



NEBRASKA
CHILDREN'S
HOME SOCIETY

children first.

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019

A safe and loving family for every child.

VISION

A safe and loving family for every child.

MISSION

To provide safe and loving care to children of all ages.

CORE VALUES

The six values below guide us.



INTEGRITY

We strive to do what is right for the child. Integrity is the foundation upon which we have built our organization, and is at the heart of everything we do.



ADVOCACY

We are champions for children. We speak out and take action to protect children, and strengthen families and communities. We work to create change in policies and practices to put children first.



INNOVATION

We embrace continuous improvement, bold creativity and change. We will persevere until all children thrive and families have the tools they need to succeed. We recognize that one size never fits all and push to design interventions that benefit every person.



COMPASSION

We care deeply for children and their families. Compassion begins with understanding trauma and promoting healing. We partner with families to develop, enhance and secure nurturing connections.



INCLUSION

We embrace the richness inherent in our diversity. Integrating our unique experiences, knowledge and perspectives helps us better understand children and support their families.



COLLABORATION

We value the importance of teamwork. We join forces with team members, professionals and community leaders, but, most importantly, we partner with families and children. By passionately working together with all stakeholders, we challenge each other to achieve the highest levels of professional excellence.

Striving to do what's best for the child is the one constant in our history of service.

Dr. Quivey was decades ahead of his time when he decided that, instead of opening an orphanage, he would bring the community together to find permanent homes for children. He did this because he knew children needed permanent families to thrive and remain connected throughout their lives. Nebraska Children's Home Society was decades ahead of our time when we offered the equivalent of a foster care service throughout Nebraska by calling on our neighbors to help children whose families were struggling. Our foster care program has placed reunification of children with their families at the center of our service, enlisting the help of dedicated foster parents who share our ethos of children first. Being ahead of the curve in providing quality care to children and families is just who we are.

Within the last year, we witnessed a number of accomplishments. Douglas County has transferred the Healthy Families America® contract directly to NCHS, allowing us to further expand home visitation services to families in need. Our Family Finding program has graduated from its pilot status, ensuring that we continue to reconnect children in foster care to caring adults who can help them thrive. Also, Our Teen Outreach Program® (TOP®) expanded into Lincoln's Culler Middle School and Dawes Middle School this year.

Looking toward the future, we'll continue to amplify our support to caregivers. With funding from Women Investing in Nebraska, we will be offering support services to grandparents raising their grandchildren in Lancaster County. We are also launching the state's first Kinship Navigator program in Madison County to assist kinship caregivers in learning about, finding and using resources to meet the needs of the children they are raising.

We are committed to staying ahead of the curve. Our team at NCHS is the largest we've ever been, offering a greater variety of services to families than at any time in our history. With the capacity to do more good for the most vulnerable, we are in the midst of a year-long sustainability planning process that ends in May of 2020. Throughout this process, we've engaged our team, those we serve, service partners and investors to help us take a closer look at how to do more of what we do best for the people who need it most.

While the programs and services NCHS provides will continue to change, one thing never will — our focus on putting children first. With your support, we'll continue our rich history of innovation while staying true to our vision of "a safe and loving family for every child."

Truly,



Lana Temple-Plotz
Chief Executive Officer



LEADERSHIP 2019–2020

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Ciro
4 years

Aeris
6 years

I have been involved with NCHS for more than eight years. My children have attended the Early Childhood Education Center for most of their lives. Walking into the Children & Family Center always feels like home. **It has been and continues to be my safe space.** There, I attended numerous classes ranging from teen chat to kindergarten readiness and everything in between.

Through the Home Visitation program, I've learned so much about self-care and parenting. They were always there to help me through my tough times in life; and, yes, that has been multiple times. They've saved my life more times than I can count.

Whenever I've needed guidance to process my grief or just needed someone to talk to, they were there for me. **When things got low, they always kept me seeking hope and life.**

The team at NCHS truly does put children first in all they do. If there's something they can't do, they know how to get you in touch with whomever to get that situation taken care of. They're always so welcoming and inviting.

My family and I are all healthy and happy and on our way to being first-time homeowners.

– Desiree

“

If you want to lift yourself up,
lift up someone else.

– Booker T. Washington

”



Patti
Mom

Aidan
12 years

Lasia
9 years

Ragina
18 years

Anahla
11 years

Maddie
8 years

35 years ago I contacted Nebraska Children's Home Society to become a foster parent. In those days, foster parents received a very small stipend to cover the bare necessities, but NCHS would help in any way they could by providing clothing and holiday gifts for the kids.

Over the years, I've fostered more than 300 children and adopted eight beautiful children. All of this was done with the support of NCHS. **I couldn't ask for a better organization to serve children through.**

– Patti

I first learned about NCHS through the state when my daughter was having some challenging issues. I found that they had several more programs to help my family, too.

They provided me with regular home visits and therapy, so I could learn to be a better parent for my baby and children. When I was low on money, NCHS also provided diapers and clothes for my children.

They don't just help you, they teach you so you can help yourself and others.

Our family is grateful for all of the support we've received. Now, things are going better for us than ever before. We still participate in programs and feel at home at NCHS.

– Anilu

Noelia
1 year

Scarlet
8 years





Naomy
Mom

Sebastian
1 year

When I learned that I was pregnant, I didn't know what to do. My high school social worker suggested that I contact NCHS for support.

My specialist at NCHS was an emotional support for me during a difficult time. She was there for me, checked on me and made sure I was ok. I was clueless about what was going on, and she informed me about pregnancy, what

to expect throughout the experience and the next steps I needed to take as a parent. I enrolled in the parenting classes and took a teen therapy class.

Through the support I received, I learned how to care, love and make sure my son thrives in a safe home. Their programs are great for anyone who has children.

– **Naomy**



WHO WE SERVE: Our services are designed to support families and put children first at every stage.

55 of 93 Nebraska counties, received services.

75% of adults served had a high school diploma or less.

\$20K or less is the reported annual income of 45% of those adults (18+) served.



William
Dad

Emmett
1 year

William, Jr.
3 years

It's great to be part of a group of people just like me, who want to be the best dad they can be. Through the fatherhood program, I've learned different perspectives on how to parent my children. **I'm also in a role where I can be a support to younger men who need role models to show them that being a father is a priority and fulfilling.**

NCHS has helped me in becoming the father I want to be and I'm here to help them to support other fathers reach their potential too.

— William

When I found out I was pregnant, my partner and I were worried about what to do. We felt adoption was the best option. When we searched for an adoption agency, NCHS was the first one that popped up.

Even though I came wanting to make an adoption plan, my specialist shared both options of parenting and adoption. I went to a birth mother meeting and I met other women who went through the process that I was going through. **I knew I wasn't alone and everything was going to be ok. It was very comforting.**

Today, I have a great relationship with the parent who adopted my son. I talk to him once a month and see him as often as I can. His family makes every attempt to see me. I wanted him to have a better life than I could give him. He's gotten so much more. He's had the opportunity to leave the country. He has great healthcare to meet his special needs. I am very blessed to have him in their care. They are truly great people. My eyes are so open. I could never have imagined it is what it is now.

I'm still very much involved with NCHS and very happy to be a part of the Children's Home where I can be a support to women facing the same decisions I did.

– Natalie

Natalie
Mom



VOLUNTEERS: Volunteers are vitally important to the mission of NCHS. Because of our dedicated volunteers, we have more capacity and more resources to serve children and families throughout Nebraska.

79 new volunteers
joined NCHS from 2018-2019.

230 volunteers
returned for another year
of service with NCHS.

1,579
volunteer service hours,
valued at \$37,911.79.*

*The value for volunteer hours is provided by Independent Sector (IS), a coalition of nonprofit organizations. In 2018, IS estimated the value of a volunteer hour in Nebraska at \$24.01.



Kristin
Mom

Ana
4 years

When we looked for an adoption agency, we found that NCHS was a good fit for us because of their longevity and experience. **We also appreciated that they look out for the birth mother, making sure that she has full knowledge of her options and lifetime support.**

They ensured that the adoption process was smooth, and we were fully prepared to provide the best life for our daughter.

– **Kristin**

ADOPTION

Helping to connect, build and support adoptive families

Our history is rooted in our commitment to ensure children are raised in safe and loving families. We connect families with children who need them, as well as provide adoptive parents, birth parents and extended family members with education and ongoing social and emotional support.

ADOPTION AVENUES

- Infant
- Kinship
- Foster Care

ADOPTIVE PARENT PREPARATION

- ADOPT Training
- PREPARE Educational Group
- Extended Family Workshop

POST-ADOPTION SERVICES

- Birth Parent Support Group
- Post-Adoption Mental Health
- Right Turn® (for families formed through adoption and guardianship)
- Transracial Adoptees Support Group



20 children joined forever families through infant and foster care adoption



158 adoption search requests



26 birth parents attended support groups



44 people received post-adoption mental health services



130 adoptive and guardianship families served through Right Turn® Permanency Support Services



119 prospective adoptive couples served

FOSTER CARE

Creating safety and permanency

Our Foster Care services are centered on the idea that true stability for the child is achieved through collaboration between parents and foster parents. Nebraska Children's Home Society unites foster parents with the children and adolescents who need them while ensuring that parents stay connected and involved with the care their children receive.

FAMILY PREPARATION AND SUPPORT

- Foster Care & Kinship Family Training
- Home Study & Licensing
- 24/7 Support

CHILD PERMANENCY

- Family Finding
- 3-5-7 Model®
- Child-Focused Recruitment

PATHWAYS TO PERMANENCY

- "Pathways to Permanency" is designed to provide holistic care for the entire family. This goal-driven, outcome-based program uses formal and informal assessments, as well as family and stakeholder input, to develop positive goals for achieving permanency.



274 children reconnected with their families members



110 youth served by licensed & kinship (foster care) families



97% of youth had no change in caregiver



98% of children were placed with at least one of their siblings



100% of children remained safe from abuse and neglect while in an NCHS supported foster home

FOSTER CARE

FAMILY SUPPORT

Supporting, educating
and empowering families

Nebraska Children's Home Society supports families through classes, counseling, support groups and ongoing involvement focused on healthy, successful family relationships. Putting children first requires continuous attention to the well-being of the family as a whole.

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

- Self-Sufficiency Support
- Home Visiting Services

PARENT EDUCATION

- Prenatal & Parenting Classes
- Circle of Security® Parenting™
- Fatherhood P³
(Purpose, Presence, Participation)
- Raising Your Grandchildren



89 women received
pregnancy counseling

PREGNANCY COUNSELING

- Parenting & Adoption Options Counseling
- Temporary Newborn Care

PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS

- Parents Supporting Parents

YOUTH EDUCATION

- Teen BLOCK (Building Leadership, Outreach, Community & Knowledge)



513 people directly
served through the Children
& Family Center



144 people served with
in-home visitation services



112 participants in
parenting classes



79% of grandparents
raising grandchildren report
improved care for themselves
and their emotional well-being



100% of teens participating
in Teen BLOCK, Wyman's Teen
Outreach Program® (TOP®),
reported feeling empowered
to make a positive difference in the lives of
others through service learning projects

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Preparing children for school with expert care and guidance

Our Early Childhood Education Center prepares children with the social, emotional and physical skills they need to enter school ready to learn. Quality early childhood education prepares a child to succeed not only in kindergarten and elementary school, but also in the years beyond. Its impact is lasting, and its positive effects are undeniable.

INFANT CARE

- 6 weeks – 17 months

TODDLER CARE

- 18 – 36 months

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

- 3 – 5 years



97% of children use age-appropriate language skills



97% of children display age-appropriate social-emotional skills



96% of children have age-appropriate physical skills



94% of children have age-appropriate cognitive skills

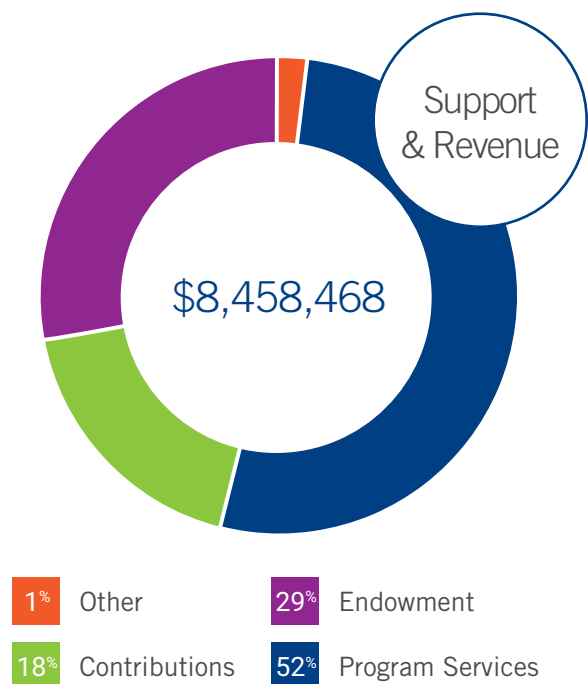


98 children served with **98,203** hours of safe and loving care

FINANCIALS

Fiscal year ending June 30, 2019

Nebraska Children's Home Society and Nebraska Children's Home Society Foundation



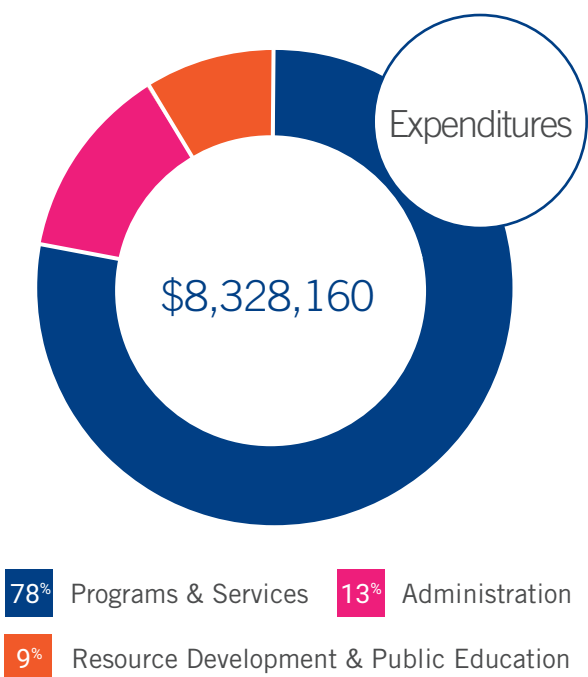
NET ASSETS

**Beginning
of the Year**
\$42,941,636

**End
of the Year**
\$43,666,042

Net Change
\$742,406

*Endowment: Transfers from the Foundation for program investments totalled \$2,483,000. The Foundations's unrestricted investment fund increased \$518,162 for a total of \$40,497,049 as of June 30, 2019. A copy of the independent auditor's report by Frankel Zacharia is available for review from the NCHS Finance Department.



WAYS TO GIVE

Six ways to put children first



Cash gifts



Bequests or Estate Gifts



Gifts of Stock



Employer Matching Gifts



Gifts of Grain



Partners: AmazonSmile, Thrivent Financial, TAGG App, Baker's Community Rewards, Ebay for Charity and Paypal Giving Fund.

Genesis
9 years

Alynn
1 year

To discuss planned giving, contact us at 402.898.7753

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committed to
excellence



Nebraska Children's Home Society meets all 20 of the Better Business Bureau Standards for Charity Accountability.



As a Guidestar Gold Participant, NCHS demonstrates its deep commitment to transparency and accountability.



NCHS adheres to best practices in nonprofit management, following guidelines and principles recommended by the Nonprofit Association of the Midlands.

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Thank you to the following individuals, organizations, corporations and foundations who gave an honor or memorial gift during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019. Your generous gifts support services to Nebraska's most vulnerable children and families.

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NCHS was instrumental in placing me in
a home that couldn't have been better.

– Steve
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a tough job
NCHS has
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God bless
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their great
efforts.

— David
supporter

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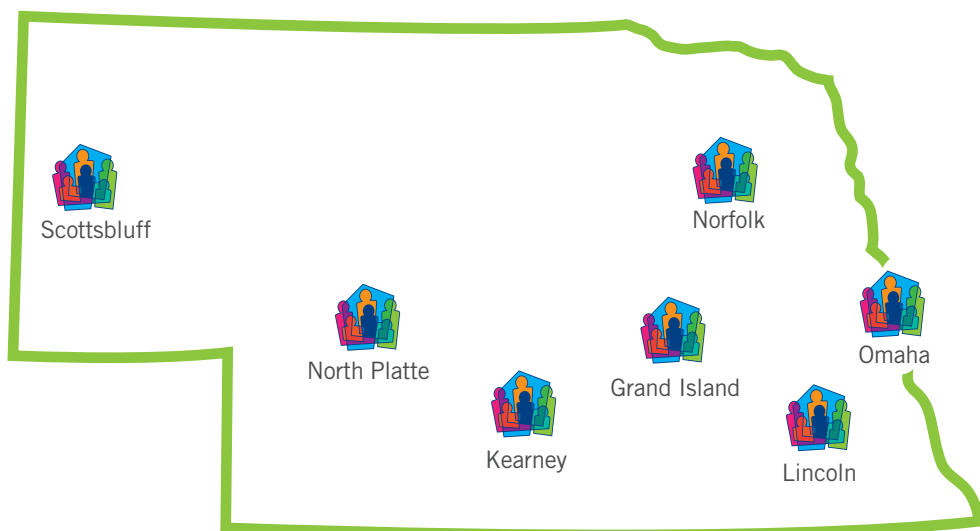


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