

2023-2024

JUVENILE SERVICES COMMITTEE AND NEBRASKA COALITION FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE JOINT ANNUAL REPORT

Recommendations to the Nebraska Children's Commission and the Judiciary Committee of
the Legislature

Submitted Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. 43-4203 and 43-2412(1)(b)



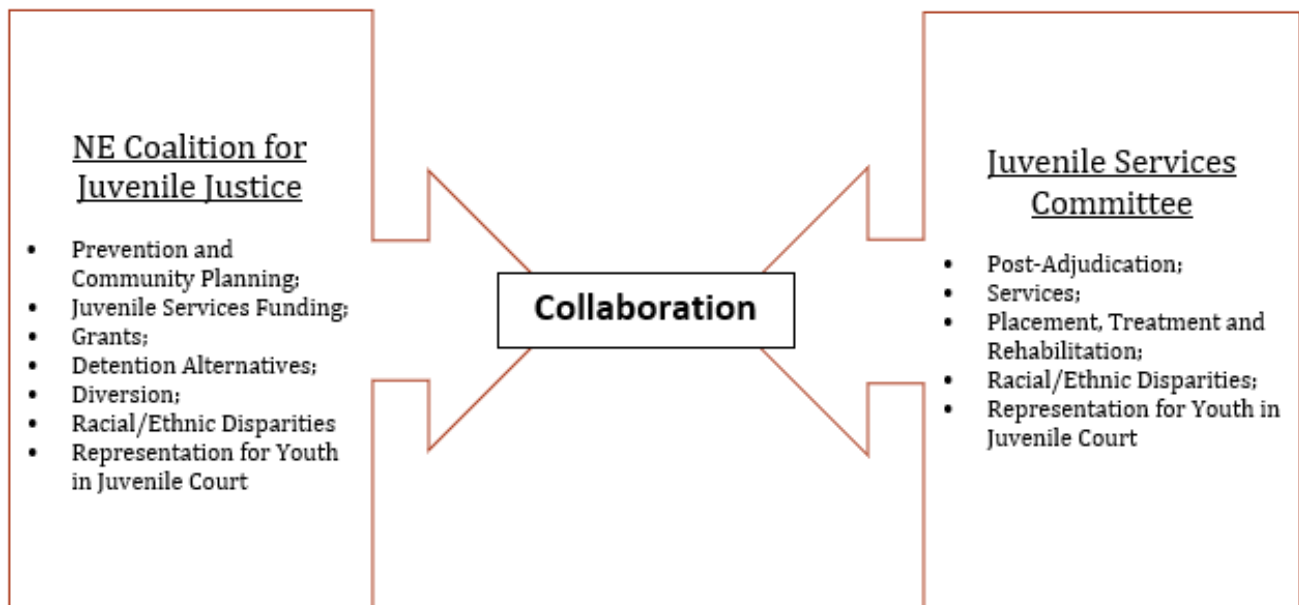
BACKGROUND

Juvenile Services Committee (JSC) of the Nebraska Children’s Commission and the Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) present this joint report as a thoughtful contribution to the reform of juvenile justice in Nebraska and in compliance with Neb. Rev. Stat. 43-4203 and 43-2412(1)(b). The recommendations contained in this joint report support the ongoing juvenile justice reform efforts, and reflect a collaborative, open, and inclusive process of discussion and information sharing.

In order to enhance collaboration, coordinate initiatives, and increase the impact and efficacy of juvenile justice reform in Nebraska, the JSC and NCJJ collaborate in the form of joint meetings, joint reporting, and inclusive workgroups. This collaboration allows for the most coordinated response for juvenile justice reform, while allowing each body to meet its statutory obligations in the most efficient way.

The two have divided initiatives and work based on the juvenile justice continuum of care.

These groups work together towards juvenile justice reform and improved outcomes for Nebraska’s youth and families. Both groups remain willing to serve as a resource to the Legislature, Governor, Judicial Branch, and state agencies for any juvenile justice related issue or initiative.



JUVENILE SERVICES COMMITTEE STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Neb. Rev. Stat. §43-4203(b)

The commission shall create a committee to examine the Office of Juvenile Services and the Juvenile Services Division of the Office of Probation Administration.

Such committee shall review the role and effectiveness of out-of-home placements utilized in the juvenile justice system, including the youth rehabilitation and treatment centers, and make recommendations to the Commission on the juvenile justice continuum of care, including what populations should be served in out-of-home placements and what treatment services should be provided at the centers in order to appropriately serve those populations.

The committee shall collaborate with the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Juvenile Justice Institute, the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Center for Health Policy, the behavioral health regions as established in section 71-807, and state and national juvenile justice experts to develop recommendations.

The recommendations shall include a plan to implement a continuum of care in the juvenile justice system to meet the needs of Nebraska families, including specific recommendations for a rehabilitation and treatment model.

The recommendations shall be delivered to the commission and electronically to the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature annually by September 1.

NEBRASKA COALITION FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Neb. Rev. Stat. §43-2412

(1) Consistent with the purposes and objectives of the Juvenile Services Act and the federal act, the coalition shall:

(a) Make recommendations to the commission on the awarding of grants under the Commission Grant Program to eligible applicants;

(b) Prepare at least one report annually to the Governor, the Legislature, the Office of Probation Administration, and the Office of Juvenile Services. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;

(c) Ensure widespread citizen involvement in all phases of its work; and

(d) Meet at least two times each year.

(2) Consistent with the purposes and objectives of the acts and within the limits of available time and appropriations, the coalition may:

(a) Assist and advise state and local agencies in the establishment of volunteer training programs and the utilization of volunteers.

(b) Apply for and receive funds from federal and private sources for carrying out its powers and duties;

(c) Provide technical assistance to eligible applicants;

(d) Identify juvenile justice issues, share information, and monitor and evaluate programs in the juvenile justice system; and

(e) Recommend guidelines and supervision procedures to be used to develop or expand local diversion programs for juveniles from the juvenile justice system.

(3) In formulating, adopting, and promulgating the recommendations and guidelines provided for in this section, the coalition shall consider the differences among counties in population, in geography, and in the availability of resources.

RECOMMENDATIONS

MISSION AND GOAL

Mission: Design a comprehensive, accountable, culturally competent, continuum of care in the juvenile justice system that meets the needs of families and youth while maintaining public safety.

Goal: To work collaboratively with the executive, legislative, judicial, and county branches of government, the Nebraska Children’s Commission (Commission), and other key stakeholders to establish and support the development of the ideal Juvenile justice System that will prevent children and youth from entering or becoming more deeply involved in the juvenile justice system.

Juvenile Services Committee Recommendations

Strategic Priority

The workgroup recommends there be a collaborative effort to increase awareness, define roles and partner with Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) to increase access to the services available through not only Medicaid but all funding streams

- Services Array

DHHS consider and adopt this workgroup’s revisions and key concepts to the current Community Treatment Aide definition which will provide a service available in a youth’s community while actively working on their treatment plan.

- Services Array



JUVENILE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Deb VanDyke Ries (Nebraska Court Improvement Project) and Nick Juliano (RADIUS) serve as the co-chairs for the JSC.

The JSC continue to incorporate racial and ethnic disparities (R/ED) discussion within all issues and workgroup priorities. The R/ED workgroup is established as a forum to discuss specific issues related to juvenile justice and convenes on an as needed basis.

The JSC is charged with reviewing the role and effectiveness of the YRTC and established a workgroup to address this in previous years. DHHS has created a 5-year plan the JSC supports and has not identified any immediate recommendations for the upcoming year. The Office of Juvenile Services Administrator, Mark LaBouchardiere, from DHHS attends and updates the JSC to provide any information to inform future decision making. YRTC normalcy reports are also reviewed by the Nebraska Children's Commission to ensure activities are focused on the youth and normalize their experience as much as possible while involved with YRTC. The JSC intends to keep the YRTC as an ongoing item of discussion and create a workgroup as needed.

New to this reporting period is the Continuum of Care workgroup which will look at all levels of care available to families throughout Nebraska and provide recommendations after reviewing what is currently being done. Workgroup members have begun visiting various settings to determine best practices in Nebraska to potentially make more widespread across the state.



RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES WORKGROUP

Tami Soper, Chair

Part of reducing the disparities within the Juvenile Justice system in Nebraska, is ensuring culturally competent providers are available to families. This workgroup spent the year focused on how to lift up smaller agencies throughout Nebraska that have expertise in their community and cultural landscape. Often times, language or cultural competency is imperative to the success of a case, but is not readily available. Adding diversity of people and agency brings value to service array because it allows for improvising within cultural values that state systems may not have considered. It is also important to recognize that although resources may be used on larger populations, smaller cultural populations are having the same struggles and some of the strategies may be applied to different groups, and partnering with agencies within these populations will yield positive outcomes.

One of the biggest barriers to the success of any agency is funding, and this group identified it is particularly difficult because funding often comes from grants that do not allow for start up or significant administrative costs. Most grant opportunities require an infrastructure prior to being awarded, but infrastructure takes funding. This cycle results in groups being unable to make an impact in their own communities. The other barrier to funding is smaller agencies aren't aware of what funding exists or there is no funding that allows for an expansion of services.

Another barrier is grants and lending is often relationship based, and for a new or small agency, getting larger grants or convincing government entities they are capable of the work can be difficult.

ACCESS TO TREATMENT WORKGROUP



Julie Smith, Chair

The Access to Treatment Workgroup was formed in July 2022 bringing together experts from the community to explore the scope of the problem, identify underlying issues contributing to the problem; and develop actionable steps to improve timely access to clinically indicated treatment services.

The group has identified six overarching solutions to overcome the barriers impacting access to treatment services in Nebraska:

1. Improve timely access to a robust continuum of treatment services
2. Address compensation and training to attract and retain a highly skilled network of providers
3. Incentivize collaboration on complex cases
4. Evaluate funding structures and rates
5. Increase access to individual and family supports necessary to serve youth at home and in the community safely
6. Evaluate the intersection of mental health and prevention services to improve future outcomes

Although not the current focus, the workgroup identified several systemic issues that have a direct impact on access to services. Policy, statute or regulation assessment and change will be necessary priorities of any further cross-systems work related to access to services. These areas have a direct impact on access to treatment services and should be considered priorities of any further cross-systems work related to access to treatment. Recommendations from this group will not address the needs of the highest needs youth with complexity however is intended to offer alternatives to PRTF for youth with less acuity making more capacity for youth with the highest need.

ACCESS TO TREATMENT WORKGROUP

During the last reporting year, the group has focused on two specific areas:

1. Utilization of Care Management

Care Management is a valuable resource provided by the Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) designed to help their members access services. To maximize effectiveness and reduce the impact of silos on the access to services, there must be a clear understanding by all system partners such as DHHS-CFS, DHHS-DD, DHHS-DBH, Behavioral Health Regions, Probation, Medicaid and MCOs regarding their roles, resources, payment options and the interconnectedness between agencies. The workgroup recommends there be a collaborative effort to increase awareness, define roles and partner with MCOs to increase access to the services available through not only Medicaid but all funding streams.

One factor identified impacting effective utilization of care management is lack of a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities for each person who identifies as a Case Manager across the various agencies. This has created system gaps that prevent the timely access to services and fuels conflict between system partners and further delays access to services. The workgroup is undertaking an effort to develop documents that:

- Clearly outline the roles, responsibilities, and limitations of each system partner
- Maps the interconnectedness between agencies
- Outlines processes including authorization, payment, and processes specific to youth under Court supervision.
- Identifies opportunities for innovation, collaboration, and blended funding streams

Prior efforts have relied heavily on engagement and a “storytelling” model without companion written documents created by and agreed upon by all system partners resulting in further miscommunication and lost institutional knowledge with turnover and workforce changes.

2. Evaluating the Community Treatment Aide (CTA) definition

After determining the service continuum creates gaps in services and an overreliance on Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTF), the workgroup started to evaluate what services could bridge the gap between outpatient services and PRTF that still offer more intensive, skill-based supports designed to keep a youth in their community. CTA is a supportive service paid for by Medicaid as a skill-based supplement to individual and family therapy when included as a part of an individual’s treatment plan. The workgroup reviewed the current service definition to ensure CTA would be accessible for the intended target population and provide the supports needed for youth currently requiring more intensive treatment than outpatient services alone. Several proposed revisions in Appendix A have been suggested to further refine the service definition. Medicaid staff have been part of this discussion, and the workgroup would recommend that DHHS adopt the revisions provided.

CONTINUUM OF CARE WORKGROUP

Tammy Sassaman and LaDonna Jones-Dunlap, Co-Chairs

Previously known as the YRTC Workgroup, the Continuum of Care Workgroup was originally established by the Committee to reexamine our statutory charge related to YRTC's and to assess the 5-year plan submitted to the legislature in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 43-427. The YRTC Workgroup was founded with three focus areas:

- Youth Voice Family
- Engagement
- Accreditation

The now renamed Continuum of Care Workgroup, in examining Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 43-4203(b), made the decision to expand the scope of the workgroup. Statutorily, the Juvenile Services Committee is required to “review the role and effectiveness of out-of-home placements utilized in the juvenile justice system, including the youth rehabilitation and treatment centers, and make recommendations to the Commission on the juvenile justice continuum of care, including what populations should be served in out-of-home placements and what treatment services should be provided at the centers in order to appropriately serve those populations.” In an effort to better align the Workgroup with this statutory requirement, members have focused their efforts on examining the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Centers throughout the state, examining the treatments provided to better understand the current state of Nebraska YRTCs. The Workgroup will continue monitoring the current state of YRTCs and develop recommendations based on its findings.



NEBRASKA COALITION FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE

The Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) was created in 2000 by LB1167 and codified at Neb. Rev. Stat. §43-2411 as an advisory committee to the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (Nebraska Crime Commission). The NCJJ was formed to recommend grant recipients to the Nebraska Crime Commission; identify juvenile justice issues, share information, and monitor and evaluate programs in the juvenile justice system; recommend guidelines and supervision procedures to be used to develop or expand local diversion programs for juveniles; and prepare an annual report including recommendations on administrative and legislative actions which would improve the juvenile justice system.

The NCJJ has five standing subcommittees who meet in addition to quarterly NCJJ meetings: Executive, Grant Review, Racial/Ethnic Disparities (R/ED), Diversion, and Community Planning.

The goal of the NCJJ is to improve all aspects of the juvenile justice system throughout Nebraska by assisting communities and the state with planning and implementation of systemic improvements, advocacy, education, and award recommendations of state funds for such purposes. The ultimate goal of the NCJJ is to improve the lives and futures of children, youth, and families involved with the juvenile justice system.

Due to the desire to not duplicate efforts with other statewide commissions and coalitions, and to develop strong recommendations for the juvenile justice in Nebraska, the NCJJ joined with the Juvenile Services Committee (JSC) of the Nebraska Children's Commission to hold joint meetings and provide annual recommendations.

The NCJJ has been named as the State Advisory Group (SAG) for federal Title II grant purposes. During this fiscal year, the NCJJ was able to secure a federal Title II grant to support the SAG activities such as meetings and training for members. The NCJJ worked with the Governor's office to appoint a fifth young member with lived experience in the juvenile justice system, as well as fill vacancies. The NCJJ and the Governor's office continue to receive, review, and approve applications as needed to ensure the NCJJ meets both statutory and federal guidelines.

GRANT REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE



The Grant Review Subcommittee is responsible for making funding recommendations to the Crime Commission for the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid grant (CBA) and the Juvenile Services grant (JS). Annually, funds are announced and distributed on a formula basis for CBA funds; if any county or tribe does not request their CBA amount, those funds are put into a competitive funding opportunity called Enhancement-based grant (EB) funds. Counties and tribes are also able to apply for these EB funds in addition to their CBA formula allocation. The JS grant is open to counties, tribes, and non-profit agencies and is a competitive grant. Once Nebraska is able to start passing federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention funds (Title II) through to counties, tribes, and agencies, the grant review subcommittee will also make funding recommendations for this competitive funding.

Community-based Juvenile Services Aid

Community-based Juvenile Services Aid are state funds appropriated by the Nebraska Legislature and administered by the Nebraska Crime Commission. The Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program promotes the development and implementation of community-based programs designed to prevent unlawful behavior and to effectively minimize the depth and duration of the juvenile's involvement in the juvenile justice system. Funds are awarded to aid recipients prioritizing programs and services that will divert juveniles from the juvenile justice system, reduce the population of juveniles in juvenile detention and secure confinement, and assist in transitioning juveniles from out-of-home placements. Eligible applicants are limited to individual counties, multiple counties, federal or state recognized Indian tribes, or any combination of the entities listed.

This year the grant review subcommittee assisted in the review of Community-based Juvenile Services grant requests in the amount of \$6,709,311 from 33 CBA and 15 EB grant applications. Of these, 32 counties received \$5,416,515 in CBA awards and 10 counties received additional awards totaling \$381,485 in EB for a total of \$5,798,000 awarded for project period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. (See distribution of funds table below). It is worth noting that due to multi-county collaboratives, 80 of Nebraska's counties are covered by CBA and EB funds.

GRANT REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Juvenile Services Funds

Juvenile Services funds are state funds appropriated by the Nebraska Legislature and administered by the Nebraska Crime Commission. Availability of funds are announced on an annual basis and applications are accepted through a competitive grant process. Funds received through the Juvenile Services Grant Program shall be used exclusively to assist the recipient in the implementation and operation of programs or the provision of services identified in the recipient's community plan, including; programs for local planning and service coordination; screening, assessment and evaluation; diversion; alternatives to detention; family support services; treatment services; reentry services; truancy prevention and intervention programs; and other services documented by data that will positively impact juveniles and families in the juvenile justice system. Applicants are limited to community-based agencies or organizations, political subdivisions, school districts, federally recognized or state-recognized Indian tribes, or any combination of the entities listed. Projects funded through juvenile services funds include but are not limited to programs for assessment and evaluation, family support services, alternatives to detention, mentoring, school programs, diversion and to address Racial and Ethnic Disparities. For fiscal year 2024, Juvenile Services grant requests totaling \$2,767,260 were reviewed and awarded to 9 counties, tribes, and/or organizations for a total of \$564,300 for project period July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. (See distribution of funds table).

Title II Formula Grants Program

Title II Formula Grants are awarded by the Office of Juvenile and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and authorized by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (JJDP Act) to support states and local jurisdictions with juvenile justice system improvement and delinquency prevention and intervention efforts. Nebraska had previously participated in Title II funding but withdrew in 2017. Nebraska made the decision in 2023 to again apply for Title II funding, receiving an award of \$600,341 in December 2023. Within Title II, each state has a Designated State Agency (DSA) and State Advisory Group (SAG) to assist with the administration of funding, reporting, and programming. The Nebraska Crime Commission (NCC) is the DSA for Nebraska Title II purposes.

As part of the application process, NCC staff collaborated with the NCJJ (SAG) to create and submit a three-year plan pursuant to Part B of the JJDP Act (34 U.S.C. §§11131-11133). This plan addresses the state of Nebraska's intentions to implement the thirty-three requirements and include four core requirements as listed in 34 U.S.C. §§11133(a). The four core requirements are:

- Deinstitutionalization of status offenders.
- Separation of juveniles from adult inmates.
- Removing juveniles from adult jail or lockup.
- Addressing racial and ethnic disparities.

DIVERSION SUBCOMMITTEE

The Juvenile Diversion Subcommittee of the NCJJ is a working group established in 2013. The duties of the subcommittee, as outlined in Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-1427, include assisting in regular strategic planning related to supporting, funding, monitoring, and evaluating the effectiveness of plans and programs receiving funds from the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program.

In January of 2018, the subcommittee developed a strategic plan identifying priorities of the subcommittee in which goals and direction could be established moving forward. Those goals were then assigned to working groups to start the process of achieving statewide goals. The Diversion Subcommittee Strategic Plan can be found [here](https://tinyurl.com/yd6nxnh8). (https://tinyurl.com/yd6nxnh8) The new Nebraska Screen and Assessment Tool (N-SAT) was completed by Dr. Zachary Hamilton in June 2021. Beginning July 1, 2021, Dr. Michael Campagna has been assisting with the pilot of the N-SAT, as well as creating the manual, training materials and training curriculums. These efforts are designed to bring more evidence-based practices in diversion with the goal of developing more consistency among counties and programs.

Training in N-SAT utilization began in March 2023, and to date 51 individuals from 68 counties and one tribe have been trained. Booster trainings for the N-SAT began in April 2024, and are required to be completed by users each year to ensure consistency and accuracy with the use of the N-SAT. An additional training for new program staff will be conducted in the summer of 2024.

For more information about Juvenile Diversion in Nebraska, please see the Annual Report [here](https://tinyurl.com/4akj3yea). (https://tinyurl.com/4akj3yea)

COMMUNITY PLANNING ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §43-2404.01, the Director of the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program shall develop and coordinate a statewide working group as a subcommittee of the NCJJ to assist in regular strategic planning related to supporting, funding, monitoring, and evaluating the effectiveness of plans and programs receiving funds from the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program. The working group was developed in 2013 and is comprised of individuals from across Nebraska. This statewide working group is referred to as the Community Planning Advisory Subcommittee of the NCJJ. As 2024 is a community plan writing year, this past year the members of the Community Planning Advisory Subcommittee assisted NCC staff with the creation of a new template and manual for communities and tribes to utilize for their community plans. A webinar to review changes was also held at the request of the Subcommittee members. For more information about the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program, please see the Annual Report [here](https://tinyurl.com/4akj3yea). (https://tinyurl.com/4akj3yea).

OTHER NCJJ SUBCOMMITTEES

The Racial/Ethnic Disparities (R/ED) subcommittee is collaborating with the Juvenile Services Committee to provide input on R/ED issues. The recently hired Juvenile Justice Specialist has been assigned as the Racial and Ethnic Disparities coordinator for the purposes of Title II, and as such will lead the R/ED subcommittee. This will allow the NCJJ to restructure the existing subcommittee and enhance current efforts to build a stronger subcommittee which will continue to assess and make recommendations on addressing R/ED in Nebraska.

The NCJJ chair and vice-chair have developed a Young Adult subcommittee to work on bringing more youth and family voice to the forefront of juvenile justice issues and discussion. Members have joined and agenda and activity formation are underway.

GRANT FUNDS

Distribution of Grant Funds Table	
Project Period July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	
FY2024 Juvenile Services Awards	
Buffalo County	\$46,522.00
Lancaster County	\$90,000.00
Chicano Awareness Center dba Latino Center of the Midlands	\$27,015.00
North Platte Public Schools	\$46,136.00
Omaha Tribe of Nebraska	\$168,614.00
Open Door Mission	\$9,617.00
Saunders County	\$59,550.00
Urban League	\$50,000.00
York County	\$66,846.00
Total	\$564,300.00

GRANT FUNDS

FY2024 Community-Based Juvenile Services Aid (CB) Awards			
Recipient	CB Award	EB Award	Total
Adams County - Lead (Clay, Nuckolls, Webster, Fillmore, Phelps, Harlan, Kearney & Franklin)	\$209,843.00	\$40,916.00	\$250,759.00
Box Butte County	\$20,416.00	-	\$20,416.00
Buffalo County	\$178,275.00	-	\$178,275.00
Chase County - Lead (Dundy, Hayes, Hitchcock, Red Willow, Furnas)	\$59,551.00	-	\$59,551.00
Cheyenne County - Lead (Deuel, Kimball)	\$41,544.00	-	\$41,544.00
Colfax County	\$58,852.00	\$40,469.00	\$99,321.00
Custer County - Lead (Blaine, Dawson, Gosper, Greeley, Loup, Valley)	\$179,360.00	-	\$179,360.00
Dakota County	\$75,597.00	-	\$75,597.00
Dawes County	\$32,537.00	-	\$32,537.00
Dodge County	\$113,182.00	\$60,472.00	\$173,654.00
Douglas County	\$1,314,057.00	-	\$1,314,057.00
Gage County	\$44,492.00	-	\$44,492.00
Hall County	\$185,238.00	-	\$185,238.00
Holt County - Lead (Boyd, Brown)	\$34,860.00	\$25,078.00	\$59,938.00
Howard County	\$26,501.00	\$18,389.00	\$44,890.00
Jefferson County - Lead (Thayer)	\$18,145.00	\$13,335.00	\$31,480.00
Lancaster County	\$1,101,774.00	-	\$1,101,774.00

GRANT FUNDS

FY2024 Community-Based Juvenile Services Aid (CB) Awards Continued...			
Recipient	CB Award	EB Award	Total
Lincoln County	\$123,238.00	-	\$123,238.00
Madison County	\$219,210.00	-	\$219,210.00
Merrick County - Lead (Hamilton, Nance, & Polk)	\$111,505.00	\$25,200.00	\$137,005.00
Nemaha County - Lead (Richardson, Johnson, & Pawnee)	\$66,277.00	-	\$66,277.00
Otoe County	\$48,852.00	-	\$48,852.00
Platte County	\$95,892.00	-	\$95,892.00
Saline County	\$52,009.00	\$30,000.00	\$82,009.00
Sarpy County	\$564,139.00	-	\$564,139.00
Saunders County	\$82,822.00	\$87,738.00	\$170,560.00
Scotts Bluff County - Lead (Banner, Morrill)	\$126,151.00	-	\$126,151.00
Seward County - Lead (Butler)	\$92,928.00	-	\$92,928.00
Sheridan County	\$11,250.00	-	\$11,250.00
Thurston County	\$22,700.00	-	\$22,700.00
Washington County	\$69,835.00	-	\$69,835.00
York County	\$35,483.00	\$39,588.00	\$75,071.00
Total	\$5,416,515.00	\$381,485.00	\$5,798,000.00

Juvenile Services Committee Membership

Member Name	Member Type	Title and Organization	Representation
Jennifer Carter	Voting	Inspector General of Nebraska Child Welfare, Office of Inspector General of Nebraska Child Welfare	Representative of the Nebraska Children's Commission Member
Amy Hoffman	Voting	Director of Juvenile Diversion and Community-Based Aid, Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice	Nebraska Crime Commission representative
LaDonna Jones-Dunlap	Voting	Systems Involved Youth Specialist, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation	Representative of the Department of Education
Nick Juliano (Co-Chair)	Voting	President & CEO, RADIUS	Treatment placement representative
Judge Denise Kracl	Voting	Fifth Judicial District Court Judge, Fifth Judicial District	Judge representative
Mark LaBouchardiere	Voting	Facilities Director, DHHS, Division of Children and Family Services, Office of Juvenile Services	Representative of the office of juvenile services
Dennis Marks	Voting	Attorney, Sarpy County Public Defenders' Office	Defense Attorney Representative
Michelle Nunemaker	Voting	Administrator, DHHS, Division of Behavioral Health	Representative of DHHS, Division of Behavioral Health
Sara Quiroz	Voting	Director, Administrative Office of the Courts and Probation, Juvenile Services Division	Representative of juvenile probation
Patrick Sailors	Voting	Director of Crisis and Residential Services, Child Guidance Center	In-Home Service Representative
Tammy Sassaman	Voting	Executive Director, Nebraska Juvenile Justice Association	Advocate group representative
Vicky Smith	Voting	Service Director, CEDARS Youth Services	Group home/Shelter representative
Deb VanDyke-Ries (Co-Chair)	Voting	Director, Nebraska Court Improvement Project	Representative of the Court Improvement Project
Kaleb Vicharra	Voting	Direct Support Professional, People's City Mission	Young Adult with Previous Juvenile Justice Experience
Dr. Richard Wiener	Voting	Bessey Professor of Psychology, University of Nebraska, Lincoln	Data expert representative
Sen. Carol Blood	resource	Senator, District 3, Nebraska Legislative Council	Representative of the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature
Shaylee Fortner	resource	DHHS Program Manager II, DHHS, Division of Children and Family Services	Representative of the office of juvenile services
Bethany Nelson	resource	DHHS Program Coordinator, DHHS, Medicaid and Long-Term Care	Representative of DHHS, Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care
Julie Smith	resource	Juvenile Justice Programs Specialist, Administrative Office of the Courts and Probation, Juvenile Services Division	Representative of Juvenile Probation
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Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice Membership

Member Name	Member Type	Title and Organization	Representation
Colleen Barnes	Voting	Criminal Justice/Sociology Instructor , Northeast Community College	At Large Member
Neleigh Boyer	Voting	Attorney , DHHS, Division of Legal Services	The chief executive officer of the Department of Health and Human Services or his or her designee
Stanford Bradley	Voting	Youth Program Coordinator , Malone Community Center	Youth Advocate
Karen Bredthauer	Voting	County Commissioner , Hall County	One county commissioner or supervisor
Patrick Connell (Vice Chair)	Voting	Vice President of Behavioral Health, Compliance and Government Relations , Boys Town	Community-based, private nonprofit organizations who work with juvenile offenders and their families (2nd District)
Breanna Flaherty	Voting	Platte County Attorney , Platte County	One county attorney
Monika Gross	Voting	Executive Director , Foster Care Review Office	The executive director of the Foster Care Review Office
Brian Halstead	Voting	Deputy Commissioner , Nebraska Department of Education	The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee
Amy Hoffman	Voting	Director of Juvenile Programs and Interventions , Nebraska Crime Commission	The executive director of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice or his or her designee
Janteice Holston	Voting		Youth under 24 years of age
Nandi Kumondan	Voting		Youth under 24 years of age
Denise Manthei	Voting		Young Adult Member
Elaine Menzel (Chair)	Voting	Legal Counsel , Nebraska Association of County Officials	The Executive Director of the Nebraska Association of County Officials or his or her designee
Daniel Schleusener	Voting	Chief Deputy , Buffalo County Sheriff	Representative from law enforcement
Jill Schubauer	Voting	Youth Systems of Care Specialist , Region 3 Behavioral Health	One member of a regional behavioral health authority established under section 71-808
Steve Solorio	Voting	Youth Program Manager , El Centro de las Américas	Non-Profit - 1st District
Amanda Speichert	Voting	Attorney , Lindemeier & Dawson Attorneys at Law	One public defender
Tami Steensma	Voting	Director , Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center	The director or his or her designee from a secure juvenile detention facility or a staff secure youth confinement facility;
Vacant	Voting		Youth Advocate
Vacant	Voting	Executive Director , Nebraska Indian Child Welfare Coalition	Community-based, private nonprofit organizations who work with juvenile offenders and their families (3rd District)
Judge Chad Brown	Non-Voting	Judge of the Separate Juvenile Court , Douglas County Court	One separate juvenile court judge
Judge Joel B. Jay	Non-Voting	County Judge , 11th Judicial District Court	One county court judge
Kari Rumbaugh	Non-Voting	Assistant Deputy Administrator for Juvenile Services , Nebraska Probation Administration	The probation administrator of the Office of Probation Administration or his or her designee