

Annual Report

FISCAL YEAR
2022-2023

Purpose of the Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board

The Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board (NCAPF) 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 2022-2023 included the following priorities:

- **Supporting evidence-informed programs and resources** for community grantees focused on families with children from infancy through adolescence
- Promoting **parent engagement and leadership**
- Administering a **statewide public awareness campaign** with local child abuse prevention collaboratives
- Providing **training and technical assistance on evidence-informed child abuse prevention strategies** to community collaboratives and other partners



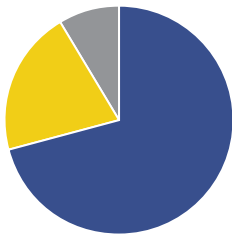
Evidence-Informed Programs and Resources

Circle of Security Parenting™ (COSP)

COSP™ is an evidence-informed strategy implemented in multiple communities that has a focus on parents and caregivers' interaction with their child or children. COSP™ is an 8-week parenting program based on research about how to build strong attachment relationships between parent and child. It is designed to help parents learn how to respond to their child's needs in a way that enhances the attachment between parent and child. Parent education groups are a primary means of delivery.

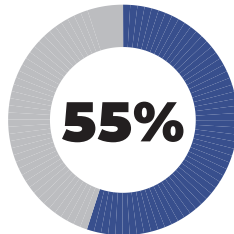
Research has demonstrated that secure children exhibit increased empathy, greater self-esteem, better relationships with parents and peers, enhanced school readiness, and an increased capacity to handle emotions more effectively when compared with children who are not secure.

The NCAPF Board awarded funding to the Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children (NEAEYC) to support 24 COSP™ classes across the state.



- White — **66%**
- Hispanic/Latino — **19%**
- Black/African American — **8%**

Others were from mixed or other races/ethnicity.



Participants who qualified for public assistance

Participants reported statistically significant improvements in their Parent-Child Relationships, Parent-Child Interactions, and Stress Related to Parenting after participating in COSP™.

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. 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. It is often used to treat clinically significant disruptive behaviors in children. As support for PCIT has been transitioning from the NCAPF Board to Rooted in Relationships, one final grant was completed this past year. This grant supported training for a therapist in Lancaster County.

Outcome research has demonstrated clinically and statistically significant improvements in the conduct-disordered behavior of preschool age children. Parents report positive changes in psychopathology, personal distress, and parenting effectiveness.

Community Response

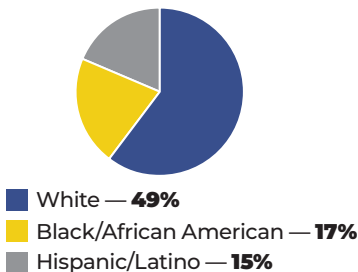
Community Response coordinates existing resources within a community to help children, young adults, and families address immediate needs before they become crises and higher end systems of care are involved. Core elements of Community Response include Central Navigation, Support Service Funds, and Coaching.

Coaching is tailored to meet individual and family needs, and may include help with creating a budget or improving relationships with children for longer term well-being.

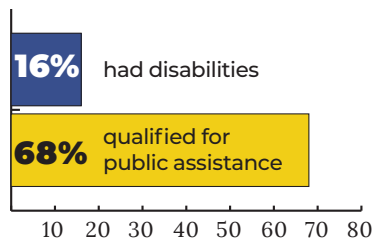
Flexible and supportive funding is available when other funding sources are not available, or the participant doesn't meet the criteria for other programs or resources. During the past year, over 80% of the requests were for housing or utility assistance, highlighting a need for continued statewide attention to these needs.

Across the state, **Central Navigation served 4,019 participants with 5,856 children in 2022-2023.**

Demographics:



Most participants were between the ages of 19-40 and:



Parent Engagement and Leadership

Community Cafés

Community Cafés spotlight neighborhood wisdom and transform it into community action. They are planned and led by family members who want to build on the assets of their community to strengthen families.

Each team of parent hosts (leaders) are supported by local organizations and coached by state consultants. Teams host purposeful series of connected conversations incorporating core elements of the World Café, Protective and Promotive Factors, and Appreciative Inquiry. Supporting organizations included two Community Well-Being Collaboratives, two school-based early learning centers, and one school-based family literacy program, and a community foundation working with a multi-site community learning center.

This past year, parent leaders co-planned and facilitated a virtual orientation for 58 representatives from partner organizations, and an on-site orientation for 36 parent hosts and support staff, with members of five communities in both groups. These parent leaders worked as a coaching team with Nebraska Children and Families Foundation staff and consultants to co-create tools for planning, hosting, and assessing effective Cafés.

Two parent hosts were accepted for positions with state-level initiatives. Examples of organizational changes to support needs identified in the Café series include the creation of vouchers for parent leaders to use at local businesses, and the creation of new communication processes between parent leaders and a superintendent.



The Community Café approach nurtures the relationships and leadership needed for more inclusive, compassionate, and equitable systems.

Public Awareness and Education

Twenty-two Community Collaboratives and other state and local partners participated in the Bring Up Nebraska-Pinwheels for Prevention Campaign, which promotes their primary prevention work. A sampling of highlights for April, Child Abuse Prevention Month, includes the following:

Website

The Bring Up Nebraska website realized a **132% increase in visitors** from the previous 11 weeks with 8,215 visitors. There were 6,793 page views and Community Collaboratives was the most visited page with 4,099 views.

Radio

Radio ads in English and Spanish **reached almost 400,000 people across the state** with 1,350,900 gross impressions (the number of times ads are heard or seen).

- Paid Advertising**
- Targeted digital display ads ran in English and Spanish
 - Facebook/Instagram ads: Impressions = 442,327
 - Google display ads: Impressions = 3,868,928

Resources for Collaboratives and Councils

Twenty-two Community Collaboratives/Prevention Councils, several DHHS sites, and other partners utilized the campaign toolkit and products to host local events and activities across the state. These included mayoral proclamations, Wear Blue Day, and pinwheel plantings with local media coverage and social media promotions. Almost 6,000 campaign products were provided through the Prevention Store and over 17,500 pinwheels were provided for local campaign activities across the state.

Events

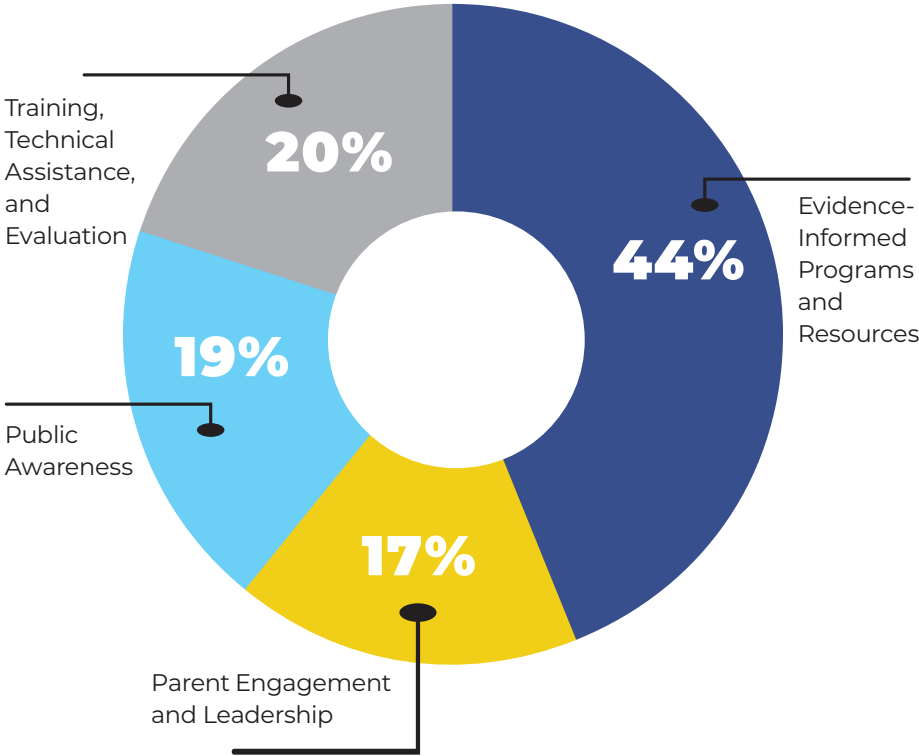
Governor Pillen signed a Child Abuse Prevention Month proclamation during a press conference. In addition to Governor Pillen's proclamation remarks, DHHS CEO Dannette Smith, and Nebraska Children and Families Foundation CEO Mary Jo Pankoke, addressed the media. Bring Up Nebraska Collaboratives sponsored many local events.



Training and Technical Assistance

The Nebraska Children and Families Foundation worked with many state and national partners to provide support for training, implementation, and evaluation in NCAPF Board-supported strategies. Additional technical assistance was provided for developing community systems to establish and use these strategies. This support was provided through a combination of on-site and virtual sessions, peer learning calls, and other communications.

Allocations



Allocations

EVIDENCE-INFORMED PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES		
Bloom Counseling	\$2,687.50	Parent-Child Interaction Therapy
Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children (NEAEYC)	\$60,000	Circle of Security Parenting™
Columbus Area United Way	\$25,000	Community Response Expansion
Norfolk Family Coalition	\$25,000	Community Response Expansion
United Way of South Central Nebraska	\$30,000	Plans of Safe Care
Families 1st Partnership	\$15,000	Plans of Safe Care
Nebraska Indian Child Welfare Coalition	\$23,100	Youth and Families Thrive
Project Harmony	\$4,621	Mental Health Provider Interpreter Collaboration
PARENT ENGAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP		
Lincoln Community Foundation	\$39,888	Community Cafés
Auburn Public Schools	\$10,500	Community Cafés
Hall County Collaborative	\$10,000	Community Cafés
Crete Public Schools	\$10,000	Community Café Consulting
PUBLIC AWARENESS		
Abante Marketing	\$41,150	Prevention Store
Learfield News	\$40,000	Radio ads and social media
TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE & EVALUATION		
Nebraska Children and Families Foundation	\$85,000	Training, technical assistance, coordination, and evaluation
TOTAL	\$421,946.50	

Board of Directors

District I

Jillian Chance

Georgie Scurfield

District III

Deacon Donald Blackbird

Claire Bazata

At-Large

Dr. David Hansen (Chair)

Personnel Required by Statute

Camas Holder and Sara Morgan represented the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Divisions of Children and Family Services and Public Health, respectively.



Report prepared by Nebraska Children and Families Foundation