

# ANNUAL REPORT

Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention  
Fund Board



**NEBRASKA**

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

**Fiscal Year  
2020-2021**

## PURPOSE OF THE **Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board**

The Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Fund 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. The Board is administered by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. The Board's plan for 2019-2020 included the following priorities:

- Supporting evidence-informed approaches to child abuse prevention in Nebraska's communities
- Administering a statewide public awareness campaign with local child abuse prevention councils and collaboratives
- Providing training and technical assistance on evidence-informed child abuse prevention strategies to community grantees and other partners

The NCAPF Board is administered by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and is governed by a board that is nominated by the Governor and approved by the State Legislature.



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# Evidence-Informed Programs and Resources

## Circle of Security Parenting™ (COSP)

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 need 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.

The NCAFP Board awarded funding to the Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children to facilitate 23 COSP classes across the state—seven in-person and 16 virtual. Class numbers increased in the past year due to the availability of virtual classes. In-person classes were held in the counties of Adams/Hall, Saline, Lancaster, Dawson, Lincoln, and Sheridan. There were 292 participants of which forty-six percent qualified for public assistance.

Virtual classes occurred through facilitators based in the counties of Dakota, Buffalo, Hall/Adams, Saline, and Valley.

*Statistically significant outcomes included positive parent-child interactions, positive parent-child relationships, and less stress related to parenting.*

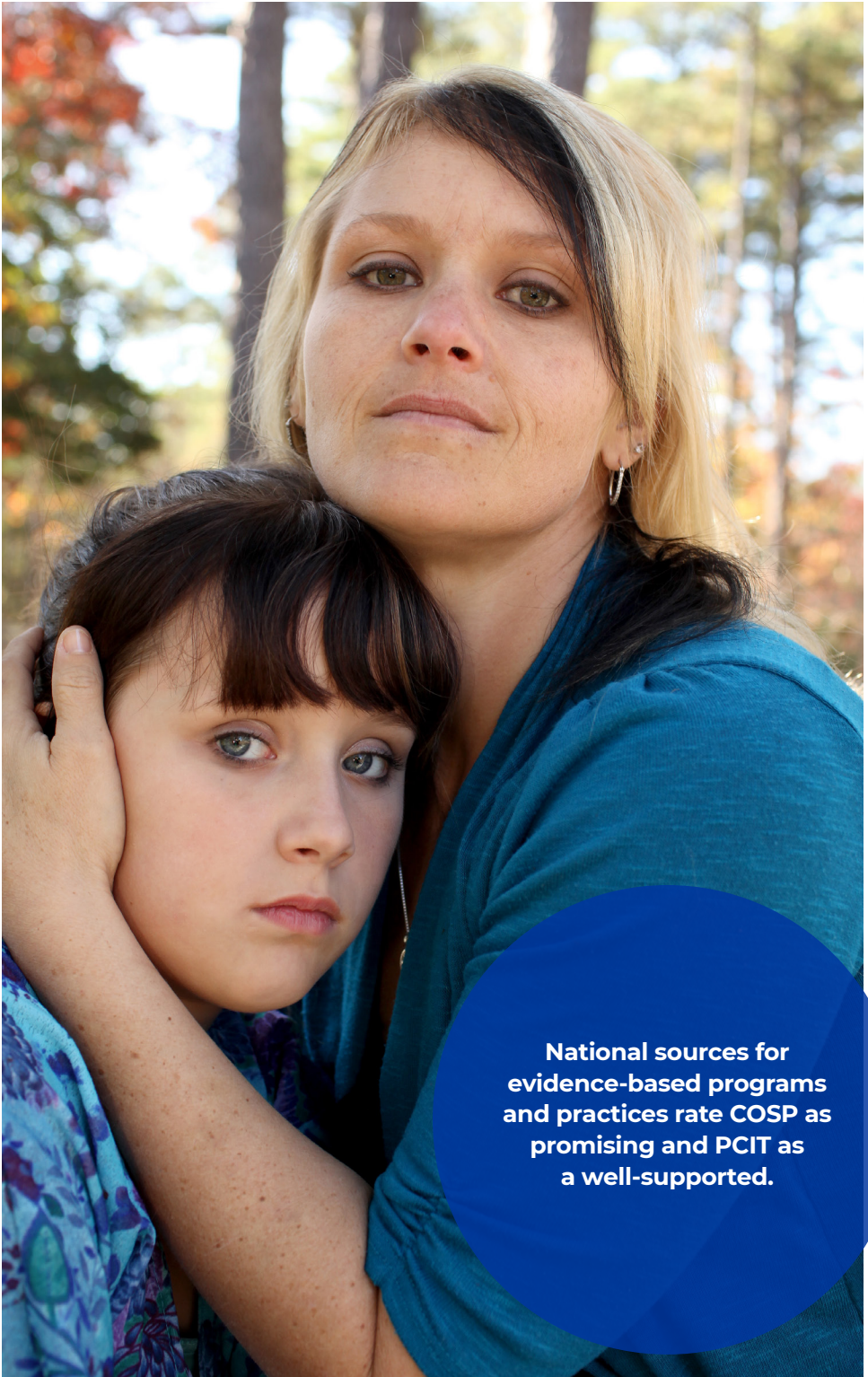
## Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)

PCIT is an empirically supported treatment for children ages two to seven and their parents that focuses on improving the parent-child relationship. It is often used to treat clinically significant disruptive behaviors in children. In PCIT, parents learn specific skills to establish a nurturing and secure relationship with their child while increasing their child's pro-social behavior and decreasing negative behavior.

The NCAFP Board supported PCIT in five collaboratives or communities: Public Health Solutions (Saline and Jefferson counties), York County Health Coalition (York county), CASA of South-Central Nebraska (Adams county), Norfolk Area United Way (Madison county), and the Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children (Lancaster county).

Twenty-one families participated of which 57% qualified for public assistance. The number of participants was much less than previous years due to the pandemic.

*Outcome research indicates statistically significant improvements in conduct-disordered behavior or preschool children and parents report significant positive changes in parenting effectiveness.*



**National sources for evidence-based programs and practices rate COSP as promising and PCIT as a well-supported.**



## Reaching Teens

Reaching Teens integrates a trauma-sensitive model with the core belief that identifying, reinforcing, and building on inherent strengths can facilitate positive youth development. NCAPF Board funding supported a 3-hour webinar with author Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg and purchased site licenses for ten communities.

Participating communities were in the counties of Buffalo, Nemaha, Otoe, Dakota, Dodge, Hall, and Cherry, as well as multi-county areas of the Panhandle, Sandhills, and Southeast Nebraska.

*The licenses provide access to over 400 videos, 95 book chapters, group learning and discussion opportunities, and other tailored resources for audiences in education, juvenile justice, foster care, and human trafficking. Monthly learning community calls share challenges and successes in utilization.*

## Think Make Create Labs

The construction and delivery of ten mobile Think Make Create labs were funded to provide hands-on extended learning opportunities for youth. The labs were stocked with a wide variety of supplies such as electronics, textiles, paints, and STEM manipulatives, and guides were included to help jump-start activities.

These labs were delivered to Norfolk, Madison county, Crete, Ogallala, O'Neil, Broken Bow, Columbus, Fremont, Valentine, and Plattsmouth.

*The labs promote positive youth development for youth in community areas with limited resources.*





**TMC Labs encourage activities that allow for tinkering, creativity and student-led design.**

**The Community Café approach strengthens families and communities by sparking the leadership and relationships needed to create more inclusive and equitable systems.**

## **Parent Engagement and Leadership**

### *Community Cafés*

Community Cafés are a series of connected conversations hosted by parents working in partnership with local organizations. Cafés 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 Café teams participated in virtual sessions for shared learning and support as also addressed handling difficult topics. A parent workgroup was formed from teams across participating communities

to support fidelity, sustainability, and growth. Many parents took on increased responsibility for their own and other Café teams and led a variety of community activities related to the Cafés.

Selected highlights include a local business recognizing a parent host for making her diverse neighborhood a more connected and better place; activities for neighborhood improvements, a spin-off group led by parents of LGBTQ children in rural NE; and parent host-led trainings for staff.





**Community Cafés  
spotlight neighborhood  
wisdom, which leads to  
community action.**



# Public Awareness

## *Pinwheels for Prevention Campaign*

Eighteen community collaboratives and other partners participated in the Bring Up Nebraska-Pinwheels For Prevention Campaign by displaying over 21,000 pinwheels, distributing over 5,4000 campaign products, organizing community activities, and using social media to promote.

The Bring Up Nebraska website had over 12,400 visitors during the campaign and over 300 radio spots reached 447,000 people an average

of five times. Paid Facebook and Instagram ads reached over 170,000 people.

State events included a Governor's proclamation and a pinwheel planting at the Governor's residence with the First Lady, DHHS CEO, Children and Family Services Leadership, and Nebraska Children and Families Foundation.





*First Lady Susanne Shore at a past Pinwheels for Prevention event.*



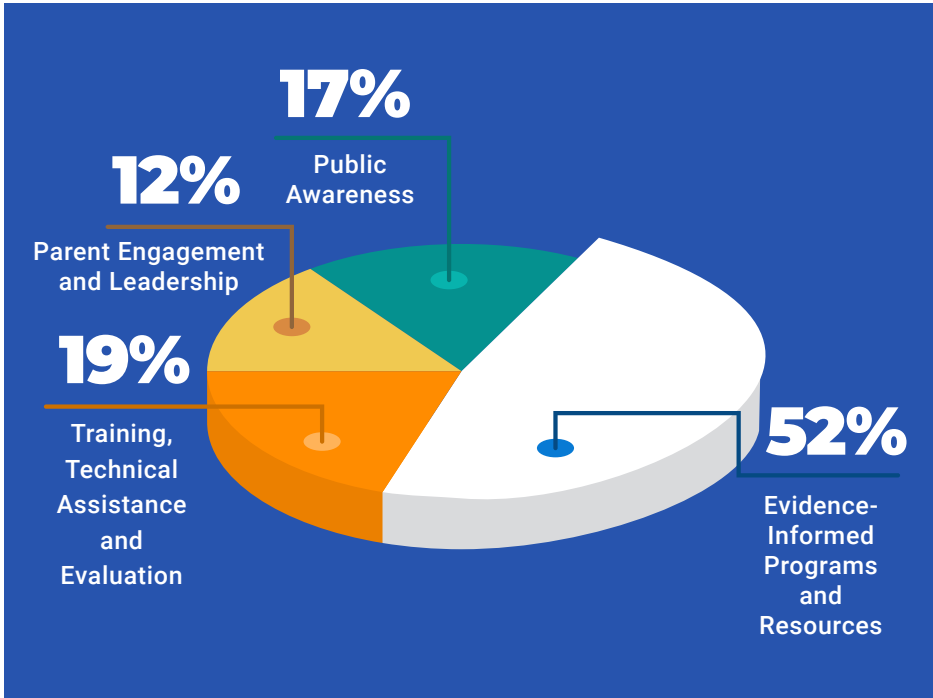
**Public awareness and engagement efforts promote the safe, stable, and nurturing relationships and environments that enable children and families to thrive.**

# Training and Technical Assistance

All grantees received support for initial training, implementation, and evaluation in NCAFP supported strategies, including COSP, PCIT and Community Cafés. Additional support was provided for development of community systems to support and

use these strategies, including, but not limited to, Community Well-Being and Community Response. This support was provided through a combination of on-site and virtual sessions, peer learning calls, and other communications.

## Allocations





## EVIDENCE-INFORMED PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

Public Health Solutions	\$16,875	PCIT
York County Health Coalition	\$16,177	PCIT
CASA of South Central Nebraska	\$16,875	PCIT
Norfolk Area United Way	\$10,000	PCIT
Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children	\$82,500	PCIT and COSP
Organizations in 10 Communities	\$110,000	Think Make Create Labs

## PARENT ENGAGEMENT – COMMUNITY CAFÉS

Lincoln Community Foundation	\$40,000	Community Cafés
Auburn Public Schools	\$9,325	Community Cafés
National Alliance of Children’s Trust and Prevention Funds	\$8,500	Community Café T&TA

## PUBLIC AWARENESS

Abante	\$39,000	Prevention Store
Learfield	\$40,000	Community Cafés
Firespring	\$5,300	Website

## TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE & EVALUATION

Nebraska Children and Families Foundation	\$95,110	Training, technical assistance, coordination, and evaluation (and community licenses for Reaching Teens)
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**TOTAL \$489,662**



# Board of Directors



**Dr. Lisa Knoche,  
Lincoln, District I**



**Jillian Chance,  
Lincoln, District I**



**Dr. Paul Nelson,  
Omaha, District II**



**Mary Beth Hanus,  
Omaha, District II**



**Shelley McQuillan,  
Ogallala, District III,  
Chair**



**Dr. David Hansen,  
Lincoln, At Large**



**Emily Kluver,  
Personnel Required  
by Statute**



**Sara Morgan,  
Personnel Required  
by Statute**

*Emily Kluver and Sara Morgan represented the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Divisions of Children and Family Services and Public Health, respectively.*

