

**Nebraska Children's Commission
Strategic Directions Conversation
January 17, 2018**

Purpose of the Meeting: To confirm strategic direction for the next year and the role and responsibility of the Nebraska Children's Commission.

Mission: The Nebraska Children's Commission works as a high-level leadership body with membership from the legislative, executive, and judicial branches along with system stakeholders to improve the safety and well-being of all children and families in Nebraska.

To produce a shared understanding of the Nebraska Children's Commission's history and discuss the significance of that history in relation to strategic directions, the group completed a brief historical scan. The group focused on the following question: What from our past, present, and anticipated future will help inform our strategic directions? They documented key milestones, momentum, events, and opportunities.

What from our past, present, and anticipated future will help inform our strategic directions?
(key milestones, momentum, events, and opportunities)

Past

Accomplishments

- Progress on legislative work
- Existence of strategic annual report, 3 committees and reports
- Membership more accountable
- More collaboration between LIS & Commission
- Stability of systems
- Bridge order legs
- Consistent participation in Comm.
- Regulation
- BCIT
- Changes/Real
- Members Support Report

Setbacks

- Does not specific to trends (Trends) Always needs improvement
- Risk report
- Results not seen in a timely manner

Present

Strengths

- Strong Omtes & workgroups
- Expertise & diversity in representation
- #11 3 branches of gov't
- Staff support
- Varying conversations pertaining to call/j crossover
- Communication improved
- Don't underestimate individual members

Weaknesses

- Existing a wide
- Depth role
- Will of quality - zero no
- Quality/role recommendations to support function responsible being better
- Lack of active participation
- Members as right
- Time limits of participants

Future

Risks

- Time
- Political esp. responsive
- Shared responsibility
- Commission needs
- Not aware & accept that it require someone provide!
- Evaluation almost vs. believing "stability"
- Uncertainty of fed. gov't
- Distance to state meetings

Opportunities

- collaboration
- become what it was intended to be
- central planning body for all government services
- varied perspectives + backgrounds of commission members
- NCC / Gov's / sectors avoid duplication of focus efforts
- Clear direction of work
- scope of work
- Focus on 1 line impact

Nebraska Children’s Commission: 2012 – 2018 Historical Scan

Past		Present		Future	
Accomplishments	Setbacks	Strengths	Weaknesses	Risks	Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion in membership NDE Tribal AR FC Rate Committee last payment rate increased for any child welfare services (4 years ago) for foster care *(+/-) More collaboration between HHS and Commission Progress on Committees (Foster Care Rate increased) NCR Existence of statewide annual report and committee annual reports Membership more accountable Increased stability of system Bridge order legis. Consistent participation in comm. Legislation B2I Strategic Plan Membership / Support Respect Helped shape alternative response Platform for community leadership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding (lack and multiple streams) Statewide service providers impacted by privatization and JJ reform Membership changes “unintended consequences” of on paper policies that restrict or impede real on-the-ground ability to treat or transition the children (holiday, weekends) Red tape Results not seen in a timely manner Data not specific to Tribes (ICWA) N-Focus Needs improvement Public perception of CW is not always positive Leadership changes Inactive committees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong committees and work groups Staff support Infusion of “new blood” in members’ ideas State senators willing to listen Expertise and diversity in representation All 3 branches of government Varying conversations pertaining to CW/JJ “crossover” Communication improved Dave N. meeting with individual members Tackle tough issues Commitment of new members to attend and work hard HHS & Tribes are actively at the table & probation Knowledgeable leadership (passion / dedication) Willingness to be on committees and work groups Excellent recommendations in committee reports Collaborative efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Term limits of Legislature Lack of institutional knowledge of the Commission’s existence, role, mission Need to streamline committees and work groups Setting goals; set key priorities to a manageable number More youth voice Lack of clarity; are we advisory / make recommendations or support entities responsible for doing the work? Lack of active participation Meetings at night Time limits of participants Safeguard – duplication of efforts of other commissions working on same problems Too much time spent on reporting instead of solutions Data needs to be relevant to agreed upon priorities (too broad of data) Just another report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding! Political perspective toward appointing Commission members Uncertainty of federal government Red tape Political forces Legislation Too broad a focus (focus to have a stronger impact) Social issues beyond the funding Sustainability of the Commission Trends vs reality (“on paper”) Not seeing foster parents as key partners in team Time Risk averse to do right thing if negative outcome possible Evaluation is a must (vs believing “stories”) Distance to attend meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting legislative members Increased information and data exchange Increased public information exchange / news stories Increased technology and shared database Increased diversity of members Collaboration Become what it was intended to be: central planning body for all government involved children services Varied perspectives and backgrounds of commission members Clarification of expectation (scope of work) Address child welfare workforce (widespread effects on all systems) NCC / Governors / SCCCITC avoid duplication and focus efforts Legislative support and members Clarify mission, focus impact Focus one area – impact

