Sisters

“A sister is a gift to the heart, a friend to the spirit, a golden thread to the meaning of life.”
-Isadora James

These three sisters, Aliyah, Ta’Miyah and Alanah definitely light up any room.

CONTENTS

Cover  Sam and Noah are pictured being as cute little boys should be: cute, energetic and ready for life.
03  Letter from Chief Executive Officer, Karen Authier
07  Financials
08  Honors and Memorials

W. James Wells
Wendy Wilson

STATEWIDE TRUSTEES
Aurora
Troy & Jennifer Dvorak
Ashland
W. James Wells
Beatrice
Steve & Wendy Kyser
Bennington
Karen Klinkberg
Bladen
Daren & Buffy Niemeyer
Blair
Dave & Jann Dibben
Chadron
Marty & Terri Connealy
Columbus
Peter & Ruth Diedrichsaen
Denton
Tom & Tracy Focht
Elkhorn
Jerry & Sue Hughes

Grand Island
Brad & Stephanie Kissler
Hastings
Gary & Regina Anderson
Dave & Glenda Buss
Hickman
Norma Oerter
Kearney
Dr. Beth M. Ernst
Tom & Cheryl Vedstro
Kenesaw
Aaron & Kerri Bly
Laurel
Tim & Becky Bloom
Lincoln
Blake & Kathy Collingsworth
Keith & Mary McConnell
Bruce & Dawn Rieker
Ty & Bert Westover
Norfolk
Jay & Brenda Fleece
North Platte
Bart & Kim Schroll
Omaha
Mike Beacom

Patrick J. & Merrily Boler
Ed Cochran
Robert C. Frazer
Deborah Keating
Joe Kirkendall
Randy & Darlene Mueller
Beth Pantano
Gary W. Radil
Dr. Karen Rolf
Dr. John Sage
David Teerun
Tim & Sally Vandebergh
Alan & Terri Wasmoon
Sue Weidner
Wendy Wilson
Jim Winterscheid
Papillion
Dr. Fran Harrison
Dr. Gina Harper-Harrison
Scottsbluff
Jim Bogus
Seward
Robert I. Blevens
Valentine
Brian Perrett
Dear Friends of the Nebraska Children’s Home Society,

Our Annual Report is full of numbers. Numbers are important. We teach our children to count when they are toddlers and preschoolers. We watch the numbers in our bank balance to make sure we’re not overdrawn. Numbers play an important role in our communication and decision making. The numbers in this report will tell you how many children and families we served, how much we spent to serve those children and families and how much income we received to support those services.

The sole purpose of Nebraska Children’s Home is to make a difference in the lives of children. Outcomes of our services are important to us. In order to measure the impact of our work we rely on numbers: How many children found permanent families through NCHS permanency, adoption and foster care services? How many children found safety in a nurturing foster family? How many babies were born to parents who learned how to nurture their infant’s development with support, guidance and training from NCHS parenting specialists? How many girls avoided teen pregnancy as a result of our Teen Chat program? How many infants, toddlers and preschoolers in our early childhood programs are meeting physical, cognitive, emotional and social developmental goals?

Numbers are about how much and how many, but numbers don’t tell the whole story of the impact NCHS has on the lives of children and families in Nebraska. The pictures of the children we served and quotes from their families, their personal expressions of gratitude and the life-changing stories they tell illustrate the importance of the numbers and convey the true importance of our work.

Another set of numbers makes our work possible. Those are the numbers reflected in gifts to the Children’s Home that provide funding for our life enhancing and life changing mission. Without those gifts, there would be no positive outcomes for children and families.

Through your generous support, you play the number one role in turning our mission into reality for children and families across Nebraska.

Thank you.

Karen Authier, Chief Executive Officer, Nebraska Children’s Home Society
Making a Difference

We work for the children and the numbers are:
We work for the children and the numbers are:

**HEALTHY BEGINNINGS**

| 312 | FAMILIES RECEIVED HOME VISITING SERVICES 
| 40  | INFANTS WE PLACED 
| 31  | ADOPTIONS FROM FOSTER CARE 

| 40  | INFANTS WE PLACED | → | 20% increase THIS PAST FISCAL YEAR |

| 130 | FAMILIES SERVED BY RIGHT TURN® | → | 98% OF FAMILIES INDICATED THEY WOULD REFER ANOTHER FAMILY TO RIGHT TURN® |

| 112 | FAMILIES WERE HELPED IN POST ADOPTION | → | 31 SEARCHES FOR BIRTH FAMILIES WERE COMPLETED |

| 668 | PARENTS AND CHILDREN RECEIVED IN-HOME REUNIFICATION SERVICES |

**PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE**

| 176 | CHILDREN SERVED, BOTH THROUGH FOSTER CARE AND KINSHIP PLACEMENTS |
| 44  | NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL AND/OR DEVELOPMENTAL SPECIAL NEEDS SERVED BY FOSTER CARE |
| 41  | CHILDREN IN OUR PERMANENCY SERVICES |

**ENGAGING COMMUNITIES**

| 623 | BUSINESSES AND CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDED $744,764 IN CASH AND SERVICES TO FURTHER OUR MISSION |
| 603 | PARENTING EDUCATION CLASSES OFFERED ACROSS NEBRASKA |

| 10,789 | PEOPLE ENGAGED THROUGH OUTREACH AND EDUCATION |
“No one has yet fully realized the wealth of sympathy, kindness and generosity hidden in the soul of a child. The effort of every true education should be to unlock that treasure.”
-Emma Goldman

Nicholas’ face foretells a bright future for him and those he encounters.

95% of teen chat participants are familiar with common methods of preventing pregnancy and STDs; 90% report having post-high school graduation plans, and half have plans that include an advanced degree. (In 2015 this successful program will be implemented in 4 additional locations across Nebraska)

93% of early childhood students met teaching strategies gold standard

100% of early childhood “graduates” are kindergarten-ready

“My life has been shaped by the decision two people made over 24 years ago. They decided to adopt a child. They got me, and I got a chance at the kind of life all children deserve.”
-Karen Fowler

Keep in touch and stay up-to-date with the most timely news and activities of NCHS! Like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NebraskaChildrensHomeSociety

See our latest class offerings and check out upcoming special events on our Events & Classes Calendar at www.nchs.org
“I am blessed and I couldn’t be more grateful. Because I am a mother, but that’s only half of it. I’m blessed because, when I need to, I can still just be a daughter. I get the feeling that there is nothing more precious than to have both of these roles simultaneously.”

- Adrianna Stepiano
Donations and Giftsおかげで、子どもたちの未来を支えることができます。ご支援いただきありがとうございました。

TRIBUTES

Thank you to the following individuals, organizations, foundations, and communities who gave a gift in memory or honor during July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013. Your gifts help us sustain and grow our services to Nebraska's next generation of children and families.
“We knew that we wanted to expand our family when we first contacted the Children’s Home, and that our lives would be changed dramatically. What we did not expect is the profound positive impact that these two little people would have on our family, friends and community.”

- NCHS parent
Family isn’t always blood. It’s the people in your life that want you in theirs; the ones who accept you for who you are. The ones who would do anything to see you smile and who love you no matter what.” - Foster Mom
Like Nebraska Children’s Home Society on Facebook. Receive the most timely updates, news, and information.

Building Lives...Strengthening Families