



# *Along* **THE** *Way*

Directory of Resources  
for Individuals  
with Intellectual and  
Developmental Disabilities

January 2022

INSIDE FRONT COVER

**This guide was developed by:**



**FRITZ & O'HARE ASSOCIATES**

Lloya Fritz and Mary O'Hare

[lloyafritz@gmail.com](mailto:lloyafritz@gmail.com)

[maryohare7@gmail.com](mailto:maryohare7@gmail.com)

**Funding for this publication was provided by:**

Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities

Department of Health and Human Services

301 Centennial Mall South

PO Box 95026

Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-5026

Phone: 402-471-2330

Email: [dhhs.ddcouncil@nebraska.gov](mailto:dhhs.ddcouncil@nebraska.gov)

**To view or print copies of this guide, visit the  
Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities website at:**

**[Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities](http://www.ddcouncil.org)**

## Credits

Special thanks to all who provided valuable input and guidance in the development of the *Along the Way* series. Contributors are too numerous to mention, but include representatives from Nebraska state agencies, advocacy organizations, family members, self-advocates, and service providers. We couldn't have done it without the assistance of these dedicated people. Most importantly, we wish to thank the Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities for providing the opportunity to develop this series.



## Resources for Individuals with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities

This Directory of Resources is part of the “Along the Way” series of guides created to provide information for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, and others. This is a companion to three guides for:

- Parents of Infants, Toddlers, and Children with Disabilities
- Adolescents and Young Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Resources are listed here to provide people with contact information for agencies and programs designed to support them. The information is divided into five sections:

- **Advocacy:** Resources designed to support and advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.
- **Community Service and Support Organizations:** Statewide listing of community service and support organizations who provide services and supports to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, caregivers, and professionals.
- **Information and Referral Resources:** Agencies and organizations who aid in locating and connecting with resources to meet unique needs.
- **Nebraska Governmental Agencies:** Agencies located within Nebraska’s governmental structure.
- **Federal Agencies:** Agencies located within the Federal government.

**The information provided is current at the time of publication (January 2022).**

<b>Credits</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>Resources for Individuals with Intellectual &amp; Developmental Disabilities</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>Advocacy</b> .....	<b>7</b>
Arc of Nebraska.....	7
Arc Chapters in Nebraska.....	7
Autism Family Network .....	8
Autism Society of Nebraska.....	8
Disability Rights Nebraska .....	8
Family Run Organizations of Nebraska .....	9
Legal Aid of Nebraska.....	9
Mediation Centers.....	9
Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD Council).....	10
Nebraska Youth Leadership Council .....	10
People First of Nebraska.....	10
<b>Community Service &amp; Support Organizations</b> .....	<b>11</b>
Area Agencies on Aging (AAA).....	11
Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska .....	11
Centers for Independent Living .....	11
Community Action Agencies.....	12
Developmental Disability Services Provider Agencies .....	13
Easterseals Nebraska.....	13
Educational Service Units .....	13
EducationQuest Foundation.....	14
Enable Savings Plan .....	14
Housing Authorities .....	14
Housing.ne.gov .....	14
Local Health Departments .....	14
Munroe-Meyer Institute.....	15
Parent Training and Information (PTI) Nebraska.....	15
WINAHEAD .....	15
<b>Information &amp; Referral Resources</b> .....	<b>16</b>
211 .....	16
Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) .....	16
Answers4Families .....	17
Client Assistance Program .....	17

Nebraska Hotline for Disability Services.....	17
Nebraska Family Helpline.....	18
Nebraska Network of Care for Behavioral Health .....	18
Nebraska Resource and Referral System.....	18
<b>Nebraska Governmental Agencies .....</b>	<b>19</b>
Governor, State of Nebraska.....	19
Nebraska Assistive Technology Partnership (ATP) .....	19
Nebraska Center for the Education of Children who are Blind or Visually Impaired.....	19
Nebraska Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) .....	20
Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired.....	20
Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing .....	20
Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) .....	21
NDE Office of Early Childhood.....	21
NDE Office of Special Education.....	21
NDE Nebraska Transition .....	21
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).....	21
ACCESSNebraska.....	22
DHHS Division of Behavioral Health .....	22
Suicide Prevention Hotline.....	22
Nebraska Family Helpline.....	22
DHHS Division of Children and Family Services .....	22
Economic Assistance .....	22
Adult Protective Services .....	23
Child Protective Services.....	23
Lifespan Respite.....	23
Nebraska ChildFind.....	23
Nebraska Early Development Network (EDN) .....	23
DHHS Division of Developmental Disabilities .....	24
DHHS Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care .....	24
State Unit on Aging.....	24
DHHS Division of Public Health .....	25
Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission .....	25
Nebraska Office of Public Guardian .....	25

Nebraska Ombudsman’s Office .....	25
Nebraska VR .....	26
<b>Federal Agencies .....</b>	<b>27</b>
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) .....	27
Office for Civil Rights .....	27
Social Security Administration .....	27
Social Security - Nebraska Offices .....	28
U.S. Department of Education .....	28





### **The Arc of Platte County**

Phone: 402-563-1699

Email: [programdirector@arcofplattecounty.com](mailto:programdirector@arcofplattecounty.com)

Website: [The Arc of Platte County - Home](#)

### **The Arc of Seward County**

Phone: 402-761-3462

Website: [Chapters - The Arc of Nebraska \(arc-nebraska.org\)](#)

## **Autism Family Network**

The mission of the Autism Family Network is to support and advocate for individuals on the autism spectrum and their families. They are dedicated to providing social opportunities, recreational experiences, community inclusion, and to promote a positive, respectful image of people with autism and their families.

Phone: 402-421-0874

Email: [autismfamilynetworklincoln@gmail.com](mailto:autismfamilynetworklincoln@gmail.com)

Website: [Autism Family Network - AFN](#)

## **Autism Society of Nebraska**

The mission of the Autism Society is to improve the lives of every family affected by autism. The focus of the Nebraska Affiliate is working locally and regionally throughout the Nebraska autism community. They provide supportive events, resources, and training across the lifespan. In addition, the Autism Society of Nebraska participates in local and statewide collaborative efforts with other agencies.

Toll Free: 800-580-9279

Website: [Home - Autism Society \(autismnebraska.org\)](#)

## **Disability Rights Nebraska (DRN)**

Disability Rights Nebraska uses a combination of legal advocacy, public policy advocacy, citizen advocacy, self-advocacy, and advocacy education to protect vulnerable people with disabilities, especially those who learn, live, or work in isolated, segregated, or congregated settings. They work in partnership under the US Administration for Community Living with Munroe-Meyer Institute and the Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Phone: 402-474-3183

Toll Free: 800-422-6691

Email: [info@disabilityrightsnebraska.org](mailto:info@disabilityrightsnebraska.org)

Website: [Disability Rights Nebraska | Reform | Lincoln](#)

## **Family Run Organizations of Nebraska**

The Family Run Organizations of Nebraska are recognized as state leaders in guaranteeing that all children and families in Nebraska are emotionally, behaviorally, and mentally strong; are empowered by family driven choices; and are fully honored in their diversity.

### **Families CARE-Kearney**

Phone: 308-237-1102

Website: [Welcome to Families Care - FamiliesCare.org Parent AssistanceFamiliesCare.org Parent Assistance](http://Welcome%20to%20Families%20Care%20-%20FamiliesCare.org%20Parent%20AssistanceFamiliesCare.org%20Parent%20Assistance)

### **Families Inspiring Families-Lincoln**

Phone: 402-441-4369

Website: [Families Inspiring Families : Home](http://Families%20Inspiring%20Families%20:%20Home)

### **Nebraska Family Support Network-Omaha**

Phone: 402-345-0791

Email: [info@nefamilysupport.org](mailto:info@nefamilysupport.org)

Website: [Nebraska Family Support Network - Omaha, Nebraska \(nefamilysupportnetwork.org\)](http://Nebraska%20Family%20Support%20Network%20-%20Omaha,%20Nebraska%20(nefamilysupportnetwork.org))

### **Parent to Parent Network-Norfolk**

Phone: 402-379-2268

Toll Free: 877-226-8819

Website: [Home - Parent to Parent Network |Parenting Peer Support | Family Navigators | Community ServicesParent to Parent Network |Parenting Peer Support | Family Navigators | Community Services \(parent-parent.org\)](http://Home%20-%20Parent%20to%20Parent%20Network%20|Parenting%20Peer%20Support%20|Family%20Navigators%20|Community%20ServicesParent%20to%20Parent%20Network%20|Parenting%20Peer%20Support%20|Family%20Navigators%20|Community%20Services%20(parent-parent.org))

## **Legal Aid of Nebraska**

Legal Aid is a statewide non-profit law firm serving all Nebraska counties. Legal Aid offers free legal help to low-income and senior citizen (60+) clients in a full range of civil matters.

Phone: 402-348-1069

Legal Assistance Phone: 877-250-2016

Website: [Legal Aid of Nebraska |We Make Equal Justice Happen](http://Legal%20Aid%20of%20Nebraska%20|We%20Make%20Equal%20Justice%20Happen)

## **Mediation Centers**

Mediation is a confidential process for resolving conflict in which an impartial third party – a mediator – helps people in conflict find a solution that is acceptable to everyone involved. Mediation may be used to address areas such as: divorce, parenting plans, elder issues, landlord/tenant issues, legal matters, health and medical issues, or real estate disputes. Mediation services may be provided on a sliding fee scale for those with qualifying income.

Phone: 402-302-1025

Website: [Nebraska Mediation Association :Who We Are : Purpose & Mission \(nemediation.org\)](http://Nebraska%20Mediation%20Association%20:%20Who%20We%20Are%20:%20Purpose%20&%20Mission%20(nemediation.org))

## **Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD Council)**

The Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities engages in advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities that assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design and have access to the needed community services, individualized support, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life.

The Council funds subawards to various agencies, organizations, and entities to address gaps and barriers in the system; identifies legislation introduced and educates policymakers on the impact of these bills on persons with DD; and serves on numerous committees to ensure discussions include the needs of persons with DD. The Council works in partnership with Disability Rights Nebraska and the Munroe-Meyer Institute under the US Administration for Community Living.

Phone: 402-471-2330

Email: [dhhs.ddcouncil@nebraska.gov](mailto:dhhs.ddcouncil@nebraska.gov)

Website: [Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities](#)

## **Nebraska Youth Leadership Council**

The Council is a group of young leaders from across the state who want to make a difference in the lives of other students with disabilities. The Council provides young people with an opportunity to have a voice in the things that affect them and to make existing services better through their outreach efforts. Co-sponsored by Nebraska VR and Nebraska Department of Special Education, Council members are leaders and advocates who experience a disability. They promote disability awareness and educate peers on transitioning to college or work.

Phone: 531-207-9989

Website: [Nebraska Youth Leadership Council \(NYLC\) | NDE Transition](#)

## **People First of Nebraska**

People First is the only statewide disability rights organization in Nebraska run by and for people with all types of disabilities. Local chapters meet to learn from each other; practice advocacy skills; volunteer to give back to their communities; and tell elected officials what is important to them. They work with families, service providers, and other organizations.

Phone: 402-559-4892

E-mail: [peoplefirstnebraska@outlook.com](mailto:peoplefirstnebraska@outlook.com)

Website: [peoplefirstnebraska.com](http://peoplefirstnebraska.com)

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE & SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS** ◆◆◆◆◆

### **Area Agencies on Aging (AAA)**

The Area Agencies on Aging, located throughout the state, offer a wide range of services for older adults. Those typically provided include Care Management/Service Coordination, congregate and home-delivered meals, family care support services, homemaker services, legal services, information and assistance, long-term care ombudsman services, medical insurance counseling, Medicaid waiver services, senior centers, transportation, and volunteer opportunities.

A map of the geographic areas served by the eight AAAs and contact information may be found at: [Nebraska Area Agencies on Aging and Aging Disability Resource Centers](#)

### **Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska (BIA-NE)**

BIA-NE helps individuals with brain injuries rebuild their lives, restore purposeful living, and rebuild hope and optimism. Serving the brain injury population means working to secure and develop community-based services, providing support groups, and assisting with access to pertinent information, medical resources, and service referrals. BIA-NE also works to educate professionals who work with children and adults with brain injury.

Phone: 402-423-2463

Resource & Referral Line: 844-423-2463

Email: [info@biane.org](mailto:info@biane.org)

Website: [Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska : About : Overview \(biane.org\)](#)

### **Centers for Independent Living**

Centers for Independent Living promote and provide services for community living to persons with disabilities. Services are statewide, vary by location, and may include Advocacy, Assistive Technology, Housing Counseling, Independent Living Skills Instruction, Information & Referral, Social Skills Training, and System Advocacy.

#### **Independence Rising-Grand Island**

Phone: 308-382-9255

Email: [info@irnebraska.org](mailto:info@irnebraska.org)

Website: [Independence Rising - Serving Nebraskans with Disabilities - Independence Rising \(irnebraska.org\)](#)

#### **League of Human Dignity-Kearney**

Phone: 308-224-3665

Email: [kinfo@leagueofhumandignity.com](mailto:kinfo@leagueofhumandignity.com)

Website: [Locations & Service Area - LEAGUE OF HUMAN DIGNITY](#)

**League of Human Dignity-Lincoln**

Phone: 402-441-7871

Email: [info@leagueofhumandignity.com](mailto:info@leagueofhumandignity.com)

Website: [Locations & Service Area - LEAGUE OF HUMAN DIGNITY](#)

**League of Human Dignity-Norfolk**

Phone: 402-371-4475

Email: [ninfo@leagueofhumandignity.com](mailto:ninfo@leagueofhumandignity.com)

Website: [Locations & Service Area - LEAGUE OF HUMAN DIGNITY](#)

**League of Human Dignity-North Platte**

Phone: 308-532-4911

Email: [npinfo@leagueofhumandignity.com](mailto:npinfo@leagueofhumandignity.com)

Website: [Locations & Service Area - LEAGUE OF HUMAN DIGNITY](#)

**Omaha Center for Independent Living-Omaha**

Phone: 402-595-1256

Email: [oinfo@leagueofhumandignity.com](mailto:oinfo@leagueofhumandignity.com)

Website: [Locations & Service Area - LEAGUE OF HUMAN DIGNITY](#)

**League of Human Dignity-Scottsbluff**

Phone: 308-632-0470

Email: [sinfo@leagueofhumandignity.com](mailto:sinfo@leagueofhumandignity.com)

Website: [Locations & Service Area - LEAGUE OF HUMAN DIGNITY](#)

**Panhandle Independent Living Services-Gering**

Phone: 308-635-7901

Email: [pils@allophone.com](mailto:pils@allophone.com)

Website: [Nebraska Panhandle Independent Living Services \(PILS\) - Home \(weebly.com\)](#)

**Community Action Agencies**

Nine community action agencies in Nebraska empower people living in poverty to reach economic stability. Services include housing, child development (Head Start), employment programs, health, transportation, disaster relief, food and nutrition, and asset development. To find a local Community Action Agency, view the online map: [CAN \(canhelp.org\)](http://CAN.canhelp.org)

## **Developmental Disability (DD) Services Provider Agencies**

Services for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities are administered by the Department of Health and Human Services Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD). Provider agencies are contracted by DDD to deliver these services. A directory of Nebraska's service providers is arranged alphabetically and by agency city in a comprehensive document located at: [DD Agency Provider List \(ne.gov\)](#)

## **Easterseals Nebraska**

From child development centers to physical rehabilitation and job training for people with disabilities, Easterseals offers services to help people of all ages with disabilities address life's challenges and achieve personal goals. Services include, but are not limited to:

- Summer camps, weekend respite camps, and day camps;
- Low-interest loans for the purchase of assistive technology devices and services;
- Comprehensive benefits planning services to individuals served by Nebraska VR and Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired;
- Assistance with Nebraska Work Incentives Planning and Assistance;
- Assistance with Nebraska Ticket to Work; and
- Nebraska AgrAbility services for Nebraska's farmers and ranchers affected by disability.

Phone: 800-471-6425

Website: [Easterseals Nebraska | Who We Are](#)

## **Educational Service Units (ESU)**

ESUs act primarily as service agencies to provide core services for member school districts, such as technology support, special education services, and professional development for educators. More information, including a map of areas served, for Nebraska's 17 ESUs is located online: [Educational Service Units – ESU CC](#)

## **EducationQuest Foundation**

EducationQuest Foundation is a nonprofit organization with a mission to improve access to higher education in Nebraska. EducationQuest provides **free** college planning services, need-based scholarship programs, college access grants for high schools, college access resources for middle schools, and outreach services for community agencies. They have locations in Omaha, Lincoln, Kearney, and Scottsbluff. For more information visit their website at: [EducationQuest Foundation](#)

## **Enable Savings Plan**

In 2014, Congress passed the Achieving a Better Life Experience Act (ABLE) as a financial tool for people with disabilities. In Nebraska, this is known as the Enable Savings Plan. Enable allows Nebraskans with certain disabilities to create tax-advantaged ABLE savings accounts to pay for qualified disability-related expenses.

Phone: 844-362-2534

Email: [clientservices@enablesavings.com](mailto:clientservices@enablesavings.com)

Website: [ABLE Act - Enable Savings](#)

## **Housing Authorities**

Housing authorities assist in providing affordable, safe, sanitary, and decent housing for qualifying individuals and families with financial needs. They are located throughout the state. To locate one in your area, see their website: [Nebraska Public Housing Agencies \(affordablehousingonline.com\)](#)

## **Housing.ne.gov**

This is a free, state resource for renters and property providers in Nebraska. Search for rental housing to fit your needs, including affordable, accessible, and market-rate units.

Toll-Free Phone: 877-428-8844 TDD/TTY: 7-1-1

Website: [Housing.NE.gov | Nebraska Apartments | Nebraska Rental Homes](#)

## **Local Health Departments**

For a listing of local health departments, visit this website: [contacts.pdf \(ne.gov\)](#)



## **Munroe-Meyer Institute (MMI)**

MMI provides interdisciplinary, family-centered services for persons with disabilities and complex health care needs across the lifespan at more than 40 provider locations across the state. They work in partnership under the US Administration for Community Living with Disability Rights Nebraska and Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Phone: 402-559-6418

Toll Free: 800-656-3937

Email: [munroemeyer@unmc.edu](mailto:munroemeyer@unmc.edu)

Website: [Home | Munroe-Meyer Institute \(unmc.edu\)](#)

## **Parent Training and Information (PTI) Nebraska**

PTI is a statewide resource for families of children with disabilities and special health care needs, birth through age 26. PTI staff are parent/professionals and focus on providing training, information, and referrals through a variety of services. Services include one-on-one support and assistance, small and large group workshops, publications, and websites.

Phone: 402-346-0525

Toll Free: 800-284-8520

Email: [reception@pti-nebraska.org](mailto:reception@pti-nebraska.org)

Website: [PTI Nebraska | \(pti-nebraska.org\)](#)

## **Western Iowa & Nebraska Association on Higher Education and Disability (WINAHEAD)**

WINAHEAD is made up of representatives from two and four-year colleges and universities. Members work directly with students with disabilities to ensure equal access to higher education. WINAHEAD provides resources and information for students, families, and educators, including transition presentations to schools and organizations upon request. Information regarding the services provided and a roster of member institutions and contact information is located at:

[Western Iowa & Nebraska Association on Higher Education & Disability \(WINAHEAD\) | NDE Transition](#)

## INFORMATION AND REFERRAL RESOURCES ◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

### 211

211 is a free, comprehensive information and referral system providing a one-stop source of information for people in need of assistance. 211 staff will assess the situation of the caller and utilize an extensive, up-to-date database to find the best resource(s) to meet the person's needs. 211 acts as a single point of contact for thousands of health and human service programs, community services, disaster services, and governmental programs.

Phone: 211

Website: [211 Nebraska | Get Connected • Get Help \(ne211.org\)](http://211.Nebraska.com)

### **Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC)**

The Aging and Disability Resource Center is for older Nebraskans (age 60 and older), people with disabilities of all ages, family members, caregivers, and advocates. A network of partners provides ADRC services, including information, referral, and assistance in locating services and supports in their community.

Toll free: 844-843-6364

Website: [Aging and Disability Resource Center \(ne.gov\)](http://AgingandDisabilityResourceCenter.ne.gov)

ADRC partners include:

**Aging Office of Western Nebraska-Scottsbluff**

Phone: 308-635-0851

**Aging Partners-Lincoln**

Phone: 402-441-7070

**Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging-Beatrice**

Phone: 402-223-1376

**Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska-Statewide**

Resource & Referral Line: 844-423-2463

**Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging-Omaha**

Phone: 402-444-6444

**Easterseals Nebraska-Statewide**

Phone: 800-471-6425x115

**League of Human Dignity-Statewide**

Phone: 402-441-7871 (Lincoln Office)

**Midland Area Agency on Aging-Hastings**

Phone: 402-463-4565

### **Munroe-Meyer Institute (MMI)-Statewide**

Phone: 402-552-2962

### **Northeast Nebraska Area Agency on Aging-Norfolk**

Phone: 402-370-3454

### **South Central Nebraska Area Agency on Aging-Kearney**

Phone: 308-234-1851

## **Answers4Families**

Answers4Families connects Nebraskans with special needs to resources and supports. They provide opportunities to find answers to common questions regarding resources and supports, talk to others, and find services.

Toll Free: 800-746-8420

Email: [accounts@answers4families.org](mailto:accounts@answers4families.org)

Website: [Answers4Families home page](#)

## **Client Assistance Program (CAP)**

CAP is a free service to help find solutions for people experiencing problems with any of the following programs. CAP acts independently of these programs.

- Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)
- Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- Centers for Independent Living

Phone: 402-417-3412 V/TTY

Toll Free: 800-742-7594 V/TTY

Website: [NE Client Assistance Program \(CAP\) \(nebraska.gov\)](#)

## **Nebraska Hotline for Disability Services**

The Hotline provides information and referral to Nebraskans who have questions or concerns related to a disability. This includes information about rehabilitation services, transportation, special parking permits, legal rights, and any other questions related to a disability.

Phone: 402-471-0801 V/TTY

Toll Free: 800-742-7594 V/TTY

Email: [shari.bahensky@nebraska.gov](mailto:shari.bahensky@nebraska.gov)

Website: [NE Client Assistance Program \(CAP\) \(nebraska.gov\)](#)

## **Nebraska Family Helpline**

The Nebraska Family Helpline makes it easier for families to obtain assistance by providing a single contact point 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Trained Helpline operators screen calls to assess immediate safety needs, identify the potential level of a behavioral health crisis, make recommendations or referrals to appropriate resources, and help callers connect to emergency resources or providers. The Helpline is supervised by licensed mental health professionals.

Family Helpline operators also can connect eligible families to the Family Navigator Service. This service helps families move through Nebraska's child- and family-care system more efficiently to get the assistance they need. Available within 24 to 72 hours after a Helpline referral, Family Navigator helps families identify existing community-based services and provides support from people who have had personal experience in the system.

Toll Free: 888-866-8660

Website: [Nebraska Family Helpline](#)

## **Nebraska Network of Care for Behavioral Health**

The Nebraska Network of Care for Behavioral Health website provides statewide behavioral health resource information: [Nebraska Network of Care for Behavioral Health - Network of Care](#)

## **Nebraska Resource and Referral System**

The Nebraska Resource and Referral System Direct Service Database contains information about community agencies and organizations that provide services to Nebraskans. This website is a valuable tool, connecting Nebraskans to the services and resources they need via the Internet:

[About - Nebraska Resource and Referral System - NRRS](#)



## **Nebraska Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)**

In Nebraska, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is an expansion of Medicaid as health care coverage for qualified children who are without other health insurance and who do not qualify for Medicaid. CHIP provides the same services covered under Medicaid.

Phone: 855-632-7633

Website: [Nebraska Children's Health Insurance Program \(CHIP\) | Benefits.gov](https://www.nebraska.gov/ncbvi)

## **Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired**

The Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired empowers people with vision loss with the tools, training, mentorship, and resources they need to succeed in high school and college, find and maintain employment, and participate actively in their communities.

Phone: 402-471-2891

Toll Free: 877-809-2419

Website: [Welcome | NCBVI \(nebraska.gov\)](https://www.nebraska.gov/ncbvi)

## **Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

The Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing promotes and advocates for Nebraskans who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing. The Commission works to achieve equality and opportunity in settings that have an everyday impact on the deaf and hard of hearing community - including social, educational, vocational, and legal. In addition, they seek to enhance and monitor access to effective communication and telecommunication technology.

Services offered include hearing aid banks, media center, assistive devices loan program, training and presentations, and links to resources.

Phone: 402-471-3593

Website: [Welcome | Deaf and Hard of Hearing \(nebraska.gov\)](https://www.nebraska.gov/ncbvi)

## **Nebraska Department of Education (NDE)**

The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) is a constitutional agency. The Department operates under the authority of an elected board of education. NDE is organized into teams that interact to operate the agency and carry out the duties assigned by state and federal statutes and the policy directions of the State Board of Education. The teams provide leadership and support for Nebraska's system of early childhood, primary, secondary, and postsecondary education; direct services to clients; and internal support to the agency.

Phone: 402-471-2295

Website: [Nebraska Department of Education](#)

### **NDE Office of Early Childhood**

The Office of Early Childhood provides leadership, guidance, and support to develop high quality, inclusive programs and services for children birth-age 8; facilitates state/community partnerships to address needs of young children and families; and provides professional development, technical assistance, and resources for early childhood care and education settings.

Phone: 402-860-4055

Website: [Office of Early Childhood – Nebraska Department of Education](#)

### **NDE Office of Special Education**

The Office of Special Education provides leadership and support for Nebraska's system of special education services.

Phone: 402-471-2471

Website: [Special Education – Nebraska Department of Education](#)

### **NDE Nebraska Transition**

Nebraska Transition provides resources to assist educators, parents, and students in the transition process.

Phone: [531-207-9989](#)

Website: [Transition Planning | NDE Transition \(ne.gov\)](#)

## **Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)**

The Department of Health and Human Services is a state agency, split into five divisions (Behavioral Health, Children & Family Services, Developmental Disabilities, Medicaid & Long-Term Care, and Public Health) to meet the needs of Nebraskans. For more information about DHHS: [Department of Health and Human Services \(ne.gov\)](#)

## **ACCESSNebraska**

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) administers and manages eligibility for Medicaid and Economic Assistance programs through ACCESSNebraska. Persons may apply for benefits and handle their Medicaid and Economic Assistance needs on the ACCESSNebraska website. Customer service is available by phone or at local DHHS offices 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Phone:

Medicaid Toll Free: 855-632-7633

Economic Assistance Toll Free: 800-383-4278

Websites:

- [ACCESSNebraska](#)
- Local DHHS Offices: [Public Assistance Offices \(ne.gov\)](#)

## **DHHS Division of Behavioral Health**

Responsible for administration and coordination of the public behavioral health system, to address prevention and treatment of mental health and substance use disorders. Provides funding and contract management to six behavioral health regions and ensures community-based mental health and substance use prevention and treatment services are available.

Suicide Prevention Hotline: 800-273-8255

Nebraska Family Helpline: 888-866-8660

Website: [Division of Behavioral Health \(ne.gov\)](#)

Statewide Resources: [Nebraska Network of Care for Behavioral Health - Network of Care](#)

## **DHHS Division of Children and Family Services**

Responsible for system of child welfare, adult protective services, economic support programs, and the youth rehabilitation and treatment centers.

Phone: 402-471-3121

Website: [Children and Family Services \(ne.gov\)](#)

## **Economic Assistance**

Economic Assistance programs promote wellbeing and provide support to achieve self-sufficiency of families, children, individuals, elderly, and persons with disabilities by providing medical, nutritional, and financial services.

Toll Free: 800-383-4278

Website: [Economic Assistance \(ne.gov\)](#)



## **Adult Protective Services**

Adult Protective Services (APS) meets the needs of vulnerable adults and helps protect them from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

Phone: 800-652-1999 (toll free 24-hr hotline)

Website: [Adult Protective Services \(ne.gov\)](http://AdultProtectiveServices.ne.gov)

## **Child Protective Services**

Child Protective Services (CPS) is responsible for investigation and intervention in situations of abuse/ neglect of children.

Phone: 800-652-1999 (toll free 24-hr hotline)

Website: [Children and Family Services \(ne.gov\)](http://ChildrenandFamilyServices.ne.gov)

## **Lifespan Respite**

The Lifespan Respite Program pays for respite services to give the family caregiver a break. Respite means short-term relief to family caregivers from the demands of ongoing care for an individual with special needs.

Phone: 402-471-9188

Toll Free: 866-737-7483

Email: [dhhs.respite@nebraska.gov](mailto:dhhs.respite@nebraska.gov)

Website: [Lifespan Respite \(ne.gov\)](http://LifespanRespite.ne.gov)

## **Nebraska ChildFind**

As part of the Nebraska Early Development Network, Nebraska ChildFind provides information to parents, school personnel, and service providers on child development and special education for children from birth (or date of diagnosis) to age 21. ChildFind also helps parents access information on rights and resources to help them advocate for an appropriate education for their child.

Phone: 402-471-1640

Toll Free: 888-806-6287

Website: [Nebraska ChildFind](http://NebraskaChildFind)

## **Nebraska Early Development Network (EDN)**

The Nebraska Early Development Network provides early intervention services for families with children, birth to age three, with developmental delays and/or health care needs. EDN connects families to services including developmental, educational, financial, health care, childcare, respite care, and other services to meet their needs.

Toll Free Phone: 1-888-806-6287

Website: [Home | Nebraska Early Development Network](http://Home|NebraskaEarlyDevelopmentNetwork)

## **DHHS Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)**

DDD provides funding and oversight of community-based services for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities. DDD also operates the Beatrice State Developmental Center (BSDC).

### **General Information**

Phone: 402-471-8501

Toll Free: 877-667-6266

Email: [dhhs.developmentaldisabilities@nebraska.gov](mailto:dhhs.developmentaldisabilities@nebraska.gov)

Website: [Division of Developmental Disabilities \(ne.gov\)](http://Division of Developmental Disabilities (ne.gov))

### **Eligibility & DD Registration**

Phone Number: 402 471-8501

Toll Free Number: 877- 667-6266

Email: [dhhs.ddeligibility@nebraska.gov](mailto:dhhs.ddeligibility@nebraska.gov)

### **Office Locations & Staff Directory**

Phone Number: 402-471-8501

Toll Free Number: 877-667-6266

Email: [dhhs.dddcommunitybasedservices@nebraska.gov](mailto:dhhs.dddcommunitybasedservices@nebraska.gov)

Website (Office & Staff Directory): [DDD Main Staff Directory \(ne.gov\)](http://DDD Main Staff Directory (ne.gov))

## **DHHS Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care**

Nebraska Medicaid pays for covered medical services for certain low-income persons, including those who are aged, blind, disabled, children, and others who meet eligibility requirements.

Phone: 402-471-3121

To reach the Medicaid eligibility customer service center, contact:

855-632-7633

402-473-7000 (Lincoln)

402-595-1178 (Omaha)

TTY: 402-471-7256

Website: [Medicaid and Long-Term Care \(ne.gov\)](http://Medicaid and Long-Term Care (ne.gov))

## **State Unit on Aging (SUA)**

The SUA administers state and federal funds to the eight Area Agencies on Aging in Nebraska to support local programs and services.

Phone: 402-471-2307

Email: [DHHS.Aging@Nebraska.gov](mailto:DHHS.Aging@Nebraska.gov)

Website: [State Unit on Aging \(ne.gov\)](http://State Unit on Aging (ne.gov))

## **DHHS Division of Public Health**

The Division is responsible for preventive and community health programs and services and for regulation and licensure of health-related professions and occupations, as well as regulation and licensure of health care facilities and services.

Phone: 402-471-3121

Website: [Public Health \(ne.gov\)](http://PublicHealth.ne.gov)

## **Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission**

The Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission is a neutral administrative agency whose role is to enforce the public policy of the state against discrimination. The principal function of the Commission is to receive, investigate and pass upon charges of unlawful discrimination occurring anywhere within the State of Nebraska in the areas of employment, housing, and public accommodations.

Toll Free: 800-642-6112

Website: [NEOC \(nebraska.gov\)](http://NEOC.nebraska.gov)

## **Nebraska Office of Public Guardian**

The Office of Public Guardian is designed to serve as the guardian or conservator for an individual when no other alternative is available. Additionally, the Office provides education, training, and support for volunteer and family guardians and conservators, and recruits individuals to serve as guardians and conservators for Nebraska's vulnerable individuals.

Phone: 402-471-2862

Website: [Office of the Public Guardian | Nebraska Judicial Branch](http://OfficeofthePublicGuardian|NebraskaJudicialBranch)

## **Nebraska Ombudsman's Office**

The Office of the Public Counsel (also known as the State Ombudsman's Office) is an independent complaint-handling office for the use of citizens who have complaints about the actions of administrative agencies of state government. The investigatory powers of the Ombudsman's Office are broad, including freedom of access to agency records and facilities, and the ability to address questions to agency officials at the highest levels.

Lincoln: 402-471-2035

Toll Free: 1-800-742-7690

TTY: 800-833-7352

E-mail: [ombud@leg.ne.gov](mailto:ombud@leg.ne.gov)

Website: [Nebraska Legislature - Public Counsel \(Ombudsman\)](http://NebraskaLegislature-PublicCounsel(Ombudsman))

## Nebraska VR

Nebraska VR (also known as Vocational Rehabilitation or Voc Rehab) helps people with disabilities prepare for, find, and keep jobs while helping businesses recruit, train, and retain employees with disabilities.

Phone: 402-471-3644

Toll Free: 877-637-3422

Websites:

- [Nebraska VR | Welcome](#)
- Nebraska VR Office Locations: [Nebraska VR | Find a Service Office](#)



## **Social Security - Nebraska Offices**

In Nebraska, there are six Social Security Field offices, one Office of Disability Determination Services, and one Office of Disability Adjudication and Review to provide assistance to residents with Social Security needs. For questions regarding the Social Security Disability application process or to find out about the status of an application, contact the office in your area.

Toll Free Phone: 800-772-1213

Website: [Nebraska Social Security Office Locations](http://Nebraska Social Security Office Locations)  
([ssofficelocation.com](http://ssofficelocation.com))

## **U.S. Department of Education**

The federal Department of Education administers programs that cover every area of education and range from preschool education through postdoctoral research. While education is primarily a State and local responsibility, the U.S. Department of Education plays a role at the federal level. Visit their website at: [Home | U.S. Department of Education](http://Home | U.S. Department of Education)



