

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Jim Pillen, Governor

December 31, 2025

The Honorable Jim Pillen
Governor of Nebraska
P.O. Box 94848
Lincoln, NE 68509

Mr. Brandon Metzler
Clerk of the Legislature
P.O. Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509

Subject: Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Fund (NCAPF) Annual Report

Dear Governor Pillen and Mr. Metzler:

The following information is provided as required by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-1905(3) regarding an annual report of receipts and disbursements of funds, including the recipients, the nature of the program funded, the dollar amount awarded, and the percentage of the total annually available funds the grant represents. The NCAPF Board is administered by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, with technical assistance and support provided by the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation/Prevention Child Abuse Nebraska Chapter.

Thank you for your review of this annual report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathleen M. Stolz".

Kathleen Stolz
Acting Director, Division of Children and Family Services

Attachment

Division of Children and Family Services

Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Fund (NCAPF) Annual Report

December 2025

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-1905

Summary

This report covers the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025 expenditures and programs funded by the Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board (Board). The Board was created in 1986 by the Nebraska Legislature to provide prevention information, education, and resources to parents, professionals, and the public. Board members are appointed by the Governor and approved by the Legislature.

Receipts and Disbursements

Nebraska birth certificate fees, investment income, and state general funds provide revenue to the Board. The Board also has carryover funds that are invested and partially allocated during each SFY, in addition to the annual revenue amount. Due to the variable nature of the revenue and investments, the Board also maintains a 10-year financial projection and an annual funding plan with consideration of multi-year investments and prior-year carryover. Generally speaking, the Board allocates between \$350,000 and \$500,000 each year, depending on proposals and budget allowed. Each year, the 10-year projection is reviewed by the Board and the Department of Health and Human Services finance staff to make any necessary adjustments. The Board may decrease future allocations if necessary to ensure resources are not depleted.

During SFY 2025, a total of \$501,445.67 was allocated from the available funds. As is true in historical years, there were unspent funds in this SFY. The unspent funds are partially due to one grantee deciding not to continue work on the project, and delays in staffing or start-up. Quarterly monitoring of spending levels continues, along with outreach and technical assistance to grantees to ensure funds can be liquidated or repurposed. Proportionate to total allocation, fewer funds were left unspent this SFY than in the prior year. Of the \$501,445.67 allocated, \$67,253.77 remains unspent as of the end of this fiscal year's liquidation dates. Unspent funds will be carried over to the next year and reallocated.

Program Details and Allocations

Program Summaries

Circle of Security Parenting (COSP)

Circle of Security Parenting (COSP) is an 8-week program that builds strong relationships between parent and child. It helps parents learn how to respond to their child's needs in a way that reduces their stress and enhances healthy attachment. Families participating in COSP have often experienced trauma or other factors that can disrupt attachment security.

Community Response

Community Response is a system of supportive services for children and families to prevent unnecessary entry into the child welfare system or other high-end systems of care. Participating

communities develop and coordinate an array of local resources to determine eligibility criteria, identify families, administer and share screening and assessments, and provide short-term support to qualified families. Typically, communities develop a Community Response Team with designated point persons that may be called Connectors or Navigators.

Community Cafes

Community Cafes are a series of connected conversations hosted by parents working in partnership with local organizations. Cafes strengthen families and promote parent leadership to create more equitable and mutually informed systems. The pandemic challenged parent hosts to create new virtual approaches in place of in-person gatherings. Parent hosts from many Cafe teams participated in virtual sessions for shared learning, support, and addressed handling difficult topics.

Training and Technical Assistance

All grantees received support for initial training, implementation, and evaluation in Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Fund (NCAPF) supported strategies, including COSP and Community Cafes. Additional support was provided for the development of community systems to support and use these strategies, including, but not limited to, Community Well-Being and Community Response. An annual evaluation is required that includes the outcomes of all funded projects.

Prenatal Plans of Safe Care (POSC)

Plans of Safe Care (POSC) are required under the federal Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act to identify and provide a plan of care for infants who are affected by substance abuse during pregnancy. Nebraska has expanded this effort to include a prevention scope through several pilot sites, focusing on this work during the prenatal period to engage mothers and their medical/treatment providers prior to the baby's birth. The goal is to address the substance use earlier and develop plans proactively that can be in place rather than waiting until the birth of the baby. The Prenatal POSC work focuses on engaging community partners, treatment, and medical providers in a coordinated effort to support the mother and family.

Public Awareness

A critical component of the Board's work is raising public awareness, branding, and disseminating information to communities and families about the work of grantees and the overall prevention system. These grantees provide radio, media streaming, branding materials, and strategic analysis of the most effective way to communicate the messaging.

Program Allocations for SFY 2025

The table below provides information on the recipients, the nature of the program funded, the dollar amount awarded, the percentage of the allocated funds the grant represents, and unspent dollars from the allotted amount.

Program/Service	Grantee Community/Name	Amount of Allocation	Dates of Contract	% of Total Allocation	Amount Unspent
Community-Based Prevention Programs and Services					
Circle of Security Parenting	NEAEYC (multiple sites)	\$60,000	July – June	12%	\$0
Community Response	Columbus Area United Way	\$25,000	July – June	5%	\$1.32
Community Response	Norfolk Family Coalition	\$25,000	July – June	5%	\$0
Community Response	Valentine Children and Families Coalition	\$20,000	Oct – June	4%	\$8,118.77
Community Response	Dawson County Family Partners	\$25,000	Oct – June	5%	\$16,423.01
Community Response	Fremont Family Coalition	\$60,000	July – June	12%	\$8,095.80
Prenatal Plans of Safe Care	United Way of South-Central Nebraska	\$19,997.47	July – June	4%	\$5,356.66
Prenatal Plans of Safe Care	Families 1 st Partnership	\$10,000	July – June	2%	\$1,639.23
Prenatal Plans of Safe Care	Growing Community Connections	\$20,000	Oct – June	4%	\$13,337.33
Totals of Community-Based Prevention Programs		\$264,997.47			\$52,972.12
Public Awareness					
Radio and social media ads	Learfield (statewide)	\$40,000	Jan – June	8%	\$32.93
Prevention Store	Abante (statewide)	\$30,000	Jan – June	6%	\$0
Marketing Analysis	Moxie 16 (statewide)	\$15,000	Jan – June	3%	\$0
Totals of Public Awareness		\$85,000			\$32.93
Parent and Youth Engagement and Leadership for Prevention					
Community Cafes	-Auburn Public School	\$12,000	July – June	2%	\$2,203.10
	-Grand Island Public School	\$11,000	July – June	2%	\$3,635.35
	-Crete Public School	\$12,000	July – June	2%	\$2,169.88
	-The BRIDGE	\$26,024	July – June	5%	\$6,240.39
Totals of Parent/Youth Engagement Programming		\$61,024			\$14,248.72
Training, Technical Assistance, and Evaluation					
Administrative Support	Nebraska Children & Families Foundation	\$90,424.20	July – June	18%	\$0
Total		\$501,445.67			\$67,253.77