greater Nebraska after determining that more comprehensive resources exist in the state's urban areas. Citizens were asked to rate their community services based on availability, quantity, quality and importance.

The Service Array project was a critical step in strategically evaluating the range and coverage of prevention services currently at work in the state of Nebraska.

Communities identified several common themes and linkages. First, citizens agreed that prevention and early intervention should be a high priority. They identified prevention as a key to stimulating economic development, reducing crime and health care costs and providing safe environments for children. They also identified common needs and concerns, such as:

- ♦ Lack of jobs that pay living wages and include benefits
- ♦ Lack of affordable day care
- ♦ An increasing need for behavioral health services
- ♦ Lack of affordable health insurance and prescription drugs
- ♦ Reduction of after-school programs, such as sports and performing arts
- ♦ Limited access to community-based prevention services

Each community developed a model for substantive change in its system of local resources. Some of the strategies include building stronger collaborations in the community and with public agencies, using common evaluations, recommending common grant applications at the state level, developing data collection and reporting standards and improving training and education at the local level.

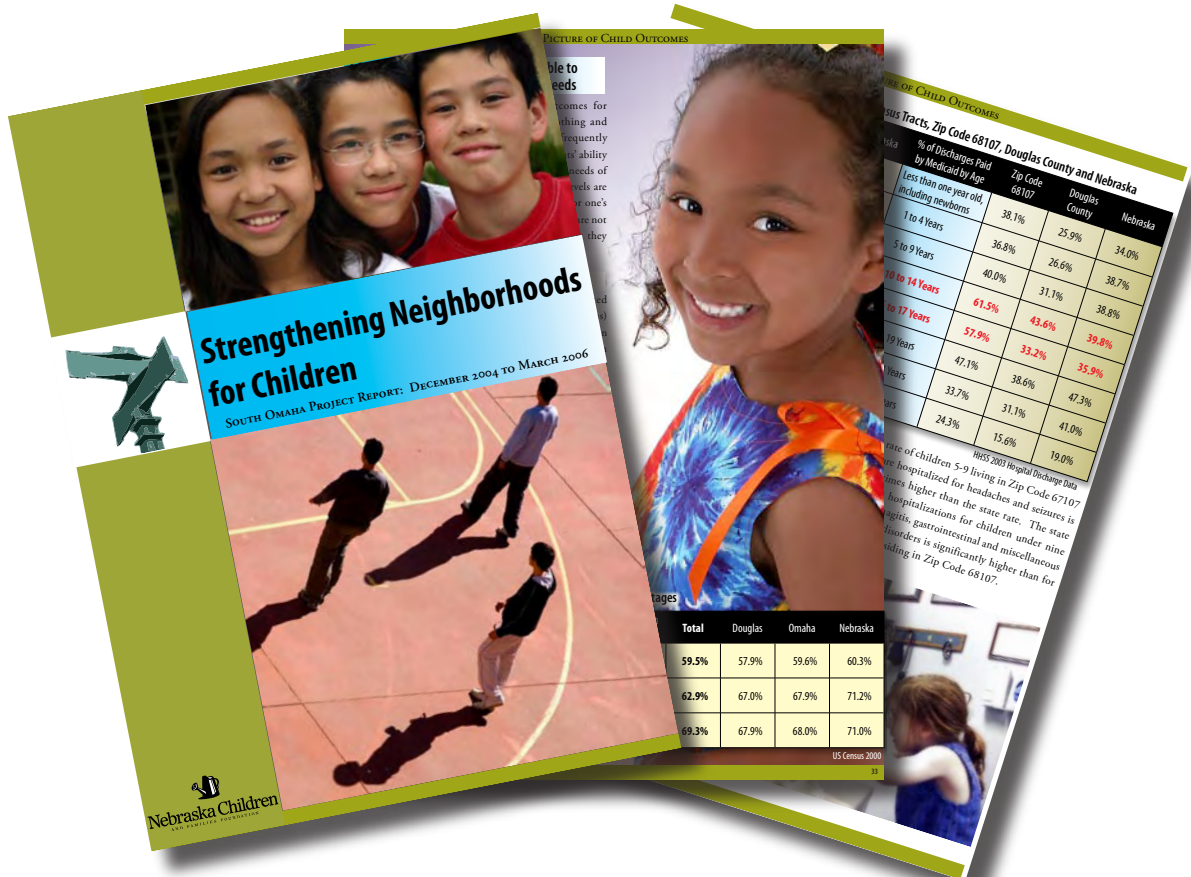
# Strengthening Neighborhoods for Children

THE SOUTH OMAHA PROJECT

The goal of the Strengthening Neighborhoods for Children Project was to gain a better understanding of the strengths and challenges of South Omaha neighborhoods by evaluating specific, critical characteristics. The Nebraska Children and Families Foundation initiated this project intending to enhance the capacity of neighborhoods in Nebraska to promote healthy families and safe environments for children. Input from a survey, two neighborhood meetings and youth discussion groups was incorporated with relevant existing data in order to assess the needs of the communities.

Conclusions showed positive outcomes for children in these neighborhoods, along with some key issues to address. Children and families need more safe public places for

children to play, access to health care (including prenatal care), improved academic performance in elementary schools and better high school graduation rates. Other concerns include the need for improved safety measures (traffic control, child abuse, drugs and gangs), ways to address environmental health risks (lead and air pollution) as well as the lack of sufficient numbers of safe, affordable homes. The residents expressed a willingness to cooperate to improve their neighborhoods and a desire to see their children succeed. Whatever specific action is indicated, it is hoped that the report will stimulate others to work with community members to strengthen their neighborhoods in a way that promotes the success and well-being of their children.



The Strengthening Neighborhoods for Children Project Report is available online from the Nebraska Children and Families Web site at [www.NebraskaChildren.org](http://www.NebraskaChildren.org)







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# Nebraska Children

AND FAMILIES FOUNDATION

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