



2024 Annual Collaborative Progress Report

Families 1st Partnership

Counties Served: Arthur, Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Keith, Lincoln, Perkins, Red Willow

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

Purpose

Nebraska's Community Collaboratives participate in two data collections annually as a part of the evaluation of the state's community-based prevention system. The Collaborative 6-Month Progress Report serves several purposes: 1) provides a series of questions for all Community Well-Being Collaboratives to provide quantitative and qualitative data about their work during the past 6 months (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024), 2) ensures necessary data for state, federal, and private funders is available, and 3) supports a process of ongoing reflection and improvement for community collaboratives.

Scope

This report includes activities supported through the Prevention Infrastructure Contracts between Nebraska Children and Community Collaboratives. The first section of the report includes updates from the collaborative including growth, challenges, and needs experienced during the reporting period. In the second section, collaboratives shared stories of success or opportunity at both the individual and collaborative levels. In the third section, collaboratives shared information about their participation in the LB 1173 community conversations and partnerships started as a result. Lastly, the fourth section of the report includes information about the collaboratives work with older youth.

Nebraska Children utilizes the following funding sources to support this work: Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP), Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF), Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board (NCAPF), Strengthening Family Funds, William and Ruth Scott Family Foundation, Sherwood Foundation, and any additional private funds.

Collaborative Update

In this section, coordinators were invited to reflect on their collaborative's growth, success, challenges, and needs they experienced over the previous year (July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024). The questions and their corresponding answers are displayed below.

Looking back on the work of the collaborative for the past year (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024), what successes and growth resonate with you and collaborative members the most? What would you especially want to share back with your specific community and Nebraska Children? Successes may include new or expanded partnerships, increased community awareness of the collaborative's work, engagement with other statewide initiatives, etc.

1. Families 1st has made great efforts and progress in taking the role as the community convener. In Lincoln County, that has resulted in more discussions on improving resources for parents whose children have disabilities, exploring more options to meet transportation needs for local residents, seeking more coaching support for local "at risk" families, discussing strategies that have broad impact for populations that face discrimination, and setting up a network of supports to prepare incarcerated individuals to have a plan and purpose at their release.
2. In SW NE, the collaborative efforts have primarily focused on taking part in community meetings (Upstream Activity-Red Willow Co) and keeping the SW NE community leaders aware of training opportunities for parenting support (PIWI and Circle of Security) as well as keeping them informed of financial support available through the collaborative to implement outreach to parents.
3. For the Keith/Perkins/Arthur county outreach, the community partners have worked to continue programs already supported by the collaborative such as PIWI and the Trails West Youth Chapter. There has been more interest and coordination of efforts with the local DHHS workers and opportunities to participate and present to the "Through the Eyes of the Child" group.
4. In general for each of the areas, there has been increased awareness of the presence and work of the collaborative in the local community and businesses.

What have been the challenges you've encountered over the past year in building your community's prevention system? What did you do to address those challenges, or what do you need to address those challenges?

1. With the initial announcement of a reduction of funding from NCFE, Families 1st informed coaching agencies and regular community partners that there could be some scaling back in Community Response funding and/or other community programs until future funding was confirmed. This came as a shock to many community partners who have viewed Families 1st as a very stable organization. Stakeholders offered words of care, concern, and yet some had speculation on the future stability. Families 1st gave continuous assurance

that other funds were to be secured by NCFE and announcement would come early in 2024. This was announced in January 2024.

2. A change in staff for Central Navigation does make for a restart in many ways. Processes need to be learned, and new relationships need to be formed. It becomes a time to also make sure certain skills are in place to understand trauma informed approaches for Central Navigators. It seems that something needed is a set of recommended trainings for Central Navigators. That would assure that each community has capable staff and there is consistency across the state.

3. A major challenge in this past year has been the change in our IT support. There had been struggles with the management of our database and website for a number of months, and the contract with the IT company was finally terminated in December. We had one month to find a new website company and move all the information from the old site to the new site. Next came the challenge of keeping our data secure, so that mean the shift of moving all the data, collaborative meeting information, Human resources folders, etc from Google Drive to OneDrive. Lastly came the change in email addresses. While all these steps were necessary, there is also the undeniable risk of missed communications, confusion about proper contacts, and retraining on use of a new system. Fam 1st is hopeful that this will all align well with the new processes for intakes and use of FindHelp as we also introduce this to the community.

Systems-Level Information

In this section, coordinators compiled the training opportunities, events, and policy support activities the collaborative participated in, supported, facilitated, or paid for during the year (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024). When reporting, coordinators were provided a list of examples that are commonly used and completed a table for training opportunities, events, and policy support activities to present the specific details of each occurrence. The results are below.

Training Opportunities

	Number of Trainings Held	Number of Organizations	Number of Individuals Trained	Number of Trainings that align with Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion efforts
July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024	9	63	160	7

Note: The numbers above do not represent an unduplicated count.

How trainings strengthen the community’s prevention system:

- Increased awareness of importance in adjusting languages and process to improve access to services

- Education for caregivers, educators, and parents in understanding programs for those with disabilities, understanding their rights, and improving knowledge of the processes to access resources.
- There will be more parenting class options for SW NE
- 3 Financial literacy sessions for lived experience group. Engaged business leaders in sessions to offer information about ladders to success.
- Engage faith community in Keith County to reach out to community members needing recovery support-20 session class
- Dept of Transportation presented local data and information on transportation services, needs, and options to improve access for all.
- Promotion of training through another local agency
- Strive to have common mindset for welcoming diverse populations

Events

	Number of Events	Number of Attendees
July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024	12	2,416

Note: Numbers reported for the evaluation year are estimates and not unduplicated counts.

How events impact the community prevention system:

- One stop Resource Fair for residents in need of information or services. It is also an important networking event for agencies
- Build relationships with community leaders in SW NE
- Collaborative effort of all Early Childhood programs + NCFE initiatives
- Collaborative effort of local prevention programs
- Infant serving organizations networking and giving information out
- Improved awareness of resource in SW NE--networking
- Welcome/congratulate Lutheran Family Services on new programs planned and FIP commitment to partner
- Great community response to writing letters of support for children’s mental health programs
- FIP monthly facilitation of community meeting to keep agencies up to date with organization changes, programs, etc. Monthly feature presentation for new organizations coming into community or those with changes to services
- When we get the results, then people will decide if it was worth their time or if the results will tell them anything new.

Policy Engagement and Support

Type of Policy Support (Policy Change, Practice Change, or Community Engagement)	Number of Activities
Policy Change	0
Practice Change	3
Community Engagement	3

Prevention System Infrastructure, Programs, and Practices

Community Response provides the infrastructure to local community prevention systems. Communities reported on the number of staff and organizations that they partner with to deliver the Components of Community Response.

Component of Community Response	Number of Participating Staff	Number of Participating Organizations
Central Navigation	1	1
Coaching	0	13
Youth and Parent Engagement and Youth Councils Leadership Activities or Opportunities	3	2

Component of Community Response	Number of Participating Staff	Number of Participating Organizations
Circle of Security Parenting (COSP)	1	1
Parents Interacting with Infants (PIWI)	1	3

Local Prevention Strategies

The tables below show the count and demographics of participants served in additional local prevention strategies. The demographics are estimates and reported by the collaborative.

Strategy: Straight Up Advocates	Number
Participants Served Directly	8
Children Served Directly	7
Participants with Disabilities Served Directly	0
Children with Disabilities Served Directly	0
Participants who Identify as Female	6
Participants who Identify as Male	2
Number of Participants who Qualify for Medicaid, Child Care Subsidy, and/or free or reduced lunch	7

Strategy: Strengthening Purpose for Inmate-use private \$ to support	Number
Participants Served Directly	3
Children Served Directly	0
Participants with Disabilities Served Directly	0
Children with Disabilities Served Directly	0
Participants who Identify as Female	0
Participants who Identify as Male	3
Number of Participants who Qualify for Medicaid, Child Care Subsidy, and/or free or reduced lunch	0

Community-Level Partnerships

Nebraska Children and Families Foundation aimed to learn more about each collaborative's partnerships with different people, agencies, and entities in their communities. In this collection, collaboratives were provided a list of organizations and individuals and then rated each entity's involvement in the collaborative's work. Some partners may bring multiple perspectives and an organization or entity may be represented in multiple areas.

Lived Experience is defined as: someone who has lived, currently living, or at risk of living with the issues the community is focusing on and who has valued insight to contribute about the system as it is experienced by consumers.

	Actively Involved: Attends regular meetings and participates in making important decisions	Involved: Attends regular meetings but does not influence decision making	Connected: Attends meetings sporadically and is connected to the collaborative through their work, but not involved in decision making	No Partnership: We do not have a current partnership with anyone in this category	To my knowledge, this doesn't exist in our community
Parents and caregivers with lived experience	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Youth with lived experience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Interested community members (a community member that doesn't have lived experience in the specific areas you are prioritizing but is still interested in the well-being of the community)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Human services/service providers (Basic needs assistance, education, housing assistance Veterans, cultural and linguistically responsive services, substance abuse support, etc.)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Volunteer organizations (e.g., Parent organization, neighborhood watch, neighborhood revitalization groups, civic groups etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local elected officials	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Department of Health and Human Services	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Local Crime Commission Representative	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local Representative from the Public Health	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Health care providers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other state agencies (e.g., NDE, Department of Labor)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
City/county agencies (City administration, County Board of Supervisors)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tribal agencies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Behavioral/mental health	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Juvenile justice	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local law enforcement	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local Court System (Judges, County Attorneys, Public Defenders)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
1184 Team (monitors and coordinates investigations when abuse or neglect is reported)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Birth-12 education (public, private, or home-based)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Educational Service Unit (provide core services identified and requested by members school districts)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Colleges/universities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Recreation/fitness centers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Business community	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Faith community	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Child and youth serving organizations	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Child advocacy centers	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Committees/boards (housing board, economic development board, workforce investment board, behavioral health board etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Media (statewide or local)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Connections to Nebraska Children Initiatives

Nebraska Children and Families Foundation has developed several initiatives to address specific areas where a community may see a need for improvement. Initiatives can be plugged into each community prevention system to address specific issues along the cradle to career spectrum. Collaboratives were asked to indicate how integrated each initiative is in their community. This information helps Nebraska Children to align internal processes and identify future opportunities for communities they support.

	Very Integrated	Somewhat Integrated	This initiative is present in my community but is not integrated into the collaborative	To my knowledge, this initiative is not in our community
Beyond School Bells	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Communities for Kids	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Connected Youth Initiative	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Full Service Community Schools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Nebraska Growing Readers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Rooted in Relationships	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sixpence	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Society of Care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Statewide Family Engagement Centers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

For the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation initiatives you indicated are part of your community, how would you describe the integration of or connections between them? Please share what is working well across the initiatives or possible areas of improvement.

The current coordinators for the most engaged initiatives have a very collaborative mindset and strive for a unified effort. That may partly be part of their personalities, but also could be the timeframe when they were trained.

Summary of Participants Served Through Central Navigation

This table shows the count and demographic information for all participants who accessed Central Navigation during the evaluation year (July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024).

	Jul 23 – Jun 24
Number of Participants	75
Number of Children	155
<i>Gender</i>	
Male	12 (6.0%)
Female	62 (82.7%)
Other/Prefer not to say	1 (1.3%)
<i>Race/Ethnicity</i>	
White	57 (76.0%)
Another Race/Ethnicity	17 (22.7%)
Prefer Not to Say	1 (1.3%)
<i>Age</i>	
Participants ages 14-18	
Participants ages 19-26	14 (18.7%)
Participants ages 27-40	44 (58.7%)
Participants ages 41-60	16 (21.3%)
Participants 61+	1 (1.3%)
<i>Disabilities</i>	
Number of Participants with Disabilities Served	20 (26.7%)
Number of Children with Disabilities Served	14 (9.0%)
Number of Participants that Qualify for Public Assistance	62 (82.7%)
*Race/Ethnicities with less than 10 participants were merged into Another Race/ethnicity category.	

Support Service Funds Distributed

This table shows the amount of support service funds that have been distributed by category during the evaluation year (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024).

Priority Area	Number of Requests	All Dollars	Percent of Total	Average Dollars per Request
Daily Living	4	\$ 232.05	0.6%	\$ 58.01
Education				
Employment				
Housing	46	\$ 24,282.86	58.1%	\$ 527.89
Mental Health				
Parenting				
Physical/Dental Health				
Transportation	20	\$ 4,161.06	10.0%	\$ 208.05
Utilities	43	\$ 13,100.38	31.4%	\$ 304.66
Other				
Total	113	\$ 41,776.35		\$ 369.70