

State of Nebraska **Recovery Plan**

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2025 Report

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State of Nebraska

**Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Recovery Plan**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2025 Report

Executive Summary

N/A

Uses of Funds

Department of Agriculture: There was included in the appropriation to this program for FY2021-22 \$10,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$9,875,000 Federal Funds for the Independent Processor Assistance Program, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$125,000 Federal Funds for a dairy industry study, which shall only be used for such purpose. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

Community Engagement

N/A

Labor Practices

N/A

Use of Evidence

Agriculture: IPAP - The goal is to facilitate improvements, enhancements, or expansions that will increase harvest capacity and/or product throughput for independent meat processors throughout the state impacted by COVID. These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Agriculture: Dairy Study - The goal was to identify key factors and policies to enhance growth and development in the Nebraska Dairy Industry to provide a more stable and resilient food supply. These SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions.

Agriculture: IPAP - We intend to evaluate the final reports from grantees to measure the impact of these funds on market access, supply chain strength, workforce development, and production capacity across Nebraska. This project primarily serves small independent meat processors who were disproportionately affected economically by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Agriculture: Dairy Study – The dairy study was published to Ever.Ag Insights' website on March 15, 2024: <https://insights.ever.ag/2024/03/15/dairy-in-nebraska-executive-summary/>

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project 18031003: Independent Processor Assistance Program

Funding amount: \$9,875,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.29 Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Project Overview

- The Independent Processor Assistance Program continues to provide aid to small meat processors within Nebraska to mitigate the negative economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; address supply chain disruptions, increase processing capacity, expand market access, and facilitate workforce development. Eligible expenses by beneficiaries of each grant include capital improvements, upgrades to utilities, livestock intake and storage equipment, packaging and handling equipment, warehouse equipment, technology that allows increases to capacity or resilience, rental of buildings & facilities, costs for increased inspections, and educational and workforce training. Round one of funding provided up to \$80,000 for reimbursement or advance to eligible firms and a second round of funding provided up to \$100,000 for new, eligible applicants or up to \$55,009.66 for applicants funded in round one. There will be no additional rounds of funding after the second round concludes.

Use of Evidence

- The goal is to facilitate improvements, enhancements, or expansions that will increase harvest capacity and/or product throughput for independent meat processors throughout the state impacted by COVID. These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

- We will evaluate the final reports from grantees to measure the impact of these funds on market access, supply chain strength, workforce development, and production capacity across Nebraska. This project primarily serves small independent meat processors who were disproportionately affected economically by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Project 18031002: Dairy Study

Funding amount: \$125,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.36 Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Project Overview

- The purpose of the Nebraska Dairy Study was to conduct an analysis of the opportunities facing the Nebraska Dairy Industry, Nebraska resource availability, producer and processor perspectives, historical trends, and current conditions and to provide recommendations to ensure the viability and mitigate the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding was allocated for the State fiscal year that ended June 30, 2024.

Use of Evidence

- The goal was to identify key factors and policies to enhance growth and development in the Nebraska Dairy Industry to provide a more stable and resilient food supply. These SLFRF funds were not used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

The dairy study was published to Ever.Ag Insights' website on March 15, 2024:

<https://insights.ever.ag/2024/03/15/dairy-in-nebraska-executive-summary/>

- Analysis of Opportunities

Several different options were proposed based on the type of dairy product available in Nebraska, each assessed with SWOT dynamics in mind.

Nebraska Dairy SWOT Highlights



- Current conditions (industry overview)
Nebraska currently has only 10 inspected dairy plants and coupled with a tight labor market, expanding upon or setting up new facilities is difficult if not impossible depending on the size of the operation.
- Resource availability & Historical trends
Nebraska's natural resources provide an array of outcomes dependent upon the

resource. Our strongest and weakest resource is the size of the state and transportation routes as Nebraska is simultaneously too large to support additional producers in the western part of the state but also has extensive rail lines to accommodate the transportation of ESL (Extended Shelf Life) products. Nebraska has Water is also an important resource and is needed during a dairy manufacturing process and has historically used its network of NRDs (Natural Resources Districts), to protect and preserve the groundwater. Doing so has created challenges for every industry, not just the dairy industry and has created additional barriers to current and prospective producers alike. Historically Nebraska also has access to affordable farmland and feed, which has continued even given the current state of the market.

- Provide recommendations
Opportunities exist in several key areas, including transportation of reserve milk to be processed by other facilities outside of Nebraska. Storable dairy products are estimated to be the most financially viable options considering the flexibility of transportation, ESL, and reduce the amount of oversaturated regulated fluid market.
-

State of Nebraska

**Nebraska Department of Correctional
Services Recovery Plan**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS) has 11 facilities that house over 5,500 incarcerated individuals. Since April 4, 2020 the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the preparation for incarcerated individuals to reintegrate into the community in several ways: Limited Access to Resources, Economic Disruption, and Mental Health impacts. Overall, the pandemic has underscored the importance of comprehensive reentry programs and highlighted the need for innovative strategies to address the unique challenges faced by individuals transitioning from incarceration back into the community during these unprecedented times. This funding has been put to optimal use in providing transitional housing for former incarcerated individuals with emphasis on behavioral health, substance use treatment, job training, peer support groups and implementation of a recidivism tool designed for effective monitoring and evaluation of our reentry programs.

Use of Funds

The NDCS Reentry program strategically allocates funds to support transitional housing programs, college courses, apprenticeship programs, job training providers, behavioral health programs, substance use treatment, and wraparound services to enhance the reentry process of current and formerly incarcerated individuals. Specifically, the funds are used to provide grants to entities that offer:

1. Transitional Housing Programs: Supporting organizations that offer transitional housing with wraparound services to ensure a stable and supportive environment for individuals transitioning from incarceration to community living.
2. Colleges Providing Classes: Partnering with colleges to provide access to educational opportunities, skills training, and personal development courses to enhance the educational attainment and job readiness of participants.
3. Apprenticeship Programs: Funding apprenticeship programs that provide hands-on training and professional development opportunities in various industries to help individuals gain valuable skills and experience for successful employment.
4. Job Placement and Training Services: Collaborating with training providers to deliver job placement assistance, vocational training, and career readiness support to facilitate successful reintegration and sustainable employment for program participants.

Additionally, the funds will be used in the implementation of a data system tool for tracking recidivism and ensuring individuals are housed at the lowest appropriate custody level or supervised at the lowest appropriate level as well as ensuring they are released on time, in line with their court-ordered sentence.

Community Engagement

Our program places a strong emphasis on community engagement strategies to ensure meaningful collaboration, involvement, and feedback from stakeholders, partners, and justice involved individuals. The following outlines how our program incorporates community engagement strategies and supports our equity goals of engaging with historically underserved communities such as individuals with low incomes and other marginalized populations.

- Project proposals and feedback mechanisms:
 - Soliciting input and feedback from community members, organizations, and justice involved individuals during the development and refinement of project proposals.
 - Creating opportunities for stakeholders to provide feedback, share insights, and shape program initiatives through community meetings, surveys, focus groups, and feedback mechanisms.
- Strategic partnerships and collaboration:
 - Establishing strategic partnerships with community organizations, advocacy groups, faith-based institutions and service providers to expand outreach and create a network of support for justice involved individuals.
 - Collaborating with local agencies, correctional facilities and community leaders to ensure alignment with community needs, priorities and resources.
- Public Engagement and Awareness:
 - Conducting outreach efforts to raise awareness about program services, resources, and opportunities for community members, justice involved individuals, and other stakeholders.
- Provide updates on program progress

By incorporating community engagement strategies that prioritize inclusivity, collaboration, and empowerment, our program is committed to building strong relationships with historically underserved communities and creating a more just and supportive environment for all individuals seeking to successfully reintegrate into the community.

Labor Practices

NDCS does not have any infrastructure projects utilizing SLFRF funds.

Use of Evidence

Our program places significant emphasis on evidence-based practices and data-driven decision making to inform program strategies, measure outcomes, and evaluate the effectiveness of interventions. Central to this approach is the implementation of a comprehensive recidivism tracking tool, which serves as a critical mechanism for collaborating, analyzing, and utilizing evidence to support our program goals and objectives.

The recidivism tool is designed to:

- Monitor progress: Track the progress of participants through various stages of the reentry process, including housing placement, education and training, employment status, and community engagement activities.
- Evaluate effectiveness: Assess the impact of program intervention services and resources on reducing recidivism rates, improving outcomes for justice involved individuals, and promoting successful reintegration into the community.
- Measure outcomes: Capture data on key outcome measures such as recidivism rates, employment stability, educational attainment, housing security and overall well-being to evaluate the program's success in achieving its intended goals.
- Informed decision making: Provide valuable insights and feedback to program staff, stakeholders and partners to make informed decisions, identify areas for improvement and enhance program impact.

- Support continuous improvement: Enable ongoing monitoring and evaluation of program activities, outcomes, and participant progress to support continuous improvement, equity assurance and evidence-based practices.

Through this systemic collection and analysis of data using the recidivism tool our program can leverage evidence to drive decision making, enhance transparency, and demonstrate accountability to stakeholders and the community. By prioritizing evidence-based practices and utilizing the recidivism tool as a core component of our program evaluation and monitoring framework, we are committed to optimizing outcomes, promoting equity and fostering long term positive change for justice involved individuals and the broader community.

Performance Report

Our program places a strong emphasis on performance management and grant oversight to ensure accountability, transparency and alignment with program goals. The management of performance is incorporated into the funding process through a systematic approach to tracking grantees and their utilization of funds, as well as monitoring how their goals and outcomes align with the programs objectives.

Key components of managing performance in grant oversight include:

- Tracking grantee's expenditures:
 - Establishing robust financial tracking systems to monitor how grantees are utilizing the allocated funds, ensuring compliance with funding guidelines and maximizing accountability.
 - Conducting regular financial audits, reviews, and reporting requirements to track expenditures, assess spending patterns and address any discrepancies or concerns in a timely manner.
- Monitoring grantee's performance:
 - Implementing performance metrics and outcome measures to track and evaluate grantees progress towards achieving their stated goals and objectives.
 - Conducting site visits, progress reviews and performance assessments to monitor grantees activities, outcomes, and impact on justice involved individuals in the community.
- Ensuring alignment with program goals:
 - Aligning grantees goals, strategies, and outcomes with the programs overarching objectives and goals to ensure coherence and effectiveness in achieving desired outcomes.
 - Providing technical assistance, capacity building support, and guidance to grantees to help them align their programming, services and activities with the program's mission and strategies.
- Addressing noncompliance and performance issues:
 - Developing protocols and procedures to address instances of noncompliance, underperformance or mismanagement of funds by grantees, including corrective action plans, performance improvement plans, and potential funding reallocations.

- Establishing clear communication channels, reporting mechanisms, and escalation procedures to address performance issues promptly and effectively to safeguard program integrity.

By actively managing performance, overseeing grant activities, and ensuring alignment with program goals, our funding process is designed to promote accountability, transparency and effectiveness in achieving positive outcomes for justice involved individuals in the community. Through strategic oversight, monitoring and support, we strive to maximize the impact of our investments, drive continuous improvement and foster meaningful change in reentry services and support systems.

PROJECT INVENTORY

46021029: Reentry Grant Program

Funding amount: 7,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: [EC 1.11-1.13]

Project Overview

The NDCS Reentry Grant Project focuses on supporting successful reentry for justice involved individuals by providing grants to transitional housing programs, colleges offering classes, apprenticeship programs, and training providers. Key components include transitional housing with wrap around services, access to educational opportunities, job placement assistance, and the implementation of a recidivism tracking tool. By prioritizing equity, community engagement, evidence-based practices, and grant oversight, we aim to empower individuals with the tools and resources necessary for successful reintegration into the community and long-term positive outcomes.

Subrecipient Name	Grant Amount
50 th Street Landing	262,800.00
BAMB	165,060.00
Western Alternative Corrections	245,300.00
Care Corps, Inc.	86,400.00
Chain Breaker, LLC	283,410.00
Community Alliance Rehabilitation Services	896,642.56
Community Justice Center	240,392.36
Connecting Links Transitional Living	495,630.00
Crossroads Center, Inc.	164,250.00
People's City Mission	165,510.00
Fresh Start	231,210.00
Kearney's Village Transitional and Sober Living	58,062.54
Metropolitan Community Collage	910,192.64
Mental Health Association of Nebraska	1,327,072.80
Persevere	1,085,942.10
Queens Butterfly	82,125.00
Recidiviz	800,000.00

Use of Evidence

The primary goals of our project include promoting successful reentry for justice involved individuals, reducing recidivism rates, and fostering positive outcomes through evidence-based interventions. Our program emphasizes the use of evidence-based practices and program evaluations to build a strong evidence base for interventions and ensure effective outcomes.

Funds are allocated towards evidence-based interventions, with \$800,000 designated to the development and implementation of the recidivism tracking tool.

Performance Report

By monitoring these key performance indicators and outcome measures, our program aims to track progress, evaluate impact, and drive positive outcomes for justice-involved individuals seeking successful reentry and community integration.

- Key Performance Indicators:
 - Percentage of participants successfully transitioning from incarceration to community living.
 - Average length of stay in transitional housing.
 - Number of individuals accessing wraparound services, such as job placement assistance, behavioral therapy, and peer support groups.
 - Percentage of program participants maintaining compliance with parole guidelines.
 - Rate of recidivism among program participant's post-release.
- Outcome Measures:
 - Increase in stable housing placement rates for formerly incarcerated individuals.
 - Enhanced employability and job retention rates among program participants.
 - Improvement in financial stability and self-sufficiency for individuals transitioning out of incarceration.
 - Reduction in recidivism rates and successful reintegration into the community.
 - Growth in participant engagement with support services and community resources.

State of Nebraska

Recovery Plan

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center Expansion Project

Annual Report

July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice
Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center Expansion Project

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General Overview

Report to the Executive Board of the Legislative Council for FY 2021-22

Project Inventory

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Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

**Report to the Executive Board
of the
Legislative Council**

**Crime Commission Project Compliance
with the
American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) and
Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSFRF)**

*LB 1014, Section 48, for \$47,700,000 Federal
Funds in FY 2021-22*

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Service.

**COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT
AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) ELIGIBILITY

Summary

Treasury's Interim Final Rule for ARPA supports “communities working to reduce and respond to increased violence due to the pandemic” and “that recipients may use resources to rehire police officers and other public servants to restore law enforcement and courts to their pre-pandemic levels.”

Perpetual Deficit in Trained Law Enforcement Personnel						
Perpetual Deficit	+	Officers Leave/Die Due to COVID	X	Increases in Crime	=	Need to Expand Capacity and Ability to Isolate
<i>Open Positions vs. Trained</i>		<i>Increased Case Loads</i>		<i>Violent Crime</i>		<i>Facility Used to Respond or Isolate Training</i>

This project qualifies for ARPA per Treasury's Interim Final Rule which notes the American Rescue Plan Act can support communities working to reduce and respond to increased violence due to the pandemic. An accepted strategy to respond to increases in violence per the rule is the hiring of public safety personnel, which is further expanded by the rule to allow communities to “use resources to rehire police officers and other public servants to restore law enforcement and courts to their pre-pandemic levels.”

Crime Rates

Comparing 2019 (pre-pandemic) to 2020 (pandemic) crime statistics found increases in criminal homicide (50%), aggravated assault (5.34%), and arson (5.84%), while related crimes such as burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft went down as people were sheltering in place during the pandemic.

ARPA Guidance Under SLFRF Final Rule II (A)(2)(d)-Preventing and Responding to Violence (PG. 69-72)

“The interim final rule highlighted that some types of violence had increased during the pandemic and that the ability of victims to access services had decreased, noting as an example the challenges that individuals affected by domestic violence face in accessing services. Accordingly, the interim final rule enumerated as an eligible use, in disproportionately impacted communities, evidence-based community violence intervention programs. Enumerated eligible uses that respond to an increase in gun violence may be pursued in communities experiencing an increase in gun violence associated with the pandemic, specifically: 1) hiring law enforcement officials – even above pre-pandemic levels or paying overtime where the funds are directly focused on advancing community policing strategies for gun violence.”

ARPA Guidance Under SLFRF Final Rule Part II (A)(4)(b) -Capital Expenditures (PG. 190-200)

“The interim final rule expressly permitted use of funds for a limited number of capital expenditures that mostly pertained to COVID-19 prevention and mitigation...Because, in all cases, uses of SLFRF funds to respond to public health and negative economic impacts of the pandemic must be related and reasonably proportional to a harm caused or exacerbated by the pandemic, some capital expenditures may not be eligible.”

“For administrative convenience, the final rule provides presumptions on whether a Written Justification is required based on the type and size of the capital expenditure”. For projects that are greater than \$10 million, written justification would need to be submitted to the Department of the Treasury and recipients must submit regular reporting “including the requirement that a capital expenditure must be reasonably designed to benefit the individual or class that experienced the identified impact or harm and must be related and reasonably proportional to the extent and type of impact or harm”.

“The Written Justification should (1) describe the harm or need to be addressed; (2) explain why a capital expenditure is appropriate to address the harm or need; and (3) compare the proposed capital expenditure against alternative capital expenditures that could be made. The information required for the Written Justification reflects the framework applicable to all uses under the public health and negative economic impacts eligible use category, providing justification for the reasonable design, relatedness, and reasonable proportionality of the capital expenditure in response to the harm or impact identified”.

Justification for Projects That Are Greater Than \$10 Million

Expenditure Benefits the Impacted

The Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center (NLETC) is the state's law enforcement training academy, providing basic training to most Nebraska law enforcement agencies in addition to continuing education and specialized instructor training. While there are academies at the Lincoln Police Department, Omaha Police Department, and the Sarpy-Douglas Law Enforcement Academy, NLETC facilities are used by the State Patrol and by NLETC staff who train officers from over 200 agencies in the state. Further, officers from agencies with their own academies often attend classes at NLETC facilities. Enhancements and expansion of NLETC facilities will impact almost every officer in Nebraska.

Describe the Harm or Need to be Addressed

Nebraska law enforcement officers experienced a decline in staffing brought about by those leaving the profession during the COVID-19 pandemic, which exacerbated existing staffing issues and created a perpetual deficit of trained officers to fill an ever-expanding number of positions. Further, some violent crime rates rose, giving a decreased number of officers an increased caseload.

Capital Expenditure is Appropriate to Address the Harm or Need

The expenditure provides for expanded and improved facilities that will better prepare law enforcement officers in Nebraska to respond to increased caseloads, calls for service, and aid in increasing and enhancing training opportunities for new and existing officers. These facilities will also draw in instructors and additional applicants.

Proposed Capital Expenditure Compared to Alternative Capital Expenditures

No other expenditure can as efficiently and effectively impact the greatest number of officers as improvements to and expansion of NLETC. The facility has not been updated in over 20 years and cannot keep up with increased training loads and changes in content. The project will:

- Allow for the hiring of additional law enforcement officers and ensure continuity of services.
- Reduce the time to train and certify new officers.
- Enhance opportunities for specialized training and cross-training.
- Provide access to virtual training via technology-enabled classrooms.
- Compete with other states for top talent.
- Reduce the spread of disease among trainees and increase officer wellness and resiliency.

The funding had widespread support from state senators, law enforcement groups such as the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association and the Police Chiefs' Association of Nebraska, and agency leaders across the state. Further, the Nebraska League of Municipalities, which represents more than 394 member cities and villages that in turn account for 98% of all Nebraskans, are strong supporters of the project.

ATTACHMENT 1

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

ATTACHMENT 1
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
NEBRASKA LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER EXPANSION PROJECT

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals for furnishing all plant, equipment, transportation, tools, materials, labor and skills necessary and incidental to perform all work described in the Proposed Contract Documents entitled: "Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center Expansion" will be received at the State of Nebraska, Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center located at 3600 North Academy Road, Grand Island, Nebraska until 11:00 A.M. on September 26, 2024. Sealed Proposals will then be publicly opened and read aloud in the Conference Room.

The Mandatory Pre-Bid Walk-Through will be held at the site on September 6th, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.

All bids shall be made on the printed forms attached to and made a part of the Proposed Contract Documents. The said Documents have been prepared by Dewberry. Complete digital project bidding documents are available at A&D Technical Supply (<https://plans.adtechsupply.com>). If you have any questions, contact Luis Pitarque @ Dewberry at 703-849-0142. In order to bid the project, the contract documents must be issued directly by Dewberry or A&D Technical Supply to the bidder.

SBD Project Manager: Matt Shaw Phone (Cell): 402-890-9260

Bids mailed to this office shall be addressed to:

**Matt Shaw c/o Kevin Harris
3600 North Academy Road
Maintenance Dept.
Grand Island, NE 68801**

Bids delivered in person shall be delivered to:

**Matt Shaw
3600 North Academy Road
Front Desk
Grand Island, NE 68801**

NOTICE: Bids submitted by facsimile transmission are NOT ACCEPTABLE.

Each bidder must submit with the bid a certified or cashiers' check or bid bond in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the bid.

The character and amount of security to be submitted by the contractor for the performance of the contract is stated in the proposed contract documents.

Bidders may not withdraw their bids for a period of at least Sixty (60) days after the scheduled closing time for the receipt of the bids.

The State of Nebraska, DAS/State Building Division reserves the right to reject any or all bids and re-advertise for Bids; and further reserves the right to waive any informality or irregularity.

**DAS/State Building Division
Brent Flaschbart, Administrator**

ATTACHMENT 2
NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
BID TAB – CONTRACTOR SELECTION PROCESS
NEBRASKA LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER EXPANSION PROJECT

Bid Tabulation Sheet

Project: NLETC Upgrades

Bids Due: 11:00 AM October 9th, 2024.

Brent Flashbort
Brent Flashbort

NO.	BIDDERS	Vendor list	SECURITY	RECEIPT OF ADDENDA	BIDS BASE	ALT.#1	ALT.#2	ALT.#3	CALENDAR DAYS
1	Chief		5% Bid Bond ✓	✓	\$40,408,744	SEE PREVIOUSLY \$1,057,642	\$150/5y	\$200/5y	540
2	MCL		5% Bid Bond ✓	✓	\$40,554,000	1,100,000	\$409/5y	\$114/5y	591
3	Cheever		5% Bid Bond ✓	✓	\$41,150,000	1,167,000	\$68/5y	\$82/5y	591
4	Sampson		5% Bid Bond ✓	✓	\$38,729,000	1,100,000	\$100/5y	\$125/5y	600
5	Hausman		5% Bid Bond ✓	✓	\$37,570,000	1,152,800	\$56.49/5y	\$100/5y	584
			5% Bid Bond		\$				
			5% Bid Bond		\$				
			5% Bid Bond		\$				
			Alt #2	~1500sy	\$4,735				
			Alt #3	5000sy	\$800K				
	Chief								
	MCL								
	Cheever								
	Sampson								
	Hausman								

Bids Red Aloud By:
Bids Recorded By:

ATTACHMENT 3
NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION TO AWARD CONTRACT
NEBRASKA LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER EXPANSION PROJECT



Dewberry Architects Inc. | 847.695.5840
132 North York Street, Suite 2C | 847.695.6579 fax
Elmhurst, IL 60126-3070 | www.dewberry.com

November 8, 2024

Matt Shaw, Facilities Construction Coordinator II
Nebraska Department of Administrative Services – State Building Division
1526 K Street Suite 160
Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center – Hausmann Construction Letter of Recommendation

Dear Matt,

Based on the Design Team review of the proposal and discussions with Hausmann Construction and State of Nebraska on October 17, 2024 and October 18, 2024, Dewberry recommends proceeding with Hausmann Construction as General Contractor for construction of the NLETC Expansion project.

Thanks, and please feel to contact us if you have any questions, comments, or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Tallman", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jonathan Tallman, AIA
Associate Principal, Public Safety Architecture, Market Segment Leader

ATTACHMENT 4
NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
BOND LETTER HAUSMANN CONSTRUCTION
NEBRASKA LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER EXPANSION PROJECT

AIA® Document A310™ – 2010

Bid Bond

CONTRACTOR:

(Name, legal status and address)
Hausmann Construction, Inc.
8885 Executive Woods Drive
Lincoln, NE 68512

SURETY:

(Name, legal status and principal place of business)
Amerisure Mutual Insurance Company
P.O. Box 9098
Farmington Hills, MI 48333-9098

This document has important legal consequences. Consultation with an attorney is encouraged with respect to its completion or modification.

OWNER:

(Name, legal status and address)
DAS/State Building Division
1526 K Street, Suite 160
Lincoln, NE 68508

and

Everest Reinsurance Company
100 Everest Way
Warren, NJ 07059

Any singular reference to Contractor, Surety, Owner or other party shall be considered plural where applicable.

BOND AMOUNT: Five Percent (5%) of Amount Bid

PROJECT:

(Name, location or address, and Project number, if any)
Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center Expansion

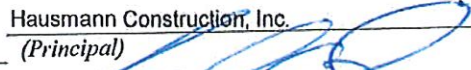
The Contractor and Surety are bound to the Owner in the amount set forth above, for the payment of which the Contractor and Surety bind themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, jointly and severally, as provided herein. The conditions of this Bond are such that if the Owner accepts the bid of the Contractor within the time specified in the bid documents, or within such time period as may be agreed to by the Owner and Contractor, and the Contractor either (1) enters into a contract with the Owner in accordance with the terms of such bid, and gives such bond or bonds as may be specified in the bidding or Contract Documents, with a surety admitted in the jurisdiction of the Project and otherwise acceptable to the Owner, for the faithful performance of such Contract and for the prompt payment of labor and material furnished in the prosecution thereof; or (2) pays to the Owner the difference, not to exceed the amount of this Bond, between the amount specified in said bid and such larger amount for which the Owner may in good faith contract with another party to perform the work covered by said bid, then this obligation shall be null and void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect. The Surety hereby waives any notice of an agreement between the Owner and Contractor to extend the time in which the Owner may accept the bid. Waiver of notice by the Surety shall not apply to any extension exceeding sixty (60) days in the aggregate beyond the time for acceptance of bids specified in the bid documents, and the Owner and Contractor shall obtain the Surety's consent for an extension beyond sixty (60) days.

If this Bond is issued in connection with a subcontractor's bid to a Contractor, the term Contractor in this Bond shall be deemed to be Subcontractor and the term Owner shall be deemed to be Contractor.

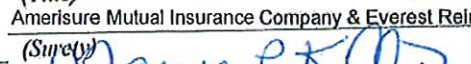
When this Bond has been furnished to comply with a statutory or other legal requirement in the location of the Project, any provision in this Bond conflicting with said statutory or legal requirement shall be deemed deleted herefrom and provisions conforming to such statutory or other legal requirement shall be deemed incorporated herein. When so furnished, the intent is that this Bond shall be construed as a statutory bond and not as a common law bond.

Signed and sealed this 26th day of September, 2024


(Witness)

Hausmann Construction, Inc.
(Principal)  (Seal)

(Title)  PRESIDENT

Amerisure Mutual Insurance Company & Everest Reinsurance Company
(Surety)  (Seal)


(Witness)

(Title) Maura P. Kelly, Attorney-in-Fact

CAUTION: You should sign an original AIA Contract Document, on which this text appears in RED. An original assures that changes will not be obscured.

Init.

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AMERISURE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY
 AMERISURE INSURANCE COMPANY
 AMERISURE PARTNERS INSURANCE COMPANY

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: That Amerisure Mutual Insurance Company, Amerisure Insurance Company and Amerisure Partners Insurance Company are corporations duly organized under the laws of the State of Michigan (herein collectively the "Companies"), and that the Companies do hereby make, constitute and appoint:

DAVID A. DOMINIANI, DUSTIN COOPER, KEVIN J. STENGER,
 JACQUELINE L. DREY, JOAN LEU and MAURA P. KELLY

of First Insurance Group LLC dba FNIC, its true and lawful Attorney(s)-in Fact, each in their separate capacity if more than one is named above, to sign, execute, seal and acknowledge, for and on its behalf and as its act and deed, bonds or others writings obligatory in the nature of a bond on behalf of each of said Companies, as surety, on contracts or suretyship as are or may be required or permitted by law, regulation, contract or otherwise, provided that no bond or undertaking or contract or suretyship executed under this authority shall exceed the amount of:

TWO HUNDRED MILLION (\$200,000,000.00) DOLLARS

This Power of Attorney is granted and signed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolutions adopted by the Boards of Directors of Amerisure Mutual Insurance Company, Amerisure Insurance Company and Amerisure Partners Insurance Company at meetings duly called and held on February 17, 2022.

"RESOLVED, that any two of the President & Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer, the Senior Vice President Surety, the Vice President Surety, or the General Counsel & Corporate Secretary be, and each or any of them hereby is authorized to execute, a Power of Attorney qualifying the attorney-in-fact named in the given Power of Attorney to execute on behalf of the Company bonds, undertakings and all contracts of surety, and that President & Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer or General Counsel & Corporate Secretary each or any of them hereby is authorized to attest to the execution of any such Power of Attorney and to attach therein the seal of the Company;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the signature of such officers and the seal of the Company may be affixed to any such Power of Attorney or to any certificate relating thereto electronically/digitally or by facsimile, and any such Power of Attorney or certificate bearing such electronic/digital or facsimile signatures or electronic/digital or facsimile seal shall be binding upon the Company when so affixed and in the future with regard to any bond, undertaking or contract of surety to which it is attached;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any work carried out by the attorney-in-fact pursuant to this resolution shall be valid and binding upon the Company."



By:

Michael A. Ito

Michael A. Ito, Senior Vice President Surety

By:

Aaron Green

Aaron Green, Vice President Surety



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Amerisure Mutual Insurance Company, Amerisure Insurance Company and Amerisure Partners Insurance Company have caused their official seals to be hereunto affixed, and these presents to be signed by their authorized officers this 26th day of April, 2023.

Amerisure Mutual Insurance Company
 Amerisure Insurance Company
 Amerisure Partners Insurance Company

State of Illinois
 County of Kane

On this 26th day of April, 2023, before me, a Notary Public personally appeared Michael A. Ito, of Amerisure Mutual Insurance Company, Amerisure Insurance Company and Amerisure Partners Insurance Company and Aaron Green of Amerisure Mutual Insurance Company, Amerisure Insurance Company and Amerisure Partners Insurance Company, personally known to me, who being by me duly sworn, acknowledged that they signed the above Power of Attorney as officers of and acknowledged said instrument to be the voluntary act and deed of their respective companies.



M. Kenny
 M. Kenny, Notary Public

I, Christopher M. Spaude, the duly elected Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer of Amerisure Mutual Insurance Company, Amerisure Insurance Company and Amerisure Partners Insurance Company, do hereby certify and attest that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Power of Attorney executed by said Companies, which remains in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and affixed the seals of the Companies this 26th day of September 2024.

Christopher M. Spaude

Christopher M. Spaude, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer

EVEREST.

POWER OF ATTORNEY
EVEREST REINSURANCE COMPANY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS: That Everest Reinsurance Company, a corporation of the State of Delaware ("Company") having its principal office located at 100 Everest Way, Warren, New Jersey, 07059, do hereby nominate, constitute, and appoint:

**David A. Dominiani, Maura P. Kelly, Joan Leu, Sharon K. Murray, Justin Tomlin, Jacqueline L. Drey,
Dustin Cooper, Kevin J. Stenger**

its true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-fact to make, execute, attest, seal and deliver for and on its behalf, as surety, and as its act and deed, where required, any and all bonds and undertakings in the nature thereof, for the penal sum of no one of which is in any event to exceed UNLIMITED, reserving for itself the full power of substitution and revocation.

Such bonds and undertakings, when duly executed by the aforesaid Attorney(s)-in-fact shall be binding upon the Company as fully and to the same extent as if such bonds and undertakings were signed by the President and Secretary of the Company and sealed with its corporate seal.

This Power of Attorney is granted and is signed by facsimile under and by the authority of the following Resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors of Company ("Board") on April 21, 2016:

RESOLVED, that the President, any Executive Vice President, and any Senior Vice President are hereby appointed by the Board as authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver for and on behalf of the Company, any and all bonds, undertakings, contracts or obligations in surety or co-surety with others and that the Secretary or any Assistant Secretary of the Company be and that each of them hereby is authorized to attest to the execution of any such bonds, undertakings, contracts or obligations in surety or co-surety and attach thereto the corporate seal of the Company.

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that the President, any Executive Vice President, and any Senior Vice President are hereby authorized to execute powers of attorney qualifying the attorney named in the given power of attorney to execute, on behalf of the Company, bonds and undertakings in surety or co-surety with others, and that the Secretary or any Assistant Secretary of the Company be, and that each of them is hereby authorized to attest the execution of any such power of attorney, and to attach thereto the corporate seal of the Company.

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that the signature of such officers named in the preceding resolutions and the corporate seal of the Company may be affixed to such powers of attorney or to any certificate relating thereto by facsimile, and any such power of attorney or certificate bearing such facsimile signatures or facsimile seal shall be thereafter valid and binding upon the Company with respect to any bond, undertaking, contract or obligation in surety or co-surety with others to which it is attached.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Everest Reinsurance Company has caused their corporate seals to be affixed hereto, and these presents to be signed by their duly authorized officers this 22nd day of June, 2022.



Attest: Nicole Chase, Assistant Secretary

Everest Reinsurance Company

By: Anthony Romano, Senior Vice President

On this 22nd day of June, 2022 before me personally came Anthony Romano, known to me, who, being duly sworn, did execute the above instrument; that he knows the seal of said Company; that the seal affixed to the aforesaid instrument is such corporate seal and was affixed thereto; and that he executed said instrument by like order.

LINDA ROBINS
Notary Public, State of New York
No 01R06239736
Qualified in Queens County
Term Expires April 25, 2023

Linda Robins, Notary Public

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Company, this 26th day of September 2024.

ATTACHMENT 5
NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
PROPOSED CONTRACT HAUSMANN CONSTRUCTION
NEBRASKA LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER EXPANSION PROJECT



AIA® Document A101® – 2017

Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Contractor where the basis of payment is a Stipulated Sum

AGREEMENT made as of the First day of November in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Four
(In words, indicate day, month and year.)

BETWEEN the Owner:
(Name, legal status, address and other information)

State of Nebraska
1526 K Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

and the Contractor:
(Name, legal status, address and other information)

Hausmann Construction
8885 Executive Woods Drive
Lincoln, Nebraska 68512

for the following Project:
(Name, location and detailed description)

NLETC Campus Upgrades
3600 N. Academy Road
Grand Island, Nebraska

The Architect:
(Name, legal status, address and other information)

Dewberry Architects Inc.
132 North York Street
Suite 2C
Elmhurst, Illinois 60126

The Owner and Contractor agree as follows.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS:

The author of this document has added information needed for its completion. The author may also have revised the text of the original AIA standard form. An *Additions and Deletions Report* that notes added information as well as revisions to the standard form text is available from the author and should be reviewed. A vertical line in the left margin of this document indicates where the author has added necessary information and where the author has added to or deleted from the original AIA text.

This document has important legal consequences. Consultation with an attorney is encouraged with respect to its completion or modification.

The parties should complete A101®-2017, Exhibit A, Insurance and Bonds, contemporaneously with this Agreement. AIA Document A201®-2017, General Conditions of the Contract for Construction, is adopted in this document by reference. Do not use with other general conditions unless this document is modified.

TABLE OF ARTICLES

- 1 THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS
- 2 THE WORK OF THIS CONTRACT
- 3 DATE OF COMMENCEMENT AND SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION
- 4 CONTRACT SUM
- 5 PAYMENTS
- 6 DISPUTE RESOLUTION
- 7 TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION
- 8 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
- 9 ENUMERATION OF CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

EXHIBIT A INSURANCE AND BONDS

ARTICLE 1 THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

The Contract Documents consist of this Agreement, Conditions of the Contract (General, Supplementary, and other Conditions), Drawings, Specifications, Addenda issued prior to execution of this Agreement, other documents listed in this Agreement, and Modifications issued after execution of this Agreement, all of which form the Contract, and are as fully a part of the Contract as if attached to this Agreement or repeated herein. The Contract represents the entire and integrated agreement between the parties hereto and supersedes prior negotiations, representations, or agreements, either written or oral. An enumeration of the Contract Documents, other than a Modification, appears in Article 9.

ARTICLE 2 THE WORK OF THIS CONTRACT

The Contractor shall fully execute the Work described in the Contract Documents, except as specifically indicated in the Contract Documents to be the responsibility of others.

ARTICLE 3 DATE OF COMMENCEMENT AND SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION

§ 3.1 The date of commencement of the Work shall be:

(Check one of the following boxes.)

☐ The date of this Agreement.

☒ The date of this agreement.

☐ Established as follows:

(Insert a date or a means to determine the date of commencement of the Work.)

If a date of commencement of the Work is not selected, then the date of commencement shall be the date of this Agreement.

§ 3.2 The Contract Time shall be measured from the date of commencement of the Work.

§ 3.3 Substantial Completion

§ 3.3.1 Subject to adjustments of the Contract Time as provided in the Contract Documents, the Contractor shall achieve Substantial Completion of the entire Work:

(Check one of the following boxes and complete the necessary information.)

Inlt.

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User Notes:

[] Not later than () calendar days from the date of commencement of the Work.

[X] By the following date: December 1st, 2026

§ 3.3.2 Subject to adjustments of the Contract Time as provided in the Contract Documents, if portions of the Work are to be completed prior to Substantial Completion of the entire Work, the Contractor shall achieve Substantial Completion of such portions by the following dates:

Portion of Work	Substantial Completion Date

§ 3.3.3 If the Contractor fails to achieve Substantial Completion as provided in this Section 3.3, liquidated damages, if any, shall be assessed as set forth in Section 4.5.

ARTICLE 4 CONTRACT SUM

§ 4.1 The Owner shall pay the Contractor the Contract Sum in current funds for the Contractor's performance of the Contract. The Contract Sum shall be Thirty Seven Million, Five Hundred Seventy Thousand (\$ 37,570,000.00), subject to additions and deductions as provided in the Contract Documents.

§ 4.2 Alternates

§ 4.2.1 Alternates, if any, included in the Contract Sum:

Item	Price

§ 4.2.2 Subject to the conditions noted below, the following alternates may be accepted by the Owner following execution of this Agreement. Upon acceptance, the Owner shall issue a Modification to this Agreement.
(Insert below each alternate and the conditions that must be met for the Owner to accept the alternate.)

Item	Price	Conditions for Acceptance

§ 4.3 Allowances, if any, included in the Contract Sum:
(Identify each allowance.)

Item	Price

§ 4.4 Unit prices, if any:

(Identify the item and state the unit price and quantity limitations, if any, to which the unit price will be applicable.)

Item	Units and Limitations	Price per Unit (\$0.00)
#1 – Skills Pad Pavement	Square yard	\$56.49
#2 – Full Depth Asphalt Repairs	Square yard	\$100.00

§ 4.5 Liquidated damages, if any:

(Insert terms and conditions for liquidated damages, if any.)

§ 4.6 Other:

(Insert provisions for bonus or other incentives, if any, that might result in a change to the Contract Sum.)

N/A

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User Notes:

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ARTICLE 5 PAYMENTS

§ 5.1 Progress Payments

§ 5.1.1 Based upon Applications for Payment submitted to the Architect by the Contractor and Certificates for Payment issued by the Architect, the Owner shall make progress payments on account of the Contract Sum to the Contractor as provided below and elsewhere in the Contract Documents.

§ 5.1.2 The period covered by each Application for Payment shall be one calendar month ending on the last day of the month, or as follows:

§ 5.1.3 *Provided that an Application for Payment is received by the Architect not later than the twentieth day of a month, the Owner shall make payment of the amount certified to the Contractor not later than generally the Twentieth day of the following month. If an Application for Payment is received by the Architect after the application date fixed above, payment of the amount certified shall be made by the Owner not later than Fifty-two (52) days after the Architect receives the Application for Payment. (Federal, state or local laws may require payment within a certain period of time.)*

Per the Prompt Payment Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§81-2401 to 81-2408, agency shall make payment on or before the forty-fifth calendar day after receipt of approved Pay Application from the Consultant or Architect/Engineer.

§ 5.1.4 Each Application for Payment shall be based on the most recent schedule of values submitted by the Contractor in accordance with the Contract Documents. The schedule of values shall allocate the entire Contract Sum among the various portions of the Work. The schedule of values shall be prepared in such form, and supported by such data to substantiate its accuracy, as the Architect may require. This schedule of values shall be used as a basis for reviewing the Contractor's Applications for Payment.

§ 5.1.5 Applications for Payment shall show the percentage of completion of each portion of the Work as of the end of the period covered by the Application for Payment.

§ 5.1.6 In accordance with AIA Document A201™-2017, General Conditions of the Contract for Construction, and subject to other provisions of the Contract Documents, the amount of each progress payment shall be computed as follows:

§ 5.1.6.1 The amount of each progress payment shall first include:

- .1 That portion of the Contract Sum properly allocable to completed Work as determined by multiplying the percentage completion of each portion of the Work by the share of the Contract Sum allocated to that portion of the Work in the schedule of values, less retainage of Ten percent (10%). Pending final determination of cost to the Owner of changes in the Work, amounts not in dispute shall be included as provided in Section 7.3.9 of AIA Document A201-2017, General Conditions of the Contract for Construction;
- .2 That portion of the Contract Sum properly allocable to materials and equipment delivered and suitably stored at the site for subsequent incorporation in the completed construction, or, if approved in advance by the Owner, suitably stored off the site at a location agreed upon in writing, less retainage of Ten percent (10%); and
- .3 Subtract the aggregate of the previous payments made by the Owner; and
- .4 Subtract amounts, if any for which the Architect has withheld or nullified a Certificate for Payment as provided in Section 9.5 of AIA Document A201-2017.

§ 5.1.6.2 The amount of each progress payment shall then be reduced by:

- .1 The aggregate of any amounts previously paid by the Owner;
- .2 The amount, if any, for Work that remains uncorrected and for which the Architect has previously withheld a Certificate for Payment as provided in Article 9 of AIA Document A201-2017;
- .3 (clause intentionally deleted)

- 4 For Work performed or defects discovered since the last payment application, any amount for which the Architect may withhold payment, or nullify a Certificate of Payment in whole or in part, as provided in Article 9 of AIA Document A201-2017; and
- 5 Retainage withheld pursuant to Section 5.1.7.

§ 5.1.7 Retainage

§ 5.1.7.1 For each progress payment made prior to Substantial Completion of the Work, the Owner may withhold the following amount, as retainage, from the payment otherwise due:

(Insert a percentage or amount to be withheld as retainage from each Application for Payment. The amount of retainage may be limited by governing law.)

Ten percent (10%)

§ 5.1.7.1.1 The following items are not subject to retainage:

(Insert any items not subject to the withholding of retainage, such as general conditions, insurance, etc.)

Not applicable. See Provision #24 – Payment in AS/State Building Division General Conditions

§ 5.1.7.2 Reduction or limitation of retainage, if any, shall be as follows:

(If the retainage established in Section 5.1.7.1 is to be modified prior to Substantial Completion of the entire Work, including modifications for Substantial Completion of portions of the Work as provided in Section 3.3.2, insert provisions for such modifications.)

N/A

§ 5.1.7.3 Except as set forth in this Section 5.1.7.3, upon Substantial Completion of the Work, the Contractor may submit an Application for Payment that includes the retainage withheld from prior Applications for Payment pursuant to this Section 5.1.7. The Application for Payment submitted at Substantial Completion shall not include retainage as follows:

(Insert any other conditions for release of retainage upon Substantial Completion.)

Not applicable. See Provision #30 – Final Payment in AS/State Building Division General Conditions.

§ 5.1.8 If final completion of the Work is materially delayed through no fault of the Contractor, the Owner shall pay the Contractor any additional amounts in accordance with Article 9 of AIA Document A201-2017.

§ 5.1.9 Except with the Owner's prior approval, the Contractor shall not make advance payments to suppliers for materials or equipment which have not been delivered and stored at the site.

§ 5.2 Final Payment

§ 5.2.1 Final payment, constituting the entire unpaid balance of the Contract Sum, shall be made by the Owner to the Contractor when

- 1 the Contractor has fully performed the Contract except for the Contractor's responsibility to correct Work as provided in Article 12 of AIA Document A201-2017, and to satisfy other requirements, if any, which extend beyond final payment; and
- 2 a final Certificate for Payment has been issued by the Architect.

§ 5.2.2 The Owner's final payment to the Contractor shall be made no later than 30 days after the issuance of the Architect's final Certificate for Payment, or as follows:

Per the Prompt Payment Act, Neb. Rev. Stat §§81-2401 to 81-2408, agency shall make payment on or before the forty-fifth calendar day after receipt of approved Pay Application from the Consultant or Architect/Engineer.

§ 5.3 Interest

Payments due and unpaid under the Contract shall bear interest from the date payment is due at the rate stated below, or in the absence thereof, at the legal rate prevailing from time to time at the place where the Project is located.

(Insert rate of interest agreed upon, if any.)

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Prompt Payment Act. In the event any amount due under this Contract remains unpaid for forty-five (45) days after the due date, the unpaid amount shall bear interest from the 31st day after the due date at the rate specified in the Prompt Payment Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§81-2401 to 81-2408.

ARTICLE 6 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

§ 6.1 Initial Decision Maker

The Architect will serve as the Initial Decision Maker pursuant to Article 15 of AIA Document A201-2017, unless the parties appoint below another individual, not a party to this Agreement, to serve as the Initial Decision Maker.

(If the parties mutually agree, insert the name, address and other contact information of the Initial Decision Maker, if other than the Architect.)

§ 6.2 Binding Dispute Resolution

For any Claim subject to, but not resolved by, mediation pursuant to Article 15 of AIA Document A201-2017, the method of binding dispute resolution shall be as follows:

(Check the appropriate box.)

☒ [X] Arbitration pursuant to Section 15.4 of AIA Document A201-2017

☐ [] Litigation in a court of competent jurisdiction

☐ [] Other *(Specify)*.

If the Owner and Contractor do not select a method of binding dispute resolution, or do not subsequently agree in writing to a binding dispute resolution method other than litigation, Claims will be resolved by litigation in a court of competent jurisdiction.

ARTICLE 7 TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION

§ 7.1 The Contract may be terminated by the Owner or the Contractor as provided in Article 14 of AIA Document A201-2017.

§ 7.1.1 If the Contract is terminated for the Owner's convenience in accordance with Article 14 of AIA Document A201-2017, then the Owner shall pay the Contractor a termination fee as follows:

(Insert the amount of, or method for determining, the fee, if any, payable to the Contractor following a termination for the Owner's convenience.)

§ 7.2 The Work may be suspended by the Owner as provided in Article 14 of AIA Document A201-2017.

ARTICLE 8 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

§ 8.1 Where reference is made in this Agreement to a provision of AIA Document A201-2017 or another Contract Document, the reference refers to that provision as amended or supplemented by other provisions of the Contract Documents.

§ 8.2 The Owner's representative:

(Name, address, email address, and other information)

Matt Shaw
1526 K Street

Init.

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User Notes:

Lincoln, Nebraska 68508
Telephone number: 402.890.9260
Email address: Matt.Shaw@nebraska.gov

§ 8.3 The Contractor's representative:
(Name, address, email address, and other information)

Jesse Volpp, Vice President
8885 Executive Woods Drive
Lincoln, Nebraska 68512
Telephone number: 402.438.3230
Email address: Jessev@hausmannconstruction.com

§ 8.4 Neither the Owner's nor the Contractor's representative shall be changed without ten days' prior notice to the other party.

§ 8.5 Insurance and Bonds

§ 8.5.1 The Contractor shall purchase and maintain insurance as set forth in AIA Document A101™-2017, as outlined in Specification section – General Conditions, where the basis of payment is a Stipulated Sum and elsewhere in the Contract Documents.

(Paragraphs deleted)

§ 8.7 Other provisions:

ARTICLE 9 ENUMERATION OF CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

§ 9.1 This Agreement is comprised of the following documents:

- .1 AIA Document A101™-2017, Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Contractor
- .2 AIA Document A201™-2017, General Conditions of the Contract for Construction
- .3 Drawings – Refer to attached Drawings Sheet Index

(Paragraph deleted)

- .4 Specifications – Refer to attached Specifications Table of Contents

- .5 Addenda, if any:

Number	Date	Pages
1	September 16, 2024	1
2	September 27, 2024	215
3	October 2, 2024	13

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User Notes:

(1244745803)

(Paragraphs deleted)

Portions of Addenda relating to bidding or proposal requirements are not part of the Contract Documents unless the bidding or proposal requirements are also enumerated in this Article 9.

.6 Other Exhibits:

(Check all boxes that apply and include appropriate information identifying the exhibit where required.)

[
(Paragraphs deleted)

X] Supplementary and other Conditions of the Contract:

(Table deleted)

Document	Title	Date	Pages
00 0004	Instructions to Bidders	Aug 21, 2024	8
Proposal	Contractor's Proposal	Oct 19, 2024	2
00 0009	General Conditions (for AS/State Building Div)	April 2019	15
00 0010	Special Conditions	April 2019	3

This Agreement entered into as of the day and year first written above.

OWNER (Signature)

Brent Flachsbart Administrator DAS/SBD
(Printed name and title)



CONTRACTOR (Signature)

Jesse Volpp Vice President
(Printed name and title)

Int.

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User Notes:

(1244745803)

ATTACHMENT 6
NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
CHANGE ORDER
NEBRASKA LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER EXPANSION PROJECT



AIA® Document G701® – 2017

Approved 5-23-25
Matt Shaw
BU 78996500
PO 13363240 X6
OJC 587500

Change Order

PROJECT: *(Name and address)*
NLETC Campus Upgrades
3600 N. Academy Road
Grand Island, NE

CONTRACT INFORMATION:
Contract For: NLETC Campus Upgrades

CHANGE ORDER INFORMATION:
Change Order Number: 002

Date: 11/26/2024

Date: 5/19/2025

OWNER: *(Name and address)*
State of Nebraska
1526 K Street
Lincoln, NE

ARCHITECT: *(Name and address)*
Dewberry Architects, Inc.
132 New York Street
Suite 2C
Elmhurst, IL 60126

CONTRACTOR: *(Name and address)*
Hausmann Construction
8885 Executive Woods Drive
Lincoln, NE 68512

THE CONTRACT IS CHANGED AS FOLLOWS:

(Insert a detailed description of the change and, if applicable, attach or reference specific exhibits. Also include agreed upon adjustments attributable to executed Construction Change Directives.)

Hausmann CO-2(CCD-4.1), Hausmann CO-3(CCD-3), Hausmann CO-4 (CCD-2), Hausmann CO-5 (CCD-5), Hausmann CO-6 (CCD-6) .

The original Contract Sum was	\$ 37,570,000.00
The net change by previously authorized Change Orders	\$ -8,572,345.00
The Contract Sum prior to this Change Order was	\$ 28,997,655.00
The Contract Sum will be decreased by this Change Order in the amount of	\$ -167,103.00
The new Contract Sum including this Change Order will be	\$ 29,164,758.00

The Contract Time will be increased by Zero (0) days.
The new date of Substantial Completion will be 12/1/2026

NOTE: This Change Order does not include adjustments to the Contract Sum or Guaranteed Maximum Price, or the Contract Time, that have been authorized by Construction Change Directive until the cost and time have been agreed upon by both the Owner and Contractor, in which case a Change Order is executed to supersede the Construction Change Directive.

NOT VALID UNTIL SIGNED BY THE ARCHITECT, CONTRACTOR AND OWNER.

Dewberry Architects, Inc.

ARCHITECT *(Firm name)*

SIGNATURE

Jonathan Tallman, Associate Principal

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

May 21, 2025

DATE

Hausmann Construction,

CONTRACTOR *(Firm name)*

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

DATE

State of Nebraska

OWNER *(Firm name)*

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

DATE



AIA® Document G701® – 2017

Change Order

PROJECT: *(Name and address)*
NLETC Campus Upgrades
3600 N. Academy Road
Grand Island, NE

CONTRACT INFORMATION:
Contract For: NLETC Campus Upgrades

CHANGE ORDER INFORMATION:
Change Order Number: 001

Date: 11/26/2024

Date: 12/19/2024

OWNER: *(Name and address)*
State of Nebraska
1526 K Street
Lincoln, NE

ARCHITECT: *(Name and address)*
Dewberry Architects, Inc.
132 New York Street
Suite 2C
Elmhurst, IL 60126

CONTRACTOR: *(Name and address)*
Hausmann Construction
8885 Executive Woods Drive
Lincoln, NE 68512

THE CONTRACT IS CHANGED AS FOLLOWS:

(Insert a detailed description of the change and, if applicable, attach or reference specific exhibits. Also include agreed upon adjustments attributable to executed Construction Change Directives.)

Remove Firearms range from Firearms range building. Building to be identified as Tactical and Classroom Facility.

The original Contract Sum was	\$	37,570,000.00
The net change by previously authorized Change Orders	\$	0.00
The Contract Sum prior to this Change Order was	\$	37,570,000.00
The Contract Sum will be decreased by this Change Order in the amount of	\$	8,572,345.00
The new Contract Sum including this Change Order will be	\$	28,997,655.00

The Contract Time will be increased by Zero (0) days.
The new date of Substantial Completion will be 12/1/2026

NOTE: This Change Order does not include adjustments to the Contract Sum or Guaranteed Maximum Price, or the Contract Time, that have been authorized by Construction Change Directive until the cost and time have been agreed upon by both the Owner and Contractor, in which case a Change Order is executed to supersede the Construction Change Directive.

NOT VALID UNTIL SIGNED BY THE ARCHITECT, CONTRACTOR AND OWNER.

Dewberry Architects, Inc.
ARCHITECT *(Firm name)*

Hausmann Construction,
CONTRACTOR *(Firm name)*

State of Nebraska
OWNER *(Firm name)*

SIGNATURE

Jonathan Tallman, Associate Principal

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

December 18, 2024

DATE

SIGNATURE

Jesse Volpp, Vice President

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

18 DEC 24

DATE

SIGNATURE

Brent Flachsbart

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

12/30/2024

DATE

 AIA® Document A101® – 2017**Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Contractor where the basis of payment is a Stipulated Sum**

AGREEMENT made as of the First day of November in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Four
(In words, indicate day, month and year.)

BETWEEN the Owner:
(Name, legal status, address and other information)

State of Nebraska
1526 K Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

and the Contractor:
(Name, legal status, address and other information)

Hausmann Construction
8885 Executive Woods Drive
Lincoln, Nebraska 68512

for the following Project:
(Name, location and detailed description)

NLETC Campus Upgrades
3600 N. Academy Road
Grand Island, Nebraska

The Architect:
(Name, legal status, address and other information)

Dewberry Architects Inc.
132 North York Street
Suite 2C
Elmhurst, Illinois 60126

The Owner and Contractor agree as follows.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS:

The author of this document has added information needed for its completion. The author may also have revised the text of the original AIA standard form. An *Additions and Deletions Report* that notes added information as well as revisions to the standard form text is available from the author and should be reviewed. A vertical line in the left margin of this document indicates where the author has added necessary information and where the author has added to or deleted from the original AIA text.

This document has important legal consequences. Consultation with an attorney is encouraged with respect to its completion or modification.

The parties should complete A101®-2017, Exhibit A, Insurance and Bonds, contemporaneously with this Agreement. AIA Document A201®-2017, General Conditions of the Contract for Construction, is adopted in this document by reference. Do not use with other general conditions unless this document is modified.

Init.

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TABLE OF ARTICLES

1	THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS
2	THE WORK OF THIS CONTRACT
3	DATE OF COMMENCEMENT AND SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION
4	CONTRACT SUM
5	PAYMENTS
6	DISPUTE RESOLUTION
7	TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION
8	MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
9	ENUMERATION OF CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

EXHIBIT A INSURANCE AND BONDS

ARTICLE 1 THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

The Contract Documents consist of this Agreement, Conditions of the Contract (General, Supplementary, and other Conditions), Drawings, Specifications, Addenda issued prior to execution of this Agreement, other documents listed in this Agreement, and Modifications issued after execution of this Agreement, all of which form the Contract, and are as fully a part of the Contract as if attached to this Agreement or repeated herein. The Contract represents the entire and integrated agreement between the parties hereto and supersedes prior negotiations, representations, or agreements, either written or oral. An enumeration of the Contract Documents, other than a Modification, appears in Article 9.

ARTICLE 2 THE WORK OF THIS CONTRACT

The Contractor shall fully execute the Work described in the Contract Documents, except as specifically indicated in the Contract Documents to be the responsibility of others.

ARTICLE 3 DATE OF COMMENCEMENT AND SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION

§ 3.1 The date of commencement of the Work shall be:

(Check one of the following boxes.)

☐ The date of this Agreement.

☒ The date of this agreement.

☐ Established as follows:

(Insert a date or a means to determine the date of commencement of the Work.)

If a date of commencement of the Work is not selected, then the date of commencement shall be the date of this Agreement.

§ 3.2 The Contract Time shall be measured from the date of commencement of the Work.

§ 3.3 Substantial Completion

§ 3.3.1 Subject to adjustments of the Contract Time as provided in the Contract Documents, the Contractor shall achieve Substantial Completion of the entire Work:

(Check one of the following boxes and complete the necessary information.)

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[] Not later than () calendar days from the date of commencement of the Work.

[X] By the following date: December 1st, 2026

§ 3.3.2 Subject to adjustments of the Contract Time as provided in the Contract Documents, if portions of the Work are to be completed prior to Substantial Completion of the entire Work, the Contractor shall achieve Substantial Completion of such portions by the following dates:

Portion of Work	Substantial Completion Date

§ 3.3.3 If the Contractor fails to achieve Substantial Completion as provided in this Section 3.3, liquidated damages, if any, shall be assessed as set forth in Section 4.5.

ARTICLE 4 CONTRACT SUM

§ 4.1 The Owner shall pay the Contractor the Contract Sum in current funds for the Contractor's performance of the Contract. The Contract Sum shall be Thirty Seven Million, Five Hundred Seventy Thousand (\$ 37,570,000.00), subject to additions and deductions as provided in the Contract Documents.

§ 4.2 Alternates

§ 4.2.1 Alternates, if any, included in the Contract Sum:

Item	Price

§ 4.2.2 Subject to the conditions noted below, the following alternates may be accepted by the Owner following execution of this Agreement. Upon acceptance, the Owner shall issue a Modification to this Agreement.
(Insert below each alternate and the conditions that must be met for the Owner to accept the alternate.)

Item	Price	Conditions for Acceptance

§ 4.3 Allowances, if any, included in the Contract Sum:
(Identify each allowance.)

Item	Price

§ 4.4 Unit prices, if any:
(Identify the item and state the unit price and quantity limitations, if any, to which the unit price will be applicable.)

Item	Units and Limitations	Price per Unit (\$0.00)
#1 – Skills Pad Pavement	Square yard	\$56.49
#2 – Full Depth Asphalt Repairs	Square yard	\$100.00

§ 4.5 Liquidated damages, if any:
(Insert terms and conditions for liquidated damages, if any.)

§ 4.6 Other:
(Insert provisions for bonus or other incentives, if any, that might result in a change to the Contract Sum.)

N/A

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ARTICLE 5 PAYMENTS

§ 5.1 Progress Payments

§ 5.1.1 Based upon Applications for Payment submitted to the Architect by the Contractor and Certificates for Payment issued by the Architect, the Owner shall make progress payments on account of the Contract Sum to the Contractor as provided below and elsewhere in the Contract Documents.

§ 5.1.2 The period covered by each Application for Payment shall be one calendar month ending on the last day of the month, or as follows:

§ 5.1.3 *Provided that an Application for Payment is received by the Architect not later than the twentieth day of a month, the Owner shall make payment of the amount certified to the Contractor not later than generally the Twentieth day of the following month. If an Application for Payment is received by the Architect after the application date fixed above, payment of the amount certified shall be made by the Owner not later than Fifty-two (52) days after the Architect receives the Application for Payment. (Federal, state or local laws may require payment within a certain period of time.)*

Per the Prompt Payment Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§81-2401 to 81-2408, agency shall make payment on or before the forty-fifth calendar day after receipt of approved Pay Application from the Consultant or Architect/Engineer.

§ 5.1.4 Each Application for Payment shall be based on the most recent schedule of values submitted by the Contractor in accordance with the Contract Documents. The schedule of values shall allocate the entire Contract Sum among the various portions of the Work. The schedule of values shall be prepared in such form, and supported by such data to substantiate its accuracy, as the Architect may require. This schedule of values shall be used as a basis for reviewing the Contractor's Applications for Payment.

§ 5.1.5 Applications for Payment shall show the percentage of completion of each portion of the Work as of the end of the period covered by the Application for Payment.

§ 5.1.6 In accordance with AIA Document A201™-2017, General Conditions of the Contract for Construction, and subject to other provisions of the Contract Documents, the amount of each progress payment shall be computed as follows:

§ 5.1.6.1 The amount of each progress payment shall first include:

- 1 That portion of the Contract Sum properly allocable to completed Work as determined by multiplying the percentage completion of each portion of the Work by the share of the Contract Sum allocated to that portion of the Work in the schedule of values, less retainage of Ten percent (10%). Pending final determination of cost to the Owner of changes in the Work, amounts not in dispute shall be included as provided in Section 7.3.9 of AIA Document A201-2017, General Conditions of the Contract for Construction;
- 2 That portion of the Contract Sum properly allocable to materials and equipment delivered and suitably stored at the site for subsequent incorporation in the completed construction, or, if approved in advance by the Owner, suitably stored off the site at a location agreed upon in writing, less retainage of Ten percent (10%); and
- 3 Subtract the aggregate of the previous payments made by the Owner; and
- 4 Subtract amounts, if any for which the Architect has withheld or nullified a Certificate for Payment as provided in Section 9.5 of AIA Document A201-2017.

§ 5.1.6.2 The amount of each progress payment shall then be reduced by:

- 1 The aggregate of any amounts previously paid by the Owner;
- 2 The amount, if any, for Work that remains uncorrected and for which the Architect has previously withheld a Certificate for Payment as provided in Article 9 of AIA Document A201-2017;
- 3 (clause intentionally deleted)

- 4 For Work performed or defects discovered since the last payment application, any amount for which the Architect may withhold payment, or nullify a Certificate of Payment in whole or in part, as provided in Article 9 of AIA Document A201-2017; and
- 5 Retainage withheld pursuant to Section 5.1.7.

§ 5.1.7 Retainage

§ 5.1.7.1 For each progress payment made prior to Substantial Completion of the Work, the Owner may withhold the following amount, as retainage, from the payment otherwise due:

(Insert a percentage or amount to be withheld as retainage from each Application for Payment. The amount of retainage may be limited by governing law.)

Ten percent (10%)

§ 5.1.7.1.1 The following items are not subject to retainage:

(Insert any items not subject to the withholding of retainage, such as general conditions, insurance, etc.)

Not applicable. See Provision #24 – Payment in AS/State Building Division General Conditions

§ 5.1.7.2 Reduction or limitation of retainage, if any, shall be as follows:

(If the retainage established in Section 5.1.7.1 is to be modified prior to Substantial Completion of the entire Work, including modifications for Substantial Completion of portions of the Work as provided in Section 3.3.2, insert provisions for such modifications.)

N/A

§ 5.1.7.3 Except as set forth in this Section 5.1.7.3, upon Substantial Completion of the Work, the Contractor may submit an Application for Payment that includes the retainage withheld from prior Applications for Payment pursuant to this Section 5.1.7. The Application for Payment submitted at Substantial Completion shall not include retainage as follows:

(Insert any other conditions for release of retainage upon Substantial Completion.)

Not applicable. See Provision #30 – Final Payment in AS/State Building Division General Conditions.

§ 5.1.8 If final completion of the Work is materially delayed through no fault of the Contractor, the Owner shall pay the Contractor any additional amounts in accordance with Article 9 of AIA Document A201-2017.

§ 5.1.9 Except with the Owner's prior approval, the Contractor shall not make advance payments to suppliers for materials or equipment which have not been delivered and stored at the site.

§ 5.2 Final Payment

§ 5.2.1 Final payment, constituting the entire unpaid balance of the Contract Sum, shall be made by the Owner to the Contractor when

- 1 the Contractor has fully performed the Contract except for the Contractor's responsibility to correct Work as provided in Article 12 of AIA Document A201-2017, and to satisfy other requirements, if any, which extend beyond final payment; and
- 2 a final Certificate for Payment has been issued by the Architect.

§ 5.2.2 The Owner's final payment to the Contractor shall be made no later than 30 days after the issuance of the Architect's final Certificate for Payment, or as follows:

Per the Prompt Payment Act, Neb. Rev. Stat §§81-2401 to 81-2408, agency shall make payment on or before the forty-fifth calendar day after receipt of approved Pay Application from the Consultant or Architect/Engineer.

§ 5.3 Interest

Payments due and unpaid under the Contract shall bear interest from the date payment is due at the rate stated below, or in the absence thereof, at the legal rate prevailing from time to time at the place where the Project is located.

(Insert rate of interest agreed upon, if any.)

Init.

Prompt Payment Act. In the event any amount due under this Contract remains unpaid for forty-five (45) days after the due date, the unpaid amount shall bear interest from the 31st day after the due date at the rate specified in the Prompt Payment Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§81-2401 to 81-2408.

ARTICLE 6 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

§ 6.1 Initial Decision Maker

The Architect will serve as the Initial Decision Maker pursuant to Article 15 of AIA Document A201-2017, unless the parties appoint below another individual, not a party to this Agreement, to serve as the Initial Decision Maker.
(If the parties mutually agree, insert the name, address and other contact information of the Initial Decision Maker, if other than the Architect.)

§ 6.2 Binding Dispute Resolution

For any Claim subject to, but not resolved by, mediation pursuant to Article 15 of AIA Document A201-2017, the method of binding dispute resolution shall be as follows:
(Check the appropriate box.)

- ☒ [X] Arbitration pursuant to Section 15.4 of AIA Document A201-2017
- ☐ [] Litigation in a court of competent jurisdiction
- ☐ [] Other *(Specify)*.

If the Owner and Contractor do not select a method of binding dispute resolution, or do not subsequently agree in writing to a binding dispute resolution method other than litigation, Claims will be resolved by litigation in a court of competent jurisdiction.

ARTICLE 7 TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION

§ 7.1 The Contract may be terminated by the Owner or the Contractor as provided in Article 14 of AIA Document A201-2017.

§ 7.1.1 If the Contract is terminated for the Owner's convenience in accordance with Article 14 of AIA Document A201-2017, then the Owner shall pay the Contractor a termination fee as follows:
(Insert the amount of, or method for determining, the fee, if any, payable to the Contractor following a termination for the Owner's convenience.)

§ 7.2 The Work may be suspended by the Owner as provided in Article 14 of AIA Document A201-2017.

ARTICLE 8 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

§ 8.1 Where reference is made in this Agreement to a provision of AIA Document A201-2017 or another Contract Document, the reference refers to that provision as amended or supplemented by other provisions of the Contract Documents.

§ 8.2 The Owner's representative:

(Name, address, email address, and other information)

Matt Shaw
1526 K Street

Lincoln, Nebraska 68508
Telephone number: 402.890.9260
Email address: Matt.Shaw@nebraska.gov

§ 8.3 The Contractor's representative:
(Name, address, email address, and other information)

Jesse Volpp, Vice President
8885 Executive Woods Drive
Lincoln, Nebraska 68512
Telephone number: 402.438.3230
Email address: Jessev@hausmannconstruction.com

§ 8.4 Neither the Owner's nor the Contractor's representative shall be changed without ten days' prior notice to the other party.

§ 8.5 Insurance and Bonds

§ 8.5.1 The Contractor shall purchase and maintain insurance as set forth in AIA Document A101™-2017, as outlined in Specification section – General Conditions, where the basis of payment is a Stipulated Sum and elsewhere in the Contract Documents.

(Paragraphs deleted)

§ 8.7 Other provisions:

ARTICLE 9 ENUMERATION OF CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

§ 9.1 This Agreement is comprised of the following documents:

- .1 AIA Document A101™-2017, Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Contractor
- .2 AIA Document A201™-2017, General Conditions of the Contract for Construction
- .3 Drawings – Refer to attached Drawings Sheet Index

(Paragraph deleted)

- .4 Specifications – Refer to attached Specifications Table of Contents

- .5 Addenda, if any:

Number	Date	Pages
1	September 16, 2024	1
2	September 27, 2024	215
3	October 2, 2024	13

Int.

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(Paragraphs deleted)

Portions of Addenda relating to bidding or proposal requirements are not part of the Contract Documents unless the bidding or proposal requirements are also enumerated in this Article 9.

.6 Other Exhibits:

(Check all boxes that apply and include appropriate information identifying the exhibit where required.)

[
(Paragraphs deleted)

X] Supplementary and other Conditions of the Contract:

(Table deleted)

Document	Title	Date	Pages
00 0004	Instructions to Bidders	Aug 21, 2024	8
Proposal	Contractor's Proposal	Oct 19, 2024	2
00 0009	General Conditions (for AS/State Building Div)	April 2019	15
00 0010	Special Conditions	April 2019	3

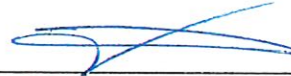
This Agreement entered into as of the day and year first written above.

Brent Flachsbart 12/11/2024

OWNER (Signature)

Brent Flachsbart Administrator DAS/SBD

(Printed name and title)



CONTRACTOR (Signature)

Jesse Volpp Vice President

(Printed name and title)

Init.

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Nebraska Department of Administrative
Services

Recovery Plan

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary:

The State Legislature directed management of this project to Department of Administrative Services – State Building Division to develop and construct sediment control and stormwater management projects for Wyuka Cemetery in Lincoln, Nebraska. A study completed December 2021, detailed how seasonal storms deliver a tremendous amount of gravel, sand, yard waste and trash into the cemetery from the upstream urban watershed. This project will protect the park and cemetery ponds from this sediment by providing a bypass route the will move runoff flow around the park.

Use of Funds:

This appropriated funding will be used to design and construct a bypass pipe with flow control structure to route stormwater containing high loads of heavy sediment around the pond. This will ensure water quality and quantity. This project will greatly benefit the public by creating a better drainage flow from the 255 acres south of Wyuka Cemetery and help reestablish the beauty of Lincoln's first park.

Community Engagement:

When applicable, outreach efforts will be used to share information, plans, and intent for the project with the general public.

Labor Practices:

The State Building Division will follow State approved processes for selection of a qualified architect and engineering firm to ensure project design will comply with all federal and state regulations. Additionally, the Building Division will follow State of Nebraska procurement processes for selection of a qualified contractor for construction.

Use of Evidence:

This project is designed to comply with all federal and state regulations.

Performance Report:

The stormwater runoff bypass is necessary to handle the heavy sediment from seasonal upstream urban watershed. The project will build an appropriately sized bypass pipe with flow control that will either divert stormwater and heavy sediment away from the pond or into a forebay and then into the pond to maintain water levels. As part of the initial study, stream analysis was conducted with recommendations for corrective action and stabilization that will be incorporated into the final design.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project #: Wyuka Cemetery Stormwater Project

Funding Amount: \$2,175,000

Project Expenditure Category:

Project Overview: To design and construct a bypass pipe with flow control structure and forebay to route stormwater containing high loads of heavy sediment around the pond. This will ensure water quality and quantity.

Use of Evidence: This project is designed to comply with all federal and state regulations.

Performance Report: The project was completed October 7th, 2024 and has been successful preventing storm debris from flowing into and silting up the pond along with controlling the water flow out of the pond. The stone shoreline, as planned, has stabilized the perimeter of the pond. The project was complete 2 weeks ahead of schedule and \$1,568.15 under the budget of \$2,175,000.

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Recovery Plan



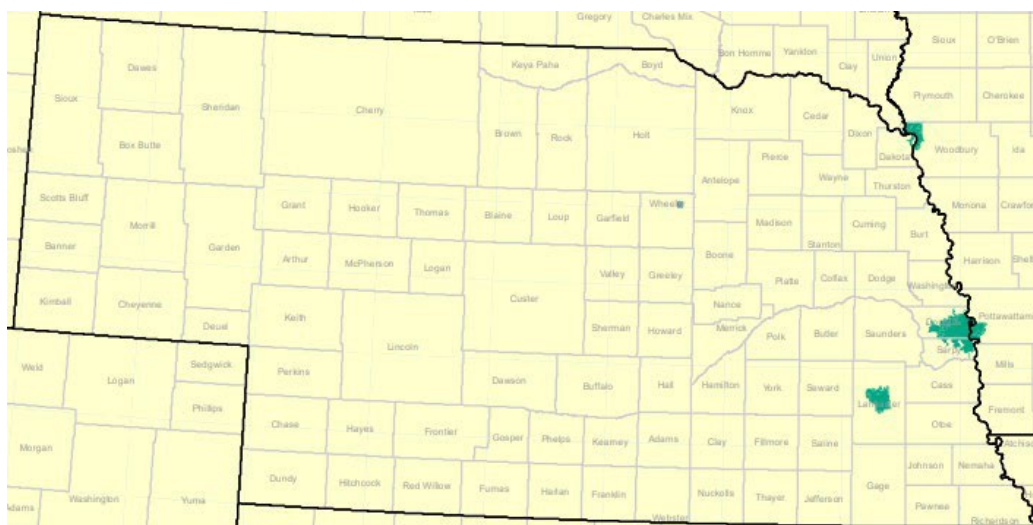
State of Nebraska – Nebraska Commission for
the Deaf and Hard of Hearing 2025

General Overview

Navigating the pandemic has been incredibly difficult on everyone, placing an immense strain on our physical and emotional health, and completely disrupting what we know to be a “normal life.” The pandemic and its restrictions also changed the way people who are deaf and hard of hearing receive access to effective communication.

To address this need, the Nebraska Legislature, under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 and LB1014, set aside \$500,000 in federal funds for Fiscal Years 2022-23 and 2023-24 to reimburse expenses incurred in the provision of qualified, licensed sign language interpreters (whether on-site or remote) in *rural communities for individuals who are deaf, deafblind, or hard of hearing. As of June 30, 2023, Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing obligated \$19,559.12 in SLFRF funds. One year later, as if June 30, 2024, obligated \$40,297.52.

Funding is being appropriated to provide effective communication access in both rural and legal settings.



****Rural is defined as outside of Lincoln or Omaha metro areas and their suburbs (see map above).***

LB 1014 - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSFRF) Appropriations

As part of LB 1014e, the legislation stipulates the following requirements to ensure federal compliance, accountability, and reporting obligations are met:

1. *“All grants utilizing Federal Funds allocated to the State of Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund shall meet the eligible uses under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and any relevant guidance on the use of such funds by*

the United States Department of the Treasury.” (Page 2, section 10, 1st paragraph)

2. *“Each agency, board, or commission shall complete guidance documents related to the distribution of the Federal Funds appropriated pursuant to this act within sixty days after the effective date of this act.” (Page 2, section 10, 2nd paragraph)*

LB 1014 reads in Section 13:

There is included in the appropriation to this program for \$500,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose.

The Nebraska Commission of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing shall spend the funds appropriated in this section exclusively for programs and interpreters that provide communication access to Nebraskan’s who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf/Blind in the following manner: for the use of onsite, in-person, licensed sign language interpreters, Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) using licensed VRI providers, CART, or other auxiliary aid or service to provide effective communication access.

- Per [84-901](#), Section (5), a guidance document “[provides information or direction of general application to the public to interpret or implement statutes or such agency’s rules or regulations.](#)”

To ensure the continued progress is made on reaching the goals set forth in the Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing State Plan: Statewide Educational Programs and Support Services for Nebraskans who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deafblind and that the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSFRF) Appropriations are used to enhance the progress towards these goals, the NCDHH, has developed the following outline for planning for use of funds.

Uses of Funds

The Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will use the funds for supporting Nebraskan’s, helping by providing better ease of communication and equal access by covering the expenses incurred for interpreter services to anyone that need interpreter services provided to them. Some examples of where interpreter services include, but are not limited to:

- Medical appointments (hospital, medical, dentist, mental health services)
- Work settings (job interviews, staff meetings, employee training)
- Community settings (events, meetings, classes that are open to the public)
- Local government
- Church services and funerals

Community Engagement

NCDHH encourages input from its constituents and community-based organizations. NCDHH provides a tool for all community members to gather and be able to express their needs and/or concerns, considerations, and incorporate public opinion at our scheduled open forum sections of our board meetings.

In addition to holding meetings to discuss and document current priorities, NCDHH also has a process in place to collect written discussions from its community members when they have questions, concerns, or comments.

Labor Practices

No infrastructure projects have been approved as of the beginning of usage of funds began. NCDHH intends on using the labor standards on any future infrastructure projects and will document any labor practices provided in the reporting guideline.

Use of Evidence

As previously mentioned, NCDHH documented the counties that submitted documentation to receive SLFRF funds for interpreting services utilized in Nebraska. This may also add to the community engagement a little as well. To sum up the data, is to sum up the involvement. Involvement is in other words, the involvement for the community members in our communities throughout Nebraska that these funds have provided ease of communication for. A total of 97 reimbursements were received and processed since the beginning of the fund usage. It has obligated a total of \$61,416.90 over the course of the funds and as of June 30, 2024, which is also the fiscal year end for the State of Nebraska.

Listed in the chart below are the counties, the number of submissions received per county, and the total amount of SLFRF funds to which the counties received:

Counties	# of Submissions	Funds Obligated
Buffalo	15	\$2,728.69
Cass	1	\$1,006.81
Cedar	2	\$225.00
Colfax	3	\$997.50
Douglas	17	\$22,963.97
Hall	9	\$11,972.82
Lancaster	8	\$4,454.43
Madison	21	\$10,707.16
Nance	1	\$112.50
Nemaha	3	\$738.13
Otoe	9	\$1,988.38
Pender	1	\$250.00
Platte	3	\$2,485.00
Scottsbluff	4	\$579.61
York	1	\$206.90

State of Nebraska

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Nebraska Department of Economic
Development

2025 Recovery Plan Performance Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Intended uses of funding include Building Mental Health Treatment Facilities, Internships and Crime Prevention, County Agricultural Society Grants, Shovel Ready Capital Projects, Financial Literacy Grants, International Competition Sponsorship, Nuclear Reactor Study, Qualifying Census Tract Affordable Housing, Qualifying Census Tract Recovery Grant, Pandemic Relief Housing, Airport Business Park Planning, Meat Processing Infrastructure, 6 Regions, One Nebraska, Clyde Malone Community Center, Nebraska Investment Finance Authority Act (NIFA) LIHTC Pandemic Gap, and Refugee Job Training.

Department of Economic Development ARPA Programs: Funding, Obligations, and Expenditures through 06/30/2025				
Program	Expenditure Category	Funding Amount	Amount Obligated as of 06/30/2025	Amount Expended as of 06/30/2025
Building Mental Health Treatment Facilities	1.15	\$40,000,000.00	\$40,000,000.00	
	Total	\$40,000,000.00	\$40,000,000.00	\$40,000,000.00
Competition Sponsorship Program	2.35	\$500,000.00	\$500,000.00	
	Total	\$500,000.00	\$500,000.00	\$500,000.00
Internships and Crime Prevention	2.34	\$4,750,000.00	\$4,750,000.00	
	Total	\$4,750,000.00	\$4,750,000.00	\$4,263,157.92
County Agricultural Society Grants	2.34	\$5,000,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	
	Total	\$5,000,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	\$5,000,000.00
Shovel Ready Capital Recovery	2.34	\$100,000,000.00	\$100,000,000.00	
	Total	\$100,000,000.00	\$100,000,000.00	\$100,000,000.00
Financial Literacy Grant	2.7	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	
	Total	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$527,777.78
Nuclear Plant Siting Feasibility Study Program	5.18	\$698,000.00	\$698,000.00	
	Total	\$698,000.00	\$698,000.00	\$264,250.00
QCT Affordable Housing (Metro)	2.18	\$20,000,000.00	\$20,000,000.00	
	Total	\$20,000,000.00	\$20,000,000.00	\$14,736,723.38
QCT Affordable Housing (Primary)	2.18	\$16,467,837.97	\$16,467,837.97	
	Total	\$16,467,837.97	\$16,467,837.97	\$12,820,898.84
Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant – Greater Nebraska	2.10	\$1,868,500.00	\$1,868,500.00	
	2.22	\$2,225,329.00	\$2,225,329.00	
	2.30	\$750,000.00	\$750,000.00	
	2.32	\$750,000.00	\$750,000.00	
	2.33	\$750,000.00	\$750,000.00	
	2.35	\$81,500.00	\$81,500.00	
	5.1	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	
	5.2	\$1,500,000.00	\$1,500,000.00	
	Total	\$8,925,329.00	\$8,925,329.00	\$5,629,332.62
Qualified Census	2.10	\$ 3,625,000.00	\$ 3,625,000.00	

Tract Recovery Grant - Lincoln	2.18	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	
	2.22	\$4,125,000.00	\$4,125,000.00	
	2.35	\$1,250,000.00	\$1,250,000.00	
	Total	\$10,000,000.00	\$10,000,000.00	\$7,556,089.32
Pandemic Relief Housing	2.18	\$8,000,000.00	\$8,000,000.00	
	Total	\$8,000,000.00	\$8,000,000.00	\$2,804,161.88
Rural Community Recovery	2.22	\$10,000,000.00	\$10,000,000.00	
	Total	\$10,000,000.00	\$10,000,000.00	\$470,204.06
Airport Business Park Planning Grant	2.34	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00	
	Total	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00	\$381,600.00
Meat Processing Wastewater Pretreatment and Runoff Control Program	5.1	\$20,000,000.00	\$20,000,000.00	
	Total	\$20,000,000.00	\$20,000,000.00	\$12,695,584.90
Refugee Job Training	2.10	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	
	Total	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$213,110.12
6 Regions, One Nebraska	2.11	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00	
	Total	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$23,932.93
6 Regions, One Nebraska	2.37	\$2,800,000.00	\$2,800,000.00	
	Total	\$2,800,000.00	\$2,800,000.00	\$477,826.82
ARPA	2.34	\$5,000,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	
	Total	\$5,000,000.00	\$5,000,000.00	\$5,000,000.00
Nebraska Investment Finance Authority Act (NIFA) – Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Pandemic Relief Gap Funding	2.15	\$20,500,000.00	\$20,500,000.00	
	Total	\$20,500,000.00	\$20,500,000.00	\$19,850,600.43
Grand Total	Total	\$275,241,166.97		\$233,215,251.00

Uses of Funds

Programs from LB1014

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Industrial Recruitment. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$10,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown to this program for FY2022-23 \$30,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$10,000,000 Federal Funds for capital construction grants to build mental health care and education capacity, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$30,000,000 Federal Funds for capital construction grants to build mental health care and education capacity, which shall only be used for such purpose. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding

appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Industrial Recruitment. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$500,000 Federal Funds for the purpose of awarding major sponsorship grants for international competitions to be hosted in Nebraska that are recognized by an international governing body. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Industrial Recruitment. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$1,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$1,000,000 Federal Funds for distribution to a political subdivision that owns or operates a nuclear power plant in Nebraska. Such political subdivision shall use the funds appropriated in this section to conduct a feasibility study to assess (1) siting options for new advanced nuclear reactors throughout Nebraska and (2) existing electric generation facilities based on key compatibility assets for such advanced nuclear reactors. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Industrial Recruitment. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2021-22 3 \$50,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$50,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$50,000,000 Federal Funds for grants to capital projects eligible under the Shovel-Ready Capital Recovery and Investment Act, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount show as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$50,000,000 Federal Funds for grants to capital projects eligible under the Shovel-Ready Capital Recovery and Investment Act, which shall only be used for such purpose. It is the intent of the Legislature that, in addition to the requirements of the Shovel-Ready Capital Recovery and Investment Act, the Department of Economic Development shall divide total appropriations, including any General Fund appropriations, for grants to capital projects eligible under the act equally by each congressional district and give priority to grant requests less than or equal to \$5,000,000. After eligible grantees with priority status have been awarded grant funds, remaining funds may be awarded on a statewide basis with the department considering each project based on the overall economic impact of the project to the respective community and the overall benefit to the State of Nebraska. It is the intent of the Legislature that the department make reasonable adjustments to dates and deadlines and request additional documentation pursuant to any requirements for use of Federal Funds received pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated

pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Industrial Recruitment. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 22 \$20,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$20,000,000 Federal Funds for wastewater pretreatment and runoff control for meat processing plant site development, which shall only be used for such purpose. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Community and Rural Development. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2021-22 \$21,500,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$18,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. (2)(a) There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021- 22 \$6,000,000 Federal Funds for grants to prepare land parcels pursuant to the Rural Workforce Housing Investment Act. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$4,000,000 Federal Funds for grants to prepare land parcels pursuant to the Rural Workforce Housing Investment Act. (b) For purposes of this subsection, preparing land parcels shall include: (i) Laying of drinking water transmission lines; (ii) Rehabilitation, renovation, maintenance, or costs to secure vacant or abandoned properties in disproportionately impacted communities; (iii) Costs associated with acquiring and securing legal title of vacant or abandoned properties in disproportionately impacted communities and other costs to position the property for current or future use for the Rural Workforce Housing Investment Act; (iv) Removal and remediation of environmental contaminants or hazards from vacant or abandoned properties in disproportionately impacted communities, when conducted in compliance with applicable environmental laws or regulations; (v) Demolition or deconstruction of vacant or abandoned buildings in disproportionately impacted communities; and (vi) Costs associated with inspection fees and other administrative costs incurred to ensure compliance with applicable environmental laws and regulations for demolition or other remediation activities in disproportionately impacted communities. The Rural Workforce Housing Investment Act did not have any signed contracts for FY2023-24, so the funds have been reappropriated to create Rural Community Recovery Program. (3) There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$10,500,000 Federal Funds to contract with the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority, as described in the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority Act, for development of affordable housing units eligible for federal four and nine percent low-income housing tax credit programs. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$10,000,000 Federal Funds to contract with the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority, as described in the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority Act, for development of affordable housing units eligible for federal four and nine percent low-income housing tax credit programs. (4)(a) There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$4,000,000 Federal Funds for grants to nonprofit organizations that develop affordable housing, including housing for refugees and other such immigrants. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$4,000,000 Federal Funds for grants to nonprofit

organizations that develop affordable housing, including housing for refugees and other such immigrants. (b) The Department of Economic Development shall create a program in accordance with the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, 42 U.S.C. 802, for the purpose of awarding grants to nonprofit organizations that develop affordable housing, including housing for refugees and other such immigrants. Housing developed under this program shall be for households with an income at or below 185% of the most recent poverty guidelines published by the United States Department of Health and Human Services and shall include housing located in disproportionately impacted geographies or directed towards disproportionately impacted populations or households, including, but not limited to, those in a qualified census tract, as defined in 26 U.S.C. 42(d)(5)(B)(ii)(I), as such section existed on January 1, 2022. (c) It is the intent of the Legislature that at least one-half of the funds distributed pursuant to this subsection (4) be awarded as grants to organizations located in counties with a population of fewer than 100,000 residents as determined by the most recent federal decennial census. (5) There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$1,000,000 Federal Funds for job training and placement grants to nonprofit organizations for employment and employability services for refugees. (6) Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

Program from LB1024

Section 1. Sections 1 to 7 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Economic Recovery Act.

Sec. 2. The Legislature finds that: (1) The COVID-19 public health emergency has caused widespread economic, social, and public health-related turmoil that deepened existing disparities;

(2) The social and economic challenges caused and exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency include high unemployment, wage decreases, increased homelessness, and food insecurity; (3) The impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency and related challenges were disproportionately felt in low-income and minority communities such as North Omaha and South Omaha; (4) The social and economic challenges in North Omaha and South Omaha have persisted for multiple generations, partially fueled by past racial segregation and the historical practice known as redlining; (5) Funding under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 presents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to respond to the challenges facing North Omaha and South Omaha that have been worsened by the COVID-19 public health emergency; and (6) Federal guidance issued by the United States Department of the Treasury has identified qualified census tracts as areas in which certain activities and investments will be deemed presumptively eligible for the use of funds under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

Sec. 3. For purposes of the Economic Recovery Act, qualified census tract means a qualified census tract as defined in 26 U.S.C. 42(d)(5)(B)(ii)(I), as such section existed on January 1, 2022.

Sec. 4. (1) A primary responsibility of the Economic Recovery and Incentives Division of the Department of Economic Development shall be to utilize federal or state funding to award grants as provided in this section. The division shall develop a coordinated plan and a grant application and scoring process to award grants under subsection (3) of this section. (2) The coordinated plan developed pursuant to this section shall direct and prioritize the use of grants toward the economic recovery of those communities and neighborhoods within qualified census tracts located within the boundaries of a city of the metropolitan class that were disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency and related challenges, with an emphasis on housing needs, assistance for small businesses, job training, and business development within such communities and neighborhoods. In prioritizing the use of grants, the Economic Recovery and Incentives Division may rely on any studies produced pursuant to section 5 of this act. Not later than August 1, 2022, the division shall submit a copy of an initial coordinated plan to the Economic Recovery Special Committee of the Legislature. Not later than December 1, 2022, the division shall submit a final copy of such coordinated plan to the Economic Recovery Special Committee of the Legislature. (3)(a) The Economic Recovery and Incentives Division shall create a Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant Program to provide funding to public and private entities located within qualified census tracts throughout the state to respond to the negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency. (b) Not to exceed ten million dollars in grants shall be distributed under the grant program to eligible grantees in qualified census tracts that are located in a city of the primary class. (c) Not to exceed ten million dollars in grants shall be distributed under the grant program to eligible grantees in qualified census tracts that are located outside of a city of the metropolitan class or a city of the primary class. (d) All remaining funds shall be allocated for grants distributed under the grant program to eligible grantees in qualified census tracts that are located in a city of the metropolitan class, with no less than thirty-five million dollars in such grants allocated to eligible grantees which are located south of Dodge Street and east of 72nd Street in such city and no less than fifty-five million dollars in such grants allocated to eligible grantees which are located north of Dodge Street and east of 72nd Street in such city. Any funds not applied for within such areas may be allocated for grants to eligible grantees in any qualified census tract in such city. (4) In addition to grants under the Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant Program, the Economic Recovery and Incentives Division shall provide grant funding for the following purposes: (a) Not to exceed sixty million dollars in grants to a nonprofit economic development organization for the development of a business park located within or adjacent to one or more qualified census tracts located within the boundaries of a city of the metropolitan class and within two miles of a major airport as defined in section 13-3303; (b) Not to exceed thirty million dollars in grants to one or more innovation hubs located in one or more qualified census tracts and within two miles of a major airport as defined in section 13-3303 providing services and resources within qualified census tracts located within the boundaries of a city of the metropolitan class; (c) Not to exceed three million dollars in grants in fiscal year 2022-23 and not to exceed three million dollars in fiscal year 2023-24 to a nonprofit organization partnering with a city of the metropolitan class for the purpose of providing internships and crime prevention within qualified census tracts located within the boundaries of such city; (d) Not to exceed five million dollars in grants pursuant to the purposes of the Nebraska Film Office Fund on or before June 30, 2023, for the purpose of producing a film on Chief Standing Bear, a portion of which is to be filmed in one or more qualified census tracts located within the boundaries of a city of the metropolitan class; (e) Not to exceed twenty million dollars in grants to public or private entities to prepare land parcels for affordable housing or conduct other eligible affordable housing interventions under the federal

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 including production, rehabilitation, and preservation of affordable rental housing and affordable homeownership units within qualified census tracts which are located in a city of the metropolitan class; (f) Not to exceed twenty million dollars in grants to public or private entities to prepare land parcels for affordable housing or conduct other eligible affordable housing interventions under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 including production, rehabilitation, and preservation of affordable rental housing and affordable homeownership units within qualified census tracts which are located in a city of the primary class;

(g) Not to exceed five million dollars in grants to a county agricultural society with facilities within a city of the primary class to recoup lost revenue; and (h) Not to exceed one million dollars in grants to a postsecondary institution located in a qualified census tract in a city of the metropolitan class to provide funding for a financial literacy program to improve economic and health outcomes for individuals residing in qualified census tracts. (5) For purposes of subdivisions (4)(e) and (f) of this section, preparing land parcels shall include: (a) Laying drinking water mains, lines, pipes, or channels; (b) Rehabilitation, renovation, maintenance, or other costs to secure vacant or abandoned properties in disproportionately impacted communities; (c) Acquiring and securing legal title of vacant or abandoned properties in disproportionately impacted communities; (d) Removal and remediation of environmental contaminants or hazards from vacant or abandoned properties in disproportionately impacted communities when conducted in compliance with applicable environmental laws or regulations; (e) Demolition or deconstruction of vacant or abandoned buildings in disproportionately impacted communities; and (f) Costs associated with inspection fees and other administrative costs incurred to ensure compliance with applicable environmental laws and regulations for demolition or other remediation activities in disproportionately impacted communities. (6) All grants made by the Economic Recovery and Incentives Division utilizing federal funds allocated to the State of Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 shall meet the eligible uses under such act and any relevant guidance on the use of such funds by the United States Department of the Treasury.

Sec. 5. (1) The Economic Recovery Special Committee of the Legislature is established as a special committee of the Legislature to perform the duties provided in the Economic Recovery Act. The special legislative committee shall consist of the chairperson of the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature, who shall serve as chairperson of the special legislative committee, the Speaker of the Legislature, the chairperson of the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature or his or her designee, and four other members of the Legislature appointed by the chairperson of the Executive Board of the Legislative Council. The appointed members of the special legislative committee shall include members who represent legislative districts containing one or more qualified census tracts located within the boundaries of a city of the metropolitan class. (2) The Executive Board of the Legislative Council shall provide staff as required by the special legislative committee from existing legislative staff. In addition, the special legislative committee may hire additional staff, make expenditures for travel, and enter into contracts for consulting, engineering, and development studies. The contracts shall be based on competitive bids and subject to approval of the executive board upon the recommendation of a majority of the members of the special legislative committee. It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate two million dollars for fiscal year 2022-23 to carry out this section. (3) The special legislative committee may hold hearings and request and receive

reports from the federal government, state agencies, counties, municipalities, and other public and private entities regarding the impact of the COVID- 19 public health emergency on low-income and minority communities in Nebraska. The special legislative committee may hold one or more closed sessions for the receipt of confidential information if at least one-half of the members of the special legislative committee vote in open session to hold a closed session. (4) No later than June 30, 2022, the special legislative committee shall issue a request for proposals for studies on potential eligible uses of funds made available under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 or state funds within or adjacent to qualified census tracts located within the boundaries of a city of the metropolitan class. Such studies shall include, but not be limited to, potential eligible uses of such funds in the areas of entrepreneurship, housing, employment, job creation, and small business assistance. Copies of all such studies received by the special legislative committee shall be forwarded to the Economic Recovery and Incentives Division of the Department of Economic Development.

Sec. 6. (1) The Economic Recovery Contingency Fund is created. The fund shall consist of transfers by the Legislature to carry out the Economic Recovery Act. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. (2) No funds shall be expended from the Economic Recovery Contingency Fund until the Economic Recovery and Incentives Division of the Department of Economic Development has submitted a final copy of its coordinated plan to the Economic Recovery Special Committee of the Legislature pursuant to section 4 of this act and to the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services.

Sec. 7. (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate two hundred fifty million dollars from federal funds for fiscal year 2022-23 to the Department of Economic Development to carry out the Economic Recovery Act. The federal funds described in this subsection are the funds allocated to the State of Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, 42 U.S.C. 802, as amended. The department may use not more than ten million dollars of such federal funds for the administration of the Economic Recovery Act. (2) Of the intended appropriation described in subsection (1) of this section, eighty million dollars of such federal funds shall not be expended by the Department of Economic Development until the Economic Recovery and Incentives Division of the department has submitted a final copy of its coordinated plan to the Economic Recovery Special Committee of the Legislature pursuant to section 4 of this act. (3) The State Treasurer shall transfer any interest earned after the effective date of this act on federal funds allocated to the State of Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, 42 U.S.C. 802, as amended, to the Economic Recovery Contingency Fund on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services. (4) It is the intent of the Legislature that any unobligated amount as of July 1, 2024, of the federal funds allocated to the State of Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, 42 U.S.C. 802, as amended, be appropriated to the Department of Economic Development to carry out the Economic Recovery Act no later than August 1, 2024. (5) It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate ten million dollars from the General Fund to the Department of Economic Development for fiscal year 2022-23 to provide grants under the Economic Recovery Act. (6) It is the intent of the

Legislature to transfer ten million dollars from the General Fund to the Economic Recovery Contingency Fund for fiscal year 2023-24 and ten million dollars from the General Fund to the Economic Recovery Contingency Fund for fiscal year 2024-25 to provide grants under the Economic Recovery Act. (7) The Department of Economic Development shall not use money from the General Fund to implement or administer the grants provided under the Economic Recovery Act

Programs from LB1412

Economic Development – Industrial Recruitment. There is included in the amount shown as aid to this program for FY2023-24 \$3,000,000 Federal Funds from the funds allocated to the State of Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, 42 U.S.C. 802, as amended, for regional workforce development initiatives of each community college region.

Community Engagement

The Department of Economic Development (DED) has incorporated extensive community engagement strategies to guide program development and implementation of SLFRF funds. The Department conducted focus groups in August 2022 for several newly created SLFRF programs, including the Internships and Crime Prevention program and the QCT Affordable Housing Program – Metropolitan and Primary. Input from stakeholders at these focus groups informed program design. In November 2022, the Department conducted in-person town halls, traveling to every Qualified Census Tract in the state that was eligible for QCT Recovery Grant Program funds. The decision to conduct the town halls in-person, rather than via web conferencing software, was deliberately made to be inclusive of Nebraskans with limited access to high-speed broadband internet. Additionally, by seeking live feedback rather than solely relying on written surveys, DED was able to ensure that Nebraskans with limited written English proficiency could participate. A schedule of town halls can be found here:

<https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/nebraska-department-of-economic-development-to-host-economic-recovery-town-halls-across-nebraska/>

At these town halls, the Department presented information about the QCT Recovery Grant Program and solicited feedback from local community members on the most pressing needs of their QCTs. The needs reported by community members were further validated by a study the Department commissioned on recommendations for Nebraska's QCTs based on a socioeconomic analysis of key economic indicators in each jurisdiction.

For each SLFRF-funded program, DED incorporated feedback that was received into program design, including eligible uses of funds, key performance indicators, and application criteria, within the limits of allowable uses of ARPA funds. DED then opened an application period to accept subaward proposals from eligible applicants, posting public notice before each application period. After awards were made, DED additionally communicated awards in a public press release to continue its efforts to engage with the public and promote transparency. By relying on local community proposals for subaward programs, DED ensures that the implementation of SLFRF programs takes place as close as possible to the communities and populations benefiting from the funds.

Labor Practices

While the Davis-Bacon Act requirements (prevailing wage rates) do not apply to projects funded solely with award funds from the SLFRF program, except for certain SLFRF-funded construction projects undertaken by the District of Columbia, when undertaking capital expenditures, Treasury encourages awardees to adhere to strong labor standards, including project labor agreements and community benefits agreements that offer wages at or above the prevailing rate and include local hire provisions. Treasury also encourages awardees to prioritize in their procurements, employers with high labor standards and to prioritize employers without recent violations of federal and state labor and employment laws. Additional standards may be applicable based on state statutes (i.e., Neb. Rev. St. Chapter 73 "Public Lettings and Contracts") and award agreement terms and conditions.

Performance Report

Respective program managers for each grant program require subrecipients to submit quarterly reports to track progress of the project. Additionally, the Department also communicates through continuous press releases for transparency and public awareness.

Link to DED press releases: <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/news/>

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project [Identification Number]

2021 Shovel-Ready Capital Recovery

Funding Amount

\$100,000,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.34, Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Project Overview

- Nebraska Revised Statute § 81-12, 221 et seq created the 2021 Shovel Ready Capital Recovery and Investment Act to respond to the far-reaching public health and negative economic impacts of the pandemic. In 2023, various provisions of the Act were amended (Nebraska Revised Statute § 81-12, 220 et seq). The purpose of the 2021 Shovel-Ready Capital Recovery and Investment Act is a partnership between the State of Nebraska and qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations to assist such organizations with capital projects that have been delayed due to COVID-19 and that will provide a positive economic impact in the State of Nebraska.
- Nonprofits have faced significant challenges due to the pandemic's increased demand for services and changing operational needs, as well as declines in revenue sources such as donations and program fees. Nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) status eligible for assistance are those that experienced negative economic impacts or disproportionate impacts of the pandemic and are organizations related to arts, culture, or the humanities, including any organization formed for the purpose of developing and promoting the work of artists and the humanities in various visual and performing forms, such as film, sculpture, dance, painting, horticulture, multimedia, poetry, photography, performing arts, zoology, or botany; or organizations that operate a sports complex.
- Eligible organizations were awarded funds not to exceed the amount of private match funding they had secured as of December 31, 2021. Award amounts were also subject to limitations based on total project size. Organizations were required to begin or resume work on their capital project that had been delayed by the pandemic by June 30, 2022. Funding must be used for the program expenses outlined in the project application and in alignment with all local, state, and federal funding guidelines.
- Link to the website: <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/business/shovel-ready-grants/>

Use of Evidence

- The goal of the 2021 Shovel-Ready Capital Recovery program is to replace lost revenue of qualified nonprofit organizations throughout the State of Nebraska that were impacted by the pandemic.

- SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

- Each funded project requires the beneficiary organization to enter into a formal agreement with the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED).
- Agreements contain an enumerated scope of work, eligible expenses, terms and conditions, and reporting requirements. The State of Nebraska requires organizations receiving funds through the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (ARPA) to provide quarterly reporting to the state so that the data may be included in quarterly updates to the Treasury. This report will allow DED to evaluate whether the nonprofits are able to continue to serve their communities across the state and evaluate progress on the organization's capital project.
- As of June 2025, 68 awards received at least half of the awarded funding for their capital projects; and 40 of those projects are complete with the award being fully paid. The remaining 28 active awards are progressing toward project completion and final payout.

Project [Identification Number]

Airport Business Park Phase 1: Planning Grant

Funding Amount

\$400,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.34, Negative Economic Impacts

Project Overview

- The Airport Business Park Program is an authorized use of funding from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) (Assistance Listing 21.027) which was designed to provide state governments with the resources needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic effects and to build a stronger economy during recovery. SLFRF was established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) signed into law by the President of the United States on March 11, 2021.
- The Airport Business Park Program is authorized and further described within Neb. Rev. Stat. §81- 12,241(4)(a). The Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) will provide grants to a nonprofit economic development organization not to exceed \$90,000,000.00 for the development of a business park in or adjacent to Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs) located within the boundaries of a city of the metropolitan class and within two miles of a major airport as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. §13-3303.
- The Airport Business Park Program will consist of two phases, Phase 1: Planning Grant and Phase 2: Program Grant.
- Phase 1: Planning Grant: The planning grant process will allow Applicants the opportunity to create/develop a Master Plan for the development and creation of a business park. The successful Applicant(s) will receive grants, in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.00. Any Awardee of the Planning Grant funds must apply for Phase 2 of the Program Grant.
- Phase 1: Planning Grant will be funded with SLFRF ARPA funds
- Phase 2: Will not be funded with SLFRF funding
- Link to the website: [Airport Business Park Program – Nebraska Department of Economic Development](#)

Use of Evidence

- The goal of the Airport Business Park Phase 1: Planning Grant is to utilize the funding to create and present a Master Plan for the development and creation of a business park.
- SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

- The Applicant has completed a thorough Master Plan that details the process for an Airport Business Park to be built. Details were pinpointed and addressed needs identified in the Program Manual within the North Omaha area.

Entity	Number of Non-Profits Served
Omaha Economic Development Corp.	1

Project [Identification Number]

Building Mental Health Treatment Facilities Program

Funding Amount

\$40,000,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

1.12, Mental Health Service

Project Overview

- In accordance with Section 45 of LB1014, the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) was appropriated \$10,000,000 for Fiscal Year 2021-22 and \$30,000,000 for Fiscal Year 2022-23 under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) to support capital construction grants. These grants aim to expand Nebraska's mental health care and education capacity by funding projects led by nonprofit organizations that provide these services.
- This investment supports long-term recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic by improving access to mental health care, reducing emergency room usage and crisis interventions, lessening law enforcement involvement in behavioral health crises, and improving educational, workforce, and life outcomes for Nebraskans.
- Link to the website: [Building Mental Health Treatment Facilities Program](#)

Use of Evidence

- The Building Mental Health Treatment Facilities Program is informed by a strong public health rationale, supporting systemic improvements in mental health care through capital construction projects that expand access, reduce wait times, and enable integration of education and therapeutic services. These projects align with best practices in behavioral health infrastructure, emphasizing integrated care, trauma-informed design, and proximity to community supports. By increasing physical capacity in underserved areas, the program helps address the mental health challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions. Instead, the funds are dedicated to capital expenditures to support physical infrastructure needed to deliver mental health services over the long term.

Performance Report

- The table below contains a list of projects, locations, and grant amount.

Subrecipient Award Name	Location	Grant Amount
Community Alliance Mental Health Facility	Omaha	\$10,000,000
Behavioral Health & Urgent Care Center	Omaha & Kearney	\$10,000,000
Boys Town Education Center	Boys Town	\$10,000,000
Mental Health Innovation Foundation	Omaha	\$10,000,000

Total Award	\$40,000,000

- The project primarily serves the general population impacted by the pandemic.

Clyde Malone Community Center

Funding Amount

\$5,000,000

Project Expenditure Category

2.34, Assistance to Non-Profits

Project Overview

- Grant funds will assist a qualified 501(c)(3) non-profit organization located within qualified census tracts in a city of the primary class to respond to the negative impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the state will issue a grant that is reasonably related and proportionate to the loss incurred.
- Nonprofits have faced significant challenges due to the pandemic's increased demand for services and changing operational needs, as well as declines in revenue sources such as donations and program fees. Nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) status eligible for assistance are those disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and operate a community center located in a city of the primary class.

Use of Evidence

- The goal of the award is to replace lost revenue of a qualified nonprofit organization that was disproportionately impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic with grant funding that is reasonably related and proportionate to the loss incurred.
- Project location is within a qualified census tract in a city of the primary class.
- SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

- Assistance to Non-Profits (EC 2.34)
 - a. Number of Non-Profits served: 1
- Beneficiaries awarded: Clyde Malone Community Center

County Agricultural Society Grant Program

Funding Amount

\$5,000,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.34, Aid to Nonprofits

Project Overview

- The County Agricultural Society Program is an authorized use of funding from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) (Assistance Listing 21.027). Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-12,241(4)(g), DED will provide \$5 Million in grants to a county agricultural society with facilities within a city of the primary class to recoup lost revenue attributable to the Coronavirus public health emergency.
- The County Agriculture Society Program aims to assist eligible county agriculture societies by replacing lost revenue due to the negative economic impacts of the Coronavirus public health emergency, thereby helping them recover financially, continue operations, and mitigate other financial hardships resulting from the crisis, ensuring support for these societies to overcome challenges they are facing.
- Link to the website: [County Agricultural Society Grant Program - Nebraska Department of Economic Development](#)

Use of Evidence

- SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Organization Name	Impacted (I) vs. Disproportionately Impacted (DI)	Program Name	Funding Area	Grant Amount
Lancaster County Agricultural Society Inc.	DI	County Agriculture Society Program Manual	A city of the primary class.	\$ 5,000,000.00

Financial Literacy

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.7 Household Assistance: Service for Unbanked

Project Overview

- The purpose of the Financial Literacy Grant Program is to provide funding to a postsecondary institution located in a qualified census tract (QCT) in a city of the metropolitan class to provide funding for a financial literacy program to improve economic and health outcomes for individuals residing in qualified census tracts.
- The program will provide low or no cost financial services, including in conjunction with administration of benefits, such as pre-paid debit cards, e.g., via Economic Impact Payment or General Purpose Reloadable pre-paid cards or for the development of public banking infrastructure that can support benefit delivery,
- Provide transitional services to facilitate long-term access to banking and financial services,
- Provide financial literacy programs and conduct community outreach and deploy engagement resources to increase awareness about low-cost, no-overdraft fee accounts, pilot new strategies and approaches that help overcome barriers to banking access and support the gathering and sharing of information in ways that improve equity, such as community meetings, partnerships with community-based organizations, online surveys, focus groups, human-centered design activities, and other community engagement activities.
- Link to the website: <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/recovery/financial-literacy-grant/>

Use of Evidence

- Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §802(c)(1), awards made by the Financial Literacy Grant Program are in response to negative economic impacts with respect to the Coronavirus Public Health Emergency (COVID–19.)
- The total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions is \$962,198.92.

Performance Report

- Number of households served: 135
- The outcome of the program will provide 15 classes with 20 project participants each.

Internships and Crime Prevention

Funding Amount

\$4,750,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.34, Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Project Overview

- The Internships and Crime Prevention Program is an authorized use of funding from the Coronavirus SLFRF which was designed to provide state governments with the resources needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic effects and to build a stronger economy during recovery
- The Internships and Crime Prevention Program is authorized and further described within Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-12,241-4(c). This program is for a nonprofit organization partnering with a city of the metropolitan class for the purpose of providing internships and crime prevention within qualified census tracts located within the boundaries of such a city. The awarded nonprofit organization will receive up to \$4,750,000.
- Link to the website: <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/recovery/internships-and-crime-prevention/>

Use of Evidence

- This goal is to reduce the prevalence and incidence of youth exposed to violence through prevention and early intervention. Program efforts will target youth and families at elevated risk of violent victimization or perpetration due to their exposure to violence in their homes and the community. More specifically, the program will expand services to youth in historically marginalized and underserved Northeast and Southeast Omaha communities and residents living in public housing. TSF and partnering agencies will continue and expand programming through a community-grass root approach to assist youth and their families exposed to violence, build resilience, and prevent future juvenile violence and delinquency. This will engage participants in workforce training and development through full-time and summer internships and entrepreneurship programs to generate economic stability.
- No SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

- The subrecipient has served over 18 non-profit organizations to conduct an internship program for youth students in Northeast and Southeast Omaha.
- During this period, the following key performance indicators were accomplished:

- a. FAFSA Completion: Interest in FAFSA workshops increased by 20% from the previous quarter, with group sessions and one-on-one support helping students navigate the process.
 - b. Scholarship Achievements: Our participants secured over \$80,000 in scholarships, a direct outcome of our scholarship research and application guidance.
 - c. Academic Growth: Academic tutoring saw measurable results, with students, particularly seniors, showing higher ACT scores due to targeted math and science tutoring.
 - d. Career Pathing: Career exploration workshops led to a 30% increase in students committing to specific career paths or college majors.
 - e. Youth Internships: Our youth internship program continued to thrive, with 70 interns actively contributing to various projects, gaining valuable hands-on experience, and offering fresh insights.
 - f. Back-to-School Community Resource Fair on August 8, 2024. Drew in over 500 attendees, and more than 600 backpacks were distributed to local youth to provide them with essential resources to start school.
- 2,137 participants have been enrolled in the internships and crime prevention programs offered to date.

Project [Identification Number]

Nebraska Investment Finance Authority Act (NIFA)-Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Pandemic Gap Funding Program

Funding Amount

\$20,500,000

Project Expenditure Category

2.15, Long Term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Project Overview

- The Nebraska Investment Finance Authority (NIFA) Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Pandemic Gap Funding Program provides financial assistance through residual receipt loans to affordable housing developments impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program targets developments that received LIHTC awards in 2020 and 2021 but experienced unexpected construction cost increases, enabling these projects to complete construction and deliver affordable housing units. The Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) administers the program through a contract with NIFA. Projects funded under this program primarily serve households at or below 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI) across various Nebraska communities. Funding obligations align with ARPA and SLFRF requirements, ensuring full expenditure by December 31, 2026.
- Link to the website: [Nebraska Investment Finance Authority \(NIFA\) - Low Income Housing Tax Credit \(LIHTC\) Pandemic Gap Funding Program](#)

Use of Evidence

- The project aims to stabilize and increase the supply of affordable housing by assisting developers who have experienced financial gaps caused by pandemic-related construction cost surges. Funds were used to provide gap loans, enabling projects to resume or continue construction activities critical for addressing the housing needs of low- to moderate-income populations.
- SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

- The table below contains a list of project developers, the number of units being developed, number of affordable units, SLFRF obligated amount and Demographics.

Note: DI – Disproportionately Impacted

Developer Name	# Units	# Affordable Units	SLFRF Obligation Amount	Demographic Distribution
Union at Middle Creek LP	192	192	\$1,561,531	DI: Low-income household and populations

1120 Lofts, LLC	30	24	\$815,735	DI: Low-income households and populations residing in Qualified Census Tracts
Omega West Point, Limited	22	17	\$262,712	DI: Low-income household and populations
Ashland Senior, LLC	20	16	\$589,566	DI: Low-income household and populations
Fremont Omega, LP	49	39	\$713,605	DI: Low-income household and populations
RMLX, LP	50	50	\$925,000	DI: Low-income household and populations
Deer Creek Apartments, LP	48	38	\$944,567	DI: Low-income household and populations
131 Fort, LLC	80	64	\$1,489,066	DI: Low-income household and populations
1528 N 16 th LLC	50	48	\$416,219	DI: Low-income households and populations residing in Qualified Census Tracts
Hamilton Village Senior Living, LLC	59	47	\$3,028,500	DI: Low-income households and populations residing in Qualified Census Tracts
Founders Ridge Senior Living, LP	68	54	\$5,504,570	DI: Low-income household and populations
Avenue 25 Villas, LLC	16	14	\$191,678	DI: Low-income household and populations
State Street Villas, LLC	20	17	\$587,370	DI: Low-income household and populations
Emerald View	100	100	\$262,179	DI: Low-income household and populations
Foxtail Central, LP	35	28	\$1,095,400	DI: Low-income household and populations
Total	839	748	\$18,387,698	

- Number of affordable housing units developed: 748
- Demographic Targeting: Projects primarily benefit low-income households and disproportionately impacted populations, including those residing in Qualified Census Tracts.

Project [Identification Number]

Nebraska Meat Processing Wastewater Pretreatment and Runoff Control Program

Funding Amount

\$20,000,000

Project Expenditure Category

5.1, Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment

Project Overview

- The Nebraska Meat Processing Wastewater Pretreatment and Runoff Control Program, established through Section 44 of LB1014, supports public infrastructure essential to meat processing site development across the state. The current flagship investment is in the City of North Platte, where the project facilitates wastewater pretreatment for the new Sustainable Beef Facility—an effort that advances both environmental stewardship and economic development.
- The project addresses the challenges associated with high-strength industrial wastewater produced by meat processing operations. To manage this, the City of North Platte is constructing a robust pretreatment system.
- Key components include:
 - a. Sewer Infrastructure: Installation of gravity sewer lines, force mains, and a lift station to convey wastewater from the processing facility to the pretreatment site.
 - b. Treatment processes: Construction of a new facility featuring anaerobic and aerobic treatment processes to meet regulatory discharge standards before routing water to the city's centralized system.
- This initiative is designed to mitigate environmental impacts while enhancing North Platte's infrastructure capacity to support current and future industrial growth.
- Link to the website: [Nebraska Meat Processing Wastewater Pretreatment and Runoff Control Program](#)

Use of Evidence

- The project aligns with eligible water and sewer infrastructure uses as defined in the U.S. Treasury's Final Rule, specifically projects supported by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund under 31 C.F.R. § 35.6(e)(1)(i).
- Although this initiative is not classified as an evidence-based intervention, its design and implementation are informed by long-standing engineering principles and environmental compliance standards. Pretreatment of high-strength wastewater is a widely adopted method for improving water quality and reducing the burden on municipal treatment facilities.

Performance Report

- Infrastructure Milestones:
 - a. Sewer Mains, lift station, and force main installations completed.
 - b. Treatment cells prepared with liner systems, riprap, and infiltration testing finalized.
 - c. Pretreatment tanks placed and site development work nearing completion
- Operational Readiness:
 - a. Electrical work and lagoon lift station construction are in progress
 - b. Final system integration is expected in 2025, aligning with commissioning targets.
- Expected Impact:
 - a. The new pretreatment facility will significantly reduce organic loads entering the city's wastewater treatment plant, maintaining NPDES permit compliance and reducing strain on downstream infrastructure.
- Median Household Income: \$54,489.00
- Lowest Quintile Income: \$11,400.00
- NPDES Permit ID: NE0032891

Project [Identification Number]

Nuclear Plant Siting Feasibility Study Program

Funding Amount

\$698,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

5.18, Water and Sewer: Other

Project Overview

- The Nuclear Plant Siting Feasibility Study Program supports the evaluation of potential locations for the development of advanced nuclear reactors in Nebraska. This program is administered by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development and is funded through the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF). It enables public utilities to assess the compatibility of both new and existing electric generation facilities—with clean energy goals. Additionally, the initiative aims to enhance wastewater and water treatment infrastructure.
- In 2024, Phase 1 of a statewide technical screening study was completed. The study identified several communities for further analysis based on various regulatory, environmental, and infrastructure criteria. This effort assists Nebraska in evaluating the future deployment of Small Modular Reactor (SMR) technology to support sustainable utility services.
- Link to the website: [Nuclear Plant Siting Feasibility Study Program](#)

Use of Evidence

- This program was established under 42 U.S.C. § 802(c)(1) to support essential investments in water infrastructure. Although it is not classified as a formal evidence-based intervention, the feasibility study employs structured site screening methodologies. These include the use of geographic information systems (GIS), regulatory guidelines, and infrastructure modeling tools to inform selection criteria. These tools aid in identifying communities where clean energy can help sustain critical wastewater systems.

Performance Report

- The Nuclear Plant Siting Phase 1 study was completed in the 3rd quarter of 2024.
- The project has now entered Phase 2 of the feasibility study. This phase includes community engagement, site reconnaissance, and preliminary assessments of environmental and transmission factors. Findings from Phase 1 were developed through desktop analysis and are being further refined through on-the-ground validation. No site has been selected at this time.
- The outcomes of the study will guide future infrastructure planning to integrate clean energy solutions that improve the long-term sustainability and reliability of water and wastewater systems across Nebraska.
- Median Household Income of the service area: \$67,846.00

- Lowest Quintile Income of the service area: \$14,847.00

Project [Identification Number]

Pandemic Relief Housing Program

Funding Amount

\$8,000,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.18: Long-Term Housing Security: Other Housing Assistance

Project Overview

- The purpose of the Pandemic Relief Housing (PRH) program is to develop, repair, or operate affordable housing, including housing for refugees or other such immigrants, which will increase long-term housing security.
- Funds may be used for the following types of projects:
 - a. Rental Housing – construction, acquisition, and/or rehabilitation of single- or multi-family units for rent.
 - b. Homeowner Rehabilitation – rehabilitation of owner-occupied housing units.
 - c. Homebuyer Projects – homebuyer assistance, construction, acquisition, and/or rehabilitation of housing units for homebuyers.
- Housing units developed under this program will be for households that meet one or more of the following classifications:
 - a. Project will serve **refugees or other such immigrants** exclusively but may be located anywhere in the State of Nebraska. Refugee and immigrant households were determined by the Department of Economic Development to be disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic effects and are therefore a “presumed eligible” population within SLFRF guidelines.
 - b. Project will serve **residents in any of 42 counties determined by the Department of Economic Development (DED) to be disproportionately impacted** by the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic effects. Residents of a “disproportionately impacted county” are a “presumed eligible” population within SLFRF guidelines.
 - c. Project will serve **residents of a qualified census tract (QCT)** in the State of Nebraska, defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as a census tract in which 50 percent or more of residents have an income less than 60 percent of Area Median Income and in which the poverty rate is greater than 25 percent of the population. Residents of a QCT are “presumed eligible” within SLFRF guidelines.
- Housing units developed under this program will serve households with income at or below 185 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Rental housing projects are required to establish rent rates not greater than 30% of the household income level equal to 185 percent of the Federal

Poverty Guidelines, based on the presumed household size for the number of bedrooms in the unit. The rent will be updated annually when new Federal Poverty Guidelines are published by DHHS and will be implemented in accordance with the rental lease agreement and with at least 30 days' notice provided to the occupants.

- Eligible subrecipients of PRH funding must be nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status and housing as part of the organization's mission statement.
- At least 50 percent of the funds distributed will be distributed for housing developments in counties with fewer than 100,000 residents according to the most recent federal decennial census.
- PRH programs are not permitted to expend subaward funds on the installation of public infrastructure, such as water and sewer lines. Projects are not required to address climate change or advance the Justice40 initiative.
- Projects funded through this program will maintain an affordability period for a twenty-year (20-year) period that begins on the date of project completion for rental projects, the date of transfer to the homeowner for homebuyer projects, or the date of project completion for homeowner projects.
- DED has obligated \$8,000,000 to nine (9) subrecipients. Subawards were approved by a competitive application cycle.
- Link to the program website: <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/recovery/pandemic-relief-housing-program/>

Use of Evidence

- The Department of Economic Development (DED) determined that refugees and other such immigrants were disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency. Between 2015 to 2020, an average of 800 refugees immigrated to Nebraska annually. Nebraska's refugees experienced a more significant, negative economic impact during the COVID-19 pandemic compared to the native-born population. Based on available data, the labor force participation and employment rates from 2019 to 2020 show more significant negative impact for the refugee population, considering gender, age, educational attainment, and the presence of children in the household.
- Forty-two (42) of Nebraska's 91 counties were determined to be disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency. DED defined a county as having been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 if it met at least three of the four following criteria when compared to other Nebraska counties. The classification required a county to meet at least three of the four following criteria:
 - a. Labor force decreased from 2010 to 2019;
 - b. Labor force growth from 2019 to 2020 was depressed due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

- c. More housing cost-burdened¹ households per capita than the Nebraska measure; or
- d. Household median income in 2020 was less than Nebraska's median income.
- The project's economic impact will be the development or preservation of new affordable housing units in QCTs and will promote access to safe, affordable for income-qualifying households, including refugees and other such immigrants.
- Subawarded projects within this program include:
 - a. 36 affordable housing units developed; and
 - b. 62 affordable housing units preserved.
- Projects funded by this program are monitored through review of expenses prior to disbursement of subaward funds, quarterly project performance reports, and compliance monitoring completed prior to project completion.
- These funds will not be used for evidence-based interventions.

Demographic Distribution

- The table below contains a list of the nonprofit organizations that have been subawarded funds and the demographic distributions that will be served.

Subrecipient	Project Location	Award Amount	Project Type	Project Demographic Distribution
Center for Rural Affairs Community Capital	Grand Island	\$ 1,000,000	Rental; new construction	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19
Family Service Association of Lincoln	Lincoln	\$ 1,000,000	Rental; new construction	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19 (2) DI: Low income households and populations
Good Neighbor Community Center	Lincoln	\$ 790,000	Rental; new construction	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19 (2) DI: Low income households and populations
Habitat for Humanity of Omaha, Inc.	Omaha	\$ 1,000,000	Homebuyer; acquisition; rehabilitation	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19 (2) DI: Low income households and populations
Kearney Community Sustainable Housing	Kearney	\$ 1,000,000	Rental; new construction	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19 (2) DI: Low income households and populations
Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Inc.	Lexington	\$ 1,000,000	Rental; acquisition	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19
Neighborhoods Inc. DBA NeighborWorks Lincoln	Lincoln	\$ 660,000	Homebuyer; acquisition	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19 (2) DI: Low income households and populations
Project Houseworks	Omaha	\$ 550,000	Homeowner; rehabilitation	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19 (2) DI: Low income households and populations
Southeast Nebraska Affordable Housing Council (SENAHC)	Beatrice	\$ 1,000,000	Rental; new construction	(2) DI: Low income households and populations
TOTAL AWARD:		\$ 8,000,000		

¹ "Housing cost-burdened" is defined as renter and owner households that spend 30 percent or more of their household income on housing.

Performance Report

- The PRH program funds were obligated to nine (9) nonprofit organizations through three competitive application cycles.
- DED has executed subaward agreements with all nine (9) nonprofit organizations.
- This program includes capital expenditure, as the allowable project activities include the development of affordable housing, supportive housing, or recovery housing.
- The total capital expenditure for the program is \$7,511,000. The remaining \$489,000, approximately 6.5% of the allocated funds, will be used for grant administration and management costs and is thus subtracted from the expected capital expenditure.
- Below is a table that summarizes the number of new housing units that will be created and the number of housing units that will be preserved by the projects within this Expenditure Category, as well as the expected subsidy amount per housing unit.

Subrecipient	Award Amount	Housing Units Developed	Housing Units Preserved	Per-Unit Subsidy
Center for Rural Affairs Community Capital	\$ 1,000,000	10	0	\$ 100,000.00
Family Service Association of Lincoln	\$ 1,000,000	6	0	\$ 166,666.67
Good Neighbor Community Center	\$ 790,000	6	0	\$ 131,666.67
Habitat for Humanity of Omaha, Inc.	\$ 1,000,000	0	5	\$ 200,000.00
Kearney Community Sustainable Housing	\$ 1,000,000	6	0	\$ 166,666.67
Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Inc.	\$ 1,000,000	4	0	\$ 250,000.00
Neighborhoods Inc. DBA NeighborWorks Lincoln	\$ 660,000	0	12	\$ 55,000.00
Project Houseworks	\$ 550,000	0	45	\$ 12,222.22
Southeast Nebraska Affordable Housing Council (SENAHC)	\$ 1,000,000	4	0	\$ 250,000.00
TOTAL:	\$ 8,000,000	36	62	
AVERAGE:				\$ 148,025

- Output measures:
 - a. Number and amount of grants made to date: 9 grants with \$8,000,000 allocated
- Outcome measures:
 - a. Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed:
 - i. Completed to date: 29
 - ii. At program completion: 98

Project [Identification Number]

QCT Affordable Housing Program (Metro Class)

Funding Amount

\$20,000,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.18: Long-Term Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance

Project Overview

- The purpose of the QCT Affordable Housing Program (QCT AHP) is provide grant funding to public and private entities to prepare land parcels for affordable housing or to conduct other eligible affordable housing interventions, including production, rehabilitation, and preservation of affordable rental housing and affordable homeownership units within qualified census tracts located in a city of the metropolitan class as defined by Neb. Rev. Stat. §14-101. Omaha is the only city of a metropolitan class in the State of Nebraska.
- Funds may be used for the following types of projects:
 - a. Jump Start Fund – shovel-ready rental and homebuyer projects, including single- and multi-family new construction and conversion, which will break ground within 6 months of the award.
 - b. Site Prep Fund – projects including acquisition of vacant property, demolition, infrastructure improvements, and other land preparation activities necessary to prepare the site for future new construction.
 - c. Impact Project Fund – innovative, transformational rental, homebuyer, and homeowner projects, including single- and multi-family new construction, conversion, rehabilitation, and down payment assistance.
- Housing units developed or preserved under this program will be located in qualified census tracts (QCTs) and will therefore be for households residing within the eligible QCTs.
- Housing units developed under this program will serve income-eligible households. Projects have adopted various income restrictions, none of which may exceed 120% of Area Median Income. Rental housing projects are required to establish rent rates not greater than 30% of the household income level at the project's established income level, based on presumed household size for the number of bedrooms in the unit. The rent will be updated annually when new income and rent limits are published by HUD and will be implemented in accordance with the rental lease agreement and with at least 30 days' notice provided to the occupants.
- Eligible subrecipients of QCT AHP funding may be public or private entities, including political subdivisions, nonprofit organizations, and small for-profit entities. The State of Nebraska defines "political subdivisions" to include villages, cities, counties, school districts, public power districts, community colleges, natural resources districts, and all other units of local government.

- QCT AHP projects are permitted to develop infrastructure. Projects are required to address climate change and advance the Justice40 initiative.
- Project funded through this program will maintain a period of affordability of 20 years that begins at project completion.
- DED has obligated \$20,000,000 to 12 subrecipients. Subawards were approved by a competitive application cycle.
- Link to the program website: <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/recovery/qct-affordable-housing-program/>

Use of Evidence

- Pursuant to the 2022 Final Rule, this program uses funds in response to the public health emergency and its negative economic impacts via projects that will serve households residing in qualified census tracts. Residents of a qualified census tract were found by the Treasury to have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.
- The project's economic impact will be the development or preservation of new affordable housing units in QCTs and will promote access to safe, affordable for income-qualifying households.
- Subawarded projects within this program include:
 - a. 46 new affordable housing units developed;
 - b. 4 affordable housing units preserved; and
 - c. 59 sites developed for future affordable housing construction.
- Projects funded by this program are monitored through monthly expense reports, quarterly project performance reports, and compliance monitoring completed prior to project completion.
- These funds will not be used for evidence-based interventions.

Demographic Distribution

- The table on the following page contains a list of the organizations that have been subawarded funds and the demographic distributions that will be served by these projects.

Subrecipient	Award Amount	Project Type	Project Demographic Distribution
Civic Corner LLC	\$ 2,175,000	Site prep	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Southside Redevelopment Corporation d/b/a Canopy South LLC	\$ 1,250,000	Homebuyer; new construction	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
inCOMMON Housing Development (Poppleton West)	\$ 1,125,000	Site prep	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
inCOMMON Housing Development (Poppleton East)	\$ 1,125,000	Rental; new construction	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Youth Emergency Services, Inc.	\$ 2,175,000	Rental; new construction	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Holy Name Housing Corporation (Camden Crown)	\$ 1,500,000	Site prep	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Holy Name Housing Corporation (Franklin Gardens)	\$ 900,000	Site prep	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Woodling Development Corporation	\$ 1,250,000	Rental; new construction	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Omaha Municipal Land Bank	\$ 1,250,000	Site prep	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Highlander Phase V, LLC	\$ 2,000,000	Rental; new construction	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Omaha Economic Development Corporation	\$ 1,250,000	Historical rehabilitation; rental; senior housing	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Habitat for Humanity of Omaha, Inc.	\$ 4,000,000	Homebuyer; new construction	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
TOTAL AWARD:	\$ 20,000,000		

Performance Report

- The QCT AHP funds were obligated to 12 subrecipient organizations through a competitive application process.
- DED has executed subaward agreements with all 12 subrecipient organizations.
- The program includes capital expenditure, as the allowable project activities include the development of affordable housing, supportive housing, and recovery housing.
- The total capital expenditure for the program is \$19,536,547.56. The remaining \$463,452.44, or 2.3% of the allocated funds, will be used for grant administration, project

management, property acquisition, and indirect costs. This amount has been subtracted from the expected capital expenditure.

- Below is a table that summarizes the number of housing units that will be developed or preserved by the projects within this Expenditure Category, as well as the expected subsidy amount per housing unit.

Subrecipient	Award Amount	Housing Units New Constr.	Housing Units Preserved	Sites Developed	Per-Unit Subsidy
Civic Corner LLC	\$ 2,175,000	0	0	1	\$ 2,175,000.00
Southside Redevelopment Corporation d/b/a Canopy South LLC	\$ 1,250,000	4	0	0	\$ 312,500.00
inCOMMON Housing Development (Poppleton West)	\$ 1,125,000	0	0	1	\$ 1,125,000.00
inCOMMON Housing Development (Poppleton East)	\$ 1,125,000	3	0	0	\$ 375,000.00
Youth Emergency Services, Inc.	\$ 2,175,000	6	0	0	\$ 362,500.00
Holy Name Housing Corporation (Camden Crown)	\$ 1,500,000	0	0	11	\$ 136,363.64
Holy Name Housing Corporation (Franklin Gardens)	\$ 900,000	0	0	16	\$ 56,250.00
Woodling Development Corporation	\$ 1,250,000	5	0	0	\$ 250,000.00
Omaha Municipal Land Bank	\$ 1,250,000	0	0	30	\$ 41,666.67
Highlander Phase V, LLC	\$ 2,000,000	8	0	0	\$ 250,000.00
Omaha Economic Development Corporation	\$ 1,250,000	0	4	0	\$ 312,500.00
Habitat for Humanity of Omaha, Inc.	\$ 4,000,000	20	0	0	\$ 200,000.00
TOTAL:	\$ 20,000,000	46	4	59	
AVERAGE:					\$ 466,398.36

- Output measures:
 - a. Number and amount of grants made to date: 12 grants with \$20,000,000 allocated
- Outcome measures:
 - a. Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed:
 - i. Completed to date: 32
 - ii. At program completion: 50
 - b. Number of sites developed for future construction of affordable housing:
 - i. Completed to date: 5
 - ii. At program completion: 59

Project [Identification Number]

QCT Affordable Housing Program (Primary Class)

Funding Amount

\$16,467,837.97

Project Expenditure Category

2.18: Long-Term Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance

Project Overview

- The purpose of the QCT Affordable Housing Program (QCT AHP) is provide grant funding to public and private entities to prepare land parcels for affordable housing or to conduct other eligible affordable housing interventions, including production, rehabilitation, and preservation of affordable rental housing and affordable homeownership units within qualified census tracts located in a city of the primary class as defined by Neb. Rev. Stat. §15-101. Lincoln is the only city of a primary class in the State of Nebraska.
- Funds may be used for the following types of projects:
 - a. Jump Start Fund – shovel-ready rental and homebuyer projects, including single- and multi-family new construction and conversion, which will break ground within 6 months of the award.
 - b. Site Prep Fund – projects including acquisition of vacant property, demolition, infrastructure improvements, and other land preparation activities necessary to prepare the site for future new construction.
 - c. Impact Project Fund – innovative, transformational rental, homebuyer, and homeowner projects, including single- and multi-family new construction, conversion, rehabilitation, and down payment assistance.
- Housing units developed or preserved under this program will be located in qualified census tracts (QCTs) and will therefore be for households residing within the eligible QCTs.
- Housing units developed under this program will serve income-eligible households. Projects have adopted various income restrictions, none of which may exceed 120% of Area Median Income. Rental housing projects are required to establish rent rates not greater than 30% of the household income level at the project's established income level, based on presumed household size for the number of bedrooms in the unit. The rent will be updated annually when new income and rent limits are published by HUD and will be implemented in accordance with the rental lease agreement and with at least 30 days' notice provided to the occupants.
- Eligible subrecipients of QCT AHP funding may be public or private entities, including political subdivisions, nonprofit organizations, and small for-profit entities. The State of Nebraska defines "political subdivisions" to include villages, cities, counties, school districts, public power districts, community colleges, natural resources districts, and all other units of local government.

- QCT AHP projects are permitted to develop infrastructure. Projects are required to address climate change and advance the Justice40 initiative.
- Project funded through this program will maintain a period of affordability of 20 years that begins at project completion.
- DED has obligated \$19,400,000 to 13 subrecipients. Subawards were approved by a competitive application cycle.
- Link to the program website: <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/recovery/qct-affordable-housing-program/>

Use of Evidence

- Pursuant to the 2022 Final Rule, this program uses funds in response to the public health emergency and its negative economic impacts via projects that will serve households residing in qualified census tracts. Residents of a qualified census tract were found by the Treasury to have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.
- The project's economic impact will be the development or preservation of new affordable housing units in QCTs and will promote access to safe, affordable for income-qualifying households.
- Subawarded projects within this program include:
 - a. 94 new affordable housing units developed;
 - b. 0 affordable housing units preserved; and
 - c. 5 sites developed for future affordable housing construction.
- Projects funded by this program are monitored through monthly expense reports, quarterly project performance reports, and compliance monitoring completed prior to project completion.
- These funds will not be used for evidence-based interventions.

Demographic Distribution

- The table on the following page contains a list of the organizations that have been subawarded funds and the demographic distributions that will be served by these projects.

Subrecipient	Award Amount	Project Type	Project Demographic Distribution
City of Lincoln (Permanent Supportive Housing)	\$ 1,150,630	Rental; new construction; permanent	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
City of Lincoln (Pershing Auditorium Demolition)	\$ 2,500,000	Site prep	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Community Development Resources (23rd Street Net-Zero Live/Work)	\$ 600,000	Rental; new construction	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Community Development Resources (CT Redevelopment)	\$ 4,000,000	Rental; new construction	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Community Development Resources (Mural Nebraska)	\$ 3,000,000	Rental; new construction	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Impact Housing Indiana Corp	\$ 3,021,784	Site prep	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
M&G Holdings LLC	\$ 225,000	Rental; new construction	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Nebraska Housing Resource	\$ 234,850	Site prep	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Neighborhoods Inc (Green Cottage)	\$ 194,943	Homebuyer; new construction	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
Neighborhoods Inc (Promenade at Pioneers)	\$ 899,364	Homebuyer; new construction	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
New Generation Properties LLC (18th & N Street)	\$ 2,145,349	Rental; new construction	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
New Generation Properties LLC (48th & Madison)	\$ 1,112,232	Rental; new construction	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
South of Downtown Community Development	\$ 315,848	Rental; new construction	DI: Households residing in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)
TOTAL AWARD:	\$ 19,400,000		

Performance Report

- The QCT AHP funds were obligated to 13 subrecipient organizations through a competitive application process.
- DED has executed subaward agreements with all 13 subrecipient organizations.
- The program includes capital expenditure, as the allowable project activities include the development of affordable housing, supportive housing, and recovery housing.
- The total capital expenditure for the program is \$16,043,161.20. The remaining \$3,356,838.80, or 17.3% of the allocated funds, will be used for grant administration, project management, property acquisition, and indirect costs. This amount has been subtracted from the expected capital expenditure.
- Below is a table that summarizes the number of housing units that will be developed or preserved by the projects within this Expenditure Category, as well as the expected subsidy amount per housing unit.

Subrecipient	Award Amount	Housing Units New Constr.	Housing Units Preserved	Sites Developed	Per-Unit Subsidy
City of Lincoln (Permanent Supportive Housing)	\$ 1,150,630	4	0	0	\$ 287,657.50
City of Lincoln (Pershing Auditorium Demolition)	\$ 2,500,000	0	0	3	\$ 833,333.33
Community Development Resources (23rd Street Net-Zero Live)	\$ 600,000	9	0	0	\$ 66,666.67
Community Development Resources (CT Redevelopment)	\$ 4,000,000	17	0	0	\$ 235,294.12
Community Development Resources (Mural Nebraska)	\$ 3,000,000	40	0	0	\$ 75,000.00
Impact Housing Indiana Corp	\$ 3,021,784	0	0	1	\$ 3,021,784.00
M&G Holdings LLC	\$ 225,000	4	0	0	\$ 56,250.00
Nebraska Housing Resource	\$ 234,850	0	0	1	\$ 234,850.00
Neighborhoods Inc (Green Cottage)	\$ 194,943	1	0	0	\$ 194,943.00
Neighborhoods Inc (Promenade at Pioneers)	\$ 899,364	2	0	0	\$ 449,682.00
New Generation Properties LLC (18th & N Street)	\$ 2,145,349	10	0	0	\$ 214,534.90
New Generation Properties LLC (48th & Madison)	\$ 1,112,232	6	0	0	\$ 185,372.00
South of Downtown Community Development	\$ 315,848	1	0	0	\$ 315,848.00
TOTAL:	\$ 19,400,000	94	0	5	
AVERAGE:					\$ 474,708.89

- Output measures:
 - a. Number and amount of grants made to date: 13 grants with \$19,400,000 allocated
- Outcome measures:
 - a. Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed:
 - i. Completed to date: 15
 - ii. At program completion: 94
 - b. Number of sites developed for future construction of affordable housing:
 - i. Completed to date: 4
 - ii. At program completion: 5

Project [Identification Number]

Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant – Greater Nebraska

Funding Amount

\$750,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.30, Category Name: Technical Assistance, Counseling, or Business Planning

Project Overview

- The QCT Recovery Grant program is an authorized use of funding from COVID-19 State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) which was designed to provide state governments with the resources needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic effects and to build a stronger economy during recovery. Grants not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 to public and private entities located within qualified census tracts in a city of the primary class to respond to the negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Link to the website: [QCT Recovery Grant Program - Nebraska Department of Economic Development](#)

Use of Evidence

- These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Entity	Number of small businesses served
Nebraska Enterprise Fund	104

Project [Identification Number]

Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant – Greater Nebraska

Funding Amount

\$750,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.32, Category Name: Business Incubators and Start-Up or Expansion Assistance

Project Overview

- The QCT Recovery Grant program is an authorized use of funding from COVID-19 State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) which was designed to provide state governments with the resources needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic effects and to build a stronger economy during recovery. Grants not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 to public and private entities located within qualified census tracts in a city of the primary class to respond to the negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Link to the website: [QCT Recovery Grant Program - Nebraska Department of Economic Development](#)

Use of Evidence

- These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Entity	Number of small businesses served
City of Fairbury Small Business and Entrepreneurship Support 23-11-294	6

Project [Identification Number]

Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant – Greater Nebraska

Funding Amount

\$750,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.33, Category Name: Enhanced Support to Microbusinesses

Project Overview

- The QCT Recovery Grant program is an authorized use of funding from COVID-19 State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) which was designed to provide state governments with the resources needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic effects and to build a stronger economy during recovery. Grants not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 to public and private entities located within qualified census tracts in a city of the primary class to respond to the negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Link to the website: [QCT Recovery Grant Program - Nebraska Department of Economic Development](#)

Use of Evidence

- These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Entity	Number of small businesses served
Center For Rural Affairs 23-11-288	414

Project [Identification Number]

Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant – Greater Nebraska

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

5.1 , Category Name: Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment

Project Overview

- The QCT Recovery Grant program is an authorized use of funding from COVID-19 State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) which was designed to provide state governments with the resources needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic effects and to build a stronger economy during recovery. Grants not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 to public and private entities located within qualified census tracts in a city of the primary class to respond to the negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Link to the website: [QCT Recovery Grant Program - Nebraska Department of Economic Development](#)

Use of Evidence

- These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Entity	Projected /Actual Construct ion Date	Projected /Actual Initiation of operation date	Location	NPDES Permit Number	PWS ID number	Median Household Income	Lowest Quintile Income
Fairbury City Water Infrastructure Improvements 23-11-295	6/1/2025	09/2026	612 D Street P.O. Box 554 Fairbury, NE 68352	N/A (Project not started yet)	NE3109507	\$45,759	\$20,127

Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant – Greater Nebraska

Funding Amount

\$1,500,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

5.2, Category Name: Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Collection and Conveyance

Project Overview

- The QCT Recovery Grant program is an authorized use of funding from COVID-19 State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) which was designed to provide state governments with the resources needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic effects and to build a stronger economy during recovery. Grants not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 to public and private entities located within qualified census tracts in a city of the primary class to respond to the negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Link to the website: [QCT Recovery Grant Program - Nebraska Department of Economic Development](#)

Use of Evidence

- These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Entity	Projected/Actual Construction Date	Projected/Actual Initiation of operation date	Location
City of Norfolk Water Infrastructure	11/01/2024	10/2026	610 E Monroe Ave. Norfolk, NE 68701

Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant – Greater Nebraska & Lincoln

Funding Amount

\$5,493,500

Project Expenditure Category

2.10: Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g., job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Project Overview

- The QCT Recovery Grant program is an authorized use of funding from COVID-19 State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) which was designed to provide state governments with the resources needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic effects and to build a stronger economy during recovery. Grants not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 to public and private entities located within qualified census tracts in a city of the primary class to respond to the negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Link to the website: [QCT Recovery Grant Program - Nebraska Department of Economic Development](#)

Use of Evidence

- These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Entity	Number Served
Gener8tor Skills Accelerator 23-11-259	
<i>How many participants or businesses have enrolled in the project to date?</i>	63
<i>Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs</i>	39
<i>Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs</i>	6
<i>Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs</i>	8
Rabble Mill (The Bay) Gap Year Program 23-11-260	
<i>How many participants have enrolled in the project to date?</i>	56
<i>Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs</i>	25
<i>Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs</i>	0
<i>Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs</i>	17
Pacific Engineering Digital Manufacturing Training Center 23-11-263	
<i>How many participants or businesses have enrolled in the project to date?</i>	0
<i>Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs</i>	0
<i>Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs</i>	0
<i>Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs</i>	N/A

Center for People in Need Talent Marketplace 23-11-264	
<i>How many participants or businesses have enrolled in the project to date?</i>	347
<i>Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs</i>	273
<i>Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs</i>	108
<i>Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs</i>	N/A
Banisters Leadership Academy 23-11-287	
<i>How many participants or businesses have enrolled in the project to date?</i>	51
<i>Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs</i>	0
<i>Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs</i>	0
<i>Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs</i>	0
United Way of South-Central Nebraska Bridging Forward Workforce Development Program 23-11-293	
<i>How many participants or businesses have enrolled in the project to date?</i>	71
<i>Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs</i>	2
<i>Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs</i>	2
<i>Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs</i>	1
Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska Regional Engagement Center 23-11-297	
<i>How many participants have enrolled in the project to date?</i>	N/A
<i>How many visitors has the program attracted to the qualified census tract area as of the last day of the reporting period?</i>	4,406
<i>Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs</i>	N/A
<i>Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs</i>	N/A
<i>Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs</i>	N/A

Project [Identification Number]

Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant – Greater Nebraska & Lincoln

Funding Amount

\$6,350,329.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.22: Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Project Overview

- The QCT Recovery Grant program is an authorized use of funding from COVID-19 State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) which was designed to provide state governments with the resources needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic effects and to build a stronger economy during recovery. Grants not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 to public and private entities located within qualified census tracts in a city of the primary class to respond to the negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Link to the website: [QCT Recovery Grant Program - Nebraska Department of Economic Development](#)

Use of Evidence

- These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Entity	City of Beatrice HWY 136 Beautification 23-11-300
Does this project include capital expenditure?	YES
Type of Capital Expenditure	Parks, green spaces, recreational facilities, sidewalks, pedestrian safety features like crosswalks, streetlights, neighborhood cleanup, and other projects to revitalize public spaces
Entity	Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska Sgac Hakikiz'u Neighborhood Parks 23-11-292
Does this project include capital expenditure?	YES
Type of Capital Expenditure	The Subrecipient will use grant funds to create three neighborhood parks in the Winnebago community. Each of the parks will have their own feel with standard amenities of playground equipment and a gathering shelter. The Thunderway neighborhood currently has a natural pond. The pond will be highlighted with a walking trail. The parks will be integrated into the current master trails plan. The project "Sgac Hakikiz'u" will enhance the quality of life of community members. By adding parks to already existing neighborhoods and future neighborhoods it will contribute to the health and

	wellness of the community and its residents and visitors. It will also create an economic benefit by increasing property value of each neighborhood.
Entity	The Salvation Army – Omaha (Norfolk) 23-11-290
Number of Households Served by this Project	1,280
Does this project include capital expenditure?	Yes
Type of Capital Expenditure	The Subrecipient will use grant funds to support the renovation of its new community center, located in Norfolk, Nebraska. The new facility will allow Subrecipient to expand and develop its existing emergency social services. The facility will allow the organization to provide increased food assistance through an emergency food pantry and a free community meal program. Further, Subrecipient will offer increased material assistance to prevent homelessness through case management services offered in its Pathway to Hope program and provide space for a thrift shop
Entity	Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska University Village Hike & Bike Trail Systems 23-11-289
Does this project include capital expenditure?	Yes
Type of Capital Expenditure	The Subrecipient will use grant funds towards the design and construction of a new hike and bike trail system that includes a new path, wayfinding components, added and improved landscaping, furnishings, and lighting to provide a sense of safety for users. This will also encourage healthy living and lifestyles throughout the area.
Entity	Clinic With a Heart Rehab and Expansion 23-11-266
Does this project include capital expenditure?	Yes
Type of Capital Expenditure	Medical equipment and facilities designed to address disparities in public health outcomes (includes primary care clinics, hospitals, or integrations of health services into other settings)
Entity	City of Lincoln South Haymarket Park Trail 23-11-262
Does this project include capital expenditure?	Yes
Type of Capital Expenditure	The Subrecipient will use grant funds to create a South Haymarket Park on the south end of Canopy Street which will include the building of a trail between N and J Streets, and that will link Haymarket to nearby neighborhoods. The park will be designed to accommodate stormwater for the surrounding area, thereby opening up redevelopment opportunities for the established industrial parcels.

Project [Identification Number]

Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant – Lincoln

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.18, Category Name: Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance

Project Overview

- The QCT Recovery Grant program is an authorized use of funding from COVID-19 State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) which was designed to provide state governments with the resources needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic effects and to build a stronger economy during recovery. Grants not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 to public and private entities located within qualified census tracts in a city of the primary class to respond to the negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Link to the website: [QCT Recovery Grant Program - Nebraska Department of Economic Development](#)

Use of Evidence

- These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Entity: Neighborhoods, Inc Land Trust Acquisition 23-11-0265	
Does this project include capital expenditure?	yes
Type of Capital Expenditure	Affordable housing, supportive housing, or recovery housing development
Total number of sites acquired	1

Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant – Lincoln

Funding Amount

\$1,250,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.35, Category Name: Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Project Overview

- The QCT Recovery Grant program is an authorized use of funding from COVID-19 State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) which was designed to provide state governments with the resources needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic effects and to build a stronger economy during recovery. Grants not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 to public and private entities located within qualified census tracts in a city of the primary class to respond to the negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Link to the website: [QCT Recovery Grant Program - Nebraska Department of Economic Development](#)

Use of Evidence

- These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Entity	Sector of employer	Purpose of Funds
Downtown Lincoln Association Music District 23-11-261	Other – travel & tourism	Music District Renovations

Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant – Greater Nebraska

Funding Amount

\$81,500.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.35, Category Name: Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Project Overview

- The QCT Recovery Grant program is an authorized use of funding from COVID-19 State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) which was designed to provide state governments with the resources needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic effects and to build a stronger economy during recovery. Grants not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 to public and private entities located within qualified census tracts in a city of the primary class to respond to the negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Link to the website: [QCT Recovery Grant Program - Nebraska Department of Economic Development](#)

Use of Evidence

- These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Entity	Sector of employer	Purpose of Funds
City of Norfolk Parks & Recreation	Other – travel & tourism	To obtain a comprehensive Master Plan for the division of parks in the QCT area.

Refugee Job Training and Placement Grant

Funding Amount

\$1,000,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.10, Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers

Project Overview

- The purpose of the Refugee Job Training and Placement Grant program is to provide job training and placements grants to nonprofit organizations for employment and employability services for refugees as defined in 8 USC § 1101(a)(42) and Neb. Admin. Code § 470-1-004.09.
- Job training can include English Language training, driver education, classroom and work-based learning opportunities, certificate programs, apprenticeship programs, technical or professional programs. The job training provided may be provided by the nonprofit or they may partner with a college or job training provider.
- Job placement services are provided after the job training is complete. The awardee may provide in-house services or partner with an outside job placement service to ensure the trainee has the necessary tools and resources needed to find a job in their community.
- Link to the website: <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/recovery/refugee-job-training-and-placement/>

Use of Evidence

- The Department will measure success by how many refugees receive job placement at the end of the job training. These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

- Each funded project requires a formal agreement with the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. Agreements will contain terms and conditions, eligible expenses and reporting requirements. The Department will request the following key performance indicators from awardees: number of trainees that completed the job training program, including any course completions, certifications, and graduation diplomas credentialed; total number of employment placements of trainees that completed the program, statistical data of wage rates for new employment placements that completed the program, and cost of each course provided by the program.

Bryan College of Health Sciences 23-11-301

- Expenditure Category: 2.10 EC 1.8, 2.29 - 2.33
- Award amount: \$320,000.00

- BCHS and LL (Lincoln Literacy) partnered to identify eligible individuals. Following successful progression through English language learning and health professions preparatory classes at LL, BCHS will assist refugees in navigating the higher education admission process at Southeast Community College for acceptance into a healthcare training program. The Subrecipient will use grant funds to assist in navigating the negative impacts caused by Covid-19 pandemic.
- Funds expended \$40,895.11
- 22 total refugees have enrolled through the program with 2 refugees completing the program. Both were retained by Bryan Hospital and employed in the healthcare fields of Phlebotomist and CNA.

Center for People in Need 23-11-304

- Expenditure Category: 2.10 EC 1.8, 2.29 - 2.33
- Award amount: \$265,000.00
- Responds to the negative economic impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic by addressing job training and employment. The Subrecipient will use grant funds to assist refugees in education and employment needs that were negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Funds Expended \$174,569.08
- 46 total refugees are currently enrolled in the program with 7 refugees successfully completing the program and finding employment. Employment includes Retail – 3, Manufacturing – 1, Food Production – 1, Education – 2.

Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Inc. 23-11-303

- Expenditure Category: 2.10 EC 1.8, 2.29 - 2.33
- Award amount: \$265,000.00
- By providing comprehensive training and support, LFS will help improve the financial sustainability of refugees who lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Participants will take job assessments to understand where their interests and abilities lie, and then LFS will provide personalized training based on the client's needs and goals. The Subrecipient will use grant funds to improve the financial sustainability of refugees who lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Subrecipient will provide personalized training based on the client's needs and goals.
- Contract has been executed but funds have not been expended.

Latino Center of the Midlands 23-11-302

- Expenditure Category: 2.10 EC 1.8, 2.29 - 2.33
- Award amount: \$150,000.00

- Responds to the negative economic impacts caused by the Covid-19 pandemic by addressing unemployment and job training. The Subrecipient will use grant funds to assist in navigating the negative impacts caused by Covid-19 pandemic.
- Funds expended \$4,649.83
- 2 total refugees are currently enrolled in the program with 1 refugee successfully completing the program and finding employment.

Project [Identification Number]

Regional Development Initiative Program

Funding Amount

\$2,800,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.37, Economic Impact Assistance: Other

Project Overview

- Regional Development Initiative (RDI) supports Nebraska's COVID-19 economic recovery through a two-phased strategy that empowers regions to shape their own recovery priorities. The program focuses on regional coordination, stakeholder engagement, and long-term planning across five community college regions: Metro, Southeast, Northeast, Mid-Plains, and Panhandle.
- The Navigator Phase (\$1.8 million) funded the hiring of Regional Navigators in each region to lead inclusive outreach, coordinate cross-sector partnerships, and assess local impacts of the pandemic. These Navigators facilitated discussions with civic leaders, employers, and residents to identify region-specific needs and lay the groundwork for project proposals.
- The Initiative Phase (\$1 million) provides funding to implement high-priority, community-informed projects designed to address persistent challenges in housing, infrastructure, and workforce development. This approach allows each region to transition from planning to action while remaining responsive to local conditions.
- Link to the website: [Regional Development Initiative Program \(RDI\)](#)

Use of Evidence

- The Projects within the Navigator and Initiative Phases are informed by local input, cross-sector collaboration, and national models of regional recovery. While not formally classified as evidence-based interventions, these initiatives reflect best practices in regional development, economic resilience, and community engagement. Examples include:
 - a. Spark Capital's Developer Academy to strengthen affordable housing development capacity
 - b. Infrastructure inventories in Southeast and Panhandle regions to guide local investment
 - c. Workforce housing and skilled trades development in the Mid-Plains
- These initiatives aim to serve disproportionately impacted populations by addressing structural barriers to recovery.

Performance Report

- Key Navigator Phase Activities: Regional Navigators have played a leading role in planning, stakeholder engagement, and facilitating cross-sector collaboration:

- a. Navigators collectively hosted over 300 stakeholder meetings, including town halls, site visits, regional summits, and focused strategy sessions.
 - b. These meetings contributed to identifying over two dozen regionally prioritized initiatives focused on housing, workforce, childcare, and infrastructure.
 - c. Each region maintained active action teams aligned with core recovery themes.
 - d. Navigators helped coordinate outreach strategies, develop planning tools, and build partnerships with local employers, chambers, nonprofits, and educational institutions.
- **Key Initiative Phase Activities:** Each region transitioned its planning work into early-stage project implementation:
 - a. Metro Region: Initiated a developer training and workforce support model targeting housing capacity and employer engagement.
 - b. Southeast Region: Continued regional infrastructure inventory efforts and advanced a regional collaboration initiative through pilot testing.
 - c. Northeast Region: Developed housing and bilingual workforce initiatives supported by community outreach, leadership engagement, and early implementation planning.
 - d. Mid-Plains Region: Advanced housing and skilled trades strategy with support from local educational and workforce partners, including regional data gathering.
 - e. Panhandle Region: Focused on asset mapping, infrastructure identification, and building a regional collaborative framework for long-term economic development.
- This project serves disproportionately impacted populations, as each of Nebraska's six community college regions has been designated as disproportionately impacted under the SLFRF Final Rule based on economic and demographic criteria.

Subrecipient Award Name	Region	Percent Completed	Grant Amount
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Statewide	Completed less than 50%	\$1,800,000
Spark Capital	Metro	Completed less than 50%	\$200,000
Southeast Nebraska Development District	Southeast	Completed less than 50%	\$200,000
Central Nebraska Economic Development District	Northeast	Pending first draw	\$200,000
Mid-Plains Community College	Mid-Plains	Pending first draw	\$200,000
Panhandle Regional Development, Inc	Panhandle	Pending first draw	\$200,000
Total Award			\$2,800,000

Note: The full RDI program totals \$3 million. The Central Region's \$200,000 childcare champion project is tracked separately under EC 2.11 – Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care

Project [Identification Number]

Regional Development Initiative Program

Funding Amount

\$200,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.11, Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care

Project Overview

- Buffalo County Community Health Partners (BCCHP) leads a regional childcare initiative within the Central Community College Region as part of Nebraska's broader Regional Development Initiative. Funded through the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF), this \$200,000 project addresses the shortage of licensed childcare providers in the region by supporting individuals pursuing licensure and strengthening the early childhood education workforce.
- The program includes one-on-one mentorship for aspiring childcare providers, business planning assistance, marketing, community engagement, and stipends for licensees who complete Nebraska's Step Up to Quality program. The goal is to increase the number of licensed childcare slots available in rural and underserved communities, reducing access barriers for working families and enabling greater workforce participation.
- Link to the website: [Regional Development Initiative Program \(RDI\)](#)

Use of Evidence

- This initiative is aligned with Nebraska's Step Up to Quality framework, a statewide system aimed at improving early childhood education outcomes. Although not formally classified as an evidence-based intervention, the project draws from well-established practices in mentorship and quality assurance for childcare services. By supporting new providers and enhancing the licensing process, the program addresses long-standing access and quality gaps in the childcare sector.

Performance Report

- Key Activities: Each region transitioned its planning work into early-stage project implementation:
 - a. Engaged over 50 prospective childcare providers across 15 counties
 - b. Reached Spanish-speaking participants, with 22% of applicants identifying as bilingual
 - c. Deployed six trained Childcare Champions to provide mentorship and support
- This project serves disproportionately impacted populations.
- Number of children served by childcare and early learning services (pre-school/pre-K/ages 3-5): Pending data from recipient.

- Number of families served by home visiting: Pending data from recipient.

Subrecipient Award Name	Region	Percent Completed	Grant Amount
Buffalo County Community Partners	Central	Completed less than 50%	\$200,000
Total Award			\$200,000

Project Identification Number]

Rural Community Recovery Program

Funding Amount

\$10,000,000.00

Project Expenditure Category

2.22: Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Project Overview

- The purpose of the Rural Community Recovery Program (RCRP) is investment in neighborhoods to address vacant, abandoned, or deteriorated properties to improve the built environment of the neighborhood and revitalize communities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.
- Funds may be used for the following types of projects:
- Installation of Public Features – installation of neighborhood features for public use, which will increase access to healthy foods; conduct neighborhood cleanup; revitalize public spaces; improve residents' physical and mental well-being; create spaces that allow safe and accessible recreation; encourage investment in the neighborhood; increase community engagement; or provide access to fresh, nutritious food.
- Site Development for Affordable Housing – pre-development activities for future affordable housing will mitigate the blight of vacant, abandoned, or deteriorated properties in the neighborhood, invest in safe, quality housing in the community, and build momentum for the future development of affordable housing units.
- Projects must be located in a disproportionately impacted rural communities, defined by the State of Nebraska Legislature in Section 254(6)(i) of LB1412 to mean “any city or village that is located in a county with a population of fewer than one hundred thousand inhabitants as determined by the more recent federal decennial census and that is determined by the Department of Economic Development to have experienced disproportionately negative impacts on public health or the economy, or on both public health and the economy, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.”
- Eligible subrecipients of RCRP funding must be political subdivisions. The State of Nebraska defines “political subdivisions” to include villages, cities, counties, school districts, public power districts, community colleges, natural resources districts, and all other units of local government.
- RCRP projects are not permitted to develop infrastructure. Projects are thus not required to address climate change or advance the Justice40 initiative.
- Projects funded through this program will maintain a period of compliance of 20 years that begins at project completion.
- DED has obligated \$10,000,000 to 11 subrecipients. Subawards were approved by a competitive application cycle.

- Link to the website: <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/housing/rcrp/>

Use of Evidence

- Forty-two (42) of Nebraska's 91 counties were determined to be disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency. DED defined a county as having been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 if it met at least three of the four following criteria when compared to other Nebraska counties. The classification required a county to meet at least three of the four following criteria:
 - a. Labor force decreased from 2010 to 2019;
 - b. Labor force growth from 2019 to 2020 was depressed due to the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - c. More housing cost-burdened² households per capita than the Nebraska measure; or
 - d. Household median income in 2020 was less than Nebraska's median income.
- The program excludes one of the 42 counties, Lancaster County, in which the State's capital city of Lincoln is located, because it does not meet the definition of a "disproportionately impacted rural community" established by the Nebraska Legislature in Section 254(6) of LB1412.
- The project's economic impact will be investment in communities to promote improved health outcomes and public safety such as parks, recreation facilities, and programs that increase access to healthy foods; and capital expenditures and other services to address vacant or abandoned properties. The indirect impacts of installation of public amenities are multiple. First, investment in community resources supports the increase of property values and home sales prices. Public features provide opportunities for tourism to the community from neighboring communities or travelers, and these visits increase visits and sales at local businesses, not to mention showcasing what rural communities have to offer as destinations rather than waypoints. Finally, public features are a vital "third place" beyond home and the workplace (or home and school, for children and teens) that fosters productive and pro-social activities, participation in community events, and developing relationships with community members.
- Subawarded projects within this program include the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of vacant or abandoned properties for:
 - a. 20 sites developed for the installation of public features; and
 - b. 12 sites developed for the future construction of affordable housing.
- Projects funded by this program are monitored through review of expenses prior to disbursement of subaward funds, quarterly project performance reports, and compliance monitoring completed prior to project completion.
- These funds will not be used for evidence-based interventions.

² "Cost-burdened" is defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as renter and owner households that spend 30 percent or more of their household income on housing.

Demographic Distribution

- The table below contains a list of the subawarded political subdivisions that have been subawarded funds and the demographic distributions that will be served.

Subrecipient	Project Location (City/County)	Award Amount	Project Type	Project Demographic Distribution
City of Albion	Albion/Boone County	\$ 1,000,000	Installation of Public Features	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19
City of Alma	Alma/Harlan County	\$ 990,000	Installation of Public Features	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19
City of Beatrice	Beatrice/Gage County	\$ 985,000	Installation of Public Features	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19
City of David City	David City/Butler County	\$ 630,000	Installation of Public Features	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19
City of Franklin	Franklin/Franklin County	\$ 535,000	Installation of Public Features	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19
City of McCook	McCook/Red Willow County	\$ 1,500,000	Installation of Public Features	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19
City of North Platte	North Platte/Lincoln County	\$ 1,250,000	Site Prep	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19
City of Pawnee City	Pawnee City/Pawnee County	\$ 535,000	Installation of Public Features	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19
City of St. Paul	St. Paul/Howard County	\$ 875,000	Installation of Public Features	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19
City of Wayne	Wayne/Wayne County	\$ 1,370,000	Installation of Public Features	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19
Hastings Community Redevelopment Authority	Hastings/Adams County	\$ 330,000	Site Prep	(1) DI: Other households or populations that experienced a disproportionate impact due to COVID-19
TOTAL AWARD:		\$ 10,000,000		

Performance Report

- The RCRP funds were obligated to 11 political subdivisions through a competitive application cycle.
- DED has executed subaward agreements with all 11 political subdivisions.
- This program includes capital expenditure, as the allowable project activities include the installation of public features, including:
 - Parks, green spaces, recreational facilities, sidewalks, pedestrian safety features like crosswalks, streetlights, neighborhood cleanup, and other projects to revitalize public spaces; or
 - Rehabilitation, renovation, remediation, cleanup, or conversions of vacant or abandoned properties.

- The total capital expenditure for the program is \$9,825,000. The remaining \$175,000, approximately 1.8% of the allocated funds, will be used for grant administration and management costs and is thus subtracted from the expected capital expenditure.
- Below is a table that summarizes the number of sites that will be developed for future construction of affordable housing and the number of sites on which public features will be installed by projects within this Expenditure Category, as well as the expected subsidy amount per site.

Subrecipient	Award Amount	Sites Developed	Public Features Installed	Per-Site Subsidy
Hastings Community Redevelopment Authority	\$ 1,000,000	1	0	\$ 1,000,000.00
City of McCook	\$ 990,000	0	3	\$ 330,000.00
City of Franklin	\$ 985,000	0	1	\$ 985,000.00
City of Alma	\$ 630,000	0	1	\$ 630,000.00
City of St. Paul	\$ 535,000	0	3	\$ 178,333.33
City of Wayne	\$ 1,500,000	0	1	\$ 1,500,000.00
City of Pawnee City	\$ 1,250,000	0	3	\$ 416,666.67
City of North Platte	\$ 535,000	11	1	\$ 44,583.33
City of Albion	\$ 875,000	0	1	\$ 875,000.00
City of David City	\$ 1,370,000	0	1	\$ 1,370,000.00
City of Beatrice	\$ 330,000	0	5	\$ 66,000.00
TOTAL:	\$ 10,000,000	12	20	
AVERAGE:				\$ 672,326

- Output measures:
 - a. Number and amount of grants made to date: 11 grants obligating \$10,000,000
- Outcome measures:
 - a. Number of sites developed for future affordable housing:
 - i. Completed to date: 2
 - ii. At program completion: 12
 - b. Number of sites on which public features will be installed:
 - i. Completed to date: 0
 - ii. At program completion: 20

State of Nebraska

**Recovery Plan – Department of
Health and Human Services-
Division of Public Health**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2025 Report

EMS Ambulance Replacement Project

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The goal of this project is to assist Emergency Medical Services (EMS) across the state to replace aging ambulance fleets.

Uses of Funds

Open application process by which all licensed EMS services within Nebraska were eligible to apply for one-time funding to support the purchase of an ambulance.

Community Engagement

Prior to the release of the funding opportunity two virtual townhall sessions were held to engage with potential applicants and to promote the funding opportunity.

Labor Practices

Not applicable

Use of Evidence

Not Applicable

Performance Report

Performance will be evaluated based on compliance with provisions included in Nebraska Legislative Bill 1014 (2022). Expenditures will be monitored in accordance with legislative requirements and program guidance.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project ID 25580002: Division of Public Health (DPH)

Funding amount: \$20,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 1.7 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)

The goal of this project is to assist Emergency Medical Services (EMS) across the state to replace aging ambulance fleets. This funding was awarded to eligible EMS services following an open application window in late 2022.

Emergency Medical Services Equipment Project GENERAL OVERVIEW Executive

Summary *The goal of this project is to assist Emergency Medical Services (EMS) across the state purchase lifesaving equipment. **Uses of Funds** Open application process by which all licensed EMS services within Nebraska were eligible to apply for one-time funding to support the purchase of lifesaving equipment. **Community Engagement** Prior to the release of the funding opportunity two virtual townhall sessions were held to engage with potential applicants and to promote the funding opportunity. **Labor Practices** Not applicable **Use of Evidence** Not Applicable **Performance Report** Performance will be evaluated based on compliance with provisions included in Nebraska Legislative Bill 1014 (2022). Expenditures will be monitored in accordance with legislative requirements and program guidance. **PROJECT INVENTORY** Project ID 25580003: Division of Public Health (DPH) Funding amount: \$5,000,000 Project Expenditure Category: 1.7 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)*

*The goal of this project is to assist Emergency Medical Services (EMS) across the state with the purchase of lifesaving equipment. This funding was awarded to eligible EMS services following an open application window in late 2022. **Local Health Department Support***

Project GENERAL OVERVIEW Executive Summary *To provide additional funds and support to 18 local health departments for one-time infrastructure needs and any other costs, including testing, personal protective equipment, and other preventive measures to combat the COVID-19 virus. **Uses of Funds** Funds for the local public health departments that receive aid pursuant to section Neb. Rev. Stat. 71- 1628.08, which shall be distributed evenly to the local public health departments for one-time infrastructure needs and any other costs, including testing, personal protective equipment, and other preventive measures, to combat the COVID-19 virus and any of its mutations. **Community Engagement** Applicant departments were engaged with to develop workplans and budgets for all available funding. Parameters were only those included in ARPA SLFRF requirements and those of Nebraska Legislative Bill 1014 (2022). **Labor Practices** Applicants must follow all applicable state and federal labor law when using funds in this project. **Use of Evidence** Not Applicable **Performance Report** Performance will be evaluated based on compliance with provisions included in Nebraska Legislative Bill 1014 (2022). Expenditures will be monitored in accordance with legislative requirements and program guidance. **PROJECT INVENTORY***

Project ID 25580005: Division of Public Health (DPH) Funding amount: \$10,000,000 Project Expenditure Category: 1.7 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine) To provide additional funds and support to 18 local health departments for one-time infrastructure needs and any other costs, including testing, personal protective equipment, and other preventive measures to

combat the COVID-19 virus. Funding first became available to local health departments following the completion and approval of a workplan and budget in 2022. **Loan Repayment for Healthcare Workers Project GENERAL OVERVIEW Executive Summary** Funds for repayment of qualified educational debts owed by eligible health professionals as provided in Neb. Rev. Stat. 71-5662. **Uses of Funds** Recruitment and retention of health professionals for rural and underserved areas through the repayment of qualified educational debts for individuals serving in designated health shortage areas. **Community Engagement** Not applicable **Labor Practices** Not applicable **Use of Evidence** This project is built on the existing Student Loan Repayment Program (SLRP) infrastructure. Literature suggests that such programs increase the availability of health resources and have positive economic effects on benefitting communities. See <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Loan-Repayment-FAQ.aspx> **Performance Report**

Performance will be evaluated based on compliance with provisions included in Nebraska Legislative Bill 1014 (2022). Expenditures will be monitored in accordance with legislative requirements and program guidance.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project ID 25580007: Division of Public Health (DPH)

Funding amount: \$5,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.37 Economic Impact Assistance: Other*^

Funds for repayment of qualified educational debts owed by eligible health professionals as provided in Neb. Rev. Stat. 71-5662. This funding supplemented the existing state-funded Nebraska Student Loan Repayment program.

COVID Model System of Care Project

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

This project will support a rehabilitation hospital in advancing COVID-19 model system of care in the state. The selected rehabilitation hospital will coordinate with the DHHS Division of Public Health and other healthcare facilities with established long COVID clinics to set up a statewide “long COVID surveillance and support network.” The network will assist in identifying patients with persistent symptoms who will benefit from rehabilitation services. These include both medical and mental health (cognitive and psychiatric) services. The project will enhance access for long COVID treatment and rehabilitation services across the state (which may require additional post-COVID clinics, telehealth, or other virtual

programs in partnership with established long COVID clinics). In addition, the surveillance network will continue to collect and evaluate data to understand the long COVID burden and impact on the communities. That data should inform the services provided through long COVID (or post-COVID rehabilitation) clinics. The long COVID surveillance and support network will also focus on educating healthcare providers and the public on long COVID and help them connect with healthcare resources in the state for treatment and rehabilitation.

Uses of Funds

Funds have been awarded to a rehabilitation hospital for the purpose of the following:

- Gain better understanding of the current burden and impact of long COVID in Nebraska to inform the services provided through long COVID clinics.*
- Improve access of Nebraskans to long COVID clinics for meeting the medical and mental health needs including rehabilitation services*
- Increase awareness of long COVID symptoms and treatment resources available in the state for both public and healthcare providers*

Community Engagement *Not applicable* **Labor Practices** *Applicant must follow all applicable state and federal labor law when using funds in this project.* **Use of Evidence** *With the awardee, Nebraska DHHS will coordinate on database development, maintenance, and analyses; and to coordinate with the rehabilitation hospital to inform long COVID support needs on an ongoing basis. This is expected to build a base of evidence for further public health activity.* **Performance Report** *Performance will be evaluated based on compliance with provisions included in Nebraska Legislative Bill 1014 (2022). Expenditures will be monitored in accordance with legislative requirements and program guidance.* **PROJECT INVENTORY** *Project ID 25580001: Division of Public Health (DPH) Funding amount: \$3,550,480.78 Project Expenditure Category: 1.14 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine) This project will support a rehabilitation hospital in advancing COVID-19 model system of care in the state. The selected rehabilitation hospital will coordinate with the DHHS Division of Public Health and other healthcare facilities with established long COVID clinics to set up a statewide “long COVID surveillance and support network.” The network will assist in identifying patients with persistent symptoms who will benefit from rehabilitation services. These include both medical and mental health (cognitive and psychiatric) services. The project will enhance access for long COVID treatment and rehabilitation services across the state (which may require additional post-COVID clinics, telehealth, or other virtual programs in partnership with established long COVID clinics). In addition, the surveillance*

network will continue to collect and evaluate data to understand the long COVID burden and impact on the communities. That data should inform the services provided through long COVID (or post-COVID rehabilitation) clinics. The long COVID surveillance and support network will also focus on educating healthcare providers and the public

on long COVID and help them connect with healthcare resources in the state for treatment and rehabilitation.

HIV Pre-exposure Prophylaxis Project

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Surveillance and Prevention Programs for education on the benefits of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) medication and for the costs of medication.

Uses of Funds

Project goals include the following:

- Expand education about PrEP as well as access to PrEP medication and required lab draws to receive medication.*
- Get PrEP into the hands of any and all individuals who are at risk of HIV/AIDS. Providing PrEP is a prevention strategy to help stop the spread of HIV.*
- Provide PrEP education for providers, medical case managers, and consumers including benefits of PrEP, prescribing information, maintenance (importance of remaining on the medication while transmissible), and resources for continuing medication assistance when these funds are depleted (since this is a time-limited program).*

Community Engagement *Care navigation services and wider education services will engage directly with the community. **Labor Practices** Applicant must follow all applicable state and federal labor law when using funds in this project. **Use of Evidence** During COVID-19, several testing sites for HIV were shut down and providers' offices were only offering telehealth. This limited Nebraskans' access to HIV testing and office visits. The program has seen an increase in positive HIV cases during FY21. Nebraskans as a whole constitute a population class impacted by reduction in these services, with particular subpopulations already disproportionately affected by HIV risk (<https://www.hiv.gov/hiv-basics/overview/about-hiv-and-aids/who-is-at-risk-for-hiv>). A program to provide education*

and PrEP drugs would respond to this impact through the prevention of HIV infection/transmission. This response is reasonably proportional, as current research indicates a prevention intervention is cost-saving if the cost

effectiveness ratio is less than \$379,668 (in 2010 dollars).

<https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/programresources/guidance/costeffectiveness/index.html>

Performance Report *Performance will be evaluated based on compliance with provisions included in Nebraska Legislative Bill 1014 (2022). Expenditures will be monitored in accordance with legislative requirements and program guidance.*

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project ID 25580006: Division of Public Health (DPH) Funding amount: \$500,000 Project

Expenditure Category: 1.14 Other Public Health Services Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Surveillance and Prevention Programs for education on the benefits of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) medication and for the costs of medication. **Nursing Scholarship**

Project GENERAL OVERVIEW Executive Summary *Provide incentives for current and*

prospective nursing students to finish nursing school and subsequently practice nursing for

two years in Nebraska. **Uses of Funds** *Funds for scholarships to students (1) residing in*

Nebraska, (2) intending to enroll or enrolled in a nursing program that (a) is approved

pursuant to sections 38-2232 to 38-2236, (b) is offered by a public or private postsecondary

institution in Nebraska, and (c) consists of courses of instruction in regularly scheduled

classes leading only to an associate degree, diploma, or bachelor of science in nursing

degree, (3) intending to practice as a licensed practical nurse or licensed registered nurse

upon completion of the approved nursing program, and (4) agreeing in writing to work for

two years in this state as a licensed practical nurse or licensed registered nurse upon

completion of the approved nursing program. Each qualifying student shall receive a

scholarship of up to \$5,000 per semester or \$3,500 per quarter. **Community Engagement**

Not applicable **Labor Practices**

Not applicable

Use of Evidence

Healthcare industry staff were uniquely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including increased burnout, turnover, and departures from the industry. This has created a dual negative economic and public health impact by creating a nursing shortage, resulting in difficulties recruiting and retaining nursing staff across the state. This shortage decreases the availability of healthcare services, to the detriment of the public health.

Performance Report

Performance will be evaluated based on compliance with provisions included in Nebraska Legislative Bill 1014 (2022). Expenditures will be monitored in accordance with legislative requirements and program guidance.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project ID 25580008: Division of Public Health (DPH)

Funding amount: \$5,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.37 Economic Impact Assistance: Other^*

Provide incentives for current and prospective nursing students to finish nursing school and subsequently practice nursing for two years in Nebraska. Application windows began in 2022 and will open prior to each new semester until funds are expended.

Hospital HVAC Project

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

*This project will support a rehabilitation hospital with the capacity to provide interdisciplinary research with the repair or restoration of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems. **Uses of Funds** Funds have not yet been awarded. The eligible hospital will submit a workplan and budget for eligible uses of ARPA funds. **Community Engagement** Not applicable*

Labor Practices *Applicant must follow all applicable state and federal labor law when using funds in this project. **Use of Evidence** With the awardee, Nebraska DHHS will coordinate on expert review of HVAC plans to ensure they are compliant with acceptable mitigation practices. **Performance Report** Performance will be evaluated based on compliance with provisions included in Nebraska Legislative Bill 1412 (2024). Expenditures will be monitored in accordance with legislative requirements and program guidance.*

PROJECT INVENTORY *Project ID 25580021: Division of Public Health (DPH) Funding amount: \$5,000,000 Project Expenditure Category: 1.14 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine) This project will support a rehabilitation hospital in repair or restoration of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems.*

State of Nebraska

**Recovery Plan – Division of
Developmental Disabilities (DDD)**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The funding will be utilized for COVID related expenditures and to address workforce shortages. The money will go toward incentivizing employees for retention purposes.

Uses of Funds

The funds will be disbursed to DD Agency providers only and will be utilized for specific services as follows: prevocational; residential habilitation (excluding shared living services); supported employment – individual; enclave; behavioral in-home habilitation; community inclusion; community integration; consultative assessment; crisis intervention support; habilitative workshop; independent living; in-home residential habilitation; medical in-home habilitation; supported family living; supported employment – follow along; and child day habilitation, which shall only be used for such purpose.

Such payments shall be used for the purpose of enhancing employee retention and recruitment.

Community Engagement

Prior to the release of funding virtual townhall sessions were held to engage agency providers to better understand their staffing and recruitment needs.

Labor Practices

The funding is to enhance employee recruitment and retention.

Use of Evidence

Not Applicable

Performance Report

Not Applicable

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project ID 25850100: Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)

Funding amount: \$47,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.37 Economic Impact Assistance

Nebraska DHHS distributed the funds appropriated pursuant to LB1014 to DD Providers to support employee recruitment and retention activities, due to financial distress created by the COVID-19 Pandemic. As of June 30, 2023, the department has obligated \$20,000,000 and expended \$20,000,000 of the total funding amount. As of June 30, 2024, the department obligated \$15,000,000 and expended \$15,000,000. As of June 30, 2025, the department has obligated and expended the remaining \$12,500,000.

State of Nebraska

Premium Pay

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2025 Report

State of Nebraska
2025 Recovery Plan

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Pursuant to LB 1014 Section 7, federal funds under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) appropriated to the DHHS will be used for premium pay increases which were implemented for essential workers.

Uses of Funds

These increases were made to retain staff and fill staff vacancies during the Covid-19 pandemic. The increases ensure that DHHS is competitive in pay in the future for positions that support public health and safety.

Community Engagement

Not Applicable

Labor Practices

The funding is to enhance employee recruitment and retention.

Use of Evidence

Not Applicable

Performance Report

Not Applicable

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project ID: 25110401

Funding amount: \$14,661,361

Project Expenditure Category: 4.1 Public Sector Employees

Nebraska DHHS distributed the funds appropriated pursuant to LB1014 to support employee recruitment and retention activities, due to financial distress created by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

State of Nebraska

Recovery Plan DHHS Cedars

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The purpose of this agreement is to provide funding appropriated by the Nebraska State Legislature to build an estimated 7,500-square-foot Activity Center on existing emergency shelter property.

Uses of Funds

The goal of this project is to enhance and expand the emergency shelter facilities that are currently being used to assist youth involved in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. The funds will be used to increase space in the residential community-based settings in order to provide access to additional services.

Community Engagement

The funds will be used to build a space that will allow for community engagement as a way to interact with and help youth overcome their current struggles and adversities. This space could be used for job fairs, physical activities/intermural sports, or any other needed guidance and outlet to help youth lead safe, productive lives.

Labor Practices

The funds have been used to expand the physical space at the emergency shelter. The funds were used for building costs, safety measures (including key card access and secure entrances), proper lighting, and HVAC. The space includes offices, therapy sessions spaces, recreation spaces, and multi-purpose spaces.

Use of Evidence

The use of SLFRF funds is appropriate for this project, and it will also allow for growth and expansion in the future. The use of funds meets the requirements set forth in LB1209 2024 and amended into LB1412 2024.

Performance Report

The awardees and state will continue to review costs of running a program to determine the impact of the dollars. This includes business stability after funds have been utilized as well as impact of access to the space for youth and community.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Example Project

Project: Child Caring Agency - Cedars

Funding amount: 2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.13 Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System

State of Nebraska

Recovery Plan DHHS Child care

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2025 Report

Executive Summary

The child care industry and programs were negatively impacted by the pandemic. Funds were awarded to an agency to increase capacity across Nebraska.

Uses of Funds

The child care industry had many businesses close due to loss of revenue. Individuals could not bring their children to a center due to Covid-19 diagnoses either in the workforce or at home. These funds were awarded to another entity that will be used to either expand local childcare businesses or start new businesses. This will allow more families to have access to childcare across the state. The funds have been sub-awarded to an agency that has worked to collect applications for use of the funds. The entity has worked with the state to review and approve applications of these new or existing businesses to award the funds. The scoring has selected a few businesses with some funds being paid out prior to June 30, 2023.

Community Engagement

During the application process, it was encouraged that local communities interact with businesses to help make a sustainable model for child care in the future. Part of these funds were used to improve business acumen so that the businesses can remain open and grow once the SLFRF funds are fully utilized.

Labor Practices

These funds were used to either expand businesses or start new ones. The funds were used for remodeling existing locations, purchasing program supplies, and paying for new workers.

Use of Evidence

The use of SLFRF is appropriate for child care industry. Many businesses closed or were impacted by the pandemic. The state will review the impact of the funds to determine if the program would be used in the future to entice and expand child care businesses in the future.

The awardees and state are review costs of running a program to determine the impact of the dollars. This includes business stability after funds have been utilized as well as impact of access to child care as a ratio of the community. The state will take the data to analyze the true cost of child care and overall impact of the industry to Nebraska.

Outcome

This project has been completed, funding 41 child care businesses and eliminating 2 child care deserts, where previously there had been no licensed child care. In total, 1,777 new slots were created statewide. Currently, 1,263 of the 1,777 slots are filled.

PROJECT INVENTORY

The state does not track specific inventory to each business. However, the state does have a report (provided by the licensing board) of child care spots across Nebraska. The state will look at the number of cases prior to SLFRF awards and after the programs have been designed.

State of Nebraska

**Recovery Plan DHHS-Child
Welfare Cases**

**State and Local Fiscal
Recovery Funds**

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Due to the pandemic, the State of Nebraska had higher case counts for child welfare. The state will use the temporary funds from SLFRF to reimburse state costs as case counts are expected to drop as the system stabilizes.

Uses of Funds

The SLFRF funds are not replacing lost revenue but compensating the state of Nebraska for increase child welfare case counts.

Community Engagement

The funds went to the providers serving the youth in the community.

Labor Practices

N/A

Use of Evidence

The state has not spent all funds obligated to this project as of June 30, 2023. The state will evaluate if the funds were used appropriately for the youth and families.

Performance Report

The state reviews closure rates of child welfare cases based on acuity of the case. If the cases did not meet standard practice, the state will review if more funding is needed in the future.

State of Nebraska

Recovery Plan – Division of Behavioral Health

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2025 Report

Executive Summary

The funding will be utilized to develop a pilot program that will assess the need for substantial efforts to prevent post-traumatic stress disorder through the reduction of community gun violence.

Uses of Funds

The funds will be disbursed to a Nebraska-based nonprofit organization that has the status of a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 located in a city of the metropolitan class, for a pilot program to assess the need for substantial efforts to prevent posttraumatic stress disorder through the reduction of community gun violence. Such pilot program shall serve children and families within a city of the metropolitan class and within three miles of a major airport as defined in section 13-3303.

The pilot program shall assess the degree of community exposure to acts of violence, including, but not limited to, witnessing incidents of fighting or shooting, hearing gunshots, or experiencing an act of community violence; identify treatment services; use the best available evidence-supported assessment procedures and intervention strategies that include non-office-based treatment settings and parent-operated programs; build a sustainable and accessible program beyond the pilot community to engage community partnerships with key stakeholders, including, but not limited to, churches, law enforcement agencies, civic organizations, and businesses; and conduct periodic evaluations for such post-traumatic stress disorder assessment and treatment services, including costs and settings for care, and proximal and distal client outcomes.

Community Engagement

Prior to the release of funding, DBH worked in collaboration with R6 to ensure they could support this project. R6 worked with community providers to inform them of the upcoming RFP to be released, inviting them to apply. The selected provider has held 4 Community Forums to gather data to support this project.

Labor Practices

Not applicable.

To address the scope of this project, providers are required to use the best available evidence-supported assessment. Participants completed the Survey of Exposure to Violence (SEVC) and PCL-5 assessment, to assess the degree of violence and trauma symptoms in the area surveyed. The combined surveys include 222 questions, and the provider has collected over 76,000 quantitative and qualitative data points. The goal in capturing this data is to assess the degree of community exposure to acts of violence, to establish a baseline of individuals impacted by gun violence, and ensure community providers can support any needs related to trauma.

Based on data thus far, the provider has secured national trainers through the Center for Safe & Resilient Schools and Workplaces to provide formal training on the Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools or Supporting Students Exposed to Trauma (CBITS/SSET) program for all mentors and teachers, with the plan to implement this CBITS/SSET program with 5 elementary schools.

Performance Report

Performance indicators include:

- *Quarterly report which includes grantee information, efforts, expenditures, and outcomes to DHHS.*
 - *Deliverables to date:*
 - *Schedule Forums/Create Violence Hotline (completed)*
 - *Four Community Forums Completed (completed)*
 - *Training (completed)*
 - *CBITS/SSET (completed)*
 - *All Program Data Collected, Compiled, Cleaned and Analyzed (in process)*
 - *Evaluation (in process)*
 - *Final Report (in process)*

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project ID 25580020

Funding amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 1.11 Community Violence Interventions

Nebraska DHHS distributed the funds appropriated pursuant to LB1412 to R6 to support the creation of a pilot program to assess the need for substantial efforts to prevent post-traumatic stress disorder through the reduction of community gun violence, due to the distress created by the COVID-19 Pandemic. As of June 30, 2025, the department has obligated \$500,000 and expended \$249,747.47 of the total funding amount.

State of Nebraska

Recovery Plan DHHS-Foster Care

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2025 Report

Executive Summary

This project will be used to assist young adults who have transitioned out of foster care. Many of these young people were impacted by the pandemic due to a lack of housing and coaching support.

Uses of Funds

The pandemic negatively impacted former foster care youth (FFCY). These individuals have fewer support than other young adults who come from a stable household. The SLFRF funds will be used to improve housing and coaching for FFCY. The funds were awarded to two entities who will coordinate the housing and coaching support of these youth.

Community Engagement

The two agencies that were awarded funds will engage the community to build existing support and programs that will last beyond the pandemic. Each agency will try to encourage local communities to support young adults as they transition to their own household.

Labor Practices

The local agencies will hire local workers to conduct case management and other support for FFCY.

Use of Evidence

The program will be evaluated once it is completed to determine if this should be done in the future. The two agencies will be evaluated as each have a slightly different practice in reaching out and impacting FFCY.

Performance Report

The report will indicate how the funds were used and how the project impacts youth short-term and long-term, including whether youth achieved independence.

The final report will have multiple metrics. These include but not limited to the number of youth served, impact to continuous employment, education achieved, and emotional impact to the FFCY. The entities will work with the state to coordinate other benefits so the FFCY are not disadvantaged due to their lack of housing and support.

State of Nebraska

Recovery Plan – Health Aid for Medicaid Certified Nursing Facilities

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2025 Report

State of Nebraska
2025 Recovery Plan

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The goals of this program are to provide supplemental incentive payments for direct care staff members employed at licensed and Medicaid-certified nursing facilities (NFs), for employee recruitment and retention activities due to financial distress created by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Uses of Funds

Pursuant to LB1014(2022) the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services distributed funds appropriated to NFs. The distribution was determined by the formula established in LB1014 which allocated a portion of the available funds to be paid based on a facility's share of the Medicaid certified beds in the state and then further allocated a portion of the funds to facilities in the top quartile of facilities with the highest percentage of Medicaid utilization, as a percentage of overall utilization. The bill earmarked funds for SFY23, 24, and 25.

The legislative bill directed that the funds should be used by facilities to provide supplemental incentive payments for direct care staff members employed at licensed and Medicaid-certified nursing facilities. Such payments are intended to enhance employee recruitment and retention.

The bill further defined that direct care staff means nursing facility employees who regularly perform in-person work with residents, interact with residents, or physically handle items handled by residents. The term includes nurses, medication aides, therapists, therapy aides, dietary staff, social service and activity staff, housekeeping and maintenance staff, and other medical staff.

Community Engagement

Not Applicable

Labor Practices

This funding is intended to promote local hiring and retaining of employees to ensure adequate care and support staff in NFs.

Use of Evidence

Not Applicable

Performance Report

Not Applicable

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project ID 25580010: Health Aid for Medicaid Certified Nursing Facilities

Funding amount: \$47,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings

Nebraska DHHS distributed the funds appropriated pursuant to LB1014 to NFs to support employee recruitment and retention activities, due to financial distress created by the COVID-19 Pandemic. As of June 30, 2025, the department has obligated and expended all \$47,500,000 of the total funding amount.

State of Nebraska

**Recovery Plan –DHHS
Pediatric Mental Health**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Over the past seven decades, Children's Hospital & Medical Center (Children's) has maintained its strong community focus and commitment to serving all children without regard to family income. Our mission is to improve the life of every child through exceptional care, advocacy, research, and education.

Children's is the only full-service pediatric specialty health care center in Nebraska. Patients are referred to the 225-bed Hospital from throughout the region for the treatment of complex or unusual diseases in addition to pediatric primary care.

Children's vision is to dedicate funding to the mental health needs of children in a new, innovative way that strategically leverages a limited pediatric-trained workforce across the state of Nebraska.

For over a decade, Children's has integrated mental health in our primary care offices, bridging any gaps our families would have to accessing mental health services. Our outcomes prove this model is beneficial and highly effective for our patients. With the \$1.8 million investment from the Legislature, Children's is working on supporting primary care offices and providers across the state with the knowledge, resources, and technology to be connected virtually to a pediatric trained mental health professional, generating efficient and equitable access to mental health care in Nebraska.

Prior to COVID -19, one in five children experienced a mental health condition. Today, data suggests that number to be one in four. According to the Children's Hospital Association, from April 2019 to October 2020, children's hospitals have seen a 24% increase in the number of mental health emergency room visits for kids 5 to 11 years old: for teens 12 to 17 years old, a 31% increase. In the first half of 2021 alone, children's hospitals reported cases of self-injury and suicide in children ages 5-17 at a 45% higher rate than during the same period in 2019. Children's in Omaha has noted a similar trend in mental health emergency room visits as well.

These statistics reflect a fragmented pediatric mental health infrastructure that lacks the necessary attention or support to be effective. Understanding the nationwide shortage of pediatric mental health providers in the state, Children's is positioned to partner with these providers and be the trusted advisor to coordinate the complex mental health needs of children in Nebraska.

The key goals of this project include:

1. Provide mental health education and training for providers through Children's Outreach & Provider Education (COPE), formerly Project TEACH, to help treat children with these needs in their own community.

2. Increase the number of providers treating the mental health conditions of children and youth in Nebraska.
3. Provide timely access to expert mental health practitioners via telemedicine for primary care providers as needed to serve children with mental health needs.
4. Serve as a resource to pediatric primary care providers in Nebraska for best practices in treating mental health in children.
5. Create a data repository on the types of consults requested to define trends, patterns, and areas of future support.

Through this project, Children's will create a dedicated infrastructure to support training and telemedicine supports to providers; thereby, strengthening and streamlining access to mental health services.

Uses of Funds

Telehealth and telemedicine are effective and are essential tools for immediate intervention. Children's has experienced tremendous growth in telemedicine and telehealth visits within mental health. In 2017, Children's completed 567 visits. At the peak of COVID-19 in 2020, nearly 21,000 patient visits occurred, which flattened to a remarkable 19,036 visits in 2021.

The need for mental health services increased due to the COVID-19 pandemic, further stressing the workforce and resources available to meet the needs of children and youth. Currently, not all primary care practitioners across the State have integrated mental health into the primary clinics. In fact, there is a critical shortage of mental health providers in throughout Nebraska.

According to the Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska, 81 of Nebraska's 93 counties meet the federal criteria for a "Mental Health Professional Shortage Area" designation. Most counties in Nebraska do not have any psychiatry providers who specialize in the pediatric population. Almost all those specialists practice in Omaha. Census data estimates that approximately 40% of the youth in Nebraska live in rural counties. These youth were previously unable to access care without traveling to Douglas, Lancaster, or Sarpy counties in Eastern Nebraska.

The global public health crisis has worsened disparities in health for Nebraskans children with higher rates of underlying health conditions and those with poor access to quality health care. In addition, the last two years have overwhelmingly affected children in Nebraska. The disruption to their lives, including the lack of socializing and school closures – along with uncertainty and stress have contributed to staggering levels of loneliness, anxiety, and depression.

The trends in children's mental health were sobering prior to the pandemic, with 1 and 5 children experiencing a mental health illness and rates of major depression rising dramatically. Now, there is growing concerns that the pandemic has led to increased mental health

challenges and suicide risk among children. Suicide is now the second leading cause of death for youth, up 67% for youth 10-14 years of age.

The first and perhaps most important way telehealth can help expand pediatric mental healthcare access is by bolstering the mental health workforce. Children's will use the allocated funds for a one-time capital and program expenditure to streamline and provide access to mental health services training through primary care providers across the state. Virtual and integrated care for mental health are innovative ways to deliver care that strategically leverages a limited pediatric-trained workforce. This training will be supported by access to telehealth consultants between primary care providers and trained mental health professionals who will serve as a resource and advisor.

The collaboration between mental healthcare professionals, pediatricians, and adolescent medicine practitioners is vital for early detection and diagnosis of mental health conditions in children that parents may be unable to catch.

The capital and program expenditures are appropriate for this project as it is a strategic investment of \$1.8 million that will allow Children's to bridge the gap to mental health care for children throughout the state. Due to the shortage of pediatric mental health providers in Nebraska, there are limited alternative capital expenditures to help resolve this crisis in communities that do not have access to pediatric mental health care. This project will increase Nebraska's capacity to meet the mental health needs of our children and youth by leveraging primary care providers (PCP's) throughout the state.

3. Project Description

Overview of the Main Activities of the Project:

For over a decade, Children's has integrated mental health services into our 13 primary care offices across the state, bridging any gaps our families would have to accessing mental health services and offering immediate intervention. Prior to COVID-19, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommended routine screening of all patients 12 years and older for depression to reduce suicide risk, a practice we begin as young as 10 years old at Children's. Following a routine screen, an immediate follow-up with a mental health provider is available should the child indicate mental or mental health concerns.

Primary care physicians such as pediatricians and family practice doctors are often the first-place families go to seek help or information about mental health concerns with their children. Primary Care providers can provide mental health support and prescribe medications, but they may not have access to consultation, or the training needed to make decisions for children with mental health needs.

Children's will leverage Nebraska's primary care workforce of approximately 4,000 providers to address mild to moderate health conditions with youth and children. This model of care offers primary care offices and providers across the state with the knowledge and resources to treat

60% of basic mental health conditions. In addition, it provides the technical tools to be connected virtually to a pediatric trained mental health professional, generating efficient and equitable access to mental health care in Nebraska.

The primary focus of this project is to partner with providers throughout Nebraska to provide mental health training and support them through telemedicine. Children's pediatric psychiatry access program COPE (Children's Outreach & Provider Education – formerly known as Project TEACH) offers training for primary care providers that includes basic mental health skills to keep kids closer to home and out of overwhelmed emergency departments.

Developed specifically for Nebraska, COPE will include rapid consultation, education and training, referrals, and linkage services to pediatric primary care providers (PCP's) statewide who provide care for children and adolescents with mental health disorders.

Providers who are trained through COPE Nebraska will have access to the following services:

- E-Consults and Telehealth Visits: Access to rapid consultation from child and adolescent psychiatrists. All participating pediatric PCP's are eligible to receive consultation about their patients' mental health needs through a telemedicine visit.
- Access to Education and Training: Trainings are held regularly on a variety of topics related to children's social and emotional development. CME credits are available to providers for attending the training. Intensive training includes 12 hours of education in screening, treatment, and management of mental health conditions with children and adolescents.
- Learning Collaborative: 6 hours of collaborative learning opportunities with cohort participants to problem-solve and support their continued learning through case discussions.
- Access to Referral and Linkage Services: Referral and linkage services assist families and pediatric PCP's to access community mental health and support services such as clinic treatment, case management, or family support. PCP's will be provided Mental Health Coordinators to help navigate the mental health services within the state.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms and Partners, if applicable

The primary mechanism for communication and data collection will be through COPE's web-based platform that connects Children's with PCP's located throughout Nebraska. COPE puts mental health specialists directly in touch with PCP's and will be used to connect training opportunities providers across the state.

The benefits of telemedicine and utilizing COPE include:

- Better access: Telemedicine supports rural areas that suffer from lack of access to high quality healthcare. This technology, along with provider training, has made healthcare accessible to a wider spectrum of children. Additionally, it has been an excellent way for physicians and specialists to expand the reach of their services and offer the benefit of

their expertise to a greater number of people. Considering the critical shortage of qualified and experienced healthcare professionals in rural Nebraska, telemedicine is extremely beneficial in bridging the gap between demand and supply in healthcare.

- **Affordability:** Telehealth and telemedicine provide high-quality medical care that is easily accessible and affordable. By reducing the cost of healthcare and increasing efficiency, physicians can manage mental health conditions in youth and adolescents more effectively.
- **Better quality of care:** Telemedicine helps in delivering better quality service, especially in mental health. Children's patients and families have shown superior satisfaction levels for services provided through virtual care.

Additionally, Children's will dedicate technical tools for use by willing providers to streamline immediate access to mental health services. This equipment includes e-consult and telehealth hardware such as laptops, servers, cameras, and AV equipment. Children's will also build a COPE classroom in Kearney, Nebraska as part of a new mental health care hub that will be a specific site to provide intensive and core trainings as well as in-person and virtual learning.

As a safety-net provider for children in Nebraska, Children's is dedicated to improving access to mental health care for children through better integration and coordination with community partners. Children's has a long history of partnering across the state. Partners for our pediatric psychiatric services utilizing telemedicine in rural clinics include Great Plains in North Platte, Community Hospital in McCook, and Regional West in Scottsbluff.

Children's current Virtual Care program was developed based on research by the American Psychiatric Association (APA) and the American Telemedicine Association (ATA). These two organizations are leaders in the development and delivery of effective and safe interactive videoconferencing-based mental health services. COPE will build on that success.

In addition, Children's consulted the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) for resources, specifically their "Child and Adolescent Telepsychiatry Toolkit." Children's psychiatrist Dr. Jennifer McWilliams served on this board and helped develop the toolkit. Lastly, Children's is partnering with the Nebraska Medical Association (NMA) on a grant with DHHS to achieve integrated primary care across the state.

Intended Measurable Outcomes

Measurable outcomes for this project will include:

- Increased access to care through linkages and referrals. This will be measured by the number of mental health coordinators assisting PCP's in Nebraska, and number of referrals.
- Increased provider knowledge about pediatric mental health through intensive trainings and learning collaborative opportunities. This will be measured by the number of providers that participate in COPE trainings, number of hours of training provided and

changes in provider knowledge and comfort as reported by providers upon completion of intensive trainings and e-consults.

- Increased e-consults with mental health specialists for patients managed by PCP's.

Children's long-term outcomes for this project are:

- Earlier identification and reduced time to initiate care.
- Reduced barriers to initial and sustained care.
- Increased collaboration among clinic professionals, psychiatrists, and parents.
- Reduce patient risk taking, depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation in Nebraska.
- Increase pediatric providers screening, treating, and monitoring mild to moderate mental health conditions in rural and underserved areas of Nebraska.

By 2025, Children's intends to have 200 primary care providers in Nebraska who will have completed intensive trainings for mild to moderate mental health conditions and 475 providers that have completed core training for pediatric-specific support and on-going education.

Approximately 60% of mild to moderate health conditions can be screened, treated, and managed by a PCP's. Through this project, Children's aims to increase the number of youth and adolescents gaining access to needed mental health services in Nebraska.

4. Performance Measures (KPI's)

- (1) The geographic location of patients and number of referrals completed through this project.
- (2) The number of providers recruited in Nebraska who participate in COPE trainings, including intensive training and core training.
- (3) The number of mental health coordinators.
- (4) The number of e-consults and telemedicine visits.
- (5) Satisfaction data from medical providers, coordinators, patients, and clinic team.

Community Engagement

Planned use of the funds will incorporate input that will capture diverse feedback from patients, providers, and stakeholders from community-based organizations. The funds will help to build the capacity of community organizations to serve children with significant barriers to services.

To develop the concepts for this project, we used a group of community-based mental health providers as advisors. This included representatives from Project Harmony, the Nebraska Medical Association, Nebraska Association of Behavioral Health Organizations, Nebraska Rural

Health Association, CHI Health, Region 6, Charles Drew, and One World Health Centers. Children's will continue to seek input regarding the program's content, delivery, and interface for PCP's as the project moves forward.

In addition, we have identified three physician champions who completed the intensive training in fall 2022 and have agreed to serve ambassadors to the State's PCP community. Once formally launched, we aim to recruit 20 physicians to serve as champions and co-facilitators in future training opportunities.

Labor Practices

Children's will be effective in our labor practices in that we will use a centralized resource to provide services to providers in primary practices who could not otherwise have access to pediatric-specific psychiatry support.

Use of Evidence

COPE has been modeled and informed by New York's Project TEACH, an evidence-based model that has been cited in over 12 peer-reviewed articles. Within the model, its components are also evidence-based including:

- Screening and Rating Tools: Only evidence-based, open sources screening tools are available for any provider accessing the platform. The platform offers approximately 75 tools and rating scales for use by PCP's.
- Telehealth Services: Access to a Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist
- E-consults: Provided for PCP's with a Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist
- Education: PCP training materials and curriculum

Update

Children's made the decision to re-brand Project TEACH due to feedback provided from providers through the State. The new name is *Children's Outreach for Provider Education (COPE)*. Future communication and updates will reflect COPE as a program name (versus Project TEACH).

In addition, a program called TRAYT was identified as the data platform for tracking participation and outcome data within the program. The Trayt's platform will provide the following operational supports for COPE:

- Enroll and track providers in the COPE program
- Collect and support Psychiatric consultation requests for the state's PCPs
- Support enrollment in provider education opportunities
- Collect data regarding program outcomes and house COPE dashboard

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project #: 25840224

Purpose

The purpose of this Subaward is to provide education and training to pediatric mental health providers throughout Nebraska as a means to coordinate the complex mental health needs of children.

Project Expenditure Category: 1.12 Mental Health Services

Funding amount: \$1,800,000

Project Overview

For over a decade, Children's has integrated mental health in our primary care offices, bridging any gaps our families would have to accessing mental health services. Our outcomes prove this model is beneficial and highly effective for our patients. With the \$1.8 million investment from the Legislature, Children's is working on supporting primary care offices and providers across the state with the knowledge, resources, and technology to be connected virtually to a pediatric trained mental health professional, generating efficient and equitable access to mental health care in Nebraska.

Use of Evidence

The key goals of this project include:

1. Provide mental health education and training for providers through Children's Outreach & Provider Education (COPE), formerly Project TEACH, to help treat children with these needs in their own community.
2. Increase the number of providers treating the mental health conditions of children and youth in Nebraska.
3. Provide timely access to expert mental health practitioners via telemedicine for primary care providers as needed to serve children with mental health needs.
4. Serve as a resource to pediatric primary care providers in Nebraska for best practices in treating mental health in children.
5. Create a data repository on the types of consults requested to define trends, patterns, and areas of future support.

State of Nebraska

**Recovery Plan DHHS-Food
Program**

**State and Local Fiscal
Recovery Funds**

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The Food Assistance program will assist local food banks in addressing food insecurity. The pandemic caused many individuals to lose their jobs or reduce hours. This loss in funds has created a need that the food banks across Nebraska have been addressing through SLFRF funding.

Uses of Funds

The funds allocated for Food Assistance were split into two categories, Food Bank Capacity and Food Security Innovation grants. Funds were provided through sub-awards to 11 organizations. The community benefits from these funds to address the lack of affordable food for low-income and at-risk individuals. The pandemic created greater food insecurity that is being addressed by these funds. These funds meet part b (Negative Economic Impacts) of the SLFRF federal funding.

Community Engagement

These funds are allocated to organizations that serve populations of disadvantaged households. The community food banks and organizations are allocated funds to bridge the gap of food insecurity of households.

Labor Practices

The food banks and organizations that are allocated the funds will hire local labor and use a portion on local fresh produce and other food.

Use of Evidence

The funds that are allocated to food banks will collect data on the impact to local individuals and businesses. Some will include the household use of existing benefits.

Performance Report

The final report regarding the impact of the funds will indicate if this program should continue in the future and in what capacity. There will also indicate if there are current gaps in food programs that assist low-income or at-risk households.

PROJECT INVENTORY

This project does not have any inventory that is tracked.

State of Nebraska

Recovery Plan – Rural Assisted Living Facility (ALF) Health Aid

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2025 Report

State of Nebraska
2025 Recovery Plan

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The goals of this program are to provide additional, one-time funding to rural assisted living facilities (ALFs) for employee recruitment and retention activities and for costs for supplies and equipment for facilities, due to financial distress created by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Uses of Funds

Pursuant to LB1412(2024) the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services distributed funds appropriated to assisted-living facilities. The distribution was determined by the formula established in LB1412 which required the funds to be distributed proportionally to rural ALFs based on historical Medicaid Assisted-Living Waiver utilization.

Community Engagement

Not Applicable

Labor Practices

This funding is intended to promote local hiring and retaining of employees to ensure adequate care and support staff in ALFs.

Use of Evidence

Not Applicable

Performance Report

Not Applicable

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project ID 25580009.2: Rural ALF Health Aid

Funding amount: \$1,499,657

Project Expenditure Category: 1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings

Nebraska DHHS distributed the funds appropriated pursuant to LB1412 to rural ALFs to support employee recruitment and retention activities and for costs for supplies and equipment for facilities, due to financial distress created by the COVID-19 Pandemic. As of June 30, 2025, the department has obligated and expended all \$1,499,657 of the total funding amount.

State of Nebraska
**Recovery Plan –
Department of Education**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2025 Report

Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSFRF) Funding Report

July 2025

Pursuant to LB 1014, Section 13, signed into law on April 2021, the Nebraska Department of Education, Office of Special Education received funds through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSFRF). There is included in the appropriation to this program, \$1,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid. The Nebraska Department of Education shall spend the funds appropriated in this section exclusively for programs and interpreters that provide services to students who are deaf or hard of hearing in the following manner: (1) \$300,000 for equipment; (2) \$300,000 for service; and (3) \$400,000 for an enhanced educational interpreter training and mentoring program.

Amount:	Intended Use:	Timeframe:
\$300,000	Selection of Specific Services that can be enhanced to support students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing or training on services provided to service providers based on Needs Assessment.	Purchases or Contracts entered into for the 2023-24/2024-25 School Year(s). SY 2022-23 Completed Needs Assessment Developing SY 23-24 and 24-25 contract for professional development activities to support educators based on needs assesment.
\$300,000	Selection of Specific Equipment that can be enhanced to support students who are Deaf of Hard of Hearing or training on equipment provided to service providers based on Needs Assessment.	Purchases or Contracts entered into for the 2023-24/2024-25 School Year(s). SY 2022-23 Completed Needs Assessment December start date of MOU with ATP to purchase statewide loan pool equipment.
\$400,000	Selection of Projects to support students who are Deaf of Hard of Hearing regarding Educational Mentoring Support.	Purchases or Contracts entered into for the 2023-24/2024-25 School Year(s). Completed RFP/Procurement process – State Board Approval for following grants in August:

The NDE Office of Special Education has conducted a needs assessment in collaboration with the Deaf or Hard of Hearing Regional Programs and the NDE Assistive Technology Partnership (ATP) ensure the use of funds within the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSFRF) would meet the needs of students who are Deaf or hard of hearing in Nebraska. Based on the needs assessment, The NDE Office of Special Education and Deaf or Hard of Hearing Regional Programs has developed action plans to carry out the activities related to the needs of the needs assessment and to ensure appropriate use of funds.

Selection of Specific Services that can be enhanced to support students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing or training on services provided to service providers based on Needs Assessment.

Total Allocation - \$300,000

In collaboration with the Nebraska Commission for the Deaf or Hard of Hearing, the NDE Office of Special Education will be offering American Sign Language at Home: A Family Curriculum to families that had not access to supporting their student using educational interpreters.

The estimated cost, based on the delivery of 1000 student's families, is \$35,699.89. This curriculum will be provided to families through a regional training facilitated by the Nebraska Deaf or Hard of Hearing Regional Coordinators.

In addition, The Nebraska Regional Program for Deaf or Hard of Hearing entered into a subaward with ESU #9 to provide support for Nebraska students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing in summer Transition Programs with translation and interpreter services that totaled \$108,000.00.

Total Committed Funds - \$300,000.00

Project Name	Project Identification Number (Assigned by recipient)	Status of Completion	Adopted Budget	Total Cumulative Obligations	Total Cumulative Expenditures
Required	Required	Required	Optional	Required	Required
ARPA NDE - SERVICES	13020232	Completed 50% or more	\$300,000.00	\$84,000.00	\$256,166.98

Selection of Projects to support students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing regarding Educational Mentoring Support.

Total Allocation - \$400.000

Interpreter mentorship programs are being created to address the increased demand for high quality interpretation services and the need for ongoing support for new and experienced interpreters. ASL/English interpretation is a complex social-linguistic task.

Increased demand for qualified American Sign Language (ASL)/English interpretation led to growth of professional training opportunities for aspiring as well as working interpreters. However, the interpreting community's efforts to increase the numbers and availability of qualified ASL/English interpreters met with several challenges:

- Time lag between new interpreters 'graduation from an interpreter preparation program and their attaining national certification

- A skills gap, including the level of ASL proficiency, among new and working interpreters
- Need for more professional development opportunities and networking support for interpreters
- Alternative entry pathways into professional interpreting, often by members of diverse racial/ethnic groups
- Lack of awareness of the role and acceptance of Deaf interpreters
- Lack of persistence in or dropping out of the interpreting profession

For students who are deaf who are attending school in general education settings, the provision of an educational interpreter is an important accommodation. The demand for educational interpreters has soared in recent years and has paralleled the increase in the number of students who are deaf who are attending local schools. Rapid growth in the field of educational interpreting has resulted in a shortage of well-prepared interpreters, a situation that is even worse in rural settings. Many individuals employed as interpreters have not completed formal preparation through interpreter preparation programs, and even fewer still have had appropriate training for employment in educational settings. The paucity of interpreters, coupled with the concern about the quality of interpretation puts a high emphasis on the need to “grow your own” in rural and high shortage areas.

One way of addressing these challenges is through the design and implementation of interpreter mentoring programs to support new interpreters, interpreters from diverse populations, Deaf interpreters, and working interpreters seeking professional growth.

Below are the entities that were selected through a Request For Proposal to enhance education interpreter training and mentoring programs in Nebraska that are aligned to the following priority goals.

Priority Goals:

- I. Provide for development of and/or access to training modules for educational sign language interpreters
- II. Enhance the signing skills of school-based sign language interpreters in Nebraska through onsite and virtual mentoring.

III. Provide opportunities for providers to network on Low Incidence issues.

- 1) **Central/Western Nebraska Deaf or Hard of Hearing Regional Program** - ASL Immersion Program - ASL immersion program (4-day voice-off) for school district staff interested in becoming educational sign language interpreters or teachers of the deaf and hard of hearing. Staff for the proposal would be fluent in ASL and have knowledge of EIP A testing for requirements for educational sign language interpreters. Areas of focus would include ASL linguistic features, text analysis, classroom discourse, and managing the interpreting process. Our proposal would be to offer this opportunity in the summer of 2024 and again in 2025.
- 2) **Central Western Nebraska Deaf or Hard of Hearing Regional Program** – Dual Credit Sign Language I and II classes – CWNP regional schools will be offered beginning (Sign Language I) and more advanced (Sign Language II) classes. The classes will be taught by an experienced, fluent ASL teacher. The dual credit will be offered via a Nebraska-accredited community college. Students in the program will be provided classes through an online platform that uses a combination of live classes (1 time weekly) and asynchronous modules. The curriculum would be a commonly used book and video series that is evidence-based to learn ASL.
- 3) **Utah State d/b/a TAESE** – Facilitation and Mentoring - Provide facilitation and mentoring services for Nebraska participants taking the TAESE Deaf Interpreter online training course. This 16-week training course has been designed to bring participants together to explore the foundational skills required to work as a Deaf Interpreter (DI). Instructional and learning methods for the training include online assignments, small group mentor meetings, one-on-one mentor meetings, various interpreting assignments, and performing self-assessment and critical reflections.
- 4) **Utah State d/b/a TAESE** – Mentoring in Practice Courses - Provide training for current and potential mentors by using the TAESE Mentoring in Practice online training course. This online training explores

the role of the mentor and mentee relationship as part of the growth trajectory for interpreters. The orientation of the mentoring process in this training is rooted in a growth mentality mindset and recognizes the need for interpreters to develop resiliency and embrace learning how to grow from their mistakes. The coursework will cover topics such as adult learning theory, effective mentoring strategies, pattern identification, performing assessments, giving constructive feedback, and developing rapport.

- 5) **Lincoln Public Schools** – Interpreter Training Supports - Lincoln Public Schools has been unable to hire enough interpreters for the last four years. The staffing shortage makes it difficult to provide students with equitable access due to having to work around the shortage. The shortage also strains current working interpreters as they are being pulled in multiple directions and often working with several students at one time. We have contracted services, but they are not the same as having someone in person. This project will support a “grow your own” project in training and mentoring for personnel in Lincoln Public Schools.

- 6) **University of Nebraska – Omaha** ASL-English Interpreting Training and Support - This project aims to improve students’ readiness for the EIPA or NIC interpreting assessments by providing monthly mentoring sessions to undergraduate students within UNO’s Interpreter Preparation Program. UNO students will complete a readiness survey and the American Sign Language Proficiency Interview (ASLPI) to establish a baseline of existing ASL skills. Each month, UNO students will be required to participate in one hour of mentoring with an approved interpreter mentor. At the end of the mentoring cycle, UNO students will complete the survey and the ASLPI again as a post-test to evaluate readiness for taking the Educational Interpreting Proficiency Assessment (EIPA) or the National Interpreting Certification (NIC).

Total Contracts COST:

CWNP - ASL Immersion	8/7/23 - 8/6/2025	\$93,280
CWNP - Dual Credit ASL	8/7/23 - 8/6/2025	\$132,500
UNO Interpreter Mentoring -	8/7/23 - 8/6/2025	\$66,014

LPS - Interpreter Tuition Reimbursement	8/7/23 - 8/6/2025	\$10,000
TAESE - Deaf Interpreter	8/7/23 - 8/6/2025	\$56,210
TAESE - ASL Mentoring	8/7/23 - 8/6/2025	\$37,852

Total Committed Funds - \$395,856.00

Project Name	Project Identification Number (Assigned by recipient)	Status of Completion	Adopted Budget	Total Cumulative Obligations	Total Cumulative Expenditures
Required	Required	Required	Optional	Required	Required
ARPA NDE - INTERPRETER	13020233	Completed less than 50%	\$400,000.00	\$395,856.00	\$106,533.84

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission **Recovery Plan**

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is charged to serve as the designated authority for management of compliant wastewater facilities on our park areas and have identified at various park areas across the state, wastewater treatment projects in most critical need of attention and actions necessary to continue the proper operation of park infrastructure and to remain in service to the general public. The listed projects are intended to maintain adequate minimum levels of service and gain efficiency through centralization of services and elimination of individualized treatment facilities.

Uses of Funds

The appropriated funds are assigned to agency identified wastewater treatment projects that are necessary to properly handle wastewater, protect the public and natural groundwater, and allow for continuing proper operation of park infrastructure and remain in service to the general public. Such infrastructure includes cabins, campgrounds, shower facilities, trailer dump stations and other related public facilities. The park areas are public facilities that are accessible to the general public and serve as critical economic drivers for the various nearby communities, offering recreational services, tourism revenue, and employment opportunities for those communities.

Community Engagement

The Nebraska Game and Park Commission has worked with community representatives in the legislature and other state agencies to determine eligible projects and has provided guidance documents and reports to the State Legislature's Executive Board. When applicable, outreach efforts are used, and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission may reach out to local communities for collaboration on projects. The upgrades to the wastewater treatment facilities at the identified areas will positively impact the nearby communities that rely on the economic benefit that the park areas provide to those various communities as well as providing opportunities for increased social wellbeing benefits to not only the nearby communities but the general public as well.

Labor Practices

State approved processes for selection of qualified and professional engineering firms will ensure that project designs comply with all federal and state, (Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy), regulations requiring proper operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities. Game and Parks will follow State of Nebraska procurement processes for selection of qualified contractual services for construction.

Use of Evidence

All projects are designed to comply with all federal and state, (Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy), regulations requiring proper operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities.

Performance Report

The wastewater collection upgrades at the identified park areas are necessary to properly handle wastewater at those areas and is intended to meet federal and state requirements. The projects will provide enhanced services made available to the public. The majority of the construction work has been completed for the identified projects. Project specific updates are outlined in the below project inventory.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project 33209901: Niobrara State Park Wastewater Treatment

Funding amount: \$690,868.50 and \$154,070.50

Project Expenditure Category: 5.1, Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment

Project Overview

- Wastewater collection upgrades necessary to properly handle wastewater at Niobrara State Park. This project is intended to enhance services made available to the public and to meet code requirements. The project is intended to maintain adequate minimum levels of service and achieve efficiency through centralization of services.

Use of Evidence

- This project is designed to comply with all federal and state, (Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy), regulations requiring proper operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities.

Performance Report

- Work was performed by Rutjens Construction Inc. out of Tilden. Work was originally completed, and the project was closed out in the fall of 2023. Seepage issues were discovered and needed recompaction. More funds were obligated in late 2024 to do that work and Rutjens Construction started in April of 2025. Work is anticipated to be completed and the project closed out in July 2025.

Project 33209902: Lewis & Clark State Recreation Area Wastewater Treatment

Funding amount: \$820,085.57

Project Expenditure Category: 5.1, Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment

Project Overview

- Wastewater collection upgrades necessary to properly handle wastewater at Lewis & Clark State Recreation Area. This project is intended to enhance services made available to the public and to meet code requirements. The project is intended to maintain adequate minimum levels of service and achieve efficiency through centralization of services.

Use of Evidence

- This project is designed to comply with all federal and state, (Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy), regulations requiring proper operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities.

Performance Report

- Work was performed by Nelson Construction LLC. Construction work was completed in the fall of 2023. The lagoon was monitored for wastewater inflow and for water loss. Force main connection on north cell needed repairs. More funds were obligated in late 2024 to do that work, and work was completed in May of 2025 by Plumbing & Electric Service Inc out of Hartington. The lagoon and force main are in operation.

Project 33209903: Two Rivers State Recreation Area Wastewater Treatment

Funding amount: \$3,668,179.77

Project Expenditure Category: 5.1, Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment

Project Overview

- Wastewater collection upgrades necessary to properly handle wastewater at Lewis & Clark State Recreation Area. This project is intended to enhance services made available to the public and to meet code requirements. The project is intended to maintain adequate minimum levels of service and achieve efficiency through centralization of services.

Use of Evidence

- This project is designed to comply with all federal and state, (Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy), regulations requiring proper operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities.

Performance Report

- Work was performed by Valley Corporation. Construction work was completed in the spring of 2024. The lagoon and force main are in operation.

Project 33209904: Branched Oak State Recreation Area Wastewater Treatment

Funding amount: \$575,456.44

Project Expenditure Category: 5.1, Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment

Project Overview

- Wastewater collection upgrades necessary to properly handle wastewater at Branched Oak State Recreation Area. This project is intended to enhance services made available to the public and to meet code requirements. The project is intended to maintain adequate minimum levels of service and achieve efficiency through centralization of services.

Use of Evidence

- This project is designed to comply with all federal and state, (Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy), regulations requiring proper operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities.

Performance Report

- Work was performed by K2 Construction out of Lincoln. Work was completed and project closed out in the fall of 2023. The lagoon and force main are in operation.

Project 33209905: Mormon Island State Recreation Area Wastewater Treatment

Funding amount: \$1,078,947.28

Project Expenditure Category: 5.1, Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment

Project Overview

- Wastewater collection upgrades necessary to properly handle wastewater at Mormon Island State Recreation Area. This project is intended to enhance services made available to the public and to meet code requirements. The project is intended to maintain adequate minimum levels of service and achieve efficiency through centralization of services.

Use of Evidence

- This project is designed to comply with all federal and state, (Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy), regulations requiring proper operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities.

Performance Report

- Work was performed by Midlands Contracting Inc. out of Kearney. Work was completed and project closed out in late fall of 2023. The lagoon and force main are in operation.

Project 33209906: Johnson Lake State Recreation Area Wastewater Treatment

Funding amount: \$215,000.00

Project Expenditure Category: 5.1, Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment

Project Overview

- Wastewater collection upgrades necessary to properly handle wastewater at Johnson Lake State Recreation Area. This project is intended to enhance services made available to the public and to meet code requirements. The project is intended to maintain adequate minimum levels of service and achieve efficiency through centralization of services.

Use of Evidence

- This project is designed to comply with all federal and state, (Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy), regulations requiring proper operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities.

Performance Report

- Work was completed by Tracy L Cook Construction LLC out of Kearney. Construction work was completed in the summer of 2024. The dump station is in operation.

Project 33209907: Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area Wastewater Treatment

Funding amount: \$456,660.00

Project Expenditure Category: 5.1, Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment

Project Overview

- Wastewater collection upgrades necessary to properly handle wastewater at Fremont Lakes State Recreation Area. This project is intended to enhance services made available to the public and to meet code requirements. The project is intended to maintain adequate minimum levels of service and achieve efficiency through centralization of services.

Use of Evidence

- This project is designed to comply with all federal and state, (Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy), regulations requiring proper operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities.

Performance Report

- Work was performed by Rutjens Construction Inc. out of Tilden. Construction started in late fall of 2024 and was completed in May of 2025. The dump station is in operation.

Project 33209908: Eugene T. Mahoney State Park Wastewater Treatment

Funding amount: \$37,536.66

Project Expenditure Category: 5.1, Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment

Project Overview

- Wastewater collection upgrades necessary to properly handle wastewater at Eugene T. Mahoney State Park. This project is intended to enhance services made available to the public and to meet code requirements. The project is intended to maintain adequate minimum levels of service and achieve efficiency through centralization of services.

Use of Evidence

- This project is designed to comply with all federal and state, (Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy), regulations requiring proper operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities.

Performance Report

- Work was performed by AWS Well out of Mead. Work was completed and project closed out in spring of 2025.

Project 33209909: Rock Creek Station State Recreation Area Wastewater Treatment

Funding amount: \$326,993.38

Project Expenditure Category: 5.1, Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment

Project Overview

- Wastewater collection upgrades necessary to properly handle wastewater at Rock Creek Station State Recreation Area. This project is intended to enhance services made available to the public and to meet code requirements. The project is intended to maintain adequate minimum levels of service and achieve efficiency through centralization of services.

Use of Evidence

- This project is designed to comply with all federal and state, (Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy), regulations requiring proper operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities.

Performance Report

- Work is being completed by Gana Trucking & Excavation Inc. out of Martell. Construction started in April of 2025 and is expected to be completed in July of 2025.

State of Nebraska

**Recovery Plan-Department of
Labor**

**State and Local Fiscal
Recovery Funds**

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Grant applications for premium pay and workforce development programs will be available on the Department of Labor's website beginning Monday, October 3, 2022. The Nebraska State Legislature appropriated \$10 million in funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for the grants. Premium pay applies to teachers, childcare providers, and nurses in qualified settings, with the goal of improving recruitment and retention. Workforce development funding is available for activities that bring eligible individuals back into the workforce or facilitate their career advancement through job training, reskilling, and upskilling.

Uses of Funds

Program 1: Teacher Recruitment and Retention Grants-Premium Pay (EC 4)

NDOL ARPA funds are allocated for grants to educational employers and childcare facilities to support the recruitment and retention of educators in math, science, and career and technical education, as well as childcare and early childhood education providers. Premium pay will range from \$1,250 to \$2,500 depending on length of employment.

Program 2: Nursing Recruitment and Retention Grants-Premium Pay (EC 4)

NDOL ARPA funds are allocated for grants to healthcare employers to support the recruitment and retention of registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and certified nursing assistants who work in eligible practice settings. These settings include hospitals, nursing homes, long-term care facilities, rehabilitation centers, residential treatment centers, primary care offices, and urgent care clinics. Premium pay will range from \$1,000 to \$2,500.

Program 3: Workforce Development Grants Negative Economic Impact: (EC 2)

NDOL ARPA funds are allocated for grants to businesses, non-profits, educational institutions, and other entities to provide eligible employment-related services to unemployed workers, underemployed workers, and other populations who suffered economic harm due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eligible employment-related services include but are not limited to job training, vocational or job skill-focused education, career services and job coaching, job fairs, employer recruitment, hiring incentives, apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeship programs, combined education and on-the-job training programs, assistance with starting a small business, and incentives for newly employed workers.

Community Engagement

NA

Labor Practices

NA

Use of Evidence

Program 1: Teacher Recruitment and Retention Grants

Funds received through a TRRG award will be used to provide premium pay to eligible employees. The following criteria govern the eligibility for premium pay:

1. The individual must provide eligible services in-person as an employee of a recipient school, school district, licensed childcare center, or licensed preschool program.
2. The individual's total pay from the recipient employer for 2023 must not be more than \$78,165.00 (150 percent of Nebraska's state average annual wage for all occupations as defined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Employment and Wage Survey).
3. The individual must satisfy applicable retention requirements:
 - a. The individual must be working in a PP Eligible Position no later than September 1, 2023.
 - b. The individual must continue working in (or be on approved leave from) a PP Eligible Position at the same recipient employer on the PP Certification date of January 9, 2024.
 - c. As of the PP Certification Date, the individual must be under contract to teach in the PP Eligible position at the same recipient employer through the end of the 2023-2024 school year. This requirement does not apply to any PP Eligible Position which the recipient employer does not treat as a contract position.
4. If all eligibility requirements are satisfied, the amount of premium pay shall be:
 - a. \$2,500 if the individual started a PP Eligible position on or before December 31, 2022.
 - b. \$1,250 if the individual started a PP Eligible position between January 1, 2023, and September 1, 2023.
 - c. An educator who moves from one PP Eligible position at a recipient employer to another PP Eligible position at the same recipient employer shall be deemed to have occupied the latter position continuously for the time in both positions.

Program 2: Nursing Recruitment and Retention Grants

Eligibility requirements for healthcare workers receiving premium pay

1. Funds distributed under an NRRG award shall be used solely to support premium pay for eligible healthcare workers employed by recipient healthcare employers.¹ To be eligible for premium pay, a healthcare worker must be a licensed RN, LPN, or CNA and must:
 - a. Provide in-person patient care in a PP Eligible Position as an employee of a recipient healthcare employer.
 - b. Satisfy the following retention requirements:
 - i. Be in a PP Eligible Position no later than September 1, 2023.

¹ Pursuant to guidance from the United States Department of Treasury, NDOL has determined that awarding premium pay to RNs, LPNs, and CNAs in all PP Eligible Positions will respond to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, without regard to income level or exemption status under the Fair Labor Standards Act of the premium pay recipient, because of the significant workplace risks these healthcare workers have encountered during the COVID-19 pandemic and because of the corresponding difficulties healthcare employers have faced when recruiting and retaining healthcare workers in these positions.

- ii. Continuously remain in the PP Eligible Position through the PP Certification Date (January 9, 2024) except for any period during which the healthcare worker is on approved leave.
- 2. If all eligibility requirements are satisfied, the amount of premium pay shall be:
 - a. \$2,500.00 for an RN in a PP Eligible Position.
 - b. \$1,500.00 for an LPN in a PP Eligible Position.
 - c. \$1,000.00 for a CNA in a PP Eligible Position.

Program 3: Workforce Development Grants

If a WDG project proposes use of funds to recruit eligible employees to a particular business or subsidize employment at that business, the following restrictions apply:

- 1. No WDG funds shall be used for recruitment of an employee who is employed full-time by a Nebraska business.
- 2. Any allowable hiring or retention bonus shall not exceed \$2,500.00 per eligible employee.
- 3. Recruitment and retention expenses are allowed only for the hire of permanent employees. Recruitment and retention expenses will be reimbursed only after the new hire has maintained employment with the applicant for 6 months.
- 4. Allowable recruitment-related expenses shall not include:
 - a. Housing down payments
 - b. Non- Economy Class air travel expenses
 - c. Temporary housing expenses, other than authorized travel related lodging costs
 - d. Lodging expenses that are not reasonable and comparable to the United States General Services Administration and in accordance with Federal Travel Regulations as of the date of travel
 - e. Room service or other lodging incidental expenses
 - f. Customs and immigration fees

Performance Report

Quarterly Report

Employers must submit a report to NDOL within 15 days of the end of each calendar quarter using a form and method prescribed by the Department. Quarterly reports identify whether the PP eligible position was filled or vacant. For filled positions, employers will provide information about the worker in the position (as specified by NDOL). Recipients who do not submit quarterly reports in a timely fashion may be subject initial award deobligation or decertification.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Program 1: Teacher Recruitment and Retention Grants

Initial Estimated:

Funding amount: \$4,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: Premium Pay, (EC 4)

- *Number of Grantees:* 76
- *Number of Position filled before 12/31/22:* 1455
- *Number of Position Filled between 1/1/23 and 9/1/23:* 287

Payments completed:

Funding amount payments: \$2,281,250

Project Expenditure Category: Premium Pay, (EC 4)

- *Number of Grantees:* 78
- *Number of Position filled before 12/31/22:* 830
- *Number of Position Filled between 1/1/23 and 9/1/23:* 165

Company Name	Estimated				Completed			
	Total Grant Amount Awarded	Total Grant Positions Estimated	Position Filled before 12/31/22 (\$2500 per)	Position Filled 1/1/23 to 9/1/23 (\$1250 per) Estimated	Total Grant Amount	Total Grant Positions	Position Filled before 12/31/22 (\$2500 per)	Position Filled 1/1/23 to 9/1/23 (\$1250 per)
16th Street Child Development Center DBA Ivy League of Lincoln	\$20,000	8	8	0	\$17,500	7	7	0
Alpine Village Community Daycare	\$17,500	8	6	2	\$11,250	5	4	1
Bancroft-Rosalie Comm School	\$40,000	16	16	0	\$30,000	12	12	0
Bere's Child Care LLC	\$93,750	40	35	5	\$43,750	19	16	3
Blondo Childcare and Preschool Inc	\$65,000	26	26	0	\$28,750	12	11	1
Boone Central Schools	\$55,000	22	22	0	\$48,750	21	18	3
Bright From the Start Child Development Center LLC	\$67,500	28	26	2	\$47,500	20	18	2
Bubbles and Blocks Child Development Center	\$175,000	75	65	10	\$120,000	48	48	0
Building Blocks Learning Center Inc.	\$70,000	34	22	12	\$22,500	10	8	2
Busy Feet Childcare	\$21,250	10	7	3	\$10,000	4	4	0
Callaway Public Schools	\$15,000	6	6	0	\$13,750	6	5	1
Caritas Kids Cottage	\$92,500	52	22	30	\$30,000	12	12	0
Cedar Bluffs Public School	\$32,500	13	13	0	\$28,750	13	10	3
Cheyenne County Child Development Center-Here Wee Grow	\$30,000	12	12	0	\$13,750	6	5	1
Clarkson Christian Daycare Foundation	\$16,250	8	5	3	\$10,000	4	4	0
Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties	\$110,000	44	44	0	\$76,250	31	30	1

Cuddles And Imaginations	\$62,500	30	20	10	\$12,500	7	3	4
CW Ventures Inc	\$87,500	35	35	0	\$32,500	13	13	0
David City Public Schools	\$35,000	14	14	0	\$31,250	13	12	1
Dimensions	\$67,500	27	27	0	\$55,000	25	19	6
East Butler Public School District	\$37,500	20	10	10	\$16,250	7	6	1
Educare Lincoln	\$120,000	48	48	0	\$105,000	50	34	16
Education Services Unit 9 #9721	\$23,750	10	9	1	\$22,500	10	8	2
Educational Service Unit #9 #2397	\$41,250	20	13	7	\$33,750	15	12	3
Educational Service Unit 2 #1029	\$45,000	18	18	0	\$37,500	15	15	0
Educational Service Unit 2 #1503	\$135,000	54	54	0	\$47,500	20	18	2
ESU 9 #2252	\$12,500	5	5	0	\$8,750	4	3	1
ESU 9 #0029 x	\$7,500	3	3	0	\$7,500	3	3	0
ESU 9 #1210	\$36,250	15	14	1	\$27,500	12	10	2
ESU 9 #1731	\$16,250	7	6	1	\$16,250	7	6	1
ESU 9 #7157 x	\$17,500	7	7	0	\$17,500	7	7	0
ESU 9 #8630	\$17,500	7	7	0	\$17,500	7	7	0
Father Flanagan's Boys Home #2419	\$72,500	30	28	2	\$47,500	20	18	2
Father Flanagan's Boys Home #2671	\$15,000	7	5	2	\$12,500	5	5	0
Father Flanagan's Boys Home #2682	\$5,000	2	2	0	\$5,000	2	2	0
Father Flanagan's Boys' Home #8262	\$8,750	5	2	3	\$8,750	5	2	3
First Step Daycare	\$22,500	9	9	0	\$12,500	5	5	0
Foundations Progressive Learning Center, Inc	\$12,500	5	5	0	\$12,500	5	5	0
Harrison Village Childcare Inc	\$72,500	29	29	0	\$28,750	13	10	3
Highlands Academy	\$32,500	13	13	0	\$16,250	7	6	1
Inspiring Minds LLC	\$50,000	20	20	0	\$35,000	14	14	0
Kearney Public	\$162,500	65	65	0	\$136,250	58	51	7
KidLogic Child Care & Preschool, Inc	\$55,000	27	17	10	\$2,500	1	1	0
Kids Connection	\$52,500	22	20	2	\$17,500	7	7	0
Kid's Korner-The Community Center For Child Development	\$47,500	21	17	4	\$32,500	14	12	2
Learning Adventures Child Care Center-Lexington	\$30,000	13	11	2	\$12,500	5	5	0
Lincoln Children's Academy	\$65,000	28	24	4	\$31,250	13	12	1
Litchfield Public Schools	\$7,500	4	2	2	\$5,000	2	2	0
Little Cubs Daycare, LLC	\$30,000	12	12	0	\$7,500	4	2	2
Little Learners Preschool and Academy	\$30,000	14	10	4	\$7,500	3	3	0
Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital (Child Development Center	\$45,000	18	18	0	\$31,250	13	12	1
May Kids Thrive LLC	\$281,250	130	95	35	\$161,250	77	52	25
Merrick County Child Development Center	\$63,750	30	21	9	\$35,000	14	14	0
Miles of Smiles Child Development Center	\$55,000	25	19	6	\$22,500	10	8	2
Minis Preschool and Childcare Center LLC	\$60,000	32	16	16	\$27,500	11	11	0
Montessori School for Young Children Inc.	\$31,250	13	12	1	\$20,000	9	7	2
Nebraska Children's Home Society	\$22,500	9	9	0	\$13,750	6	5	1
Noah's Ark Christian Daycare and Preschool	\$35,000	14	14	0	\$25,000	10	10	0
Northeast Family Center	\$47,500	19	19	0	\$25,000	12	8	4
Our Savior's King's Kids	\$52,500	21	21	0	\$32,500	14	12	2
Primrose School at Falling Waters	\$100,000	48	32	16	\$43,750	24	11	13
Primrose School of Lincoln at Wilderness Hills	\$81,250	41	24	17	\$50,000	22	18	4
Project Future	\$63,750	29	22	7	\$28,750	15	8	7

<i>Project Future Highlands</i>	\$53,750	24	19	5	\$0	0	0	0
<i>Raymond Central Public Schools</i>	\$10,000	4	4	0	\$7,500	3	3	0
<i>St. Paul United Methodist Church, Son-shine Child Care Center</i>	\$20,000	10	6	4	\$15,000	7	5	2
<i>Stepping Stones Child Academy</i>	\$67,500	27	27	0	\$26,250	11	10	1
<i>Teach me Childcare and Learning Center L.L.C</i>	\$22,500	12	6	6	\$5,000	2	2	0
<i>The Child Care Center of Madison</i>	\$25,000	15	5	10	\$7,500	4	2	2
<i>The Children's Place</i>	\$17,500	7	7	0	\$17,500	7	7	0
<i>The Hearth Academy Preschool, Inc.</i>	\$8,750	4	3	1	\$0	0	0	0
<i>The Valley Child Development Center</i>	\$75,000	40	20	20	\$15,000	7	5	2
<i>Trinity Child Care at Village Gardens</i>	\$37,500	15	15	0	\$33,750	15	12	3
<i>Trinity Infant & Child Care Center</i>	\$72,500	29	29	0	\$65,000	27	25	2
<i>University of Nebraska-Lincoln Children's Center</i>	\$72,500	32	26	6	\$48,750	22	17	5
<i>Wood River Vision 20/20 Inc. dba Stick Creek Kids Child Development Center</i>	\$61,250	27	22	5	\$17,500	11	3	8
<i>Wrangler Babies Childcare</i>	\$28,750	12	11	1	\$21,250	9	8	1
<i>Zac's Place Child Care Center</i>	\$28,750	13	10	3	\$12,500	5	5	0
TOTAL	\$3,995,000	1748	1448	300	\$2,281,250	995	830	165
<i>Positions before 12/31/2022</i>	\$3,620,000				\$2,075,000			
<i>Positions b/tw 1/1/2023-9/1/2023</i>	\$375,000				\$206,250			
Total	\$3,995,000				\$2,281,250			

Program 2: Nursing Recruitment and Retention Grants

Initial Estimated:

Project Expenditure Category: *Nursing Recruitment and Retention Grants-Premium Pay (EC 4)*

- *Number of Grantees: 8*
- *Number of Positions Requested: 1653*

Company Name	Total Grant Amount	Total Grant Positions	RN (\$2500 per)	LPN (\$1500 per)	CNA (\$1000 per)
<i>Butler County Health Care Center</i>	\$103,500	49	34	7	8
<i>Henderson Health Care Services, Inc.</i>	\$86,500	51	20	11	20
<i>Bryan Medical Center-East</i>	\$1,825,000	730	730	0	0
<i>Bryan Medical Center-West</i>	\$1,236,000	498	489	9	0
<i>Platte Valley Medical Group</i>	\$141,500	65	44	21	0
<i>Kearney Regional Medical Center</i>	\$478,500	204	183	0	21
<i>Merrick Medical Center</i>	\$64,000	30	22	2	6
<i>Grand Island Regional Medical Center</i>	\$65,000	26	26	0	0
TOTAL	\$4,000,000		1548	50	55

RN	\$3,870,000				
LPN	\$75,000				
CNA	\$55,000				
Total	\$4,000,000				

Payments completed:

Funding amount payments: \$3,404,000

Project Expenditure Category: *Nursing Recruitment and Retention Grants-Premium Pay (EC 4)*

- *Number of Grantees: 8*
- *Number of Positions Requested: 1,411*

Company Name	Total Grant Amount	Total Grant Positions	RN (\$2500 per)	LPN (\$1500 per)	CAN (\$1000 per)
<i>Butler County Health Care Center</i>	<i>\$72,500</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Henderson Health Care Services, Inc.</i>	<i>\$78,000</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Bryan Medical Center-East</i>	<i>\$1,658,500</i>	<i>665</i>	<i>661</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Bryan Medical Center-West</i>	<i>\$1,005,500</i>	<i>409</i>	<i>392</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Platte Valley Medical Group</i>	<i>\$112,000</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Kearney Regional Medical Center</i>	<i>\$364,500</i>	<i>157</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Merrick Medical Center</i>	<i>\$48,000</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Grand Island Regional Medical Center</i>	<i>\$65,000</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
TOTAL	\$3,404,000	1411	1310	56	45
RN	\$3,275,000				
LPN	\$84,000				
CNA	\$45,000				
Total	\$3,404,000				

Program 3: Workforce Development Grants

Initial Estimated:

Funding amount: \$2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: *Negative Economic Impact: (EC 2)*

Company Name	Grant Amount	Workers	Project	Training Provider
Avenue Scholars	\$50,000	50	Omaha North STEM	<i>Metro Community College</i>
Behlen Manufacturing	\$40,800	50	Welder Training Program	<i>In-House</i>
Behlen Manufacturing	\$72,472	10	Behlen Apprenticeship Program	<i>In-House</i>
Chicano Awareness Center	\$342,144	60	Siembra NE: Internships	<i>In-House</i>
City of Sidney	\$8,000	6	Hiring Bonus Program	<i>GI Police Academy/ OED</i>
Lincoln Literacy	\$160,000	850	Bridgeway to a Better Life	<i>In-House</i>
Nonprofit Hub Foundation	\$65,000	50	Stop the NE Brain-Drain	<i>UNL Honors Program</i>
S2 Rolloffs LLC	\$25,000	6	S2 Welding Academy-On-the Job Training	<i>In-House</i>
Tabitha	\$139,950	90	LPN Student Stipends	<i>In-House</i>
Tabitha	\$299,520	225	CNA Stipends	<i>NE Health Care Learning Center</i>
The Applied Information Management	\$199,999	600	Strengthening NE Tech Ecosystem	<i>AIM Institute</i>
The Nebraska Medical Center	\$294.850	85	The Network	<i>Various Health Training Vendors</i>
Lincoln Littles	\$300,000	50	Recruitment & On-the-Job Training	<i>In-House</i>
Totals	\$1,997,735	2,132		

Payments completed:

Funding amount: 1,315,787

Project Expenditure Category: *Negative Economic Impact: (EC 2)*

- *Number of Grantees:* 12
- *Number of Positions Requested:* 1,466

Company Name	Grant Amount	Workers	Project	Training Provider
Avenue Scholars	\$50,000	41	Omaha North STEM	<i>Metro Community College</i>
Behlen Manufacturing #0070	\$16,464	21	Welder Training Program	<i>In-House</i>
Behlen Manufacturing #6885	\$54,298	8	Behlen Apprenticeship Program	<i>In-House</i>
Chicano Awareness Center	\$206,660	145	Siembra NE: Internships	<i>In-House</i>
City of Sidney	\$1,000	1	Hiring Bonus Program	<i>GI Police Academy/ OED</i>
Lincoln Literacy	\$160,000	850	Bridgeway to a Better Life	<i>In-House</i>
Nonprofit Hub Foundation	\$65,000	30	Stop the NE Brain-Drain	<i>UNL Honors Program</i>
S2 Rolloffs LLC	\$0	0	Did not qualify	<i>None</i>
Tabitha #8034	\$58,631	28	LPN Student Stipends	<i>In-House</i>

Tabitha #8790	\$260,038	142	CNA Stipends	<i>NE Health Care Learning Center</i>
The Applied Information Management	\$30,204	43	Strengthening NE Tech Ecosystem	<i>AIM Institute</i>
The Nebraska Medical Center	\$256,703	75	The Network	<i>Various Health Training Vendors</i>
Lincoln Littles	\$156,791	82	Recruitment & On-the-Job Training	<i>In-House</i>
Totals	\$1,315,787	1466		

State of Nebraska

**Nebraska Department of Natural
Resources
Recovery Plan**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”) is the result of a federal stimulus bill passed by Congress in the spring of 2021. The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (“Department”) has been appropriated funds under LB1014 (2022) and LB814 (2023). In 2022, LB1014 appropriated funds into two programs: Program 314 – Critical Infrastructure Facilities was appropriated \$23,100,000 and Program 319 – Water Projects was appropriated \$20,000,000. In 2023, LB814 appropriated funds into two programs for three projects: Program 319 – Water Projects was appropriated \$179,200,000 and Program 334 – Soil and Water Conservation was appropriated \$1,200,000 in FY2023-24 and \$1,200,000 in FY2024-25.

Uses of Funds

Program 314 – Critical Infrastructure Facilities: The purpose of this program is as follows (excerpt from LB1014, 2022). There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$23,100,000 Federal Funds to provide a grant to an irrigation district which is part of an interstate irrigation system that experienced a failure, to satisfy matching requirements for a project authorized by the United States Bureau of Reclamation for construction and repairs on any tunnel or canal pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and has contracted with GFLID on specific terms of the grant. The Department has reviewed the final rule published by the Department of The Treasury [31 CFR Part 35 RIN 1505-AC77]. The Secretary of the Treasury (“Treasury”) adopted as final the interim final rule published on May 17, 2021, with amendments. This rule has been revised, based in part, on provisions of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act in the fall of 2021 (“IIJA”). The provisions of the final rule reviewed by the Department are effective as of April 1, 2022. The eligibility for the expenditures of GFLID have been reviewed in the context of this rule. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act amended sections 602(c) and 603(c) of the Social Security Act to add an additional eligible use of SLFRF funds, providing that SLFRF funds “may be used for purposes of satisfying any non-Federal matching requirement required for [an authorized Bureau of Reclamation project].” This amendment permitted the use of SLFRF funds to meet non-federal matching requirements of any authorized Bureau of Reclamation project, regardless of whether the underlying project would be an eligible use of SLFRF funds under the water and sewer infrastructure eligible use category. These amendments are effective as of March 11, 2021, as if included in the ARPA at the time of its enactment. Treasury will provide further guidance to recipients on the scope of Bureau of Reclamation water projects and expenses covered by this provision. The provisions cited for eligibility under the final Treasury rule are contained on page 291 of the rule.

Program 319 – Water Projects: The purpose of this program is as follows (excerpt from LB1014, 2022). There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$20,000,000 Federal Funds to provide a grant to a city of the primary class that utilizes more than thirty million gallons per day of water to be used for the design, construction, and implementation of additional water supply projects, which shall only be used for such purpose. Eligible project costs shall include, but not be limited to, costs for a water treatment plant, land acquisition, acquiring permits, a wellfield, pumping, and transportation of water over twenty-five miles for the purpose of providing potable water to the city. The Department of Natural Resources may award a grant to a city of the primary class based on criteria and procedures established by the department.

The purpose of this program is as follows (excerpt from LB814, 2023): There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2023-24 \$177,200,000 Federal Funds to provide a grant to a city of the primary class that utilizes more than thirty million gallons per day of water to be used for the design, construction, and implementation of additional water supply projects, which shall only be used for such purpose. Eligible project costs shall include, but not be limited to, costs for a water treatment plant, land acquisition, acquiring permits, a wellfield, pumping, and transportation of water over twenty-five miles for the purpose of providing potable water to the city. The Department of Natural Resources may award a

grant to a city of the primary class based on criteria and procedures established by the department. The Department has reviewed the final rule published by the Department of The Treasury [31 CFR Part 35 RIN 1505-AC77]. The Secretary of the Treasury ("Treasury") adopted as final the interim final rule published on May 17, 2021, with amendments. This rule has been revised, based in part, on provisions of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act in the fall of 2021 ("IIJA"). The provisions of the final rule reviewed by the Department are effective as of April 1, 2022. The eligibility for the expenditures of Lincoln have been reviewed in the context of this rule. The final Treasury rule provides for opportunities to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure. The rule creates limitations on certain investments in water infrastructure but does provide for eligibility for drinking water projects needed to support increased population. Projects of the type that meet the eligibility requirements of 40 CFR § 35.3520 if the following conditions are met: (A) The project is needed to support increased population, with need assessed as of the time the project is undertaken; (B) The project is designed to support no more than a reasonable level of projected increased need, whether due to population growth or otherwise; (C) The project is a cost-effective means for achieving the desired level of service; and (D) The project is projected to continue to provide an adequate level of drinking water over its estimated useful life. 31 CFR § 35.6(e)(1)(v). Drinking Water State Revolving Fund projects or activities of the type that meet the eligibility requirements of section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-12) as implemented by the regulations adopted by the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") under 40 CFR § 35.3520 are also eligible, provided that: (A) The recipient is not required to comply with the limitation under 40 CFR § 35.3520(c)(2) to acquisitions of land from willing sellers or the prohibition under 40 CFR § 35.3520(e)(6) on uses of funds for certain Tribal projects; and (B) In the case of lead service line replacement projects, the recipient must replace the full length of the service line and may not replace only a partial portion of the service line. 31 CFR § 35.6(e)(1)(iii).

The purpose of this program is as follows (excerpt from LB814, 2023): There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2023-24 \$2,000,000 Federal Funds to provide a grant to a city of the first class located in the first congressional district that is constructing riverfront improvement projects, including water recreational facilities, arts and entertainment facilities, and other projects associated with riverfront improvement. The Department has reviewed the final rule published by the Department of The Treasury [35 CFR Part 35 RIN 1505-AC77]. The Treasury adopted as final the interim final rule published on May 17, 2021, with amendments. This rule has been revised, based in part, on provisions of the IIJA in the fall of 2021. The provisions of the final rule reviewed by the Department are effective as of April 1, 2022. The eligibility for the expenditures of Norfolk have been reviewed in the context of this rule. The final Treasury rule provides for opportunities for responding to the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency for purposes including a program, service, capital expenditure or other assistance that is provided to a disproportionately impacted household, population, or community, including: investments in communities to promote improved health outcomes and public safety such as parks and recreation facilities and facilities and equipment related to the provision of these services to the disproportionately impacted household, population, or community. 31 CFR § 35.6(b)(3)(ii)(A)(11). The final rule specifies the following households and communities are presumed to be disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts: households and populations residing in a qualified census tract and low-income households and populations. 31 CFR § 35.6(b)(2)(iii)(A).

Program 334 – Soil and Water Conservation: The purpose of this program is as follows (excerpt from LB814, 2023). There is included in the appropriation to this program \$900,000 from Federal Funds in FY2023-25 from funds allocated to the State of Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, 42 U.S.C. 802, as amended, for enhanced data collection. The Department has reviewed the final rule published by the Department of The Treasury [31 CFR Part 35 RIN 1505-AC77]. The Secretary of the Treasury ("Treasury") adopted as final the interim final rule published on May 17, 2021, with amendments. This rule has been revised, based in part, on provisions of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act in the fall of

2021 ("IIJA"). The provisions of the final rule reviewed by the Department are effective as of April 1, 2022. The eligibility for the expenditures of the Department Program No. 334 have been reviewed in the context of this rule. The final Treasury rule provides for opportunities to provide emergency relief from natural disasters that are threatened to occur in the future or their negative economic impacts. The interim final rule explains that for purposes of the SLFRF program, a natural disaster is defined as inter alia, "flood, high water, or drought...in each case attributable to natural causes, that causes or may cause substantial damage, injury, or imminent threat to civilian property or persons." Further, if providing assistance to lessen or avert the threat of a future natural disaster, recipients should document evidence of historical patterns or predictions of natural disasters that would reasonably demonstrate the likelihood of future occurrence of such natural disaster in its community. Expenditures by the Department for enhanced data collection consistent with the limitations expressed in LB814 and the eligibility criteria described above would be eligible uses of the funds. In addition, the final Treasury rule provides for opportunities to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure, including Clean Water State Revolving Fund projects or activities of the type that meet the eligibility requirements of Section 603(c) of the Clean Water Act. Expenditures by the Department for enhanced data collection consistent with the limitations expressed in LB814 and the eligibility criteria described in the requirements of Section 603(c) of the Clean Water Act would be eligible uses of the funds.

Labor Practices

The contracts signed between the recipients and NeDNR outline the noted labor practices.

Compliance with the Specific Federal Requirements

Civil Rights Compliance

Sponsor and its contractors must meet legal requirements relating to nondiscrimination and nondiscriminatory use of Federal funds, including ensuring they do not deny benefits or services, or otherwise discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, or sex in accordance with the following authorities: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Age Discrimination Act of 1975

Fair Employment Practices

Sponsor agrees to ensure compliance with the NE Fair Employment Practice Act which prohibits contractors of the State of Nebraska, and their subcontractors, from discriminating against any employee or applicant for employment, with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment because of race, color, religion, sex, disability, or national origin, *Neb. Rev 48-1101 through 48-1125*

Drug Free Workplace

Sponsor certifies that it maintains a drug free workplace environment to ensure workers safety and workplace integrity.

The sponsor is required and hereby agrees to use a federal immigration verification system to determine the work eligibility status of any new employees paid with the proceeds of this contract that are physically performing services within the State of Nebraska.

Use of Evidence

These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Recipients are required to submit financial and programmatic reports to SLFRF as a condition of their award acceptance throughout the period of performance, including partial calendar quarters, as well as for periods where no grant award activity occurs. Recipients will have to report on the project's obligations and expenditures as well as the project status each reporting period. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if these are delinquent, demonstrate a lack of progress, or are insufficient in detail.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project 1354: Program 319 – Water Projects City of Lincoln

Funding amount: \$197,200,000

Project Expenditure Category: 5.5-Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure

Project Overview

- Goal of the project to determine additional water supply for the Lincoln Water System to include one or more of the alternatives:
 - a. Project A – Full development of the existing Platte River wellfield and associated treatment improvements and expansions required to the added capacity identified in the 2020 Master Plan. Identifies the construction of two additional large collector wells along the east bank of the Platte River. To accommodate additional source water from this aquifer additional treatment plant improvements will be needed to remove contaminants. Project began in 2023 and is expected to end December of 2026.
 - b. Project B – Development of additional Platte River wellfield capacity utilizing either currently owned property or purchasing additional property near the exiting Platte River wellfield. Items not scoped.
 - c. Project C – Development of a second, independent source of water system, a new wellfield or surface water intake along the Missouri River, another yet to be determined source of supply, or some combinations thereof. Project began in 2023 and is expected to end December of 2026.
- Link to the website: *American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Projects | Department of Natural Resources (nebraska.gov)*
- This water infrastructure project will ensure water availability to all the citizens of the City of Lincoln.

Use of Evidence

- The goal is to: (A) The project is needed to support increased population, with need assessed as of the time the project is undertaken; (B) The project is designed to support no more than a reasonable level of projected increased need, whether due to population growth or otherwise; (C) The project is a cost-effective means for achieving the desired level of service; and (D) The project is projected to continue to provide an adequate level of drinking water over its estimated useful life.
- These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

- *Task 2, Project C, Phase 1, (sub) Task 2.* This task is for the selection of the Missouri wellfield and treatment plant locations as well as selecting the preferred alignments for both the source water and treated water transmission mains. Property acquisition for the water treatment plant has been finalized during this report period with a final closing date scheduled for the 3Q2025 period (See Task 7). A final technical memorandum regarding wellfield site hydrogeologic evaluations and wellfield yields was completed in this report period. This information is now being used to better identify specific well locations and potential property acquisitions as part of Task 6 & 7 work. This data is being used to complete a supplemental yield analysis technical memorandum (TM) that will be the final major work deliverable associated with Task 2 which is scheduled for completion by July 2025. While this task nears completion, an amendment to extend the engineering contract has been issued in this report quarter to allow for the final completion of this task. Note that easement acquisition for both the source water pipeline from the wellfield to the treatment plant and the finished water will transition to the Task 6 and 7 work scope in future report periods. Two other TMs that address flood modeling for the preferred wellfield site and general risk mitigation have also been completed during this report period.
- *Task 3, Project A.* The property acquisition for the water treatment residuals lagoons has been completed with a final closing date scheduled in the 3Q2025 period. Delivery of pipe and valves for the water treatment residuals pipeline began in this report period. The contractor has completed all temporary road building, placement of construction offices, and tree removals necessary for the project. Relocation of electrical and chemical feed lines is nearing completion and excavations for the ozone and sedimentation basins will be completed in the 3Q2025 period. Overall construction of Task 3, Project A is proceeding on schedule with no significant delays being experienced in this report period and no further changes to the contract amount. A contract change order is anticipated to occur in the 3Q2025 that will address project scope deletions and additions that occurred from when the CMAR contract was issued at 60% design completion to 100% design completion.
- *Task 4, Project A.* Construction work is currently being done concurrently on the two collector wells. The caisson has been completed for one location (24-1) with lateral construction currently ongoing. The caisson for the second collector well location (24-2) is also currently being constructed. Overall, well construction is approximately two months ahead of the contract schedule. 54-inch pipe for the Platte River crossing is currently being delivered and assembled with approximately 1000 feet of welded pipeline being completed in this report period. Initial construction of the two bore pit work sites have started in this report period. The directional boring of the pipeline is scheduled to begin in the 3Q2025 period and be completed in the 4Q2025 period. Overall construction of Task 4 is ahead of schedule and within budget.
- *Task 5, Project C.* All easements for this task have been acquired. Two of the three contractors for this task have mobilized to the site and pipe is being delivered. A casing pipe is currently being constructed for one of the street crossings along Holdrege Street. Overall construction of Task 5 is on schedule and remains within budget.
- *Task 6, Project C.* This work involves preliminary design of the second water source (Alternative H) at the Missouri River including construction of site access and site grading for the treatment plant. The final hydrogeological work for the wellfield site was initiated in the 2Q2025 period with the mobilization of drilling equipment to the preferred wellfield site. Survey control points along and near the preferred source water and finished water pipeline route have been installed and an aerial survey along the route was also completed in this report period. Nearly 300 properties were notified of the surveying activities. Calibration surveys are now being arranged where needed by accessing various properties which will enable an accurate topographic mapping for refinement of alignment and future easement acquisition.
- *Task 7, Project C.* This task involves the procurement of property and easements associated with the second water source at the Missouri River. Specifically, this task is reserved exclusively for the actual cost of property and easements for the wellfields, treatment plant, and associated pipelines and does not reflect property acquisition services which is included in Task 2 and Task 6. Property acquisition for the water treatment plant has been finalized during this report period

preferred wellfield sites continue to be negotiated with property owner. The percent complete reflects these ongoing efforts towards property and easement acquisitions but is not associated with actual property acquisitions. In other words, expenses for Task 7 will not occur until these property and easement are actually acquired. Other Notations: (1) Note that the City is using its General Ledger date to determine the financial activity within the report period. The general ledger date is the date the City reports the payment on its financials. (2) The City has determined that force account work (internal labor expense) will not be included in reimbursement requests at this time. (3) While the revised task budgets are now more definitive, additional budget transfers between tasks may be shown in future reports.

Project 1366: 314 Critical Infrastructure Facilities – Gering-Ft. Laramie Irrigation District

Funding amount: \$23,100,000

Project Expenditure Category: 5.17-Water and Sewer: IJJA Bureau of Reclamation Match

Project Overview

- Project funds will be used to repair and replace, including design and construction bidding, of Tunnel 1 and Tunnel 2 of the Ft Laramia Canal on the USBOR North Platte Project
- Link to the website: [American Rescue Plan Act \(ARPA\) Projects | Department of Natural Resources \(nebraska.gov\)](https://www.nebraska.gov/american-rescue-plan-act-arpa-projects)
- This water infrastructure project will ensure the economic development and stability in the economically disadvantaged communities served by the Gering-Ft. Laramie Irrigation District.

Use of Evidence

- Goal of this project is to satisfy the match requirements for the project by the US Bureau of Reclamation for construction and repairs on any tunnel pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.
 - a. The Ft Laramia Canal experienced a failure in the 2019 Floods.
- These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.
- \$2,541,073.38 expended as of June 30, 2025

Performance Report

- Task 1-Project Management - activities included scheduling, internal coordination, CMAR coordination, and external agency coordination.
- Task 2-Pre-Design - activities included right-of-way coordination, negotiation, and acquisition; updates to hydraulic models, and continued laboratory analysis of field collected materials and associated interpretations.
- Task 3-Environmental Document and NEPA compliance – Finding of No Significant Impact was published by Reclamation on 5/9/25 and the plan of development and SF-299 to BLM was completed and waiting on Notice of Agreement.
- Task 4-Conceptual Design - complete.
- Task 5-Preliminary Design – DEC Responses were transmitted on 5/16/25
- Task 7= CMAR Integration – Activities included coordination of the Guaranteed Maximum Price requirements including but not limited to assumptions and schedule as well as coordination with potential vendors. Initial review of GMP Proposal provide by the CMAR.
- Task 8 CMAR Preconstruction Services – CMAR provided their guaranteed maximum price proposal and responded to proposal comments. CMAR attended cost reconciliation workshop and provided a revised GMP amount.
- Task 9 Amendment 3 – the designer provided 90% portal and site development design package to the US Bureau of Reclamation. 90% Tunnel design was advanced to near 90% level, and GMP construction documents developed

- Design Work is meeting estimated costs or slightly under costs. Current cost estimates for construction, given the incomplete nature of the current design progress, exceed the initial \$46,000,000 project estimated. This is due to current required design criteria for inlets and outlets, as well as built-in contingency percentages necessary at the current phase of design. The reasonable parties will begin the process in the next few months to secure additional funding.

Project 29004213: NeDNR Enhanced Data Collection

Funding amount: \$900,000

Project Expenditure Category: 5.18-Water and Sewer: Other

Project Overview

- For enhanced Data Collection for Flood Monitoring, Drought Monitoring, Clean Water Monitoring, Dam Safety and Stream Gaging
- The Department currently oversees the safety of approximately 3,000 dams across the state, supports floodplain mapping for the entire state, operates a data network of stream gages and maintains the data infrastructure for storing and distributing this information. These investments will be used to expand the Department's data network to incorporate more risks-based monitoring for improved identification of hazards associated with each dam, improve forecasting of flood inundation areas, and other products aimed at monitoring public safety. These investments will also support other areas of the agency including long-term water planning and interstate water management that the Department conducts to ensure the sustainability of water supplies for the variety of uses that occur across the state.
- These funds support expansion of existing data collection efforts through enhancements to real-time piezometer (water level), channel monitoring via video data collection, flood-stage monitoring and inundation mapping, streamflow and water use monitoring. These enhancements will be implemented in conjunction with facility owners, network providers, communities and water users across the state to ensure the benefits of these data enhancements can serve to meet local and state monitoring needs and improve future planning and design work. Specially, the Department will expand the number of stream stage measurements, groundwater measurements, water use monitoring, and channel monitoring locations. These data will be collected, stored, and publicly distributed through the Departments existing data platforms.
- Link to the website: [American Rescue Plan Act \(ARPA\) Projects | Department of Natural Resources \(nebraska.gov\)](#)

Use of Evidence

- Purpose of the SLFRF program, a natural disaster is defined as inter alia, "flood, high water, or drought...in each case attributable to natural causes, that causes or may cause substantial damage, injury, or imminent threat to civilian property or persons." Further, if providing assistance to lessen or avert the threat of a future natural disaster, recipients should document evidence of historical patterns or predictions of natural disasters that would reasonably demonstrate the likelihood of future occurrence of such natural disaster in its community.
- These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.
- \$590,179.87 expended as of June 30, 2025
 - \$96,394.64 - OTT Hydromet
 - Equipment for Gaging Stations

Performance Report

- Agreement with Farwell Irrigation District
 - Sherman Dam Safety Monitoring Project
 - Contracted amount \$73,434.00
 - Project completed
 - Total expended \$73,434.00

- Agreement with Middle Niobrara Natural Resources District
 - MNNRD Groundwater Monitoring Project
 - Contracted amount \$26,324.47
 - Project Completed
 - Total expended \$26,294.84
- Agreement with Ethos Connected
 - Remote stream monitoring equipment and network subscription services that will be provided by Ethos
 - Contracted amount \$43,006.44
 - Contract complete
- Agreement with Lower Niobrara Natural Resources District
 - Funding to implement telemetry and data loggers to expand the extend of real-time groundwater level monitoring throughout the District
 - Contracted amount \$15,636.00
 - Project completed
 - Total expended \$13,168.50
- Agreement with Upper Niobrara White Natural Resources District
 - Funding to implement telemetry and data loggers to expand the extend of real-time groundwater level monitoring throughout the District
 - Contracted amount \$33,472.94
 - Project Complete
 - Total expended \$33,472.94
- Agreement with Lewis and Clark Natural Resources District
 - Funding to implement telemetry and data loggers to expand the extend of real-time groundwater level monitoring throughout the District
 - Contracted amount \$46,812.83
 - Expected end date June 30, 2026
- Agreement with Upper Loup Natural Resources District
 - Funding to implement telemetry and data loggers to expand the extend of real-time groundwater level monitoring throughout the District
 - Contracted amount \$33,727.00
 - Project Complete
 - Total expended \$30,992.25
- Agreement with Lower Loup Natural Resources District
 - Funding to implement monitoring well transducers to expand the extend of real-time groundwater level monitoring throughout the District
 - Contracted amount \$29,720.25
 - Project Complete
 - Total expended \$29,720.25
- Agreement with Twin Platte Natural Resources District
 - Funding to implement staff gauges in order to better monitor flows in canal systems throughout the District and to assist in assessing the groundwater recharge and streamflow impacts of excess flow diversions.
 - Contracted amount \$549.39
 - Project Complete
 - Total expended \$549.38
- Agreement with Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District
 - Funding to implement telemetry and data loggers to expand the extend of real-time groundwater level monitoring throughout the District
 - Contracted amount \$34,994.50
 - Project Complete

- Total expended \$34,994.50
- Agreement with Lower Big Blue Natural Resources District
 - Funding to acquire additional telemetry equipment to expand the extend of real-time groundwater level monitoring throughout the District
 - Contracted amount \$32,271.00
 - Expected end date December 31, 2025
- Agreement with Upper Elkhorn Natural Resources District
 - Funding to implement telemetry and monitoring well transducers equipment to expand the extend of real-time groundwater level monitoring throughout the District
 - Contracted amount \$29,892.45
 - Expected end date December 31, 2025
- Agreement with Lower Platte South Natural Resources District
 - Funding to implement telemetry and data loggers to expand the extend of real-time groundwater level monitoring throughout the District
 - Contracted amount \$12,891.45
 - Project Complete
 - Total expended \$12,556.70
- Agreement with Middle Republican Natural Resources District
 - Funding to implement telemetry and data loggers to expand the extend of real-time groundwater level monitoring throughout the District
 - Contracted amount \$32,818.50
 - Expected end date December 31, 2026
- Agreement with Lower Platte North Natural Resources District
 - Funding for equipment to expand the extend of real-time groundwater level monitoring throughout the District
 - Contracted amount \$32,417.87
 - Expected end date December 31, 2025
- Agreement with Upper Republican Natural Resources District
 - Funding to implement telemetry and data loggers to expand the extend of real-time groundwater level monitoring throughout the District
 - Contracted amount \$45,000.00
 - Expected end date December 31, 2026
- Agreement with Onset Computer Corporation
 - Remote monitoring equipment and network subscription services that will be provided by ONSET
 - Contracted amount \$44,851.58
 - Expected end date December 31, 2026
- Agreement with Central Platte Natural Resources District
 - Funding for equipment related to implementation of a Flood Alert Monitoring System throughout the District
 - Contracted amount \$80,000.00
 - Expected end date June 30, 2026
- Agreement with Tri-Basin Natural Resources District
 - Funding for equipment to expand the extend of real-time groundwater level monitoring throughout the District
 - Contracted amount \$60,000.00
 - Expected end date December 31, 2025

Project 1449: Program 319 – City of Norfolk Johnson Park and North Fork River Improvement Project

Funding amount: \$2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.37 - Economic Impact Assistance: Other*^

Project Overview

- Overall goal is to improve the riverfront of the North Fork River through construction of amenities at Johnson Park promoting tourism and outdoor recreation. The scope of work for the Project includes the following projects: Group 1 – items not scoped; Group 2 – Outdoor ice rink/basketball court, splash pad/fountain, and pedestrian bridge. \$1,165,000; Group 3 – Wayfinding signs/markers, landscaping, nature playground, gatehouse improvements, and concessions area/restroom. \$835,000. Group 1 was completed in Fall 2023. Group 2 is expected to be completed by Spring/Summer 2024. Group 3 started design in Fall 2023 and is expected to be completed in Summer 2024. Overall Project completion by June of 2026.
- Link to the website: [American Rescue Plan Act \(ARPA\) Projects | Department of Natural Resources \(nebraska.gov\)](#)

Use of Evidence

- A grant for the City of Norfolk that is constructing riverfront improvement projects, including water recreational facilities, arts, and entertainment facilities, and other associated with riverfront improvement.
- These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.
- \$2,000,000 expended as of June 30, 2025

Performance Report

- As of June 30, 2025, the entire project has been completed. Group 2 completed at 100%. Group 3 completed at 100% and descope improvements to the gatehouse.
 - a. Group 2
 - i. Pedestrian Bridge set as of May 2024
 - 1. Completed May 2024
 - ii. Outdoor ice rink/basketball court
 - 1. Completed December 2024
 - iii. Splash pad/fountain
 - 1. Completed December 2024
 - b. Group 3
 - i. Nature Playground
 - 1. Completed December 2024
 - ii. Wayfinding Signs and Markers
 - 1. Completed December 2024
 - iii. Landscaping
 - 1. Completed December 2024
 - iv. Gatehouse Improvements
 - 1. Not completed utilizing ARPA funds
 - v. Concessions Area/Restroom
 - 1. Completed December 2024

State of Nebraska

Nebraska Department of Environment
and Energy

Recovery Plan

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) was signed into law on March 11, 2021. The State of Nebraska was allocated \$1.04 billion of Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds. In the final rule adopted for implementation of these funds, the U.S. Department of the Treasury aligned the eligible uses of these funds with the wide range of types or categories of projects that would be eligible to receive financial assistance through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) or Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF), as well as aid to impacted industries including Tourism. In Nebraska, the SRF programs are administered by Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE).

On April 13, 2022, Former Governor Pete Ricketts, signed into law Legislative Bill No. 1014e, which “...*appropriated...funds allocated to the State of Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021...*” By accepting these funds, Nebraska is required by ARPA to prepare this Recovery Plan Performance Report by July 31st every year, until all Federal and state funding requirements are met.

Uses of Funds

The NDEE will implement \$31 million of ARPA funding assistance to address Negative Economic Impacts (e.g., Aid to Impacted Industry - Tourism) or to make necessary investments in water and sewer infrastructure. Sections 51, 52, and 53 of the Legislative Bill No. 1014e detail the infrastructure funding allocations appropriated to the NDEE.

Section 51 of Legislative Bill No. 1014e allocates \$4 million of federal funds to be used “...*for grants for reverse osmosis systems, which shall only be used for such purpose*”. The narrative of the legislation further clarified that the NDEE “...*shall provide grants for villages and cities of the second class to install reverse osmosis systems in community water systems where drinking water test levels are above ten parts per million of nitrate and, if appropriate, provide grant funds for use to install reverse osmosis systems if test levels for nitrate in drinking water pumped from private wells are above ten parts per million.*” Reverse Osmosis treatment to remove nitrates from drinking water is eligible for assistance under the DWSRF, and therefore under ARPA as a necessary investment in water infrastructure. The ARPA final rule also states that eligible projects can include rehabilitation of private wells, testing initiatives to identify contaminants in wells, and treatment activities and remediation strategies that address (nitrate) contamination.

Section 52 of Legislative Bill No. 1014e allots for \$20 million of federal funds to be used “...*for wastewater and drainage system updates at the state fair grounds, which shall only be used for such purpose.*” Wastewater and drainage system updates are eligible for assistance under the CWSRF, and therefore under ARPA, when a project provides a water quality benefit or for measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water. Paving improvements, which also are necessary drainage system updates, are eligible under the aid to impacted industries ARPA use category, which includes tourism. The state fair grounds is the location of the Nebraska State Fair, the state’s showcase tourism event. The negative effects of the Covid-19 pandemic resulted in the Nebraska State Fair missing out on

potential revenues, thus this project is eligible for assistance through two ARPA use categories, negative economic impacts and necessary investments in sewer infrastructure.

Section 53 of Legislative Bill No. 1014e allocates \$7 million over two fiscal years and states that these funds are “...to provide grant assistance for a rural drinking water project that serves rural water connections and at least four communities in two contiguous counties in order to convert to ground water sources and to provide for water system infrastructure and distribution, which shall only be used for such purpose”. Development of new sources to replace a contaminated drinking water sources and water system infrastructure and distribution are eligible for assistance under the DWSRF, and therefore under ARPA as a necessary investment in water infrastructure.

Public Engagement

For each of the public entities receiving ARPA funding through the NDEE, public meetings and/or hearings have been or will be held for comment or input on the proposed projects under Nebraska’s Open Meetings Act. The Nebraska Open Meetings Act guarantees that every meeting of a public body shall be open to the public in order that citizens may exercise their democratic privilege of attending and speaking at meetings of public bodies.

Labor Practices

The Agreements signed between the participant and NDEE outlines requirements that coincide with the noted labor practices. The following are descriptions of those programs and state requirements:

- Professional Engineer Contract
 - To ensure the quality of a project the participant agrees to hire a professional engineer for the design, oversight, and inspection of the activities detailed in the Workplan, as necessary for the preparation, submittal and construction oversight of the project.
- Workplan Approval
 - To ensure project eligibility, a Workplan is submitted for approval and can only be amended with approval from the NDEE prior to the disbursement of funds.
- Contract Approvals
 - To ensure eligibility, the participant agrees that any contract, interagency agreement or subagreement under the primary Agreement must receive written approval by the NDEE Project Manager prior to expenditure of funds and will only be expended for eligible activities. Copies of all contracts, subagreements and interagency agreements must be provided to the NDEE.
- Information Collection
 - To ensure transparency, the participant agrees that all information collected under the Agreement shall be provided to the NDEE.
- Procurements
 - To ensure fairness, the participant will use the Agreement to acquire, construct, and equip the Project, in accordance with LB1014e, with the procurement standards set forth in the Uniform Guidance at 2 CFR 200.317 through 2 CFR 200.327, and any applicable federal law that includes, but is not limited to, the ARPA, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Final Rule and the

U.S. Department of the Treasury Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Award Terms and Conditions. This does not apply to architectural and engineering services, so long as those services are solely paid or reimbursed through SRF funding. For public water system projects, the Participants will maintain and operate the Project in accordance with LB 1014e and Title 179, Public Water Systems – Chapter 22.

- Davis-Bacon labor standards
 - When coupled with SRF financing, the participant agrees that all work and labor will comply with the prevailing wage provisions under the Davis-Bacon Act. For activities related to private well rehabilitations, Davis-Bacon wages being paid were confirmed for the treatment system installers. A hyperlink was provided in the Agreements for reference. The state fair grounds project is evaluating whether to comply with *page 37 of the Reporting Guidance* or the prevailing wage provisions under the Davis-Bacon Act.
- Nondiscrimination
 - The Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act prohibits contractors to the State of Nebraska and their subcontractors from discriminating against any employee, or applicant for employment in the performance of such contracts, with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment because of race, color, religion, sex, disability, or national origin. The Participant's signature is a guarantee of compliance with the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act, and breach of this provision shall be regarded as a material breach of this Agreement. The Participant shall insert a similar provision in all subcontracts for services to be covered by any contract resulting from this Agreement.
- Drug Free Workplace
 - The Participant, by executing these ARPA Agreements, certifies and assures that it operates a drug free workplace as addressed in the State of Nebraska Drug Free Workplace Policy of July 7, 1989.
- Employment Eligibility Verification
 - The Contractors are required and hereby agree to use, and require subcontractors to use, a federal immigration verification system to determine the work eligibility of new employees physically performing services within the State of Nebraska. A federal immigration verification system means the electronic verification of the work authorization program authorized by the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, 8 U.S.C. 1324a, known as the E-Verify Program, or an equivalent federal program designated by the United States Department of Homeland Security or other federal agency authorized to verify the work eligibility of a newly hired employee. If the Contractor is an individual or sole proprietorship, the following applies:
 - The Contractor must complete the United States Citizenship Attestation Form, available on the Department of Administrative Services website.
 - If the Contractor indicates on such attestation form that he or she is a qualified alien, the contractor agrees to provide the US Citizenship and Immigration Services documentation required to verify the Contractor's lawful presence in the United States using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program.

- The Contractor understands and agrees that lawful presence in the United States is required, and the Contractor may be disqualified, or the contract terminated if such lawful presence cannot be verified as required by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 4-108.

Use of Evidence

For the vast majority of the funding being implemented by the NDEE, this is not applicable as LB1014e simply determined funding eligibilities. Then for the “...*grants for villages and cities of the second class to install reverse osmosis systems in community water systems where drinking water test levels are above ten parts per million of nitrate*”, given the eligibility and period of availability, four communities replied to the NDEE’s survey request. A NDEE internal committee comprised of staff in the Engineering, Field Services, Monitoring & Compliance and SRF Sections reviewed the applicants’ information and recommended a path of award. The key measures evaluated were feasibility to repay, public health risks, and other alternatives available. Based on the assessment of the limited pool of potentially eligible applicants, the recommendations were made for awarding these ARPA funds in a manner to guard against unreasonably growing government expenses. The selection committee determined that the cost for the Operation and Maintenance of a Reverse Osmosis treatment plant is not sustainable for two of the small Villages that applied. That if provided to those communities, the ARPA funds over time would unreasonably increase their system operating expenses.

Performance Report

The Agreements signed between the Participants and NDEE states that the projects must meet the requirements of ARPA noted in the U.S. Department of Treasury Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Final Rule, notably the Compliance and Reporting guidance. The corresponding hyperlinks for those requirements are available for the participant to click on and reference those materials. Progress reporting is also a requirement within the Agreement, such that when requested on a quarterly and/or annual basis the participant agrees to submit written progress updates within 5 business days in order for the NDEE to complete the reporting elements required.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Lewis & Clark Natural Resources District

NDEE Reference #2022-124293604: Cedar Knox Rural Water Project

Funding Amount: \$7,000,000

Cumulative Expenditures (rounded): \$5,047,389

Project Expenditure Category: 5.11 *Drinking Water: Transmission & Distribution*;
5.13 *Drinking Water: Source*; and
5.14 *Drinking Water: Storage*

Project Overview

The Cedar Knox Rural Water Project (CKRWP) provides drinking water to approximately 3,000 residents in northern Cedar and Knox Counties of northeast Nebraska. CKRWP is a regional system that treats surface water drawn from Lewis and Clark Lake (Lake) impounded by Gavins Point Dam. Customers include 4 communities Crofton, Fordyce, St.

Helena, and Obert; more than 900 rural connections; several campgrounds; and several Sanitary Improvement Districts and housing developments.

CKRWP experiences several issues related to the water source in the Lake that negatively impact the system and the ability of CKRWP to continue providing drinking water without making significant system changes. CKRWP and Lewis & Clark Natural Resources District (LCNRD) have identified interconnecting with Yankton, South Dakota, and distribution system additions/upgrades as the most viable option to address these concerns for the long-term.

There are three primary impacts that must be addressed by CKRWP when securing long-term service. First, the intake structure located in the Lake is expected to be inundated by sediment in approximately 20 years or less. The advancing sediment concern is compounded by the impacts of flood events similar to those of 2011 and 2019, which represents sediment advancement in Lewis and Clark Lake. When the sediment reaches and covers the intake it will no longer be a viable structure to supply water to the treatment plant in the amount needed to produce drinking water for current CKRWP customers. The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) provided a letter to LCNRD in 2018 indicating, in part, USACE's understanding that sedimentation is a chronic concern, however; Gavins Point dam and the Lake are meeting their designed purpose and no action is planned to address sedimentation. LCNRD does not have the financial or technical ability to address the sediment and is forced to identify an alternative to the Lake to meet the source water needs for CKRWP. Secondly, as the sediment approaches the intake structure there is an increase in organic material carried by the flowing water and drawn into the intake that must be treated and removed. Increased organic material requires additional chlorination. The impact of elevated chlorination is the production of Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) regulated disinfection byproducts. CKRWP is under Administrative Order (AO) to address one of these byproducts, Total-Trihalomethanes. Finally, production capacity of the treatment plant and capacity in portions of the distribution system are at or near their maximum sustainable levels. In addition, areas of the distribution system infrastructure require updates or additions including line replacement, upsizing and improvements, water tower replacement, and other needs.

Several options to address the above concerns were evaluated in a Preliminary Engineering Report completed by CKRWP engineer Bartlett and West in conjunction with the University of Nebraska Lincoln, Conservation and Survey Division (UNL-CSD) and engineering firm, LRE Water. The lowest initial project construction cost option was identified as purchasing finished water from Yankton. Other options have also been considered and were detailed in the application. After full deliberation the CKRWP Advisory Committee determined interconnection with Yankton and construction of distribution system upgrades offers the lowest cost to customers over the life of the facilities and is the best alternative to secure long-term service of a safe, reliable drinking water source.

Converting to a groundwater source will address concerns that exist with the Lake intake. Yankton's groundwater source is treated through a reverse osmosis process, which complies with the federal SDWA.

The federal SDWA recognizes the people served by CKRWP are entitled to safe drinking water. Nebraska Title 179 regulations establish drinking water standards for public water

systems as authorized in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§71-5301 to 71-5313. These programs provide for the protection of human health and prevent drinking water health hazards through the control and regulation of public water systems and drinking water testing. The CKRWP supports strong state leadership and involvement on a state concern to effectively meet drinking water needs for residents.

LCNRD requested financial support for the design, permitting, and construction of a long-term water supply system for CKRWP. The water supply system improvements will be completed by the end of 2026, as initial construction contracts were signed in June 2024. The timeline corresponds to the required project completion requirements of ARPA funding. Those contracts totaled \$8,443,998, in excess of the \$7,000,000 funding amount and the project is more than 50% complete.

Nebraska State Fair

NDEE Reference #2023-131428593: State Fair Grounds Project

Funding Amount: \$20,000,000

Cumulative Expenditures (rounded): \$6,641,169

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35 *Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality*;
5.5 *Clean Water: Other Sewer Infrastructure*; and
5.6 *Clean Water: Stormwater*

Project Overview

The Fonner Park Campus, the location of the State Fair Grounds, is an important asset for the City of Grand Island. The grounds are in use an average of 300 plus days per year with over 500,000 annual visitors, vendors, exhibitors and participants in the many events that take place on the Campus. The Campus is a 220+ acre complex situated just off Interstate 80 in the City of Grand Island. It currently includes a 5/8th-mile Thoroughbred racetrack, world class livestock and exhibition facilities, consisting of seven buildings and more than 600,000 square feet of exhibition space, that are home to the Nebraska State Fair, the Hall County Fair and year round livestock shows and exhibitions, the Heartland Events Center, (which is comprised of the 6,000 seat Eihusen Arena and the 8,000 square foot Bosselman Conference Center; the two buildings offer a combined 38,000 square feet complex for entertainment, conventions and other events), and an RV park with 130 improved pads. The process for developing a Master Plan was thorough and collaborative, providing a holistic investigation and vision for the campus. Site and existing inventory analysis, combined with a diverse neighborhood and public engagement plan, laid the foundation for a data driven exploration of enhancements to ensure sustainable development of the site.

The Master Plan for the campus concluded that critical infrastructure improvements were necessary, including but not limited to: Concrete paving, earthwork and grading integral to the construction of bioswales, detention basins, drainage ditches, permeable or porous pavement with underdrains, rain gardens and storm sewers. The majority of the proposed improvements will improve water quality in the Wood River by reducing the amount of and direct stormwater runoff, to help remove sediments or debris before reaching the river. The project will also include the purchase of a street sweeper, and utility improvements for sanitary wastes and a water service loop for maintaining the bioswales. An initial set of construction & engineering contracts were signed for \$5,331,632.40, followed by Phase II contracts signing for \$16,985,305.46.

City of Wisner

NDEE Reference #2023-131344956: Wisner Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Project

Funding Amount: \$2,775,000

Cumulative Expenditures (rounded): \$276,473

Project Expenditure Category: 5.10 *Drinking Water: Treatment*

Project Overview

A Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) was completed by Olsson Associates, dated March 2022, evaluating the City of Wisner, Nebraska's water system. In recent years, increasing nitrate levels have been observed in the system exceeding the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of 10 mg/L. The purpose of this project is to add a Reverse Osmosis (RO) water treatment facility to mitigate nitrate levels. In 2019, a new water well was constructed based on recommendations from a 2017 PER. A test hole was constructed in June 2016, and the water quality was acceptable. However, 2 years later, when the production well (Well 2019-1) was drilled and tested, nitrates levels detected were more than 10 mg/L. In addition, Well 1996-1 nitrate concentrations are increasing over time.

A water sample was taken from each of the municipal wells on July 2, 2021. The water results indicate that the water quality from Wells 1967-1 and 1996-1 have increased nitrate levels since the water quality tests taken for the previous PER in April 2017.

The RO treatment system will be designed to facilitate a 50:50 blend of treated to untreated water. The blend rate is based upon the desired nitrate level in the water, which is assumed to be around 5 – 6 mg/L. The system is designed to utilize (2) two trains of membranes rated for 200 gallons per minute (gpm) of permeate each. The total permeate flow of 400 gpm will be blended with the 50% bypass, yielding a total capacity of 800 gpm for the system. The system is designed to meet the projected peak day demand of 435 gpm, if one train and the largest well is out of service, the system will adjust to approximately a 55:45 blend of untreated to treated water and produce a nitrate level below about 6 mg/L, providing inherent redundancy. The RO system reject water flow is approximately 30 gpm per train. For the projected average day demands of 0.277 MGD, the average amount of reject water will be approximately 19,800 gpd or 20% of the water demand. The amount of discharge will increase the daily average flows for the wastewater treatment facility. The wastewater treatment facility should be able to handle this additional flow. The construction project was executed in June 2024 for \$5,467,679, in excess of the noted \$2,775,000 funding amount.

Private Well Owners

NDEE Reference #s - Numerous: Reverse Osmosis Small Water Treatment Installations

Funding Amount: \$1,200,000

Cumulative Expenditures (rounded): \$1,144,780

Project Expenditure Category: 5.16 *Water and Sewer: Private Wells (Treatment)*

Project Overview

Funds are being awarded to Participants through rebates on reverse osmosis small treatment installations for drinking water provided from private wells. Those eligible must effectively remove nitrates to below 10 parts per million. The NDEE shall reimburse Participants in an amount not to exceed a total amount of \$4,000.00 for the Private Well Reverse Osmosis Small Water Treatment Installation. The private wells must be registered through the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, and have Nitrate levels exceeding 10 parts per million through testing completed by the Nebraska Public Health Environmental Laboratory. In addition, Participants must contract a licensed plumber or successful certified installer for completion of the work for the reverse osmosis treatment systems certified by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) (e.g., National Sanitation Foundation, Water Quality Association, or Underwriters Laboratories). The installer of the reverse osmosis small treatment system must equip each with a Performance Indication Device. Before reimbursement is final, the Participant must submit a post-installation Nitrate sample through the Nebraska Public Health Environmental Laboratory to confirm levels are below 10 parts per million. This project is complete and 421 reverse osmosis units were installed.

Village of Elmwood

NDEE Reference # 2024-143311953: Elmwood Emergency Reverse Osmosis Membrane Replacement Project

Funding Amount: \$25,000

Cumulative Expenditures (rounded): \$16,963

Project Expenditure Category: 5.10 *Drinking Water: Treatment*

Project Overview

The Village of Elmwood's water treatment is a reverse osmosis (RO) system. The plant was constructed in 1994 to reduce nitrate levels with a design capacity of 160 gallons per minute (gpm). The system consists of a single 3-Stage RO skid, one (1) degassifier, an anti-scalant and chlorine chemical feed system, an above grade final clearwell, and two (2) high service pumps. On May 13th, 2024, the Village of Elmwood received a nitrate violation at their water treatment plant. NDEE sampled the finished water and measured a nitrate level of 13.9 mg/L, which exceeds the EPA's Maximum Contaminant Level of 10 milligrams per liter (mg/L). It was determined the RO membranes were clogged; therefore, the system could not treat for nitrates properly and needed to be replaced. The village has indicated that the RO membranes have been replaced three times in the past two years, in May 2022, May 2024 and July 2024. The typical lifespan of a membrane is four years. The Village's Engineer performed an evaluation of the RO system on July 10th, 2024, to determine why the membranes were clogging at a rapid pace. The evaluation determined two main factors that are causing the issue. One of the factors is the controls on the system are not operational. Due to old age, the wires within the control panel have worn and broken. The flow meters and pressure transducers on the skid do not communicate with the control panel, therefore, there is no physical way to monitor or control the feed, concentrate, bypass, or permeate flow rates. As a result, the operator cannot verify the system is working within an acceptable range. This is a significant concern because the membranes can be damaged if the feed flow rate is too high or if the concentrate flow rate is too low. The other major factor is the

type of anti-scalant chemical the plant is using for injection. Pretreat Plus 0100 by King Lee Technologies contains phosphates and when it is overdosed it can cause the membranes to scale. The operator noted that the chemical feed system's dosage rate has not been adjusted for approximately over 12 months. Since the feed flow rate cannot be measured, the chemical feed rate cannot be confirmed as appropriate for the system. It is assumed the injection rate has been set too high, which caused the phosphates in the anti-scalant to clog the membranes. The purpose of this project is to improve the RO system to control the nitrate levels and protect the membranes. These improvements will be utilized as short-term solutions that will allow the system to operate properly until a long-term solution is developed and constructed. This project is intended to provide control to the system and maintain the life expectancy of membranes and is complete. This project is complete.

State of Nebraska

**Nebraska Department of
Transportation**

Surface Transportation Projects

**Pathway Two – Projects Not Receiving
Funding from US DOT (Streamlined
Framework)**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

In LB 1412 in 2024, during the 108th Legislature, Second Session, of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature, the Legislature appropriated \$20,332,043 of the State of Nebraska's American Rescue Plan Act State Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) to the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT). The SLFRF funding was allocated pursuant to the authority provided by the United States Department of the Treasury's 2023 Interim Final Rule (IFR), which expanded eligible uses of SLFRF funding to surface transportation projects, among others.

The NDOT, upon receiving input from both internal and external stakeholders, identified a list of projects to which the funding would be allocated. NDOT's list of projects are eligible projects under the Interim Final Rule's streamlined framework, Pathway Two – Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from the US DOT, and are fully consistent with all conditions specified in the IFR. Further, the selected projects enhance the economic vitality of the local areas and the safety of the traveling public, as well as contribute positively to the overall state of good repair of, and support NDOT's performance targets for, the state highway system.

Uses of Funds

LB 1412 (2024), enacted by the Nebraska Legislature, appropriated \$20,332,043 of SLFRF funding to the NDOT to be used for surface transportation projects as provided IFR. Further, NDOT's use of this SLFRF funding is under the streamlined framework laid out in Pathway Two – Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from the US DOT. Within this pathway, Treasury articulated a streamlined framework for recipients to use SLFRF funds in this way subject to certain parameters. The parameters, or conditions, included:

- SLFRF funding allocated must not exceed \$10 million per project,
- The project cannot have been previously planned by NDOT and the SLFRF funding may not supplant federal funding, such as having been included in the Surface Transportation Improvement Program (STIP),
- The entire project scope must be limited to the set of actions or activities deemed by the US DOT as meeting the criteria for categorical exclusion as defined in relevant federal regulations,
- Requirements for surface transportation projects under title 23 of the United States Code apply, with some exceptions as provided in the IFR for the streamlined framework.

The projects were selected as they met program criteria and contribute to the state of good repair of the highway system. Further, they were not projects NDOT had already included on the STIP, each project was less than the \$10 million maximum, and each could be under contract no later than December 31, 2024. They represent improvement to the state of good repair for nearly 260 miles of statewide highway assets. NDOT followed its state and federal compliant competitive bidding procurement process for all projects. More information on each of the projects is provided below in the Project Inventory section.

Community Engagement

NDOT followed standard community engagement processes to provide notification for upcoming construction commensurate with the project scope and schedule.

Labor Practices

NDOT followed applicable federal and state requirements relating to labor practices and requires the same of the project contractors and any sub-contractors. For example, the requirements of 23 U.S.C. 113, applying Davis-Bacon prevailing wage protections for highway projects, apply as provided by the IFR. Further, NDOT's standard contract specifications used for these projects require compliance with the Nebraska Fair Employment Practices Act and the Nebraska Equal Pay Act.

Use of Evidence

NDOT, through its Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAMP) and related policies and procedures, has identified and utilizes asset management practices to guide decisions for project selection, development and delivery. NDOT's decision-making processes consider life-cycle costs, preservation strategy effectiveness, deterioration rates, and potential risk to the highway system, among other factors. Inspections are performed to assess and monitor the condition and performance of roads and bridges. Performance gaps, the difference between existing and desired performance, are identified and options to minimize those gaps at the lowest practicable cost are considered.

Performance Report

NDOT uses two main pavement condition measures in the determination of performance. The Nebraska Serviceability Index (NSI) and the International Roughness Index (IRI). The Nebraska Serviceability Index (NSI) is a rating used to gauge the overall health of the highway network or a specific segment of highway. This rating is used to manage all pavements on the State Highway System. NSI ratings are computed annually.

Inspections are performed to assess and monitor the condition and performance of roads and bridges. Performance gaps, the difference between existing and desired performance, are identified and options to minimize those gaps at the lowest practicable cost are considered.

NSI is the primary value used to manage pavement assets and is one of the main performance measures tracked by NDOT.

The second measure of pavement performance is smoothness. Measurements of pavement smoothness, or the ride quality, are collected annually using the inertial profiling van. Collected data is evaluated according to the International Roughness Index (IRI), which is a scale for roughness based on the simulated response of a generic motor vehicle to the roughness in a single wheel path of the road surface. The lower the IRI rating, the smoother, safer, and more

satisfying the ride is to users. The smoothness of roads, as measured by IRI, is critical to the safety and mobility of the traveling public.

The highway segments included within the project inventory will significantly improve the NSI and IRI, contributing to the overall state of good repair of, and support NDOT's performance targets for, the state highway system.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project ID: 27431251 NDOT CN 13574 Table Rock & Humboldt

SLFRF Funding amount: \$951,753

Project Expenditure Category: EC 9.2, Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from US DOT (Streamlined Framework)

Project Overview

The Table Rock & Humboldt project includes asset preservation improvements to segments of N-4 and N-105. The highway N-4 project is approximately 13.3 miles in length and is located in Pawnee and Richardson Counties, starting approximately at the east edge of the junction of N-65 with N-4 in Table Rock, and extending east to the junction of N-4 with US-75. The highway N-105 portion is approximately 0.05 miles in length, starting at the N-4 / N-105 junction, and extending south to the asphalt to concrete pavement transition. The improvements consist of milling and resurfacing the roadway with asphalt. The contractor on the project is Constructors, Inc of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Project ID: 27431251 NDOT CN 13575 Linwood & Abie Spur

SLFRF Funding amount: \$2,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC 9.2, Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from US DOT (Streamlined Framework)

Project Overview

The Linwood & Abie Spur project includes asset preservation improvements to segments of S-12A and S-12B. The highway S-12A project segment is approximately 7.3 miles in length and is located in Butler County, starting approximately at the junction of S-12A with N-15 and extending east to the south corporate limits of Linwood. The highway S-12B project segment is approximately 13.1 miles in length and is located in Butler County, starting approximately at the junction of S-12B with N-15 and extending east to the north corporate limits of Abie. The improvements on this project consist of milling and resurfacing the roadway and surfaced shoulders with asphalt. The contractor on the project is Constructors, Inc of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Project ID: 27431251 NDOT CN 13576 Bee & Staplehurst Spur

SLFRF Funding amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC 9.2, Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from US DOT (Streamlined Framework)

Project Overview

The Bee & Staplehurst Spur project includes asset preservation improvements to segments of S-80B and S-80C. This project is approximately 5.5 miles in length and is located on Spur 80B and Spur 80C in Seward County. The segment on S-80B starts at the junction of S-80B with N-15 and extending east to the corporate limits of Bee. The segment on S-80C starts at the junction of S80-C with N-15 and extending west to the east corporate limits of Staplehurst. The improvements on this project consist of milling and resurfacing the roadway with asphalt. The contractor on the project is Constructors, Inc of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Project ID: 27431251 NDOT CN 43032 Grafton Area

SLFRF Funding amount: \$750,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC 9.2, Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from US DOT (Streamlined Framework)

Project Overview

The Grafton Area project includes asset preservation improvements to a segment of US-6. This project is approximately 6.2 miles in length on US-6 and is located in Fillmore County, starting approximately 0.2 miles east of the west corporate limits of Grafton and extending east to approximately 0.2 miles of the west corporate limits of Fairmont. The improvements on this project consist of milling and resurfacing the roadway and surfaced shoulders with asphalt. The contractor on the project is Werner Construction, Inc of Hastings, Nebraska.

Project ID: 27431251 NDOT CN 43033 Genoa Area

SLFRF Funding amount: \$2,880,250

Project Expenditure Category: EC 9.2, Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from US DOT (Streamlined Framework)

Project Overview

The Genoa Area project includes asset preservation improvements to segments of N-22, N-39 and L-63A. The project is approximately 21.2 miles, located on N-22, N-39, L-63A in Merrick, Platte and Nance Counties. There are two segments on N-22. The first starts approximately 0.2 miles west of the north junction of N-22 with N-39, extends north to 0.2 miles south of the corporate limits of Genoa. The second begins at the northeast corporate limits of Genoa and extends northeast to the Nance – Platte County line. There are two segments on N-39, the first starts approximately at UPR Crossing 817-544-H and extends northwest to the junction of N-39 with N-22. The second begins at the northwest corporate limits of Genoa and extends northwest to the Nance – Platte County Line. The segment on L-63A starts approximately at the junction of L-63A with N-

22 and extends northwest to approximately 0.1 miles east of the junction of L-63A with N-39. The contractor on the project is Vontz Paving, Inc of Hastings, Nebraska.

Project ID: 27431251 NDOT CN 51688 I-80 - Garden County Line

SLFRF Funding amount: \$750,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC 9.2, Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from US DOT (Streamlined Framework)

Project Overview

The I-80 to Garden County Line project includes asset preservation improvements to a segment of N-27. This project is approximately 16.4 miles in length and is located on highway N-27 in Deuel and Garden Counties, starting approximately 0.1 miles south of the bridge over I-80 and extending north to the junction with US-30 where construction stops. Construction then resumes approximately 2.0 miles west at the west junction of US-30 and N-27 and ends approximately 2.0 miles north of the box culvert over Ash Hollow Creek. The improvements on this project consist of milling and resurfacing the roadway with asphalt. The contractor on the project is Paulsen, Inc of Cozad, Nebraska.

Project ID: 27431251 NDOT CN 61745 Sargent North

SLFRF Funding amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC 9.2, Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from US DOT (Streamlined Framework)

Project Overview

The Sargent North project includes asset preservation improvements to a segment of US-183. This project is approximately 7.0 miles in length and is located on US-183 in Custer County, starting approximately 0.5 miles north of the southern corporate limits of Sargent and extending north to the Custer / Loup County line. The improvements on this project consist of milling and resurfacing the roadway and surfaced shoulders with asphalt. The contractor on the project is Paulsen, Inc of Cozad, Nebraska.

Project ID: 27431251 NDOT CN 61746 Mullen West

SLFRF Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC 9.2, Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from US DOT (Streamlined Framework)

Project Overview

The Mullen West project includes asset preservation improvements to a segment of N-2. This project is approximately 9.3 miles in length and is located on N-2 in Hooker County, starting approximately 9.3 miles west of the west corporate limits of Mullen and extending east to approximately 0.1 miles west of the west corporate limits of Mullen. The improvements on this project consist of milling and resurfacing the roadway and

surfaced shoulders with asphalt. The contractor on the project is Western Engineering Company, Inc of Harlan, IA.

Project ID: 27431251 NDOT CN 71288 Holdrege – Platte River

SLFRF Funding amount: \$2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC 9.2, Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from US DOT (Streamlined Framework)

Project Overview

The Holdrege to Platte River project includes asset preservation improvements to a segment of US-183. This project is approximately 15.3 miles in length and is located on US-183 in Buffalo and Phelps Counties, starting approximately 0.1 miles north of the northern corporate limits of Holdrege and extending north to approximately 0.1 miles south of the bridge over the Platte River. The improvements on this project consist of milling and resurfacing the roadway and surfaced shoulders with asphalt. The contractor on the project is Vontz Paving, Inc of Hastings, Nebraska.

Project ID: 27431251 NDOT CN 71289 Nebraska/Colorado State Line – Imperial

SLFRF Funding amount: \$3,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC 9.2, Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from US DOT (Streamlined Framework)

Project Overview

The Nebraska/Colorado State Line to Imperial project includes asset preservation improvements to a segment of US-6. This project is approximately 22.9 miles in length and is located on US-6 in Chase County, starting at the Nebraska / Colorado State line and extending east to approximately 0.1 miles south of the northern corporate limits of Imperial. The improvements on this project consist of milling and resurfacing the roadway and surfaced shoulders with asphalt. The contractor on the project is Werner Construction, Inc of Hastings, Nebraska.

Project ID: 27431251 NDOT CN 71290 Madrid – Lincoln County Line

SLFRF Funding amount: \$500,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC 9.2, Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from US DOT (Streamlined Framework)

Project Overview

The Madrid to Lincoln County Line project includes asset preservation improvements to a segment of N-23. This project is approximately 15.7 miles in length and is located on highway N-23 in Perkins County, starting approximately 0.6 miles west of the eastern corporate limits of Madrid and extending east to the Perkins / Lincoln County Line. The improvements on this project consist of milling and resurfacing the roadway and

surfaced shoulders with asphalt. The contractor on the project is Werner Construction, Inc of Hastings, Nebraska.

Project ID: 27431251 NDOT CN 71291 Haigler East

SLFRF Funding amount: \$1,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC 9.2, Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from US DOT (Streamlined Framework)

Project Overview

The Haigler East project includes asset preservation improvements to a segment of US-34. The project is approximately 9.4 miles in length and is located in Dundy County, starting approximately 0.5 miles east of the east corporate limits of Haigler and extending east to approximately 0.1 miles west of the bridge-size concrete box culvert for Hay Canyon Creek. The improvements on this project consist of milling and resurfacing the roadway and surfaced shoulders with asphalt. The contractor on the project is Werner Construction, Inc of Hastings, Nebraska.

Project ID: 27431251 NDOT CN 81143 Hackberry Lake Road & Nenzel South

SLFRF Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC 9.2, Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from US DOT (Streamlined Framework)

Project Overview

The Hackberry Lake Road & Nenzel South project includes asset preservation improvements to segments of S-16B and S-16F. The first segment, S-16B is approximately 13.5 miles in length and located in Cherry County. S-16B starts at the junction of S-16B and N-15 and extends west to approximately 0.2 miles west of the entrance to the Hackberry Lake state recreational area. The second segment, S-16F is approximately 7.5 miles in length and located in Cherry County. S-16F starts at the junction of S-16F and US-20 and extends south to approximately 1.7 miles north of the bridge over the Niobrara River. The contractor on the project is Western Engineering Company, Inc of Harlan, Iowa.

Project ID: 27431251 NDOT CN 81144 District 8 Microsurfacing

SLFRF Funding amount: \$2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC 9.2, Surface Transportation Projects Not Receiving Funding from US DOT (Streamlined Framework)

Project Overview

The District 8 Microsurfacing project includes asset preservation improvements to segments of N-7, N-61, N-96, N-137 and US-281. The N-7 segment is approximately 8.4 miles long and is in Blaine County, starting at the junction of N-7 and N-91. The N-61

segment is approximately 25.4 miles long and is in Cherry County, starting 0.3 miles northeast of the Fawn Lake Road. The N-96 segment is approximately 20 miles long and is in Loup/Garfield Counties, starting at the junction of US-183 and N-96. The N-137 segment is approximately 13.3 miles long and is in Rock County, starting at the junction of US-20. The US-281 segment is approximately 7.2 miles long and is in Holt County, starting approximately 0.5 miles south of 885th Road. The improvements on this project consist of microsurfacing the roadway. The total project length is about 74 miles. The contractor on the project is Intermountain Slurry Seal, Inc of Watsonville, California.

State of Nebraska

**Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs
Recovery Plan**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Federal funds under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) appropriated to the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs in LB 1014 (sec. 7) were used for premium pay increases implemented for essential front-line workers in our 24-hour facilities. These increases were made to retain staff and fill staff vacancies during the Covid-19 pandemic. The increases ensured the NDVA was competitive in pay in the future for positions that support public health and safety.

ARPA GUIDANCE PROVIDES UNDER SLFRP Final Rule FAQs 2.15 PAGE 11: "The Final Rule includes as an eligible use hiring up to a pre-pandemic baseline that is adjusted for historic underinvestment in the public sector, providing additional funds for employees who experienced pay cuts or were furloughed, avoiding layoffs, providing worker retention incentives, including reasonable increases in compensation, and paying for ancillary administrative costs related to hiring, support, and retention. "Public sector staff" would not include individuals participating in a job training or subsidized employment program administered by the recipient."

ARPA GUIDANCE ALSO PROVIDES UNDER SLFRP Final Rule FAQs 5.1 PAGES 33 and 34: "Eligible workers are those in critical infrastructure sectors who regularly perform in person work, interact with others at work, or physically handle items handled by others."

Uses of Funds

Funds received under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) were used for premium pay increases for essential front-line workers in NDVA's four 24-hour facilities. Premium pay increases were essential in our efforts to retain staff and fill vacancies during the Covid-19 pandemic. Increases also ensured NDVA remained competitive in pay for future positions supporting public health and safety.

Community Engagement

NA

Labor Practices

NA

Use of Evidence

The program monitors retention and hiring rates.

Performance Report

The program will utilize retention and hiring data.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project 28028415, 28028416, 28028417, 28028418: Agency 28 Premium Pay

Funding amount: \$3,546,602

Project Expenditure Category:4.1, Public Sector Employees

Project Overview

- Pursuant to LB 1014 Section 7, federal funds under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) were used for premium pay increases for essential workers.

Link to the website: [Public Guidance Documents | Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs](#)

Performance Report

- Performance will be measured by retention and hiring data

State of Nebraska

Recovery Plan Postsecondary Education

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

LB 1014 (2022), Sec. 36 requires a community college to make a grant application to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education for funding for a capital project or for offering a course or program that meets the criteria established by the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and the Commission. The Legislature has appropriated \$60 million, not to exceed \$10 million for any one community college, for such purposes.

Two overarching project categories are job training assistance and workforce training center capital projects. Outcomes of each type of project are to provide trainees, including low- or moderate-income populations, underemployed workers, and unemployed workers, the time and support needed to train for higher wage occupations with career advancement opportunities.

Outcomes for job training assistance includes increased enrollment and graduation in high demand, high skill, and high wage (H³) jobs while the capital construction category outcomes provide the learning environment for these H³ jobs.

Progress on job training assistance and capital construction projects include increased enrollment, retention, and graduation rates and increased placement success in high demand, high skill, and high wage (H³) jobs. Progress on job assistance projects include number of clients served annually, number of clients that were retained or have completed their education/training programs, and number of clients that met their employment objective. However, most of the capital projects are in their infancy and progress won't be measurable until a few years after completion of the projects.

Uses of Funds

Uses of funds appropriated by the legislature under LB1014 (2022), Sec. 36 fall under one of two Negative Economic Impacts, Assistance to Households - 2.10 Assistance to Unemployed and Underemployed Workers categories - job training assistance or workforce training center capital projects.

Recognizing that the pandemic has generated broad workforce disruption, the Final Rule makes clear that recipients may provide job training to individuals that are currently employed but are seeking to move to a job that provides better opportunities for economic advancement, such as higher wages or more opportunities for career advancement. Consistent with this intent, the Final Rule also enumerates that job and workforce training centers are eligible capital expenditures for recipients of funds.

Projects will provide supplemental financial support, non-credit/credit scholarships, funding for books and other educational and training tools, connections to employment (business placement sponsorships for small businesses), career coaching, and basic skills support in the classroom to enable individuals who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19, and are currently unemployed or underemployed, to receive short-term skills training and job placement services offered in cooperation with state and federal workforce funding systems. Equipped with flexible training stipends, scholarships, and linkages to employment, trainees, including low- or

moderate-income populations, underemployed workers, and unemployed workers will have the time and support needed to train for higher wage occupations with career advancement opportunities. Several of the projects include construction of training centers to house academic programs that lead to (H³) jobs.

Grant applications included testimonials from area businesses identifying shortage of skilled workers, several in H³ occupations, as a main concern. Supporting the workforce demand by producing a well-prepared labor pool is essential to helping businesses, industries, and communities recover from the labor disruptions created by the COVID-19 pandemic. These projects will contribute to competitiveness and domestic business creation and sustainability in manufacturing, construction, and other sectors, and promote economic recovery and resiliency in a fast-changing workforce landscape.

Community Engagement

The State, as recipient of ARPA funds, appropriated \$60 million to community colleges to fund capital projects or for offering an academic course or program. Through communications with area businesses and/or internally identified needs of students/businesses, each community college will identify projects that best address these needs for their service area. This included seeking feedback of employers and students in advisory boards and work-based learning placement activities on modern practices and skills needed for successful employment in the service area.

Labor Practices

Subrecipients have been provided the following compliance requirements: Final Rule, Compliance and Reporting Guidance, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards ("Uniform Guidance" or 2 CFR Part 200), Labor Standards Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction - Department of Labor Regulations (29 CFR Part 5), and Civil Rights.

Use of Evidence

Projects will be evaluated based on program evaluations measuring effectiveness of the overall goals of providing job training and job opportunities to the general community, including low- or moderate-income populations, underemployed workers, and unemployed workers.

Performance Report

Each project will have its own performance measures as documented in the grant agreement with key measurements included in the project inventory for the project.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Central Community College

Project: 48697131 - ITS & Business Remodel Project

Funding amount: \$1,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10 Assistance to Unemployed and Under Employed Workers

Project Overview

- The Central Community College ITS & Business remodel project aims to update 8,120 square feet of workforce training center space on the Grand Island campus to better facilitate learning and engaging educational opportunities for students in programs leading to H3 (high wage, high demand and/or high skill) occupations in central Nebraska, specifically information technology systems and business. The Final Rule explicitly identifies job and workforce training centers as an enumerated eligible use as assistance to unemployed or underemployed workers, specifically denoting "services like job training to accelerate rehiring of unemployed workers".
- The project will accommodate classes and updated technology for essential business career opportunities for unemployed and underemployed workers. Improvements include, investing in infrastructure/equipment for student support in classrooms and computer labs, bringing the facility up to building and energy codes, and including new program space for entrepreneurial efforts. The project began after March 2023 with expected completion by the end of 2024. Outcomes include the design, public bid and completion of facilities and updated technology designed to assist students enter careers considered high wage, high demand and/or high skill in central Nebraska.
- No web link to the project has been created.
- This project is not applicable for addressing climate change and/or advancement of the Justice40 initiative. Central Community College is a 2023 Gold STAR Institution as recognized by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education so energy conservation designs are a priority.

Use of Evidence

- Specific evidence-based interventions are not applicable to this project, but rather specific best practice procurement and accounting practices to ensure necessary, quality materials and services are used, and software, equipment and technology is being secured for use by students in order to provide high probability of career placement following completion of their program of study.
- No amount of SLFRF funding is designated for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Cooperative work for collection and reporting for this project will be completed by faculty, purchasing, accounting, institutional research and administration with the following performance measures:

1. Documentation of engagement from program faculty, business and ITS advisory boards to provide feedback on essential career skills and suggestions on facilities, software and equipment required to help develop those skills.
2. Documentation of engagement of professional services to design and prepare bid documents for availability and distribution to all contractors. Final bid results and record of approval of contract by the publicly elected Central Community College Board of Governors.
3. Documentation of regular update meetings, safety reviews and inspections occurring throughout the project.
4. Documentation of software and equipment procurement and results of the external fiscal audit of project expenditures.
5. Documentation of student completion numbers into select programs or courses using spaces. This will be completed each semester and annually with a goal of 80% completion of course and program. As available, collect student demographic characteristics including breakdown of race, ethnicity, gender and socio-economic to examine success of students and graduates in programs utilizing the space. This will be completed and reported on an annual basis.

Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs (cumulative for project)
567	388	0

PROJECT INVENTORY

Central Community College

Project: 48697132: CTSN Equipment for H3 Jobs

Funding amount: \$1,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10 Assistance to Unemployed and Under Employed Workers

Project Overview

- The Central Community College CTSN Equipment for H3 Jobs Project aims to update and modernize equipment in three career and technical programs to meet industry standards with thirteen new or leased pieces of equipment. This request will be used for equipment in the following programs: Heavy Equipment Operator Technician, Diesel Technology, Nursing Education. The equipment purchased will allow students to learn and practice on equipment that is used in industry. The simulators will provide state of the art immersive experiences for teaching and learning. Purchase and use of equipment will be completed throughout 2024 through 2026. Outcomes include the identification, purchase, curriculum implementation of equipment designed to assist students enter careers considered high wage, high demand and/or high skill in central Nebraska.
- No web link to the project has been created.
- This project is not applicable for addressing climate change and/or advancement of the Justice40 initiative. Central Community College is a 2023 Gold STAR Institution as recognized by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.

Use of Evidence

- Specific evidence-based interventions are not applicable to this project, but rather specific best practice procurement and accounting practices to ensure necessary, quality equipment is being secured for use by students in order to provide high probability of career placement following completion of their program of study.
- No amount of SLFRF funding is designated for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Cooperative work for collection and reporting for this project will be completed by faculty, purchasing, accounting, institutional research and administration with the following performance measures:

1. 100% documentation of need from program faculty/program supervisor and/or business advisory boards of equipment required to help build essential career skills in these high wage, high demand and/or high skill occupations in central Nebraska. This will be completed prior to purchase or leasing of equipment.
2. 100% documentation of equipment bids and/or justified sole-source purchasing. This will be completed prior or at time of equipment purchasing.

3. 100% inventory of equipment purchased and results of annual fiscal audit. This will be completed within thirty days of receipt of equipment and annually by fiscal auditor.
4. Documentation of student completion numbers into select programs or courses using equipment. This will be completed each semester and annually with a goal of 80% completion of course and program.
5. As available, collect student demographic characteristics including breakdown of race, ethnicity, gender, and socio-economic to examine success of students and graduates in programs utilizing equipment. This will be completed and reported on an annual basis.

Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs (cumulative for project)
946	862	0

PROJECT INVENTORY

Central Community College Project

Project [Identification Number]: CCC-GI Welding Training Center

Funding amount: \$6,175,500 SLFR toward total estimated project cost of \$8,041,500

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10 Assistance to Unemployed and Under Employed Workers

Project Overview

- The Central Community College Welding Training Center project aims to construct 14,760 square feet of instructional and student support space on the Grand Island campus to assist in the training and education of unemployed and underemployed workers for high wage, high demand and high skill careers in central Nebraska. The Final Rule explicitly identifies job and workforce training centers as an enumerated eligible use as assistance to unemployed or underemployed workers, specifically denoting "services like job training to accelerate rehiring of unemployed workers". The project will accommodate classes and updated technology for essential welding career opportunities for unemployed and underemployed workers. Improvements include, investing in infrastructure/equipment for student support in welding and brazing booths, specialized grinding, receiving and cutting areas, and computer labs, with supporting classroom and faculty space. The project will provide training and safety space for teaching welding technical skills that match a wide variety of businesses and industry's needs within the local area, introduction to transitioning high school pathway students and advanced and specialized skills for individuals already in the workforce seeking promotion opportunities. The project should begin in 2024 and be completed in 2025. Outcomes include the design, public bid and completion of facilities and updated technology designed to assist students enter careers considered high wage, high demand and/or high skill in central Nebraska.
- No web link to the project has been created.
- This project is not applicable for addressing climate change and/or advancement of the Justice40 initiative. Central Community College is a 2023 Gold STAR Institution as recognized by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education so energy conservation designs are a priority.

Use of Evidence

- Specific evidence-based interventions are not applicable to this project, but rather specific best practice procurement and accounting practices to ensure necessary, quality materials and services are used, and software, equipment and technology is being secured for use by students in order to provide high probability of career placement following completion of their program of study.
- No amount of SLFRF funding is designated for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Cooperative work for collection and reporting for this project will be completed by faculty, purchasing, accounting, institutional research and administration with the following performance measures:

1. Documentation of engagement from program faculty, welding advisory boards to provide feedback on essential career skills and suggestions on facilities, software and equipment required to help develop those skills.
2. Documentation of engagement of professional services to design and prepare bid documents for availability and distribution to all contractors. Final bid results and record of approval of contract by the publicly elected Central Community College Board of Governors.
3. Documentation of regular update meetings, safety reviews and inspections occurring throughout the project.
4. Documentation of software and equipment procurement and results of the external fiscal audit of project expenditures.
5. Documentation of student completion numbers into select programs or courses using spaces. This will be completed each semester and annually with a goal of 80% completion of course and program. As available, collect student demographic characteristics including breakdown of race, ethnicity, gender and socio-economic to examine success of students and graduates in programs utilizing the space. This will be completed and reported on an annual basis.

Project is not yet complete.

Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs (cumulative for project)
0	0	0

PROJECT INVENTORY

Central Community College Project

Project [Identification Number]: CCC-Hastings Automotive Training Center

Funding amount: \$1,824,500 SLFR toward total estimated project cost of \$19,460,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10 Assistance to Unemployed and Under Employed Workers

Project Overview

- The Central Community College Automotive Training Center project aims to construct 42,000 square feet of instructional and student support space on the Hastings campus to assist in the training and education of unemployed and underemployed workers for high wage, high demand and high skill careers in central Nebraska. The Final Rule explicitly identifies job and workforce training centers as an enumerated eligible use as assistance to unemployed or underemployed workers, specifically denoting "services like job training to accelerate rehiring of unemployed workers". The project will accommodate classes and updated technology for essential welding career opportunities for unemployed and underemployed workers. Improvements include, investing in infrastructure/equipment for student support in automotive maintenance, diagnosis/repair of all makes and models of cars and light duty trucks, including electric vehicles, autobody painting, refinishing, sheet metal repair and replacement. Educational programming will match a wide variety of businesses and industry's needs within the local area, introduction to transitioning high school pathway students and advanced and specialized skills for individuals already in the workforce seeking promotion opportunities. The project should begin in 2024 and be completed in 2026. Outcomes include the design, public bid and completion of facilities and updated technology designed to assist students enter careers considered high wage, high demand and/or high skill in central Nebraska.
- No web link to the project has been created.
- This project is not applicable for addressing climate change and/or advancement of the Justice40 initiative. Central Community College is a 2023 Gold STAR Institution as recognized by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education so energy conservation designs are a priority.

Use of Evidence

- Specific evidence-based interventions are not applicable to this project, but rather specific best practice procurement and accounting practices to ensure necessary, quality materials and services are used, and software, equipment and technology is being secured for use by students in order to provide high probability of career placement following completion of their program of study.
- No amount of SLFRF funding is designated for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

Cooperative work for collection and reporting for this project will be completed by faculty, purchasing, accounting, institutional research and administration with the following performance measures:

1. Documentation of engagement from program faculty and automotive and autobody advisory boards to provide feedback on essential career skills and suggestions on facilities, software and equipment required to help develop those skills.
2. Documentation of engagement of professional services to design and prepare bid documents for availability and distribution to all contractors. Final bid results and record of approval of contract by the publicly elected Central Community College Board of Governors.
3. Documentation of regular update meetings, safety reviews and inspections occurring throughout the project.
4. Documentation of software and equipment procurement and results of the external fiscal audit of project expenditures.
5. Documentation of student completion numbers into select programs or courses using spaces. This will be completed each semester and annually with a goal of 80% completion of course and program. As available, collect student demographic characteristics including breakdown of race, ethnicity, gender and socio-economic to examine success of students and graduates in programs utilizing the space. This will be completed and reported on an annual basis.

Project is not yet complete.

Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs (cumulative for project)
0	0	0

PROJECT INVENTORY

Metropolitan Community College

Project: 48697116 - Career Forward

Funding amount: \$9,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10 Assistance to Unemployed and Under Employed Workers

Project Overview

MCC's CAREER FORWARD program provides supplemental financial support, non-credit/credit scholarships, funding for books and other educational and training tools, connections to employment (business placement sponsorships for small businesses), career coaching, and basic skills support in the classroom to enable individuals who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19, and are currently unemployed or underemployed, to receive short-term skills training and job placement services offered in cooperation with state and federal workforce funding systems.

Equipped with flexible training stipends, scholarships, and linkages to employment, trainees are provided the time and support needed to train for higher wage occupations with career advancement opportunities. Paired with skills assessments using the National Career Readiness Certification, MCC career coaching, job placement services, transportation support, and other wrap-around supports, CAREER FORWARD helps to bridge the significant barriers these individuals face in jumpstarting their careers.

The project initiated on October 1, 2022 with recruitment efforts conducted by internal marketing and through existing channels to help quickly raise awareness of the program. The program also began contacting current students such as those in the college's HEERFS (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund) and workforce support grant programs, transitioning eligible students in these programs into CAREER FORWARD.

The program offers training across a variety of career fields, including transportation, IT, healthcare, automotive, industrial maintenance, project management, insurance, manufacturing, fiber optics, and other high-demand careers. As described, throughout their time in the program, the students are provided a variety of supports to address existing barriers (such as tuition) and unexpected barriers that arise during their time in training. The program's overriding purpose is to provide those who have been negatively impacted by the COVID19 pandemic with the full support needed to enter and succeed in a training program that leads to gainful employment.

- ***Link to the website of the project if available***

<https://www.mccneb.edu/Community-Business/Workforce-Innovation-Division/Career-Skill-Advancement-Adult-Education/Career-Forward>

- ***Describe how the project contributes to addressing climate change and/or advances the Justice40 initiative, which sets a target of providing 40 of the benefits of certain federal investments, including climate and clean energy investments to disadvantaged communities (for infrastructure projects under EC 5)***

Not applicable.

Use of Evidence

- ***Briefly describe the goals of the project, and whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions, the evidence base for the interventions, and/or if projects are being evaluated through rigorous program evaluations that are designed to build evidence. If a recipient is conducting a program evaluation in lieu of reporting the amount of spending on evidence-based interventions, they must describe the evaluation design (see Reporting Guidance for additional details that should be included).***

The project is being supported by an external evaluation to help guide the project's impact study and provide data for internal and external reporting purposes. The evaluation is utilizing both formative and summative strategies to support continuous program improvement and to determine the extent to which the project was effective in achieving economic benefits for participants.

The program is collecting a variety of data on participants which include demographic and income data, gender, zip code of residence, number/nature of work-based learning experiences, education and training outcomes, number who are placed in employment, number who earn higher wages post-education/training, number who earn a degree or certification, and other pertinent data.

- The program is guided by the following annual objectives: 1000 clients served annually; 75% of clients are retained or have successfully completed their education/training program; and 75% of clients meet their employment objective. Additionally, 80% of participating CAREER FORWARD business partners and employers will report high satisfaction with the program and newly hired employees.
- The project evaluation is designed to help the College and its stakeholders determine whether the program is on track toward meeting its stated objectives, how/when to respond to negative trends that occur during the project's implementation (formative evaluation) and the extent to which objectives are met (summative evaluation).
- ***Identify the dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions for each project in the Expenditure Categories noted with an asterisk in Appendix 1 of the Reporting Guidance.***

100% of the funding allocated to date has been spent on evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

- *For the Project Inventories, include key performance indicators for your jurisdiction's major SLFRF funded projects. Report key performance indicators for each project, or group projects with substantially similar goals and the same outcome measures. Jurisdictions may choose to include some indicators for each individual project as well as crosscutting*

indicators. Include both output and outcome measures. Provide data disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, income, and other relevant factors, if possible.

Program Outcomes:

Performance Measure	Progress
Program Goals (Annual)	
Participants Served (goal=1000)	1757 (unduplicated) 1801 (duplicated)
Percent who are retained or completed their training program	72.5%
Percent who meet their employment objective	72.5%
Employer Satisfaction Rate	100%
Participant Information	
Total Number of Participants Served (Unduplicated)	1757
Percent of Participants: Low-Income (Pell-eligible)	100%
Percent of Participants: Racial/Ethnic Minority	64.8%
Percent Black/African American	44.9%
Percent American Indian or Alaska Native	1.7%
Percent Asian	3.6%
Percent Multi-Race	2.4%
Percent White or Caucasian	46.9%
Percent Hispanic	13.8%
Percent of Participants residing in low-income zip codes (i.e., zip codes with poverty levels that exceed Nebraska's poverty rate of 10.3%)	54.3%
Education/Training Data	
Average Hourly Wage of Participants (Pre-Program)	\$17.38
Average Hourly Wage of Completers (Post-Program)	\$19.51
Total Number of Certifications Earned	2,278
% Retained in Program	72.5%
Number Currently in Education/Training	448 (duplicated)
Total Drops/Withdrawals/Fails	476
Number of Completers	806

Assistance to Unemployed or Under Employed Workers (EC 2.10) and Community Violence Interventions (EC 1.11):

Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs – **1,054**

Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs - **446**

Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs (n/a)

PROJECT INVENTORY

Metropolitan Community College

Project: 48697216 - Powersports and Outdoor Power Equipment Technology Training Program

Funding amount: \$626,152

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10 Assistance to Unemployed and Under Employed Workers

Project Overview

- Funding will be used to establish a Powersports and Outdoor Power Equipment Technology Training Program. The project will provide short-term training to earn high-skill, high-demand certifications that lead to sustainable wages in a variety of high-growth occupations within the Powersports/Small Engine industry for individuals who are unemployed or underemployed. Students may enroll in one or more tracks (four total) to obtain multiple certificates or complete all four tracks and graduate with an associate degree. The project provides training and education to individuals negatively impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic, enabling them to earn nationally recognized credentials and obtain employment or advance their careers.
- Classes began in the Fall 2023 quarter.
- <https://www.mccneb.edu/Academics/Programs-of-Study/Industrial-Transportation-Utility-Line/Powersports-and-Outdoor-Power-Technology>

Use of Evidence

- The goal of the project are to provide valuable job training and education to workers who are unemployed or underemployed as a result of the pandemic.
- The program's intervention is informed by discussions with area employers that indicated that there is a great need for skilled workers in the powersports industry.
- Learners receive hands-on instruction on shop practices and product maintenance using tried and proven methods of adult learning (Dustin, Emily, 12 July 2017, Challenges, Opportunities, and Growth: Understanding Adult Learners. Retrieved from <https://motivislearning.com/insights/supporting-adult-learners-through-challenges-and-opportunities/>)
- The Evaluation plan for the Powersports and Outdoor Power Equipment Technology Training Program will include formative and summative strategies in order to (1) measure the program's impact on students, and (2) provide data necessary to evaluate student learning (credentials/degrees awarded), and to fine-tune the program (continuous improvement). Should the data show a lack of progress toward the stated objectives, program staff and partners will conduct a focused analysis of the data to determine root causes of negative trends and to respond with a series of program modifications that mitigate these issues. In every sense, the program's evaluation will be continuous, collaborative and proactive, in order to ensure, at every stage of the project, adequate performance.
- Expenditure Category 2.10: Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers: \$626,152

Performance Report

Powersports Enrollment Fall 2024 – Summer 2025			
Certificate/Degree Track	Female	Male	Total
Career Certificate – ATV/Snowmobile Technician (PSATV)	0	2	2
Career Certificate – Motorcycle Technician (PSMCT)	1	10	11
Career Certificate – Outdoor Power Equipment Technician (PSOPE)	0	2	2
Associate in Applied Science – Powersports and Outdoor Power Technology (PSPTA)	0	21	21
Total	1	37	38

Powersports Enrollment Fall 2024 – Summer 2025

Powersports Awards Fall 2024 – Summer 2025	
Certificate/Degree Track	Total
Career Certificate – Motorcycle Technician (PSMCT)	1
Total	1

Powersports Awards Fall 2024 – Summer 2025

Other metrics that demonstrate program success:

- 13 high school students enrolled in the Powersports Career Academy, and 12 students completed it.
- At least 7 students have found employment in the Powersports industry.
- Participants at the 2025 State SkillsUSA competition earned the following places:
 - 1st place College Power Equipment Technology
 - 1st place High School Motorcycle Service Technology
- Participants at the 2025 National SkillsUSA competition earned the following places:
 - 1st place College Power Equipment Technology
 - 7th place High School Motorcycle Service Technology

PROJECT INVENTORY

Metropolitan Community College

Project:48697163 - Building Information Modeling Technology Training Program

Funding amount: \$373,848

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10 Assistance to Unemployed and Under Employed Workers

Project Overview

- Funding has been used to establish a Building Information Modeling Training Program within the Architectural Design Technology and Civil Engineering Technology programs at MCC. The program provides short-term training that prepares individuals who are unemployed or underemployed to earn high-skill, high-demand certifications that lead to sustainable wages in a variety of high-growth occupations in the Architecture, Construction, and Engineering industries. Students may enroll in four tracks that each lead to a career certificate. Students can continue from each of the four certificate tracks to complete an Associate Degree and, potentially, transfer to a four-year college or university, including Dunwoody College in Minnesota that allows students to earn their BARCH degree without ever having to leave Omaha. The BIM program provides training and education to individuals negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, enabling them to earn nationally recognized credentials and obtain employment or advance their careers.
- •Classes began in the Fall 2023 quarter.

Use of Evidence

- The goal of the project is to provide valuable job training and education to workers who are unemployed or underemployed as a result of the pandemic.
- The program's intervention is informed by discussions with area employers that indicated that there is a great need for skilled workers in the architecture, construction, and engineering industries.
- Learners receive hands-on instruction on shop practices and product maintenance using tried and proven methods of adult learning (Dustin, Emily, 12 July 2017, Challenges, Opportunities, and Growth: Understanding Adult Learners. Retrieved from <https://motivislearning.com/insights/supporting-adult-learners-through-challenges-and-opportunities/>)
- The Evaluation plan for the BIM Technology Training Program includes formative and summative strategies in order to (1) measure the program's impact on students, and (2) provide data necessary to evaluate student learning (credentials/degrees awarded) and fine-tune the program (continuous improvement). Should the data show a lack of progress toward the stated objectives, program staff and partners will conduct a focused analysis of the data to determine root causes of negative trends and respond with a series of program modifications that mitigate these issues. The program's evaluation will be continuous, collaborative, and proactive, in order to ensure adequate performance at every stage of the project.
- Expenditure Category 2.10: Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers: \$373,848

Performance Report

- The BIM program began offering classes in Fall 2023, and data collection is ongoing.
- Program enrollment for Fall 2024 – Summer 2025 is presented in Table 1. Completion numbers are presented in Table 2.

BIM Enrollment Fall 2024 – Summer 2025			
Certificate/Degree Track	Female	Male	Total
Career Certificate – BIM Architectural (BIMAR)	1	3	4
Career Certificate – BIM Electrical (BIMEL)	2	5	7
Career Certificate – BIM Mechanical (BIMME)	0	2	2
Career Certificate – BIM Structural (BIMST)	1	0	1
Total	4	10	14

BIM Enrollment Fall 2024 – Summer 2025

BIM Awards Fall 2024 – Summer 2025	
Certificate/Degree Track	Total
Career Certificate – BIM Architectural (BIMAR)	6
Career Certificate – BIM Electrical (BIMEL)	1
Total	7

BIM Awards Fall 2024 – Summer 2025

PROJECT INVENTORY

Mid-Plains Community College

Project: 48697112 - Health and Science Center (HASC) Expansion Project

Funding Amount: \$995,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers

The HASC Expansion Project, completed on August 15, 2023, houses a healthcare workforce training center that responds to the need for high-demand, high-skill, high-wage job training, helping to alleviate the pandemic's regional negative economic and public health impacts. The expanded structure adds approximately 11,800 square feet of learning space for health occupations training, with the capacity for sixteen potential students added to the nursing programs, eight of whom will be Registered Nurses, which on an annual basis meets 8.4% of the reported shortage of 95 Registered Nurses in the region. The HASC Expansion now contains advanced, state-of-the-art Emergency Medical Services training, the Medical Lab Technician program, and CPR/AED/Basic Life Support classes, as well as serving as the educational hub for community and regional health gatherings.

Previously, the Mid-Plains Community College Health and Science Center (HASC) facility had reached its physical space threshold, and additional space is needed for students who endeavor to be a part of the remedy for the ever-growing healthcare needs created by the Covid-19 pandemic and an aging regional population. College administration embarked on the HASC Expansion Project. a \$4,771,049 project, which resulted in more classrooms to accommodate increased enrollment in nursing courses, additional lab space for nursing and emergency medical services, and a virtual innovation lab to complement existing programming, and thoughtful study spaces for our students. This new space was created with the intent of engaging new learners from this high poverty, low median wage population, thus providing a broader population of educated, available healthcare professionals for a post-pandemic era and assistance to unemployed or underemployed workers.

Intended outcomes are as follows: The 3-year average of Mid-Plains Community College (MPCC) graduates from Registered Nursing (RN) program will demonstrate a National Council Licensure Examination (N-CLEX) pass rate increase from 66.42% to 90%, which based upon increased capacity for MPCC's RN students, increases the 3-year average of workforce-ready nurses from 17 to 36 from the fully staffed HASC facility by 2030. Using the same measure, MPCC anticipates that MPCC Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) graduate N-CLEX pass rates will increase from 96.8% 3-year average to 97%, with the increased student numbers translating to a 3-year average of 31 workforce-ready LPNs.

Initial results show excellent promise in achieving these goals. MPCC's RN class limit has successfully increased by 8 students. NCLEX-RN passing rates on a three-year average have leapt to 94.2% with results for this last school year still in progress. MPCC has met our NCLEX passing rates for LPN students, already showing a three-year average of 98.24% passing.

The intended goals of the Health and Science Center Expansion Project are met through MPCC's capital investment, with assistance from SLFRF funding and the subsequent addition of instructional staff and increased student population. Project evaluation will occur through

annual reporting, data collection, and student learning outcomes; therefore, no specific allocation of SLFRF monies are applied to evidence-based interventions or evaluations.

Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs (cumulative for project)
77	38	0

PROJECT INVENTORY

Mid-Plains Community College

Project: 48697122 - East Campus Renovation Project

Funding Amount: \$9,005,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers

The East Campus Renovation Project houses a healthcare workforce training center that responds to the need for high-demand, high-skill, high-wage job training, helping to alleviate the pandemic's regional negative economic and public health impacts. Through business and industry simulation and collaboration spaces, this Project also serves community business needs during post-pandemic recovery. The expanded structure refurbished—with state-of-the-art technology and design—approximately 29,178 square feet of learning space for health occupations training and business and community engagement programming, as well as serving as the educational hub for community and regional health and business gatherings.

The previous paramedic facility on the McCook Campus has reached its physical space threshold, and additional space is needed for students who endeavor to be a part of the remedy for the ever-growing healthcare needs created by the Covid-19 pandemic and an aging regional population. College administration has embarked on the \$11.3 million East Campus Renovation Project, which will result in more classrooms to accommodate increased enrollment and certification in nursing courses, increased enrollment and certification of emergency medical services students, additional lab space for nursing and emergency medical services, an ambulance box to train future paramedics, and a virtual innovation lab to complement existing programming. This new space was thoughtfully designed with the intent of engaging new learners from this high poverty, low median wage population, thus providing a broader population of educated, available healthcare professionals for a post-pandemic era and assistance to unemployed or underemployed workers.

Intended outcomes are as follows:

- The current 3-year average of work-ready paramedics will increase to 37 completers who pass the National Registry Exam by 2030, an increase of an average additional 15 work-ready paramedics annually.
- With the usage of the renovated East Campus, MPCC's N-CLEX/LPN pass rate will increase to 97% of the total LPN graduates by 2030, an increase of 31 workforce-ready licensed practical nurses annually.
- Business and Community Education programming hours will increase by 1%, or 260 hours annually, by 2030.

The intended goals of the East Campus Renovation Project, as referenced in Section 6, are met through MPCC's capital investment, with assistance from SLFRF funding. Project evaluation will occur through annual reporting, data collection, and student learning outcomes; therefore, no specific allocation of SLFRF monies will be applied to evidence-based interventions or evaluations.

Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs (cumulative for project)
248	244	0

Project: 48697114 - Fabrication Lab Renovation Project

Funding amount: \$1,210,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10—Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers

Project Overview

The iHub at Northeast Community College is a dynamic Workforce Development and Innovation Center designed to serve northeast Nebraska and surrounding regions. Located on the Norfolk campus, the iHub is a central hub for technical training, STEM education, and industry collaborations supporting workforce advancement and economic growth across multiple counties.

This multi-phase project focuses on preparing individuals for high-demand careers in advanced manufacturing, automation, robotics, mechatronics, and related technical fields. The facility will feature cutting-edge training spaces, flexible labs, collaborative makerspace environments, and equipment aligned with industry 4.0 technologies. Programming will include short-term certifications, incumbent worker training, K–12 outreach, and adult upskilling opportunities. Phase one includes site development, building construction, and outfitting instructional labs and collaborative spaces. Construction is currently underway, with anticipated facility completion in 2026. Curriculum development and employer-aligned programming are progressing alongside infrastructure work to ensure immediate impact upon opening.

The iHub will serve as a critical asset in addressing workforce gaps, expanding access to technical education, and supporting local industries through innovation and partnership.

Use of Evidence

Program offerings at the iHub have been strategically selected based on regional labor market data, employer input, and analysis of both historical and projected employment trends. The targeted focus areas—such as advanced manufacturing, robotics, automation, and skilled trades—align with occupations that have demonstrated sustained and growing demand across northeast Nebraska.

Programs developed through the iHub initiative are designed to prepare individuals for "H3" careers that are high skill, high wage, and high demand. These include roles in mechatronics, industrial maintenance, robotics system operations, and precision manufacturing.

An ongoing program evaluation will be embedded into the SLFRF initiative to track outcomes related to employment rates, wage progression, credential attainment, and employer satisfaction. This evidence-based approach will ensure that programming remains responsive to workforce needs and continues to deliver measurable economic impact across the region.

Performance Report

Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs (cumulative for project)
232	232	0

Project: **48697142 - South Sioux City Workforce Development Expansion Project.**

Funding amount: **\$8,790,000**

Project Expenditure Category: **2.10–Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers**

Project Overview

Workforce Development Center at Northeast Community College’s South Sioux City Extended Campus will serve eight counties in the South Sioux City region. The two-phase project will consist of constructing a truck driving training facility, shelter, and practice range; expanding the industrial training building to support additional upskilling for employment advancement; and development of training spaces and curriculum to provide high demand skills in areas such as construction trades, industrial robotics, heavy equipment operation and transportation technicians.

Phase one consists of constructing the truck driving facility, shelter and practice range as well as expanding the existing industrial training building. Architectural designs are complete, the bidding process is complete, and construction is nearly completed. Completion of the practice driving range projected for 2023; with completion of the training facility, shelter and expansion of industrial training building anticipated in 2024. There is still ongoing punch items to be addressed with contractors with the anticipated completion in 2025.

Use of Evidence

Program selection has been based upon data on employment openings, historic trends and projected trends. The programs to be added via this project have proven a sustained demand within the region to be served. Program evaluation will be incorporated into to the SLFRF program to measure impact on employment in “H3” jobs. H3 jobs are those that are high skill, high wage, and high demand.

Performance Report

Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs (cumulative for project)
96	88	0

Project: **48697151 - SCC Welding Lab (Beatrice)**

Funding amount: **\$1,500,000**

Project Expenditure Category: **2.10 Assistance to Unemployed or Under Employed Workers**

Project Overview

The Welding Lab construction project will fund construction of a new 4000-sq ft facility with 20 multi-process welding bays on Southeast Community College's (SCC) Beatrice Campus. The building will be adjacent to Agriculture Hall and will be instrumental in increasing SCC's capacity to upskill and retrain unemployed and underemployed residents in nearby communities. This new, dedicated welding training space will also have the flexibility to host day/evening/weekend courses in basic-to-advanced, reskill/upskill welding and fabrication, with the added option to confer welding certifications for local business and industry through SCC's Accredited Test Facility. Beatrice is home to a number of businesses that would support such a program, including Encore Manufacturing, Precise Fabrication, Neapco Components, Exmark Manufacturing, Worldlawn Power Equipment, LandMark Implement, and Gage County Equipment.

Use of Evidence

This is a capital project, so the evidence is around how the increased capacity will increase training opportunities in a high-paying field to individuals living in Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs).

Performance Report

SCC tracks graduation trends in each program sector (the most current year [2020] can be viewed here: https://www.southeast.edu/about/files/2020_GradReport_web.pdf).

This data will be used to track graduation and employment rates of employees after completion of this capacity-building construction project.

Additional data will be collected on demographic data which can be viewed in our factbook located on our public data web page which can be viewed here:

<https://www.southeast.edu/about/other-scc-departments/institutional-research/fact-book.php>.

Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs (cumulative for project)	Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs (cumulative for project)
7	0	0

Project: **48697153 - SCC Welding Technology Center (Lincoln)**

Funding amount: **\$8,500,000**

Project Expenditure Category: **2.10 Assistance to Unemployed or Under Employed Workers**

Project Overview

The project involves construction of approximately 80,000 square foot, stand-alone Welding Technology Center located north of the main building on Lincoln's 8800 O Street campus. The objective of this project is to create appropriate learning spaces for Welding Technology students seeking a Certificate, Diploma, or Associate of Applied Science degree, as well as industry-specific training. Additionally, the project creates appropriate spaces for the college's American Welding Society Certified Testing Center to certify welding skills for employment needs.

The design team used the AIA Framework for Design excellence as a tool to inform design solutions toward a zero-carbon, equitable, resilient, and healthy built environment. The design team will work with the SCC to determine appropriate strategies that meet the social, ecological, and economical needs of the college, the community, and the natural environment.

- **Design for Integration**
Good design elevates any project, no matter how small, with a thoughtful process that delivers both beauty and function in balance. It is the element that binds all the principles together with a big idea.
- **Design for Equitable Communities**
Design solutions affect more than the client and current occupants. Good design positively impacts future occupants and the larger community.
- **Design for Ecosystems**
Good design mutually benefits human and nonhuman inhabitants.
- **Design for Water**
Good design conserves and improves the quality of water as a precious resource.
- **Design for Economy**
Good design adds value for owners, occupants, community, and planet, regardless of project size and budget.
- **Design for Energy**
Good design reduces energy use and eliminates dependence on fossil fuels while improving building performance, function, comfort, and enjoyment.

Use of Evidence

This is a capital project, so the evidence is around how the increased capacity will increase training opportunities in a high-paying field to individuals living in Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs).

Performance Report

SCC tracks graduation trends in each program sector (the most current year [2020] can be viewed here: https://www.southeast.edu/about/files/2020_GradReport_web.pdf).

This data will be used to track graduation and employment rates of employees after completion of this capacity-building construction project.

Additional data will be collected on demographic data, including race/ethnicity and gender, which can be viewed in our factbook located on our public data web page which can be viewed here: <https://www.southeast.edu/about/other-scc-departments/institutional-research/fact-book.php>.

This project is not yet completed.

Project: **48697117 - Harms Center Health Sciences Renovation**

Funding amount: **\$9,000,000**

Project Expenditure Category: **2.10 Assistance to Unemployed or Under Employed Workers**

Project Overview

The John N. Harms Center Health Sciences Renovation Project consists of 34,421 square feet of renovated space split between a lower level and main floor within the existing John N. Harms Center on the Western Nebraska Community College Campus in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. The goal for this project is to relocate allied health and nursing instructional areas to a centralized location on the Scottsbluff campus to allow for greater cohesion between health sciences program offerings. Specifically, this project will provide renovated program space on the lower level to support specialized allied health and nursing program areas and infill, unutilized space on the main floor to provide offices, general classrooms, and support spaces. A new vestibule entrance will be constructed to provide access to the lower level. The Renovated program space will consist of (6) general classrooms, an EMT Paramedic Lab, Surgical Technology Lab, Nursing Simulation Lab, dedicated storage, (17) offices, conference room, student study rooms, and support spaces. This project acts as an opportunity to partner with youth and community partners to address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency and improve expanded technology in Nebraska. The renovation will help WNCC provide more collaboration for students, modern technology, and dedicated lab space with supporting storage. Programming will provide specialized training for technical skills that match a wide variety of businesses and industry needs within the local area, introduction training for high school level students, and advanced and specialized skills are also available to support individuals' and continued workforce training needs to support high wage, high skill, and high demand occupational areas throughout the region and state.

Use of Evidence

Goals of this project are increased enrollment in the health science programs offered at WNCC to meet the needs of the local labor market. Program enrollment and graduate job placement data will be monitored.

Performance Report

Western Nebraska Community College tracks program enrollment and job placement of graduates. Graduate data can be found on the public facing website at <https://www.wncc.edu/about-wncc/consumer-information/index>. Individual program enrollment data is available through an internal dashboard. During the renovation project, many health science programs have been relocated to temporary facilities. The lack of current space has kept enrollment levels for many programs stagnant. Once the new facilities are opened programs will have space to recruit more students.

Project: **48697118 - Alliance Powerline Classroom**

Funding amount: **\$780,556**

Project Expenditure Category: **2.10 Assistance to Unemployed or Under Employed Workers**

Project Overview

The Alliance Powerline Classroom Addition/Renovation Project consists of two new classrooms of 1,980 square feet proposed to be added to the north end of the existing Powerline building. The new classrooms provide the opportunity for expansion of the Powerline Construction and Maintenance Technology program to address the anticipated need for lineman in the Panhandle. The construction of the classrooms frees up current space used as a make-shift instructional area to be reallocated for storage of powerline trucks to protect the investment in equipment for long term use and meet safety requirements of equipment for training. This project acts as an opportunity to address key industry needs in a High Wage, High Skill, and High Demand (H3) occupation while addressing negative economic impacts due to an aging workforce and nonretirement attritions, exacerbated by conditions created by the pandemic and the demands placed on the industry and in the Panhandle.

Formal and informal input is gathered by program personnel. The program has very strong advisory board support from regional power suppliers. The advisory board meets at least annually for the formal meeting with incidental and ongoing individual conversations all of which provide direction for the program, provide suggestions for equipment acquisitions, and feedback on quality of students graduated from the program.

Performance Report

The renovation project will allow for:

- 1) Growth in the Lineman program to address the 10% growth anticipated in the Panhandle
- 2) Meeting industry safety standards and address industry-wide gaps in the energy workforce
- 3) Providing opportunities in H3 workforce to underserved or unemployed populations.

This project is not yet complete.

Project: **48697119 - Sidney Aviation Maintenance**

Funding amount: **\$219,444**

Project Expenditure Category: **2.10 Assistance to Unemployed or Under Employed Workers**

Project Overview

Acquisition of maintenance training equipment will modernize the program and increase overall program quality. The increase in program quality will assist people negatively impacted by the pandemic i.e. unemployed/under employed, in addition to traditional students, resulting in their ability to better compete for jobs in the aviation maintenance industry.

Formal and informal input was gathered by the Aviation Maintenance program instructors and program coordinator. The Aviation Maintenance program is the only Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Part-147 Aircraft Maintenance Technician School (AMTS) in Nebraska. The program's advisory board membership reflects this statewide orientation. The advisory board meets at least annually at the State's Aviation Symposium supplemented by an additional meeting at the programs annual fall fly-in.

The Advisory Board members represent businesses geographically distributed across the state as well as members of state government, and the FAA proper. This diverse yet aviation-focused membership provides input to the program on curriculum, changes in the overall industry, and feedback for improvement based on their experience of program graduates as employees.

Performance Report

The Aviation Maintenance program has an established 5-year assessment plan based on evaluating the program's Program Learning Outcomes (PLO). The quiz-based FAA regulations knowledge assessment completed Fall 2024 showed an average of 86.83 percent. Knowledge assessed incorporated knowledge from hands-on skills that were in part based on equipment purchased through the grant.

The project is not yet complete as not all equipment has been purchased.

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CSC

The primary focus of the equipment project for Chadron State College is to better prepare students to become health professionals in underserved areas of rural Nebraska by obtaining modern equipment. As Covid-19 exacerbated the health professional shortage in Nebraska, leading to the resignations and early retirements of thousands of health care workers, our well-prepared students are needed to help overcome the looming health care shortage. These pieces of equipment will greatly enhance our ability to train the next generation of health care providers. The equipment that has been purchased and installed is making an impact on our students' learning experience. As of 6/30/2025, CSC has expended all of the CSFRF Health Equipment budget.

In addition, Chadron State College has a project to upgrade and replace water main infrastructure. The campus water mains are original to the college and some sections are over 100 years old. The water main line sizes are inadequate to support the campus water needs and there are not an adequate number of isolation valves. This project will ensure campus has not only clean water but also provide appropriate water volume and pressure. Phase I was completed summer 2024 and the final phase will continue through the summer of 2025.

PSC

Peru State College equipment project focuses on the procurement of modern STEM equipment to that will be utilized by pre-professional students (medicine, nursing, physician assistant, etc.) in the classroom to better prepare them for future employment in healthcare and associate STEM fields. This project is applicable to funding purposes for several reasons. Advances in science lead to improved and novel instrumentation. Exposing and training students on these devices teaches them important fundamental science concepts and prepares students to use these devices in the workforce. This project is completed as all of the equipment now purchased.

Peru State College also has a water/sewer project that will improve water services near the AWAC building and replaces storm and sanitary sewers in various locations across campus. This project is substantially complete and currently has uncommitted funds of \$3,100 which are expected to be committed soon due to a final change order for the sanitary sewer contractor.

WSC

Wayne State College equipment project focuses on the procurement of modern STEM equipment to that will be utilized by pre-professional students (medicine, nursing, physician assistant, etc.) in the classroom to better prepare them for future employment in healthcare and associate STEM fields. This project is applicable to funding purposes for several reasons. Advances in science lead to improved and novel instrumentation. Exposing and training students on these devices teaches them important fundamental science concepts and prepares students to use these devices in the workforce. All equipment has been purchased and this project is complete.

Wayne State College also has a water/sewer project that installs replacement water mains. This project ensures that the campus has fresh, clean water both for drinking and sanitation needs. This project began in the Spring of 2024 and was split into two phases to minimize disruption to campus. The second phase will be constructed through the summer of 2025.

In this section, provide a high-level overview of the jurisdiction's intended and actual uses of funding including, but not limited to the jurisdiction's plan for use of funds to respond to the pandemic and promote economic recovery, key outcome goals, progress to date on those outcomes, and any noteworthy challenges or opportunities identified during the reporting period.

See Section C (1) on page 35 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

Uses of Funds

CSC

Our equipment project at Chadron State College directly supports strategy and goals in Public Health (EC 1) and Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2). Reiterating from above, there is a huge health professional shortage in Nebraska and worldwide due to the Covid-19 pandemic and economic downturn. We have focused on equipment that will modernize programs, add practical firsthand training, enhance our students' ability to visualize scientific processes and living systems, and develop scientific thought processes. These focal points will help our students become successful in making a difference in healthcare.

The water main infrastructure project at Chadron State College directly supports strategy and Goals in Water, Sewer, and Broadband Infrastructure (EC 5). This project serves a basic need for reliable delivery of clean water, in addition to providing the volume and pressure required if there is an emergency fire situation. This project serves everyone within the campus community and the community at large who often utilize campus facilities.

PSC

Peru State College equipment purchases would be considered an EC1 project. As noted in the executive summary, this equipment is for educational purposes in educating the next generation of health care professionals. These individuals will be supporting our communities in health care. Additionally, this promotes an equitable outcome by providing additional funds for a State College which may have otherwise not been able to acquire some of this equipment.

Peru State College water/sewer project would be considered an EC5 project. As noted in the executive summary, this project serves a basic need for reliable delivery of clean water. This project serves everyone within the campus community and the community at large who often utilize campus facilities.

WSC

Wayne State College equipment purchases would be considered an EC1 project. As noted in the executive summary, this equipment is for educational purposes in educating the next generation of health care professionals. These individuals will be supporting our communities in

health care. Additionally, this promotes an equitable outcome by providing additional funds for a State College which may have otherwise not been able to acquire some of this equipment.

Wayne State College water/sewer project would be considered an EC5 project. As noted in the executive summary, this project serves a basic need for reliable delivery of clean water. This project serves everyone within the campus community and the community at large who often utilize campus facilities.

Describe in further detail the strategy and goals of the jurisdiction's SLFRF program, such as how your jurisdiction's approach would help support a strong and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn. Describe how their intended and actual uses of funds will achieve their goals. Given the broad eligible uses of funds and the specific needs of the jurisdiction, explain how the funds would support the communities, populations, or individuals in your jurisdiction. Address how the use of funds supports the overall strategy and goals in the following areas, to the extent they apply:

- a. Public Health (EC 1)*
- b. Negative Economic Impacts (EC 2)*
- c. Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity (EC 3)*
- d. Premium Pay (EC 4)*
- e. Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure (EC 5)*
- f. Revenue Replacement EC 6)*

If appropriate, include information on your jurisdiction's use (or planned use) of other federal recovery funds including other programs under the American Rescue Plan such as Emergency Rental Assistance, the Homeowner Assistance Fund, the Capital Projects Fund, the State Small Business Credit Initiative, and so forth, to provide broader context on the overall approach for pandemic recovery.

See Section C (2) on page 35 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

Community Engagement

CSC/PSC/WSC

Projects at the state colleges do not require much community engagement for implementation. The outcomes will positively impact the community and region directly in ways identified earlier in this report.

Describe how your jurisdiction's planned or current use of funds incorporates community engagement strategies including written feedback through surveys, project proposals, and related documents, oral feedback through community meetings, issue-specific listening sessions, stakeholder interviews, focus groups, and additional public engagement, as well as other forms of input, such as steering committees, taskforces, and digital campaigns that capture diverse feedback from the community. Recipients should also describe how community engagement strategies support their equity goals, including engagement with communities that have historically faced significant barriers to services, such as people of color, people with low incomes, limited English proficient populations, and other traditionally underserved groups.

See Section C (4) on page 37 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

Labor Practices

CSC/PSC/WSC

Any contracted labor provided by an outside contractor would require an NSCS issued contract. These contracts include language about labor practices. All employees of the NSCS are covered by union agreements or Board Policies. Contracted services may also require bidding as appropriate according to Board Policies.

Describe workforce practices on any infrastructure projects or capital expenditures being pursued. How are projects using strong labor standards to promote effective and efficient delivery of high-quality infrastructure projects while also supporting the economic recovery through strong employment opportunities for workers? For example, report whether any of the following practices are being utilized: project labor agreements, community benefits agreements, prevailing wage requirements, and local hiring.

See Section C (5) on page 37 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

Use of Evidence

CSC/PSC/WSC

The projects undertaken by the state colleges using these funds do not require the use of evidence. The projects serve students, the campus, and community in general in a way identified earlier in this report.

Describe whether and how evidence-based interventions and/or program evaluation are incorporated into their SLFRF program. Recipients may include links to evidence standards, evidence dashboards, evaluation policies, and other public-facing tools that are used to track and communicate the use of evidence and evaluation for Fiscal Recovery Funds. Recipients are encouraged to consider how a Learning Agenda, either narrowly focused on SLFRF or broadly focused on the recipient's broader policy agenda, could support their overarching evaluation efforts in order to create an evidence-building strategy for their jurisdiction. In the Project Inventory section of the Recovery Plan, recipients should identify whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions and/or if projects are being evaluated through rigorous program evaluations that are designed to build evidence. (See details in the Project Inventory section below).

See Section C (6) on page 37 and 38 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

Performance Report

CSC/PSC/WSC

The projects undertaken by the state colleges are not necessarily performance driven. The health equipment being purchased will be installed and used in the classroom. These classes already exist. The new technology simply gives our students better educational opportunities. The water/sewer project will be considered successful when it is completed.

Describe how performance management is incorporated into their SLFRF program, including how they are tracking their overarching jurisdictional goals for these funds as well as measuring results for individual projects. The recipient has flexibility in terms of how this information is presented in the Recovery Plan, and may report key performance indicators for each project, or may group projects with substantially similar goals and the same outcome measures. In some cases, the recipient may choose to include some indicators for each individual project as well as crosscutting indicators. Recipients may include links to performance management dashboards, performance management policies, and other public facing tools that are used to track and

communicate the performance of Fiscal Recovery Funds. In addition to outlining in this section their high-level approach to performance management, recipients must also include key performance indicators for each SLFRF project in the Project Inventory section (more details below).

See Section C (7) on page 38 and 39 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.

PROJECT INVENTORY

In this section, jurisdictions should provide a description of each project undertaken. See Section C (8) on page 39 and 40 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information. Below is an example of how to present the information noted in the Reporting Guidance, which incorporates project details as well as evidence and performance measure information outlined in the relevant sections above. This information should be replicated for all of the jurisdiction's projects.

Recipients have flexibility in the presentation and format of their Project Inventory, provided it includes the minimum required information. Recipients have the option of downloading a spreadsheet of the information entered into their Project and Expenditure Report to assist them in creating the Project Inventory in their Recovery Plan. However, recipients must ensure that their Project Inventory contains the additional information required by this guidance, including but not limited to information about performance measures and evidence/evaluation for each project. In all cases, recipients must post publicly (and submit to Treasury) a single PDF file of their Recovery Plan, which includes the Project Inventory.

Example Project

Project [Identification Number]: [Project Name]

Funding amount: [Funding amount]

Project Expenditure Category: [Category number, Category Name]

Project Overview

- *A description of the project that includes an overview of the main activities of the project, the approximate timeline, primary delivery mechanisms and partners, if applicable, and intended outcomes.*
- *Link to the website of the project if available*
- *Describe how the project contributes to addressing climate change and/or advances the Justice40 initiative, which sets a target of providing 40 of the benefits of certain federal investments, including climate and clean energy investments to disadvantaged communities (for infrastructure projects under EC 5)*

Use of Evidence

- *Briefly describe the goals of the project, and whether SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions, the evidence base for the interventions, and/or if projects are being evaluated through rigorous program evaluations that are designed to build evidence. If a recipient is conducting a program evaluation in lieu of reporting the amount of spending on evidence-based interventions, they must describe the evaluation design (see Reporting Guidance for additional details that should be included).*

- *Identify the dollar amount of the total project spending that is allocated towards evidence-based interventions for each project in the Expenditure Categories noted with an asterisk in Appendix 1 of the Reporting Guidance.*

Performance Report

- *For the Project Inventories, include key performance indicators for your jurisdiction's major SLFRF funded projects. Report key performance indicators for each project or group projects with substantially similar goals and the same outcome measures. Jurisdictions may choose to include some indicators for each individual project as well as crosscutting indicators. Include both output and outcome measures. Provide data disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, income, and other relevant factors, if possible.*
- *In addition, include the mandatory performance indicators if your jurisdiction has projects in the relevant areas (this information may be included in each recipient's Recovery Plan as they determine most appropriate). This information should be included in the Project Inventory, but this data will also need to be entered directly into the Treasury reporting portal as part of the Project and Expenditure report, as Treasury has added these fields (for Tier 1 recipients only) to the Project and Expenditure report. Below is a list of required data for each Expenditure Category, where relevant.*
 - a. *Household Assistance (EC 2.2), Long-term Housing Security (EC 2.15-2.16) and Housing Support (EC 2.17-2.18):*
 - *Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation)*
 - *Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed*
 - b. *Assistance to Unemployed or Under Employed Workers (EC 2.10) and Community Violence Interventions (EC 1.11):*
 - *Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs*
 - *Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs*
 - *Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs*
 - c. *Addressing Educational Disparities (EC 2.24-2.26) and Addressing Impacts of Lost Instructional Time (EC 2.27):*
 - *Number of students participating in evidence-based tutoring programs¹*
 - d. *Healthy Childhood Environments (EC 2.11-2.14):*
 - *Number of children served by childcare and early learning (pre-school/pre-K/ages 3- 5)*
 - *Number of families served by home visiting*

CSC

Project 1: Health Education Equipment – Chadron State College

Funding amount: \$600,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC1.14 – Other Public Health Services

¹ For more information on evidence-based tutoring programs, refer to the U.S. Department of Education's [2021 ED COVID-19 Handbook \(Volume 2\)](#), which summarizes research on evidence-based tutoring programs (see the bottom of page 20).

Project Overview

- Funds were used to purchase equipment to improve STEM and human anatomy education. Equipment will be utilized by pre-professional students (medicine, nursing, physician assistant, etc.) in the classroom to better prepare them for future employment in health care and associated STEM fields.

Use of Evidence

- Goals of the project are to improve education opportunities for students in areas presumed to be disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Exposing and training students on these new devices teaches them important fundamental science concepts and prepares students to use these devices in the workforce. This is not an evidence-based intervention project.

Performance Report

- As of the date of report, \$600,000 of allocated funds have been spent. These funds were allocated to purchase equipment, so progress on acquiring the equipment is the only applicable performance measure.

Project 2: Campus Water Main Line Replacement – Chadron State College

Funding amount: \$2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC5.15 – Drinking Water: Other Water Infrastructure

Project Overview

- The project will install replacement water mains in areas of concern on campus. Aging lines present a risk to deliver water as needed. Safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene are crucial to human health and well-being.
- The timeline is to move forward as soon as planning can be completed as minimal interruptions to the existing water supply are necessary to not impact areas that depend on it daily.

Use of Evidence

- The goals of the project are to provide a reliable source of safe water for drinking, sanitation, hygiene, and needs of the Energy Plant. This is not an evidence-based intervention project.

Performance Report

- Phase I of this project is in progress and \$14,220 of the allocated funds have been spent with an additional \$943,160 committed as an obligation. Phase II will be completed in Summer 2025.

PSC

Project 1: Health Education Equipment – Peru State College

Funding amount: \$510,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC1.14 – Other Public Health Services

Project Overview

- Funds were used to purchase equipment to improve STEM and human anatomy education. Equipment will be utilized by pre-professional students (medicine, nursing, physician assistant, etc.) in the classroom to better prepare them for future employment in health care and associated STEM fields.

Use of Evidence

- Goals of the project are to improve education opportunities for students in areas presumed to be disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Exposing and training students on these new devices teaches them important fundamental science concepts and prepares students to use these devices in the workforce. This is not an evidence-based intervention project.

Performance Report

- As of the date of report, 100% (\$510,000.00) of allocated funds have been spent. These funds were allocated to purchase equipment, so progress on acquiring the equipment is the only applicable performance measure.

Project 2: Campus Water and Sewer Line Replacement – Peru State College

Funding amount: \$2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC5.15 – Drinking Water: Other Water Infrastructure

Project Overview

- The project will install replacement water and sewer lines in areas of concern on campus. Aging lines present a risk to deliver water as needed. Safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene are crucial to human health and well-being.
- The timeline is to move forward as soon as planning can be completed as minimal interruptions to the existing water supply are necessary to not impact areas that depend on it daily.

Use of Evidence

- The goal of the project is to provide a reliable source of safe water for drinking, sanitation, hygiene, and the needs of the Energy Plant. This is not an evidence-based intervention project.

Performance Report

- This project is currently in the final stages. As of the date of the report, 98.43% (\$1,968,546.63) of allocated funds have been spent with an additional 1.42% (\$28,323.41) of funds committed. These funds were allocated for completion of the water and sewer line replacement project, so project completion is the only applicable performance measure.

WSC

Project 1: Health Education Equipment – Wayne State College

Funding amount: \$890,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC1.14 – Other Public Health Services

Project Overview

- *Funds were used to purchase equipment to improve STEM and human anatomy education. Equipment will be utilized by pre-professional students (medicine, nursing, physician assistant, etc.) in the classroom to better prepare them for future employment in health care and associated STEM fields.*

Use of Evidence

- *Goals of the project are to improve education opportunities for students in areas presumed to be disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Exposing and training students on these new devices teaches them important fundamental science concepts and prepares students to use these devices in the workforce. This is not an evidence-based intervention project.*

Performance Report

- *All allocated funds (\$890,000) have been spent. The project is complete. These funds were allocated to purchase equipment, so progress on acquiring the equipment is the only applicable performance measure.*

Project 2: Campus Water Main Line Replacement – Wayne State College

Funding amount: \$2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: EC5.15 – Drinking Water: Other Water Infrastructure

Project Overview

- *The project will install replacement water mains in areas of concern on campus. Aging lines present a risk to deliver water as needed. Safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene are crucial to human health and well-being.*
- *The project began in Spring 2024 with most construction planned to be completed in two phases during the Summer of 2024 and 2025. The two phases were necessary to minimize interruptions to the existing water supply and infrastructure during the academic year.*

Use of Evidence

- *The goals of the project are to provide a reliable source of safe water for drinking, sanitation, hygiene, and needs of the Energy Plant. This is not an evidence-based intervention project.*

Performance Report

- *Phase one was completed in 2024. Phase two is currently under construction. A total of \$1,158,977.26 has been expended, with the remaining funds of \$841,022.74 committed to this project.*

State of Nebraska

**Recovery Plan University of
Kearney**

**State and Local Fiscal
Recovery Funds**

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Rural areas of Nebraska have faced disparities in access to health care for decades, and in recent years the University of Nebraska Medical Center has documented shortages across the many health care professions:

[UNMC Rural Health in 2030 Report](#)

[The Status of the Nebraska Healthcare Workforce: Update 2023](#)

This situation existed pre-pandemic but was aggravated by COVID-19. During the pandemic, clinics and hospitals denied care to some patients and transferred others through a network of providers seeking to find beds for patients (<https://nebraskapublicmedia.org/en/news/news-articles/hundreds-of-nebraskans-couldnt-get-medical-care-during-latest-covid-surge/>). The limiting factor in most cases was not infrastructure, but staff.

Rural areas suffered a disparate impact from COVID-19 (<https://khn.org/news/article/covid-death-rate-rural-america/>). A major factor was the insufficient healthcare workforce at the start of the pandemic, a situation made worse by a high number of departures caused by the working conditions during the peaks of the pandemic. Research and reporting suggest that a high number of healthcare workers will leave their positions in the coming years (<https://www.forbes.com/sites/jackkelly/2022/04/19/new-survey-shows-that-up-to-47-of-us-healthcare-workers-plan-to-leave-their-positions-by-2025/?sh=77b6bb78395b>).

This situation, clearly made worse by the pandemic, will leave rural areas with fewer health care workers. This has a direct impact on the health and well-being of individuals, and it has a direct impact on local economies as people take their health care dollars and spend them in larger cities. Over the long term, this contributes to depopulation of rural areas.

Rural communities, in Nebraska and across the country, need more health care workers. This includes medical doctors, mental health practitioners, nurses, physician assistants, medical imaging professionals, and many more professions. Recruiting, educating, training, and placing well-prepared individuals will have immediate impacts on health and economic well-being.

The University of Nebraska at Kearney and the University of Nebraska Medical Center will establish a facility—the Douglas A Kristensen Rural Health Education Complex—in Kearney, Nebraska that will recruit, educate, and train people to work in a broad range of health care professions including nursing, medicine, medical laboratory sciences, public health, and more. Training in rural areas will lead to Preceptorships in rural clinics and hospitals, which will lead to individuals establishing careers in rural areas. This model has been demonstrated for over 100 years in UNK's teacher education program, and for the past 20 years in business professions such as industrial distribution and supply chain management. In 2015, UNK and UNMC opened the Health Science Education Complex I that trains nurses, physician assistants, and allied health professions, and we know that over 80 percent move immediately into careers in rural areas. The concept works.

This project will add a second health science focused building on the University of Nebraska Kearney campus using \$60 million in SLFRF funds allocated by the Nebraska Legislature and another \$35 million in private funds raised by UNK and UNMC. The Phase II building will serve

as a companion to the Phase I project providing a cohesive interprofessional experience for all health science students. The building will include state-of-the-art classrooms, extensive simulation, and clinical skills laboratories for pre-clinical education and complex clinical scenarios and simulated primary care spaces, administrative and faculty and staff office space to accommodate current and expanded numbers of faculty and staff members, and secure storage space for research and academic records.

The project broke ground in September of 2023 with the majority of classes commencing Spring of 2026, to coincide with the building opening.

Uses of Funds

The University of Nebraska at Kearney and the University of Nebraska Medical Center use of SLFRF funding seek to address the expenditure categories in the following ways:

- a. Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity – The University of Nebraska at Kearney and University of Nebraska Medical Center plan will recruit students from rural areas who want to practice in rural areas, educate and train them in rural areas, and place them in rural clinics and hospitals for their preceptorships. This model will sustain and grow their interest in rural health care, prepare them for work in rural settings, and foster the linkages that will lead to fulfilling lives in rural communities. To be successful, we will have equivalent education and training in a setting where students intend to practice.*

Community Engagement

The Nebraska Legislature approved startup, construction ([LB1014](#)) and operational costs LB721) for the Health Science Education Center II as part of the 2022 legislative session. To become successful legislation, both legislative bills passed through committee, which included public hearings, and three rounds of floor consideration by 49 senators.

UNK and UNMC also collaborated with expert stakeholders and partners from a variety of disciplines within UNMC and across Nebraska to enhance coordinated and interdisciplinary approaches that will shape a healthy rural future for Nebraska and beyond. Stakeholders included:

Rural health facilities, their partner organizations and networks

Public health

Healthcare professionals

Educators

Researchers

Foundations

Economic development associations

Health and human services organizations

Faith-based organizations

Health associations

State and federal agencies

Local, state, and federal policymakers

Rural-urban differences in access to health care continue to be an essential and challenging policy issue facing communities throughout Nebraska. The 2022 report, ["The Status of the Healthcare Workforce in the State of Nebraska: Update 2022,"](#) addresses these concerns, showing the current distribution of the health care workforce throughout the state.

Labor Practices

This project will add a second health science focused building on the University of Nebraska Kearney campus. The Health Science Education Complex Phase II will serve as a companion to the Phase I project providing a cohesive interprofessional experience for all health science students.

Leveraging the proof of concept and successful outcomes of the initial UNMC and UNK collaboration, the proposed project aims to create a one-of-a-kind rural health-focused learning environment with a laser-like focus on meeting Nebraska's current and future rural health needs. The project will make it possible for UNMC to expand the presence of the Colleges of Allied Health Professions and Nursing, and add the Colleges of Medicine, Pharmacy and Public Health to locate in a two-building complex on the UNK campus.

The new Health Science Education Center II will create opportunities for enhanced inter-campus partnership between UNMC and UNK to help address current and future health workforce shortages in rural Nebraska.

The general contractor, MCL Construction, is committed to supporting an inclusive project. More than subcontractor involvement, a dedicated Economic Inclusion Coordinator is committed to being a resource for small and emerging businesses. This includes hosting mentoring sessions, project overview discussions, and open houses to get to know experts in the industry offering opportunities for subcontractor relationships and advancement.

The Economic Inclusion Coordinator has a deep understanding of working in the community and drives success with business partners – responsible for developing plans and administering sourcing practices that promote diversity. This front facing contact supports Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE), and Women Business Enterprise (WBE).

The UNK-UNMC Health Science Education Center II project is just one of the many projects ongoing in Kearney. This influx in construction could overwhelm the current local subcontractor market's manpower availability within some trades. MCL Construction has been successful in delivering projects of all sizes and complexity on schedule with qualified subcontractors on board. It starts with relationships and a thought-out master plan. Officed in Kearney, NE, MCL has a history and excellent working relationships with subcontractors. Getting those subcontractors on board early, in conjunction with a detailed schedule, guarantees reliability. The subcontracting teams are integrated into MCL's digital planning software and weekly subcontracting meetings. This gives them accountability in the process of achieving dates and makes them active in the plan and schedule strategy.

Work is awarded to each subcontracting firm deemed most responsive and qualified, meaning they have the resources and manpower to do the job, they understand the project, and past performance on facilities of this size and scope have been successful. The process includes due diligence of the company's strength in resources and current workload. Beyond strength in

manpower and financial resources, a subcontractor is deemed a good fit when their technical expertise aligns with the project components.

The process includes due diligence of the company's strength in resources and current workload. Beyond strength in manpower and financial resources, a subcontractor is deemed a good fit when their technical expertise aligns with the project components.

Use of Evidence

The University of Nebraska at Kearney and University of Nebraska Medical Center have established significant experience in rural healthcare related programs due to implementation of the Health Science Education Center Phase I.

Performance Report

The University of Nebraska at Kearney and University of Nebraska Medical Center have established a budget for each area of the SLFRF funding. That budget along with justifications for use are used to track performance against goals by monitoring the amount of funding distributed, to who, and for what purposes. The University has assigned SLFRF and Executive Building Committees which meet regularly to reassess the budget and to ensure progress towards goal achievement, as well as compliance with reporting requirements. A Facilities Planning and Construction team is also assigned to the project to provide both support and oversight. This University based team will engage and pay for the services of independent agencies to perform inspections and tests to confirm quality control. A schedule of inspections is specified in contract documents. The team is also responsible for identifying project constraints and safety details, following cost management best practices both before and during the project, effectively communicating with the project team and stakeholders to follow resource management best practices. A key responsibility of the University project management team is to track project spend, confirm quality control standards, and course correct if it seems either budget or quality are veering off track.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project:

59-919712-11000: NE Rural Healthcare Education Building Construction

Funding amount: \$50,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 3.3-Public Sector Workforce

Project Overview

This project will add a second health science focused building on the University of Nebraska Kearney campus using \$50 million of SLFRF funding allocated by the Nebraska Legislature and another \$35 million in private funds raised by UNK. The new building, expected to open January 2026, will house the University of Nebraska Medical Center Colleges of Allied Health Professions, Nursing, Medicine, Pharmacy and Public Health. The HSEC Phase II will serve as a companion to the Phase I project providing cohesive interprofessional experience for all health science students.

The new Health Science Education Center Phase II, with the current Health Science Education Center Phase I at the University of Nebraska at Kearney campus is an extension of programs offered at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in collaboration with

programs at UNK. Part of these interactive, technology rich facilities is a day-to-day interaction with other UNMC facilities across the State of Nebraska, including the [Davis Global Center](#) located on UNMC's main campus in Omaha.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

The University has assigned SLFRF and Executive Building Committees which meet regularly to reassess the budget and to ensure progress towards goal achievement, as well as compliance with reporting requirements.

The University of Nebraska Medical Center has conducted Community visits, a Pathway Program Summit, and Preceptor and Clinical Training site recruitment are ongoing. These programs represent a commitment and dedication to developing a health care workforce that will enhance patient care and ensure health equity in rural areas ([Pathway Programs](#)). From shadowing UNMC health care professionals to completing summer research at a laboratory on the UNMC campus, the pathway programs help students explore the possibilities of life at UNMC.

UNMC's rural pathway programs have [extended](#) their agreements with the Nebraska State College System and UNK to continue their longstanding partnership. The agreements reiterate the long-term relationship between UNK, Chadron State College, Peru State College and Wayne State College ([Partner Institutions](#)) to address the state's rural health care workforce needs. The partnerships include the undergraduate Rural Health Opportunities Program (RHOP) and Kearney Health Opportunities Program (KHOP). UNMC has long been committed to educating and preparing the state's rural health workforce to ensure students are well-prepared to meet the unique healthcare needs of rural Nebraska. With health care workforce shortages facing communities across the state, the commitment of these continued partnerships has never been more important. The RHOP and KHOP programs recruit, educate and graduate leaders from Nebraska who are committed to returning to Nebraska's rural areas to practice ([Participating Programs](#)). Over the more than 30 years of the programs' existence and growth, more than 800 students from 11 training programs through UNMC have graduated from the programs at UNMC. Today, more than 60% of those graduates currently practice health care in Nebraska ([Data & Resources](#)). As UNMC expands its health education offerings in Kearney and enhances opportunities related to rural health training, these programs will have unique opportunities to train closer to home and the rural communities where they plan to practice.

UNMC is also actively searching for faculty positions to be housed on the UNK campus. New regional associate deans for the Colleges of Medicine ([Inaugural associate medical dean named for Kearney campus | Newsroom | University of Nebraska Medical Center](#)), Pharmacy ([Inaugural associate pharmacy dean named for Kearney campus | Newsroom | University of Nebraska Medical Center](#)) and Public Health, have been added to existing associate deans for the Colleges of Allied Health Professions ([Teresa M. Cochran, PT,DPT,MA | College of Allied Health Professions | University of Nebraska Medical Center](#)) and Nursing ([Cathrin Carithers, DNP, RN | College of Nursing | University of Nebraska Medical Center](#)).

The inaugural regional associate dean of medicine will play a pivotal role in establishing a regional medical school campus in Kearney enrolling students in August 2026. He will join the other campus-based deans in fostering ongoing relationships with stakeholders throughout the region, including those at the governmental, philanthropic, community and health system levels.

Other UNMC Kearney-based positions added to date include:

- *Director of Operations 1.0 FTE*
- *Anatomist 1.0 FTE*
- *Anatomy Lab Manager 1.0 FTE*
- *Regional Assistant Dean (COM) 0.2 FTE*
- *Executive Director Medical Education (COM) 1.0 FTE*
- *Mental Health Counselor 1.0 FTE*
- *Faculty (COP) 2.0 FTE*
- *Education & Research Services Librarian 1.0 FTE*

UNMC has also appointed a new Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor for Healthcare Workforce Education & Relations ([Dr. Meyer to lead health care workforce efforts as interim assistant vice chancellor | Newsroom | University of Nebraska Medical Center](#)) to lead the work of UNMC in transitioning the new colleges to the Kearney campus and ensuring the effective operations of UNMC at the Kristensen Rural Health Education Complex.

Project milestones completed since the groundbreaking:

- *Foundation complete – December 2023*
- *Structural Steel complete – May 2024*
- *Utility Vault Extension complete – May 2024*
- *Exterior precast walls complete – June 2024*
- *Roofing complete – September 2024*
- *Building dried in – January 2025*
- *AHU1 Startup – March 2025*
- *Permanent Power – April 2025*
- *Elevators complete – June 2025*

Future Work:

- *AHU2 Startup – July 2025*
- *Interior wall framing – July 2024 through August 2025*
- *Drywall Complete – November 2025*

Project:

Project:

56-4420-0008-001: NE Rural Healthcare Education Building Technology

Funding amount: \$10,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 3.3-Public Sector Workforce

Project Overview

To ensure consistency and compatibility between the new facility and the University of Nebraska Medical Center's Davis Global Center, \$10 million of the SLFRF funding allocated by the Nebraska Legislature will be used to support integrated curriculum between both campuses including the transfer of high-density augmented reality, and holographic content. Technology is an integral part of the Rural Health Complex Phase II. The technology investment will also bring the latest interprofessional simulation technologies to the fingertips of faculty, staff and learners, bridging the gap between didactic learning and actual patient care. Life-sized human-like simulators representing a patient will be used to train key elements of a procedure or skill. The simulators breathe, have breath sounds, heart tones and palpable pulses. The complex will be home to adult, pediatric, trauma, obstetric and neonatal simulators.

Use of Evidence

N/A

Performance Report

The University of Nebraska Board of Regents approved a Program Statement and Intermediate Design revisions which included a technology budget of up to \$10 million. AVI SPL was selected to provide technology design services for this project due to their integral role in the University of Nebraska Medical Center's Master Service Agreement. The Kristensen Rural Health Education Complex will utilize AVI SPL for their knowledge of UNMC's needs, ability to provide similar technology to what UNMC is utilizing on their Omaha campus and assure that the distance education capabilities allow for seamless educational opportunities across the State of Nebraska.

State of Nebraska

**Recovery Plan – University of
Nebraska-Lincoln**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2025 Report

State of Nebraska

2025 Recovery Plan

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Funds were awarded to the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources to develop an update to the Understanding and Assessing Climate Change, Implications for Nebraska, published in 2014 by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (<https://snr.unl.edu/research/projects/climateimpacts/report2014.aspx>).

This project brought together a multidisciplinary team from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Creighton University, the Nebraska Indian Community College, the USGS Nebraska Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, and Pale Blue Dot, LLC.

To date, this multidisciplinary team has analyzed and synthesized data, peer-reviewed literature, and other information to identify observed changes in Nebraska’s climate, evaluated future climate projections, and assessed the impacts of climate change on key sectors in Nebraska. An advisory board, consisting mainly of UNL center directors, guided the activities of the writing team. University and federal government experts, as well as the advisory board, reviewed the report. The text has been finalized, and the team is collaborating with a design team to enhance accessibility and usability, as well as develop and implement an engagement and communications plan.

Uses of Funds

This assessment contributes to the scientific foundation for understanding climate-related vulnerability in key sectors of Nebraska, including water, agriculture, energy, infrastructure, ecosystems, and public health. Risk assessments, summaries of impacts, and opportunities for climate resilience will also increase awareness, support informed decision-making, build capacity, and inform state and community policies, plans, and programs to promote action and enhance stability and sustainability in the face of a changing climate.

Additionally, this assessment is also included in the Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment’s (DWEE) ONE RED program, which aims to leverage federal funding to strengthen Nebraska’s economy while reducing emissions of harmful air pollutants. This is a U.S. EPA award of \$307 million to DWEE to implement selected measures of Nebraska’s Priority Climate Action Plan.

Community Engagement

Engagement at the local level was systematically integrated with the climate report update. The expertise of communications and outreach professionals was also utilized throughout the report writing and development process. Professional surveys were an integral part of the project, gathering feedback to inform overall project direction, improve outcomes, and enhance communication strategies. Finally, community engagement efforts planned after the assessment release will help increase awareness, promote access, and extend the reach.

Labor Practices

N/A.

Use of Evidence

The update of scientific information is being conducted using traceable accounts. Peer-reviewed published literature forms the basis of the material in this update of the Nebraska climate assessment. Where feasible, the original analysis, including climate downscaling, statistics, data, and surveys, is included.

Performance Report

Performance management is conducted through a project timeline, an outline of specific project deliverables and contributions by team members, regular check-ins with team members by the project lead, and an advisory board.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project [Identification Number]: [Climate Report Update]

Funding amount: [\$150,000]

Project Expenditure Category: [Category number, Category Name]

Project Overview

- This project includes a scientific update of information relevant to the implications of climate change for Nebraska. A team of authors across educational institutions is developing the content, which will be peer-reviewed. The update will be posted online and presented to the Nebraska Legislature on December 1, 2024.
- The climate report update will provide Nebraska agencies, local jurisdictions, communities, and the public with an assessment of the implications of climate change. Sector-based information will be provided, along with adaptation and mitigation strategies. Furthermore, climate-related resources will be included. Specific sections on environmental justice issues and indigenous and rural communities are included.

Use of Evidence

- Evidence-based content of the report will come from peer-reviewed literature, statistical analysis of climate data, downscaled climate models, and science-based surveys. All information will be appropriately documented in references.

Performance Report

- The project team has developed a timeline of deliverables. Team members conduct regular meetings with the advisory board to ensure progress is tracked.

State of Nebraska

**Recovery Plan-University of
Nebraska Medical Center**

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2025 Report

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The COVID-19 pandemic dramatically increased caused a dramatic increase in the need for behavioral health services, and with providers already in short supply, many people experienced long wait times or a complete inability to access behavioral health care. In 2022, the Nebraska Legislature passed LB1014, which allocated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) funding to various entities across Nebraska. The University of Nebraska Medical Center's (UNMC) Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska (BHECN) received \$25.5 million to address the shortage of behavioral health professionals, initiating the BHECN ARPA Awards Program (BHECN-ARPA).

This one-time funding was disbursed in 2022–2023 through a competitive request for proposal (RFP) process according to the 4 major areas of need outlined in LB1014: 1) behavioral health training opportunities, 2) telebehavioral health expansion in rural areas, 3) funding for workforce projects related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and 4) funding for the supervision of provisionally licensed providers. Any organization/provider in Nebraska was eligible to apply, and awards were allocated until funding was exhausted.

BHECN-ARPA supports more than 100 internships or fellowships and provisionally licensed behavioral health professionals who could not fully bill insurance for their services and helps train the future workforce. The funds for these training opportunities have expanded the behavioral health workforce, reduced the burden on current providers, and provided training and support for telebehavioral health services, an essential service people utilized during the pandemic. Furthermore, internships and fellowships provide needed education and outreach to recruit and retain the current workforce. BHECN-ARPA also provides hundreds of financial recruitment and retention incentives to providers and support staff in smaller and rural organizations that have difficulty retaining employees. This response helps Nebraska's behavioral workforce meet the increased demand for behavioral health services, reducing provider stress and improving retention. Additional information regarding BHECN-ARPA is found in the [*State of Nebraska Recovery Plan: State and Local Fiscal Recover Funds 2024 Report* \(p. 286-375\)](#).

Uses of Funds

BHECN-ARPA supports the public health emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic by addressing various behavioral health care needs. The program further addresses the negative economic impact of the public health emergency by assisting nonprofit organizations and small businesses. The entities impacted by this funding are behavioral health providers and organizations, such as nonprofits and small businesses.

BHECN ARPA Awards Program Goals

BHECN-ARPA was established to address behavioral health workforce needs in Nebraska. The program aims to expand training and education opportunities; increase access to telebehavioral health services in rural areas; support recruitment, retention, and resilience efforts for current

and future behavioral health providers; and fund the supervision of provisionally licensed behavioral health providers. Projects were funded across 4 categories:

1. **Behavioral health training and education opportunities.** Projects supported internships, practicums, fellowships, and training for
 - psychiatry and psychiatric nursing,
 - psychology,
 - licensed mental health practitioner internships and practicums, and
 - certificate and clinical training programs.
2. **Telebehavioral health support in rural areas.** Projects focused on expanding vital access to care through
 - telebehavioral health equipment,
 - technical assistance,
 - telebehavioral health training and certification, and
 - behavioral health consultant networks.
3. **Workforce projects related to the COVID-19 pandemic.** Projects addressed pandemic-related challenges via
 - resiliency training,
 - wellness initiatives,
 - provider burnout,
 - trauma-informed care, and
 - research and education on behavioral health impacts of COVID-19.
4. **Funding for supervision of provisionally licensed providers.** Projects helped offset costs associated with supervision by funding
 - stipends for supervisors,
 - support for licensure applications and documentation, and
 - tools to streamline the path to full licensure.

Table 1. Rural and Urban Breakdown of the BHECN ARPA Awards Across Award Categories

Category	Urban applications awarded	Urban amount awarded	Rural applications awarded	Rural amount awarded
Behavioral health training and education opportunities	20	\$7,131,478	18	\$4,618,870
Telebehavioral health support in rural areas*	8	\$3,854,306	11	\$3,120,288
Workforce projects related to the COVID-19 pandemic	18	\$1,245,974	13	\$944,650
Funding for supervision of provisionally licensed providers	9	\$863,953	13	\$974,378
Total	55	\$13,095,711	55	\$9,658,186

* All projects in the Telebehavioral Health category contain a rural component.

Community Engagement

A statewide stakeholder group helped develop the BHECN-ARPA program, providing input on behavioral health workforce barriers to inform program priorities. To increase accessibility, BHECN-ARPA hosted office hours and offered real-time support to community-based organizations during the application cycle.

BHECN-ARPA offers ongoing engagement opportunities with awardees through virtual networking sessions, newsletters, one-to-one meetings, and regional and state-wide meetings and conferences. These activities help awardees connect with one another, BHECN staff, and community stakeholders; share challenges and successes; and access technical support. Many of these networking opportunities led to additional funding opportunities and collaborative partnerships.

BHECN-ARPA engages awardees in annual progress meetings. Additionally, the program manager and financial analyst host office hours to offer ongoing support for invoicing, project implementation, and networking and referral needs. These efforts ensure consistent communication and sustained engagement throughout the funding period.

Labor Practices

SLFRF dollars are not being used for any infrastructure projects with hiring requirements. All organizations in Nebraska were encouraged to apply for funding. BHECN-ARPA's core mission is to train, educate, grow, recruit, retain, and expand the behavioral health workforce in Nebraska. A larger, more diverse, and equitably distributed behavioral health workforce will more adequately serve the needs of the community, contributing to a stronger and faster economic recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Use of Evidence

Evidence-based, credentialed, and longstanding intervention and training programs

BHECN's mission is to develop a skilled behavioral health workforce in Nebraska, and BHECN-ARPA was designed around 4 strategies that align with national best practices for addressing workforce shortages:

1. Behavioral health training and education opportunities: Expand internships, practicums, and fellowships to strengthen the behavioral health workforce pathway.
2. Telebehavioral health support in rural areas: Improve access to care in rural communities by addressing telebehavioral health infrastructure, capacity, and utilization.
3. Workforce projects related to the COVID-19 pandemic: Support recruitment, retention, resilience, research, and education to address the impact of COVID-19 on the behavioral health workforce and community.
4. Funding for supervision of provisionally licensed providers: Fund supervision to reduce barriers and increase the number of fully licensed providers statewide.

These program goals align with national recommendations for state-level workforce development, including funding trainees, reducing provider burden, and increasing telebehavioral health capacity.⁷ All funded projects incorporate evidence-based, nationally

credentialed, or longstanding training models; these models are identified in the [State of Nebraska Recovery Plan: State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds 2024 Report \(p. 302-303\)](#).

Program evaluation

The BHECN-ARPA team uses a mixed-methods evaluation design, including baseline and annual follow-up surveys, a conceptual framework guiding program implementation and evaluation, and mid-year progress narratives. Further details regarding the evaluation design and progress narrative templates are found in the [State of Nebraska Recovery Plan: State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds 2024 Report \(p. 304-307\)](#). All awardees submit quarterly financial reports for review to the BHECN-ARPA team and UNMC Sponsored Programs Administration (SPA). Both the BHECN-ARPA Financial Analyst and UNMC SPA representatives monitor invoices and allocable expenditures against project scope and budget proposals. The BHECN-ARPA team completed baseline and year 1 evaluations and will collect year 2 data in July 2025.

Performance Report

Appendix A presents project financial and programmatic progress. Progress and project summaries from 2024 are located in Appendix E of the [State of Nebraska Recovery Plan: State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds 2024 Report \(p. 308-375\)](#).

PROJECT INVENTORY

Funding was allocated to 110 projects in Nebraska across the BHECN-ARPA funding cycles. Table 2 depicts the breakdown of projects awarded and total funding awarded across the 4 categories. Table 3 depicts the total expenditures by category to date (June 30, 2025), and Table 4 presents the expenditures for BHECN-ARPA in fiscal years 2023-2025.

Table 2. BHECN-ARPA Funding Breakdowns

Category	Projects	Amount awarded
Behavioral health training opportunities	38	\$11,859,932.38
Telebehavioral health support in rural areas	19	\$7,075,668.91
Workforce projects related to the COVID-19 pandemic	31	\$2,307,455.00
Funding for supervision of provisionally licensed providers	22	\$7,928,528.00
Total	110	\$23,171,584.29

Notably, \$411,687 in funding was reallocated from operating expenses to project expenses in 2024, increasing total project funding from \$22,753,897 to \$23,171,584.

Table 3. BHECN-ARPA Funded Project Expenditures Through Fiscal Year 2025

Category	Total funds awarded	Cumulative expenses	Percent spent down
Behavioral health training opportunities	\$11,859,932.38	\$7,699,566.80	65%

Telebehavioral health support in rural areas	\$7,075,668.91	\$5,053,566.39	71%
Workforce projects related to the COVID-19 pandemic	\$2,307,455.00	\$1,665,923.68	74%
Funding for supervision of provisionally licensed providers	\$1,928,528.00	\$1,698,026.91	88%
Total	\$23,171,584.29	\$16,117,073.78	70%

Table 4. BHECN ARPA Awards Program Fiscal Year Expenditures

Category	FY 2023 expenditure	FY 2024 expenditure	FY 2025 expenditure	Cumulative expenditure	% Spent down
Operating expenses	\$499,202.65	\$489,602.00	\$512,974.78	\$1,501,863.78	66%
Project subcontracts	\$889,080.70	\$6,672,948.20	\$8,555,044.80	\$16,117,073.70	70%
Total expenditure	\$1,388,283.30	\$7,162,550.20	\$8,329,110.20	\$17,618,937.50	69%

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Behavioral Health Training and Education Opportunities	
Project Number	31
Organization	Doane University
Percent Spent Down	43.73%
Project Performance	Project accomplishments in 2024-2025 include recruiting student trainees for travel to practicum and internship sites, presenting evaluation results at the North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, supporting supervisor stipends, providing faculty supervision, and recruiting additional training sites in rural areas.
Project Number	34
Organization	Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska
Percent Spent Down	26.16%
Project Performance	Project activities began in June 2023. In 2024-2025, the organization recruited and retained a clinical supervisor who serves as an internship coordinator, trained 4 clinical interns, and identified additional interns for the remainder of the project.
Project Number	35
Organization	University of Nebraska Medical Center collaboration with University of Nebraska Kearney Integrated Care
Percent Spent Down	48.48%
Project Performance	In 2024-2025, this project established a new electronic health record (EHR) system, updated and maintained an online training platform and materials for students and clinicians, and shared results from their project in publications and conferences.
Project Number	42
Organization	University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing
Percent Spent Down	80.95%
Project Performance	The project was awarded in late January 2023, and a subcontract with UNMC was established in May 2023. Since the start of this project, 3 students graduated and work in primary care clinics as psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners, and 5 students are working towards completing their psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners' certificate. Additionally, 57 undergraduate nursing students participated in a 5-week psychiatry rotation.
Project Number	48
Organization	Chadron State College
Percent Spent Down	49.10%

Project Performance	This project provided stipend and internship support to 14 students, with an additional 10 students expected to complete their internships by December 2025. In spring 2025, the project received a no-cost extension that extended the project until August 15, 2026, and expanded its scope of work. This extension supported travel and training costs for students and clinicians to attend various conferences and professional development activities. The program will recruit additional students in Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 and continue project efforts.
Project Number	52
Organization	Great Plains Health
Percent Spent Down	37.76%
Project Performance	As of December 18, 2024, 3 individuals completed their PLAY Project Consultant Certification, and all implement PLAY therapy in their clinical practice. In March 2025, this project received a budget and scope of work modification allowing additional training and education materials for a clinical psychologist, as well as a trainer to support the community.
Project Number	71
Organization	Silver Sun Mental Health dba Nebraska Mental Health Centers
Percent Spent Down	81.45%
Project Performance	This project supported 4 interns and their supervision, provided financial support for interns and supervisors practicing in rural clinics twice weekly, enrolled clinicians in additional specialized training opportunities, and funded conference attendance for supervisors.
Project Number	75
Organization	Heartland Family Services
Percent Spent Down	53.57%
Project Performance	The awardee used the funding to support a full-time coordinator, 5 interns and establish relationships with behavioral health training programs at local universities.
Project Number	79
Organization	Autism Care for Toddlers Clinics, MMI
Percent Spent Down	57.09%
Project Performance	In September 2024, the clinic opened and began serving clients. Since the start of the project, the awardee hired 9 behavioral health support staff, 7 trainees obtained a behavioral health credential, 4 trainees participated in shadowing experiences, and 2 behavioral health trainees were hired.
Project Number	83
Organization	Northeast Community College

Percent Spent Down	67.15%
Project Performance	This project received a no-cost extension until June 30, 2026, that allows the project to support behavioral health clinicians and support staff for an additional 6 months. One student completed their internship, and an additional student began their internship in May 2025. Additionally, the project provided support for clinicians to attend supervisor training and conferences.
Project Number	92
Organization	University of Nebraska at Omaha Counseling Department
Percent Spent Down	64.29%
Project Performance	The project team includes an in-house clinic coordinator and a clinical supervisor. This project supports practicum students and increased the number of practicum students serving the community by adding a third section for students to enroll in. In spring 2025, the awardee received a no-cost extension until June 30, 2026, which will allow for 1 additional semester of practicum students.
Project Number	93
Organization	University of Nebraska at Omaha Counseling Department
Percent Spent Down	57.83%
Project Performance	This project provided participant stipends, training materials, and licensing support for 39 participants in FY 2024. Additional project support included evaluation efforts, as well as conference and travel support for project staff.
Project Number	96
Organization	University of Nebraska at Omaha Grace Abbott School of Social Work
Percent Spent Down	71.34%
Project Performance	The project team identified students for internship stipends, and 5 students completed their internships by fall 2024. Students met weekly with the educational supervisor and successfully completed grant/stipend requirements. The project team collected evaluation data from the practicum students.
Project Number	133
Organization	Restore Rebuild Reconnect Counseling Center
Percent Spent Down	64.51%
Project Performance	The project team provided training and clinical supervision for 4 graduate-level mental health interns to satisfy their graduate program and licensure requirements. The interns were trained in multiple therapy modalities. An additional substance use counseling student completed their internship to meet educational and licensure requirements. The awardee continues to develop partnerships with hospitals, clinics, and community agencies in rural and underserved communities to provide opportunities for behavioral health trainee job placement and to serve additional clients and communities.

Project Number	136
Organization	Center for Psychological Services dba Live Well Counseling Center, Kearney
Percent Spent Down	98.41%
Project Performance	Since the start of the project, the organization hired 9 master's level counseling interns, 6 of whom successfully completed their internship requirements. The 3 other internships are currently in progress. The awardee retained 5 interns since the start of the project and aims to retain 50% of trained interns by completion.
Project Number	146
Organization	Options in Psychology, LLC
Percent Spent Down	84.13%
Project Performance	The awardee supported three psychology interns in their completion of the program and hired 2 additional psychology interns. Two interns are currently working towards completion of the program.
Project Number	151
Organization	Child and Family Therapy Institute of Nebraska, LLC
Percent Spent Down	100%
Project Performance	The awarded completed this project in February 2024. Through this project, the awardee supported travel, training materials, equipment, supervision, and miscellaneous expenses for interns providing services in rural Nebraska.
Project Number	155
Organization	Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Percent Spent Down	62.01%
Project Performance	The awardee received 45 applications for the 10 available graduate student program openings; all 10 students receive tuition stipends and support for supplies and materials. The 10 graduate students continue their coursework in the spring and summer semesters. All students qualify for provisional certification as school psychologists, and students continue to accept contracts for their internships. The awardee received a no-cost extension through May 31, 2026, which will allow students to finish their coursework and internships.
Project Number	164
Organization	Morningstar Counseling and Consultation
Percent Spent Down	78%
Project Performance	Interns are thoughtfully assigned to supervisors based on training needs, interests, and professional goals to ensure each individual receives a tailored mentorship experience. Interns successfully completed Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule training, and additional staff members were hired to bring expertise in

	other specialized clinical settings and client populations. The project team continually monitors and evaluates project progress through meetings, surveys, and health record tracking.
Project Number	171
Organization	Youth Emergency Services, Inc
Percent Spent Down	42.12%
Project Performance	The project team requested a budget and scope of work modification to ensure the project and funding align with overall programmatic goals. Since revising the project plan, the project team recruited and onboarded interns, provided supervision for the interns, and offered training and education support for clinical staff members.
Project Number	178
Organization	Western Nebraska Behavioral Health
Percent Spent Down	60.33%
Project Performance	The project has supported psychology interns and postdoctoral positions within the organization. The project team has also provided stipends to employees during the credentialing process and provided conference and travel support for clinicians and staff to attend the National Association for Rural Mental Health Conference in May 2025.
Project Number	197
Organization	CEDARS Youth Services, Inc
Percent Spent Down	46.82%
Project Performance	The awardee contracted with 4 paid clinical interns in the last year and 6 total paid clinical interns since the beginning of the project. Two interns were retained and hired by CEDARS effectively working as therapists and growing their caseload since their employment. Beyond interns, the project supported training and education opportunities for CEDARS clinicians; 6 therapists have participated in advanced training in eye movement desensitization and reprocessing (EMDR), child-parent psychotherapy (CPP), perinatal mental health, and PLAY therapy. This project received a no-cost extension until August 31, 2026, to ensure that additional students are eligible to complete a paid internship in line with their educational timeline.
Project Number	204
Organization	HopeSpoke
Percent Spent Down	75.45%
Project Performance	To date, the awardee has provided support for 55 trainees in their outpatient, therapeutic group home, and extended day treatment internship programs. Several staff and clinicians at HopeSpoke have attended specialized training and

	education opportunities through this project, and additional conferences are planned for the remainder of the project period.
Project Number	250
Organization	Creighton University
Percent Spent Down	66.95%
Project Performance	The project received a no-cost extension until June 30, 2026, to allow the year 3 cohort to complete their postgraduate certificate program by May 15, 2026. A total of 10 students have completed the program, and 6 students began the program in May 2025. Recipients of the scholarship included advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) serving rural communities in Nebraska.
Project Number	252
Organization	Houses of Hope of Nebraska, Inc
Percent Spent Down	63.77%
Project Performance	In December 2024, 1 intern completed their internship and became dually licensed as a provisionally licensed alcohol and drug counselor (PLADC) and provisionally licensed mental health practitioner (PLMHP); this provider was retained and serves as a clinician at Houses of Hope of Nebraska. Additionally, 1 student completed their practicum. The awardee continues to provide support for internship and practicum students. The project received a no-cost extension until June 30, 2026, to allow a fourth intern to complete their internship.
Project Number	284
Organization	Options in Psychology, LLC
Percent Spent Down	79.47%
Project Performance	The project was awarded in late January 2023, and a subcontract with UNMC was established in May 2023. Project activities began in June 2023. The awardee spent \$6,804 in FY 2022-2023. In 2023-2024, the project team provided stipends for 2 interns and their supervisors.
Project Number	298
Organization	Options in Psychology, LLC
Percent Spent Down	73.16%
Project Performance	Since the start of this project, 4 individuals have completed their master's-level internships at Options in Psychology. Additional internships are currently in progress.
Project Number	316
Organization	Western Nebraska Behavioral Health
Percent Spent Down	50.94%

Project Performance	The project team continues to use funding to support PLMHPs with regular study groups and exam preparation materials.
Project Number	332
Organization	Heartland Counseling Services, Inc
Percent Spent Down	86.52%
Project Performance	In 2024-2025, the project team offered competitive stipends to 24 interns and tuition stipends for staff pursuing master's degrees. The project team supported the supervision of these interns in weekly meetings throughout the internship experience.
Project Number	362
Organization	Northeast Community College
Percent Spent Down	53.44%
Project Performance	Since the start of the project, over 65 students have enrolled in the program, and approximately 80% have completed the program. The project team received a no-cost extension through June 2026 to allow for a final cohort.
Project Number	371/400
Organization	The Well (formerly Women's Empowering Life Line)
Percent Spent Down	92.99%
Project Performance	The project team developed a comprehensive internship program for PLADC and PLMHP interns and provided internship opportunities students. Five additional counselors were hired through this program, and various counselors attended specialized training opportunities and conferences.
Project Number	442
Organization	Completely KIDS
Percent Spent Down	55.97%
Project Performance	In 2024-2025, the funding supported practicum stipends for 3 social work students. Additional practicum students are currently completing their practica.
Project Number	743
Organization	Mary Lanning Healthcare
Percent Spent Down	78.72%
Project Performance	Since the start of the project, the awardee has provided more than \$25,000 in stipends to nursing and social work students completing their training experiences. Additionally, the project team has upgraded and improved training supplies and equipment to enhance behavioral health services within their healthcare system.

Project Number	800
Organization	Mid-Plains Center for Behavioral Healthcare Services, Inc
Percent Spent Down	85%
Project Performance	The project team provided internship stipends to 3 students in 2024, and 2 additional students started in January 2025. A clinical supervisor was supported for their time spent supervising the interns. All 3 interns were hired as full-time employees at the conclusion of their internships.
Project Number	818
Organization	CenterPointe, Inc
Percent Spent Down	61.81%
Project Performance	In 2024-2025, the project team recruited 3 PLADC interns and 2 licensed mental health practitioners (LMHP) interns at their organization. The awardee continues to recruit and supervise additional interns.
Project Number	849
Organization	AM Counseling and Consulting
Percent Spent Down	78.37%
Project Performance	Since the start of the project, the awardee offered 13 internships and trained 4 clinical supervisors. The organization continues to match clinical supervisors with interns and grow their training library for interns and staff.
Project Number	856
Organization	Siena Francis House
Percent Spent Down	55.84%
Project Performance	Project activities began in August 2023. Four individuals completed their internships, and additional internships are currently in progress. The clinical director recruits interns continuously and fosters relationships with local colleges and universities for ongoing recruitment activities.
Telebehavioral Health Support in Rural Areas	
Project Number	30
Organization	Bryan Telemedicine
Percent Spent Down	70.52%
Project Performance	Project activities began in June 2023, and this project received a no-cost extension through June 2026. The awardee established agreements with 14 rural site locations and ordered and installed telebehavioral health equipment at the sites. All 14 sites are credentialed. Staff telebehavioral health training, mental health triage services, and pediatric outpatient psychiatry services are complete and available at all sites.
Project Number	56

Organization	Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Inc
Percent Spent Down	40.54%
Project Performance	The awardee identified care and service coordinators as well as regional rural directors to oversee and grow telebehavioral health services for the organization. The project team continues to monitor and oversee grant activities across rural Nebraska.
Project Number	97
Organization	Blue Elephant Counseling, LLC
Percent Spent Down	78.37%
Project Performance	This project continues to support 4 independently licensed clinicians, 1 provisionally licensed clinician, and 1 intern. Equipment and accessories were purchased to ensure clinicians provide quality telebehavioral health services across the state. Three individuals received telebehavioral health certifications, and the clinicians continue to build their caseloads.
Project Number	109
Organization	Howard County Medical Center
Percent Spent Down	80.76%
Project Performance	All eligible providers have enrolled in telebehavioral health training, and completion is in progress. One clinician obtained full licensure, and an additional 2 will obtain full licensure before 2026. The awardee continues to market and refine their telebehavioral health services.
Project Number	129
Organization	Evals By Eck, LLC
Percent Spent Down	78.84%
Project Performance	Since the start of the project, over 200 clients have received substance use evaluations across multiple settings (rural, correctional facilities, and/or hospital settings), and more than 100 clients with serious, complicated risks and needs have received telebehavioral health services through the situation table.
Project Number	130
Organization	Wholeness Healing Center, PC
Percent Spent Down	89.03%
Project Performance	The awardee has purchased and set up telebehavioral health equipment, utilized funding to establish and maintain EHR and telebehavioral health platforms for electronic consent, maintained existing HIPAA-compliant telehealth therapy rooms, and established telehealth therapy rooms in 3 satellite locations. Funding continues to support costs associated with telebehavioral health services.

Project Number	234
Organization	Midwest Encouragement & Counseling Center, LLC
Percent Spent Down	81.79%
Project Performance	The awardee is engaged in providing telebehavioral health services in rural areas of Nebraska by expanding their team in Scottsbluff and North Platte. Additionally, clinicians are growing and developing a relationship with Chadron State College to expand the awardee's internship program.
Project Number	253
Organization	Center for Psychological Services PC dba Live Well Counseling Center, Kearney
Percent Spent Down	100%
Project Performance	This project completed funding in December 2024. The awardee upgraded its telebehavioral health platforms and purchased 16 devices for providers to use at remote sites where secure internet access is not available, such as schools.
Project Number	314
Organization	Children's Hospital & Medical Center Foundation
Percent Spent Down	81.29%
Project Performance	The awardee continues to identify project stakeholders, promote the project, and implement the training program. The awardee continues to provide a monthly webinar series where experts share their best practices. Through the project, over 50 providers have engaged in training, primary care providers from 46 counties have received training materials, and providers have completed over 183 continuing medical education credits.
Project Number	319
Organization	Quality Healthcare Clinic, LLC
Percent Spent Down	74.17%
Project Performance	Since the start of this project, the awardee hired 2 full-time provisionally licensed master clinical social workers and 2 part-time Independently licensed master clinical social workers. The clinic has updated their telebehavioral health clinic and expanded their office to include a dedicated behavioral health space.
Project Number	333
Organization	Heartland Counseling Services, Inc
Percent Spent Down	95.87%
Project Performance	Project funding continues to support telebehavioral health equipment including, but not limited to, telephones, laptops, cameras, and EHRs. This equipment is included in the Life Center, Board Room, and Group Room.
Project Number	433

Organization	Silver Sun Mental Health dba Nebraska Mental Health Centers
Percent Spent Down	83.91%
Project Performance	The awardee continues to use the purchased equipment for telebehavioral health services and remote assessments. Additionally, the awardee has upgraded the internet in its rural satellite clinics and added an additional Zoom account.
Project Number	635
Organization	Banisters Leadership Academy
Percent Spent Down	88.34%
Project Performance	The awardee has contracted with more than 8 telebehavioral health providers to provide telebehavioral health services through the Healthy Communities Movement program for youth and families. The project team continues to collect data and evaluate the success of the program.
Project Number	649
Organization	CEDARS Youth Services, Inc
Percent Spent Down	63.66%
Project Performance	The awardee received a no-cost extension until August 31, 2026 to continue providing telebehavioral health services and medication management services with the contracted APRN. Technology packets and an acknowledgement form are available for clients to utilize if the client identifies a lack of access to technology for telebehavioral health services.
Project Number	652
Organization	Health Center Association of Nebraska
Percent Spent Down	46.20%
Project Performance	In spring 2025, this project initiated a budget and scope of work modification to better serve rural Nebraska health centers. Since receiving this expansion, the awardee has purchased additional telebehavioral health equipment within the health centers, initiated Project ECHO, established a contract with The Maven Project, engaged in chart audits, and supported telebehavioral health training opportunities and supplies for clinicians.
Project Number	667
Organization	Boone County Health Center
Percent Spent Down	100%
Project Performance	As of September 30, 2025, this project is completed. Project funding included a new EHR system, staff training for the EHR system, telebehavioral equipment, and Zoom account access.
Project Number	745

Organization	Pender Community Hospital District
Percent Spent Down	79.41%
Project Performance	In 2023-2024, the awardee purchased numerous pieces of equipment for telebehavioral health service delivery. The awardee continues to use the new equipment to conduct behavioral health evaluations of patients presenting to the emergency department with mental health complications. Additionally, the awardee established a partnership with Bryan Telemedicine and Alcohol and Drug Evaluation specialists.
Project Number	759
Organization	Compass
Percent Spent Down	63.42%
Project Performance	The awardee continues to offer telebehavioral health services utilizing the upgraded equipment and space. Ten clinicians from Compass attended a behavioral health conference, and the organization connected with various rural hubs to expand their services. Additionally, 2 interns received in-person and remote supervision.
Project Number	828
Organization	For All Counseling Services, Inc
Percent Spent Down	94.38%
Project Performance	The awardee continues to use funding for contracted therapists to provide telebehavioral health services in immigrant evaluations and sliding-scale telebehavioral health services. Since the start of the project, the awardee has provided over 50 full evaluations and received over \$200,000 in additional funding from various funding sources to continue operations. The awardee partnered with AM Counseling and Consulting to offer free trauma-focused group therapy for the community and to offer 16 sessions of free trauma-specific therapy to select evaluation clients.
Workforce projects related to the COVID-19 pandemic	
Project Number	29
Organization	University of Nebraska - Lincoln
Percent Spent Down	75.59%
Project Performance	To date, this project has created a CPP Work Reimbursement Form to simplify documentation work for CPP clinicians, a new website , and an instructional video on how to invoice for CPP activities. Continued project activities include outreach and technical assistance to CPP clinicians to encourage them to participate in the reimbursement program and to answer questions about eligibility and invoicing.
Project Number	57
Organization	Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska
Percent Spent Down	100%

Project Performance	This project was completed in spring 2025. Staff who worked throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and were still employed with Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska received 2 retention bonuses, 40 staff received productivity incentives, and 20 clinical staff were hired with hiring bonuses.
Project Number	64
Organization	University of Nebraska at Omaha
Percent Spent Down	70.25%
Project Performance	This project received a no-cost extension through May 2026 to complete the final cohort of participants. The first cohort of students included 19 individuals, and the second cohort included an additional 9 students. Participants met with their mentors to receive ongoing supervision on their use of Reflective Practice Facilitating Attuned Interactions (FAN) training, and all participants completed the advanced training. The project team will continue to monitor cohort completion and collect evaluation data.
Project Number	106
Organization	Chadron State College
Percent Spent Down	60.60%
Project Performance	The awardee continues to host “Coffee with Counselors” events on campus to reduce behavioral health stigma, as well as additional events across campus (e.g., restorative yoga, COVID and flu shot clinic, wellness week). The project supported Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) certification for a licensed counselor who works with the college to provide MHFA training in-person and virtually. To date, the counselor has offered three MHFA trainings.
Project Number	107
Organization	Cambridge Memorial Hospital, Inc dba Tri Valley Health System
Percent Spent Down	66.92%
Project Performance	The awardee supported 3 employees in the Crisis Prevention Intervention course and renewal and purchased workbooks and other training materials for additional staff to receive Crisis Prevention Intervention training.
Project Number	114
Organization	Restore Rebuild Reconnect Counseling Center
Percent Spent Down	100%
Project Performance	As of May 2025, this project is completed. Through the project, the organization completed training on compassion fatigue for first responders, developed content for 4 training courses on the mental health impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and developed an intranet platform to host the trainings. The training, website, and resources are publicly available to behavioral health providers in Nebraska.

Project Number	119
Organization	HopeSpoke
Percent Spent Down	100%
Project Performance	The organization completed project activities in August 2024. In total, the awardee provided \$15,000 in hiring bonuses and \$60,875 in retention bonuses. Additional project activities included wellness and team building activities.
Project Number	128
Organization	Wholeness Healing Center, PC
Percent Spent Down	76.34%
Project Performance	Since the start of the project, 17 clinicians have attended the Vital Hearts Training and the awardee conducted seven 7 staff needs assessments.
Project Number	139
Organization	Lincoln/Lancaster County Child Advocacy Center dba BraveBe
Percent Spent Down	58.18%
Project Performance	Through this project, 2 individuals completed MHFA instructor training, 2 individuals completed Safe and Together Train the Trainer Training, and 1 individual completed Basic Forensic Interview Training. The awardee continues to utilize funds and trainers to offer training to child advocacy centers across Nebraska.
Project Number	149
Organization	Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska
Percent Spent Down	68.72%
Project Performance	Since the project's start, the awardee has worked with its practice management system to store all provider credentialing files and developed a reporting system to ensure all provider recredentialing is completed every 3 years. The awardee hired a credentialing specialist who continues to oversee all aspects of credentialing.
Project Number	152
Organization	University of Nebraska at Kearney
Percent Spent Down	57.33%
Project Performance	In October 2024, over 400 students, faculty, staff, and mental health professions attended the "Fostering Mental Health Literacy and Wellness on College Campuses and Communities" conference supported through this project. Project funds continue to support a mental health literacy and wellness course and evaluation of the course. This project received a no-cost extension through June 2026 to allow for an additional semester course.

Project Number	184
Organization	Miller and Micek Consulting, LLC
Percent Spent Down	78.78%
Project Performance	The awardee recruited participants and individuals are engaging in individual and group-based resilience coaching. The awardee continues to review data from baseline and follow-up surveys and expand the project to additional Nebraska State College System campuses.
Project Number	199
Organization	Scottsbluff Public Schools
Percent Spent Down	46.86%
Project Performance	One family navigator was supported through the 2024-2025 school year. This individual helped connect families and students to behavioral health services and other community resources. Additionally, 3 staff members enrolled in classes to become social workers received stipends.
Project Number	233
Organization	Howard County Medical Center
Percent Spent Down	85%
Project Performance	Through this project, \$85,000 in retention bonuses was awarded to 5 behavioral health providers and staff at the organization.
Project Number	237
Organization	Wholeness Healing Center, PC
Percent Spent Down	80.48%
Project Performance	Since the start of project activities, the awardee has provided therapy supply stipends and professional development funds to over 15 providers, offered in-house training opportunities, and covered the cost of license renewal for 19 providers. All activities improved retention and decreased burnout.
Project Number	239
Organization	Wholeness Healing Center, PC
Percent Spent Down	83.96%
Project Performance	This project provided \$60,000 in hiring bonuses for providers serving rural areas in Nebraska. In addition to hiring bonuses, the awardee created a recruitment video to recruit additional behavioral health providers and support staff.
Project Number	309
Organization	University of Nebraska Medical Center - Wellness Center

Percent Spent Down	100%
Project Performance	This project completed project activities in August 2024 and transitioned to project 833 because the principal investigator retired, and activities continued within a different organization.
Project Number	322
Organization	The Bridge Behavioral Health
Percent Spent Down	54.12%
Project Performance	The awardee continues to provide monthly stipends to behavioral health staff, including recovery advocates, clinicians, behavioral health nurses, case managers, and additional non-clinical staff. Additionally, staff have received service anniversary bonuses and participated in staff burnout activities.
Project Number	350
Organization	Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges
Percent Spent Down	100%
Project Performance	The awardee completed this project in December 2024. The JED Foundation completed the initial survey of students in year 1 of project activities, and the Nebraska State Colleges received the initial report. After the initial report was received, each campus compiled resources and worked with a JED Foundation consultant to develop strategic plans.
Project Number	360
Organization	Completely KIDS
Percent Spent Down	57.26%
Project Performance	The awardee continues to provide monthly self-care support to behavioral health professionals to reduce burnout and increase retention and to support monthly team-building activities. Staff have used their professional development funds to engage in professional development activities such as EMDR training, PESI training, and supervision support.
Project Number	380
Organization	OneWorld Community Health Centers, Inc
Percent Spent Down	100%
Project Performance	This project was completed in June 2025. The organization disbursed hiring and retention bonuses to 15 behavioral health professionals working at their clinics. In addition to providing recruitment and retention bonuses, the awardee hosted staff retreats to increase retention of behavioral health providers.
Project Number	434
Organization	Silver Sun Mental Health dba Nebraska Mental Health Centers

Percent Spent Down	49.99%
Project Performance	Through this project, the awardee provided quarterly rural clinic stipends to providers, retention bonuses totaling over \$10,500, and a recruitment bonus for 1 newly hired licensed independent mental health practitioner (LIHMP). The awardee plans to continue offering rural clinic stipends, retention bonuses, and 1 additional recruitment bonus through project completion.
Project Number	706
Organization	Options in Psychology, LLC
Percent Spent Down	93.18%
Project Performance	This project has recruited 5 doctoral interns and supported costs associated with their hiring.
Project Number	783
Organization	Midtown Health Center
Percent Spent Down	31.60%
Project Performance	Two providers at Midtown Health Center completed the “train the trainer” Youth Mental Health First Aid course, and these individuals have begun coordinating training dates for school staff. Trainers at Midtown Health Center plan on developing outcome measures and hosting trainings.
Project Number	785
Organization	University of Nebraska at Kearney
Percent Spent Down	51.72%
Project Performance	Since August 2023, 3 student ambassadors were hired, and these individuals hosted classes at local high schools. In addition to the student ambassadors, 4 students completed their internships in the target counties, and additional students are anticipated to complete their internships in Fall 2025.
Project Number	793
Organization	Heartland Counseling Services, Inc
Percent Spent Down	91.67%
Project Performance	The awardee hired 2 PLMHPs and placed these individuals in the awardee's rural school-based program. Funding continues to support these individuals.
Project Number	833
Organization	Performance Coaching, LLC

Percent Spent Down	70%
Project Performance	This project began in August 2024 as a continuation of project 309. Three cohorts completed the resilience training and project, and 1 cohort is in progress. The project team continues to collect research and evaluation data to determine the impact of the program on participants.
Project Number	847
Organization	Lincoln Medical Education Partnership
Percent Spent Down	72.86%
Project Performance	Through the project, the awardee awarded \$12,750 in hiring and retention bonuses to 5 behavioral health providers. By December 2025, the organization will pay the remaining retention bonuses.
Project Number	859
Organization	Heartland Family Services
Percent Spent Down	53.32%
Project Performance	Since the beginning of project activities, 3 additional clinical staff were hired, retention bonuses were provided to these individuals and other staff. In total, 19 individuals received retention bonuses; another retention bonus will be paid out in summer 2025. Additionally, the awardee offers service incentives for clinical staff who exceed specific service points.
Project Number	862
Organization	Nebraska Alliance of Child Advocacy Centers
Percent Spent Down	100%
Project Performance	The project was completed in February 2025. Project activities supported 3 training stipends for individuals working with Nebraska Child Advocacy Centers.
Funding for Supervision of Provisionally Licensed Providers	
Project Number	26
Organization	Father Flanagan's Boys' Home
Percent Spent Down	100%
Project Performance	The project was completed in February 2024. The awardee supervised 7 postdoctoral fellows, 3 doctoral interns, 1 predoctoral fellow, and 1 provisionally licensed staff psychologist.
Project Number	115
Organization	University of Nebraska at Omaha
Percent Spent Down	94.31%

Project Performance	The provisional therapist began in August 2023 and continues to provide tailored behavioral health services to student athletes. Beyond providing services to student athletes, the provisional therapist sees general students on Fridays.
Project Number	120
Organization	Cirrus House, Inc
Percent Spent Down	100%
Project Performance	This project continues to offer supervision to provisionally licensed providers and interns. The awardee received additional funding from BHECN-ARPA in April 2025, and a contract amendment is in progress. The additional funding will provide continued support of the clinical supervisor.
Project Number	127
Organization	Wholeness Healing Center, PC
Percent Spent Down	88.36%
Project Performance	The awardee provided 449 individual supervision sessions and 40 weekly group supervision sessions across 12 supervised therapists. Three therapists reached full licensure, and 1 additional provisionally licensed therapist began receiving supervision. Four supervisors received supervisor stipends and are continuing to offer supervision to the provisionally licensed providers practicing at the clinic.
Project Number	134
Organization	Restore Rebuild Reconnect Counseling Center
Percent Spent Down	96.22%
Project Performance	Since the start of the project, 14 PLMHPs have received supervision, 2 have received full, independent licensure, and 2 will reach full, independent licensure by December 2025. Two individuals are credentialed National Board for Certified Counselors clinical supervisors. Additionally, 5 specialized training courses will be released by December 2025, and the awardee is working on a program to help individuals interested in starting private practices in rural areas.
Project Number	147
Organization	Options in Psychology, LLC
Percent Spent Down	90.10%
Project Performance	Project activities began in June 2023 and have supported 7 provisionally licensed providers. One provisionally licensed psychologist reached full licensure and was retained on staff. The additional 6 staff are currently working towards full licensure.
Project Number	235
Organization	Midwest Encouragement & Counseling Center, LLC
Percent Spent Down	100%

Project Performance	The awardee completed this project in December 2024. Through the course of the project, the organization supervised 4 individuals, and supervisors attended trainings and consultations to enhance their supervision.
Project Number	240
Organization	Center for Psychological Services PC dba Live Well Counseling Center, Kearney
Percent Spent Down	94.01%
Project Performance	This project is currently supervising and supporting 4 PLMHPs and 3 LMHPs. All 3 LMHPs have applied to obtain their LIMHP licensure.
Project Number	243
Organization	Center for Psychological Services PC dba Live Well Counseling Center, Kearney
Percent Spent Down	62.22%
Project Performance	One individual completed their practicum and class requirements to apply to become a PLADC, and 2 PLADCs completed supervision hours to complete their exam and licensure requirements to become fully licensed.
Project Number	258
Organization	AM Counseling and Consulting
Percent Spent Down	98.78%
Project Performance	Since the start of project activities in June 2023, the awardee has hired 8 PLMHPs and trained 4 clinical supervisors. Through this program, the awardee established policies and procedures regarding supervision of provisionally licensed providers.
Project Number	271
Organization	The Cord: Where Science Meets Connection, LLC
Percent Spent Down	88.39%
Project Performance	This project is currently supporting 13 supervisees who receive group and individual supervision. Quarterly, the awardee offers a 3-hour direct instruction training for clinical supervisors, and many interns have chosen to be supervised by the awardee after the completion of their practicum experience.
Project Number	275
Organization	Wholeness Healing Center, PC
Percent Spent Down	82.25%
Project Performance	Since 2023, 5 therapists have taken the exam, and 3 have achieved full licensure; the remaining 2 have completed the remaining hours to obtain full licensure. Five provisionally and fully licensed staff members have received travel support to provide services across Nebraska.

Project Number	280
Organization	Camie L Nitzel, PhD, LP, LLC dba Kindred Psychology
Percent Spent Down	100%
Project Performance	This project was completed in December 2024 and supported the supervision of 5 individuals. One student achieved full, independent licensure through this project. Additionally, the awardee added 3 supervisors and a medication management program through this funding.
Project Number	281
Organization	Creative Counseling and Studio, LLC
Percent Spent Down	100%
Project Performance	In December 2024, the awardee completed this project. During this time, the organization provided clinical supervision for 17 PLMHPs, 5 of whom earned full, independent licensure.
Project Number	317
Organization	The Bridge Behavioral Health
Percent Spent Down	66.49%
Project Performance	The lead clinical supervisor is providing ongoing supervision to 2 PLADCs and 3 students.
Project Number	318
Organization	Four Corners Health Department
Percent Spent Down	100%
Project Performance	This project received a budget modification and scope of work amendment after the behavioral health supervisor left the organization. The awardee completed the project in spring 2025 and successfully recruited 2 new behavioral health providers who will receive supervision while providing clinical services.
Project Number	326
Organization	Children's Hospital and Medical Center Foundation
Percent Spent Down	72.62%
Project Performance	Through this project, 2 fellows completed their psychology fellowships in late 2024, and two additional psychology fellows are currently working towards completion.
Project Number	391, 394
Organization	Heartland Counseling Services, Inc
Percent Spent Down	83.73%

Project Performance	This project provided weekly supervision for 13 provisionally licensed providers and mileage reimbursement for travel to various sites across the state.
Project Number	646
Organization	Inspirit Counseling, PC
Percent Spent Down	74.94%
Project Performance	The awardee provided supervision to 6 supervisees in a remote modality via telebehavioral health. The project also supported equipment and an EHR system to provide supervision.
Project Number	875
Organization	Mid-Plains Center for Behavioral Healthcare Services, Inc
Percent Spent Down	58.21%
Project Performance	The project supports a percentage of salary for 4 clinical supervisors and their clinical supervision responsibilities.

Activities by the AltEn Health Study Group using ARPA funds by 6/30/2025

The AltEn Health Study Group at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln, the University of Nebraska Medical Center and Creighton University conducted a wide range of activities to investigate the effects of the pesticide contamination stored at the AltEn ethanol production plant near Mead, Nebraska, using ARPA funds appropriated by the Nebraska Senate. These funded activities were planned to end December 31, 2024.

These activities and their findings are summarized below.

Activities at UNL

Judy Wu-Smart, Ph.D., led the study on the effects of the AltEn pesticides on bees.

One Health Internship Program Summary (2022–2024) Overview: From 2022 to 2024, the One Health Summer Internship Program, led by Drs. Elizabeth VanWormer and Judy Wu-Smart and supported by ARPA funds and Hatch Act (NC1173 multistate project) through internal UNL funding, provided hands-on training to approximately 30 undergraduate interns, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers. The program focused on transdisciplinary experiential learning to assess the environmental and ecological impacts of systemic pesticide pollution from the AltEn ethanol facility in Mead, Nebraska. Through fieldwork, laboratory processing, and mentorship from a diverse faculty team, interns contributed to groundbreaking research on soil, water, air, and wildlife health in the region.

Field Focus and Key Findings: Over the course of three years, the One Health Internship Program focused on monitoring biological indicators, wildlife sentinels, and environmental quality to assess the long-term impacts of pesticide pollution near the AltEn facility in Mead, Nebraska. Nematodes were used as key bioindicators of soil health, with 2024 sampling at Johnson Creek Reservoir revealing previously undocumented phylogenetic diversity in the Tobrilidae family, findings published in the *Journal of Nematology* and presented at the Society of Nematologists meeting (Dr. Tom Powers – Depart. of Plant Pathology). Pollinator health was tracked annually, showing some recovery after the facility's closure: honey bee overwinter survival rose from 0% (2017–2020) to 30% in 2021, 50% in 2022, and 74% in 2023, before declining to 33% in 2024. Despite these gains, behavioral research (Rogan Tokach, MS student- Entomology) indicated persistent sublethal effects from environmental residues, including impaired foraging behavior and reduced queen viability. Additional surveys of aquatic invertebrates conducted in 2022 in partnership with USGS served as indicators of aquatic ecosystem health. Wildlife sentinels such as bullfrog tadpoles, native tadpoles, red-winged blackbirds, and brown-headed cowbirds were monitored annually to evaluate pesticide exposure. Amphibians and birds were sampled for pesticide residues to investigate spatio-temporal distribution of exposure across terrestrial and aquatic habitats (Drs. Elizabeth VanWormer, Larkin Powell, and Dennis Ferraro – SNR/SVMBS). Environmental quality assessments included the analysis of surface and groundwater samples from ditches, fields, and ponds (Drs. Shanon Bartelt-Hunt and Dan Snow – SNR, Water Science Lab), wildflowers from field margins to measure pesticide loads in nectar, pollen, and leaves (Drs. Tom Weissling & Judy Wu-Smart – Entomology), and sticky traps for airborne dust particles. In 2024, mosquito surveillance identified 13 species, some known vectors of West Nile virus and other zoonotic pathogens, with *Francisella tularensis* (tularemia) detected for the first time in this region. Further pathogen screening and tests for insecticide resistance are ongoing (Dr. Leslie Rault – Entomology). Together, these efforts provided a comprehensive, ecosystem-level picture of pesticide impacts and the lingering consequences of environmental contamination.

Student Engagement & Training

- 2022: 7 participants (6 interns + 1 coordinator); foundational year focused on building protocols and initiating key field efforts.
- 2023: 9 participants, including returning interns elevated to co-coordinators, and expanded graduate/post-doc mentorship.
- 2024: 14 participants, with broader disciplinary integration and new faculty involvement (Leslie Rault – vector ecology, Eileen Hebets – spider ecology).

Each year, student interns received cross-training in sample collection, lab protocols, field demonstrations, and science communication. Students gained firsthand experience working in contaminated environments, interpreting ecological data, and contributing to active research projects with real-world implications.

Conclusion: Over the past three years, the One Health Internship Program has exemplified interdisciplinary, experiential education. By integrating student training with applied research on environmental contamination, the program has produced critical data on soil, water, air, and wildlife health in a polluted landscape; revealed ongoing ecological impacts from unintended pesticide exposure; and contributed meaningfully to scientific, public health, and policy discussions. The program highlights the collaborative potential of the One Health framework, uniting education, research, and community engagement, to address environmental emergencies where environmental, animal, and human health are inextricably linked.

UNL Bee Lab Summary:

Pollinator research monitored sentinel honey bee colonies annually and wild bees, such as bumble bees, to evaluate ongoing impacts of pesticide pollution from the AltEn facility. Honey bee colony overwinter survival showed marked recovery following the facility's closure in 2021, increasing from 0% (54 hives, 2017–2020) winter survival to 30% (7 of 23 hives) in 2021, 50% (16 of 32 hives) in 2022, 81% (35 of 43 hives) in 2023, and reaching 93% (27 of 29 hives) in fall 2024, signaling gradual landscape improvement. However, overwinter survival dropped again to 33% by March 2025 (8 of 24 hives) for unknown reasons under further investigation. However, behavioral and physiological studies led by graduate student Rogan Tokach documented persistent lingering sublethal effects of pesticide residues on honey bee colony functions (Tokach, Smart, & Wu-Smart, 2024). These include disrupted worker bee behavioral maturation marked by precocious foraging, reduced worker longevity, and decreased queen egg-laying rates in contaminated sites compared to controls, despite unchanged queen locomotion. Gene expression analyses of OBP-14, vitellogenin, and juvenile hormone acid-methyltransferase showed no significant site-by-age differences, indicating complex environmental influences on social colony functions. Related research has shown that reusing food resources from failed colonies at contaminated sites, a common beekeeping practice for establishing new colonies, significantly reduces queen rearing and replacement capacity compared to uncontaminated sites, thereby increasing the risk of colony collapse (Tokach, Smart, & Wu-Smart, 2023).

Dissemination of Bee Lab findings: Between 2022 and 2024, multiple research efforts focused on the impacts of systemic pesticide pollution on pollinators, particularly honey bees and bumble bees, as well as broader environmental and community health implications. Graduate student Horn and advisers Drs. Smart, and Wu-Smart (2024) presented findings at the Entomological Society of America Conference detailing how pesticide contamination negatively affects honey bee colony health and productivity, emphasizing disrupted behavior and survival challenges. Earlier work by graduate student Tokach (2022) similarly evaluated honey bee worker behaviors exposed to contaminated environments, identifying precocious foraging and diminished colony efficiency. These findings were shared across several venues, including the ESA Vancouver meeting and the North American Bee Research Conference. In parallel, graduate student Kittle

(2024) investigated factors influencing honey bee overwinter survival, such as population size and clustering behavior, and explored management strategies to improve comb building, offering practical insights into enhancing colony resilience.

Research on bumble bees was spearheaded by undergraduate students Knezevic and Myers (2024), who examined both individual and colony-level impacts of systemic pesticide exposure on foraging behavior. Bumble bee trials conducted in 2024 tested 87 individuals across two replicated experiments, revealing dose-dependent impairments in locomotor function following exposure to clothianidin at concentrations ranging from 10 to 50 ppb (Knezevic et al., 2024). Their studies demonstrated dose-dependent locomotor impairments following exposure to clothianidin, a neonicotinoid insecticide, with detailed lab toxicity assays comparing feeding volumes to refine risk assessment methodologies for wild social bees. Complementary work by Myers and colleagues addressed methodological challenges in assessing pesticide impacts on wild bee populations, contributing to improved ecological risk evaluation frameworks.

Science communication and interdisciplinary education were integral components of this body of work. Drs. Wu-Smart and Van Wormer (2024) shared strategies for effective science messaging and advocacy to bridge research and policy, while Wu-Smart (2023) reflected on the delicate balance of science communication and advocacy in environmental health contexts. Environmental contamination and its regulatory implications were addressed through ongoing studies such as those by Wu-Smart, Tokach, and Smart (2022), highlighting the consequences of improper seed disposal on pesticide pollution. Batt et al. (in review) contributed to this understanding with non-targeted analyses identifying pesticides and their transformation products in surface and groundwater near the closed AltEn bioethanol facility. Collectively, these studies advance knowledge of pesticide impacts on pollinators and ecosystems, informing risk assessment, management practices, and community engagement efforts under the One Health framework.

Between 2022 and 2024, PI Wu-Smart delivered a total of 51 presentations across scientific, industry, and stakeholder audiences, spanning 15 states and reaching approximately 4,760 individuals. In 2022, she gave 14 presentations to nine organizations across six states, engaging 973 contacts over 12 hours. In 2023, her outreach expanded to 40 talks, including 17 scientific presentations and 23 extension talks with five keynotes, across 21 organizations in 12 states, reaching an estimated 2,500 people over nearly 30 hours. In 2024, Wu-Smart delivered 20 presentations (seven scientific and 13 stakeholder seminars) hosted by 15 organizations across 13 states, with approximately 1,287 attendees and 28 hours of educational content. Notably, she participated as a scientific panelist at the high-profile Food Tank and Natural Resources Defense Council's NYC Climate Week Summit in September 2024, engaging about 100 attendees alongside former Secretary of State John Kerry. This consistent outreach highlights her extensive role in science communication and stakeholder engagement on environmental and pollinator health issues.

2022-2024 Publications:

- Batt, A. L., Brunelle, L. D., Stebel, E. K., Snow, D. D., Mutlu, E., Williams, A. J., Janesch, G., Tebes-Stevens, C., Ferland, T., Bartelt-Hunt, S., & **Wu-Smart, J. (in review)**. Identification of pesticides and transformation products in surface and groundwater surrounding a closed bioethanol production facility using non-targeted analysis.
- Tokach, R.*, Smart, A. & Wu-Smart, J. **2024** An evaluation of honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) colony behaviors and aging when exposed to a pesticide-contaminated environment. *Journal of Insect Science*, Volume 24, Issue 3, May 2024, 13, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jisesa/ieae034>

- Mullin, P.G., Harris, T., Higgins, R., Dutta, E., Porazinska, D.L., Powers, K. and Powers, T., 2024. Taxonomy of Tobrilidae species from the Alkaline Lakes of the western Nebraska Sandhills. *Journal of Nematology*, 56(1), p.20240025.
- Tokach, R.*, Smart, A. & Wu-Smart, J. 2023 Re-using food resources from failed honey bee (*Apis mellifera* L.) colonies and their impact on colony queen rearing capacity. *Sci Rep* 13, 18127. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-023-44037-2>
- Gupta Vakil, S.*, Biswas, S., Snow, D., Wu-Smart, J. 2022. Targeted Method for Quantifying Air-Borne Pesticide Residues from Conventional Seed Coat Treatments to Better Assess Exposure Risk During Maize Planting. *Bull Environ Contam Toxicol* 109, 1051–1058. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00128-022-03627-y>

2022-2024 Abstracts (*indicates graduate student; ^indicates undergraduate student; 1st author presenter)

- Rault LC (presenter), Klein CA, Anderson TD, "Turning back time: Tracking insecticide resistance loss for sustainable vector control". Invited presentation at the American Chemical Society Fall 2024 meeting in Denver, CO, in the symposium "Identifying and Developing New Tools for the Sustainable Control of Disease Vectors". August 2024
- **Powers, Thomas**, P. Mullin, R. Higgins, T. Harris, N. Gonzalez, M. Rawlings, and K. Powers. Aftermath of an Environmental Disaster: Can Nematodes Provide Insight? Society of Nematologists Annual Meeting 2023
- *Horn, J., **J. Wu-Smart**, and A. Smart. (2024) Effects of Systemic Pesticide Pollution on Honey Bee (*Apis mellifera* L.) Colony Health and Productivity. Presented at the Entomological Society of America Conference, 11 Nov. 2024, Phoenix Convention Center, Room 132 A, PCC.
- ^Knezevic, E., P. Myers, A. Smart, and **J. Wu-Smart**. (2024) Individual and Colony-Level Impacts of Systemic Pesticide Contamination on Bumble Bee (*Bombus impatiens*) Foraging Behavior. Presented at the Entomological Society of America Conference, 11 Nov. 2024, Phoenix Convention Center, Room 226 B, PCC.
- **Wu-Smart, J.**, and **E. Van Wormer**. (2024) From Science to Policy: Realizations of Effective Science Messaging and Advocacy. Presented at the Entomological Society of America Conference, 11 Nov. 2024, Phoenix Convention Center, Room 226 C.
- Kittle, S. A., A. Smart, and **J. Wu-Smart**. (2024) Evaluating the Effect of Population Size and Clustering Behavior on Winter Survival in Honey Bee Colonies (*Apis mellifera* L.). Presented at the Entomological Society of America Conference, 11 Nov. 2024, Phoenix Convention Center, Room 132 A, PCC.
- ^Myers, P., A. Smart, and **J. Wu-Smart**. (2024) Wild Bee Species Abundance and Floral Preference on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Campus. Presented at the Entomological Society of America Conference, 11 Nov. 2024, Phoenix Convention Center, Room 226 C, PCC.
- ^Myers, P. ^Knezevic, E, Smart, A, and **Wu-Smart J**. (2024) Comparing lab toxicity assays using 10 µl vs 50 µl to better inform current risk assessment procedures relating to pesticide exposure in wild social bees. North Central Branch Entomological Society of America Conference, Fort Collins, CO
- ^Myers, P. ^Knezevic, E, Smart, A, and **Wu-Smart J**. (2024) Examining methodologies and barriers to assessing potential impacts of pesticides on wild social bees. North Central Branch Entomological Society of America Conference, Fort Collins, CO
- Golick, D, *Shelby Kittle, **Wu-Smart J** (2024) Good bug or bad? Beneficial arthropods STEAM education activities for pre-K - 5th grades. North Central Branch Entomological Society of America Conference, Fort Collins, CO

- *Kittle, S., **Wu-Smart, J.** (2024) Evaluating management strategies for improving comb building in honey bee colonies (*Apis mellifera* L.). North Central Branch Entomological Society of America Conference, Fort Collins, CO
- **Wu-Smart, J.** (2023) The ultimate tightrope act: Navigating science messaging and advocacy. Entomological Society of America Conference, Maryland
- **Wu-Smart, J.** *Tokach, R. and Smart A. (2022) Systemic pesticide pollution concerns from improper seed disposal. American Bee Research Conference, Jacksonville FL
- *Tokach, R., Smart, A. and **Wu-Smart, J.** (2022) An evaluation of honey bee (*Apis mellifera* L.) worker behaviors when exposed to a pesticide-contaminated environment. Joint-Annual Meeting: Entomological Society of American, Vancouver BC (Oct 2022)
- *Tokach, R., Smart, A. and **Wu-Smart, J.** (2022) An evaluation of honey bee (*Apis mellifera* L.) worker behaviors when exposed to a pesticide-contaminated environment. 2022 North American Bee Research Conference.

Elizabeth VanWormer, Ph.D., led the wildlife health study report.

UNL Wildlife Sentinel Study: The goal of this portion of the larger AltEn health study is to understand health risks from agrochemical contamination by investigating the spatial and temporal distribution of pesticide exposure in sentinel wildlife species (tadpoles and songbirds).

Team: Our interdisciplinary project team included faculty from the School of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences and the School of Natural Resources at UNL (Elizabeth VanWormer, Mary Drozd, Dennis Ferraro, and Larkin Powell), UNL Department of Entomology (Judy Wu-Smart), key United States Geological Survey (USGS) laboratory partner (Michelle Hladik), lead graduate student researcher (Shabani Muller), and undergraduate and graduate student researchers from the One Health Internship Program described above as well as five additional students from the School of Natural Resources.

Tadpole sentinels of pesticide contamination: Partnering with local landowners, we sampled tadpoles in Fall 2021 (invasive bullfrog tadpoles), Spring 2022 (tadpoles of frog species native to Nebraska), Spring and Fall 2023 (bullfrog and native tadpoles), and Spring 2024 (bullfrog and native tadpoles) across stream and pond habitats in the agricultural landscape surrounding Mead, NE (Figure 1). Tissues from 109 bullfrog tadpoles and 66 native species tadpoles collected from 2021 – 2024 at sites with varying proximity to AltEn were tested for pesticide residues at our partner USGS laboratory, where Dr. Hladik conducted ultra-performance liquid and gas chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS and GC-MS/MS) analyses on 166 target pesticide compounds, including pesticide transformation products.

Neonicotinoid compounds (including clothianidin and a thiamethoxam transformation product) and fungicide compounds (including ipconazole, tebuconazole, and desthioprothioconazole) compounds and their transformation products were detected in bullfrog and native tadpole tissues (Hladik et al. 2023), with concentrations declining over the sampling period. The highest levels of neonicotinoid and fungicide contamination were consistently detected in tadpoles sampled at two sites on a downstream flow path south of the AltEn facility. In 2023 and 2024, no neonicotinoid residues were detected in bullfrog tadpole tissues, indicating that these agrochemicals were either present at concentrations below analytical detection limits or not present in the aquatic environment during those sampling periods. Among native tadpoles, only clothianidin was detected, with no measurable concentrations of the thiamethoxam transformation product identified. Clothianidin was present in native tadpole samples collected in 2022 and 2024, and these detections occurred at two sites downstream from the AltEn facility.

Detection of higher levels of neonicotinoids and fungicides in 2021 at sites downstream of the AltEn facility highlights the potential for aquatic contamination. Mitigation measures have been

taken to try to reduce agrochemical runoff from the AltEn site, and the lack of neonic detections in bullfrog tadpoles in 2023 and 2024 and lower levels of detected fungicides suggest reduced exposure. However, we are still working to integrate these results with agrochemical residue data from native tadpoles and songbirds to understand spatiotemporal trends.

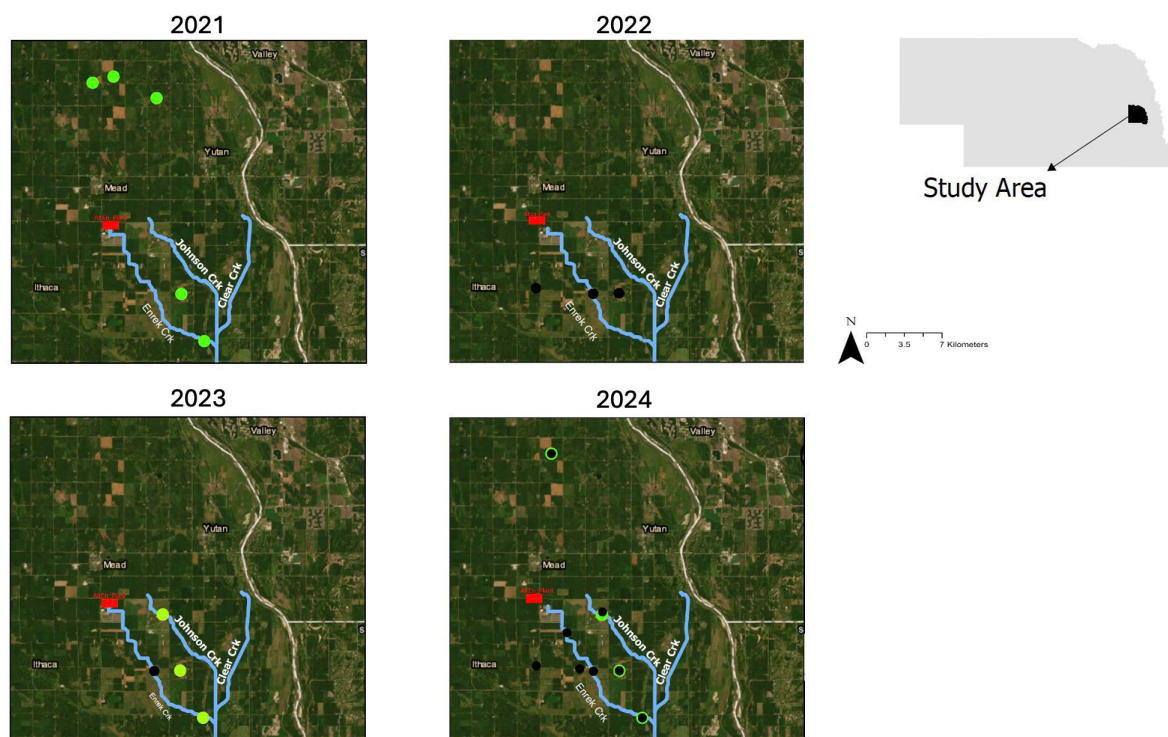


Figure 1. Distribution of sites where bullfrog tadpoles (green circles) and tadpoles of frog species native to Nebraska (black circles) were collected for pesticide residue testing from 2021 – 2024 near Mead, Nebraska. The AltEn facility is shown in red.

To evaluate potential health impacts, additional bullfrog and native tadpoles from a subset of the sampling sites in Figure 1 were submitted for histopathological examination (including screening for parasites, organ pathology, and indicators of cell degeneration) at the Nebraska Veterinary Diagnostic Center under the supervision of Dr. Drozd. Preliminary results suggest the presence of inflammatory lesions and early developmental irregularities in some bullfrog and native tadpoles. We are currently integrating pesticide testing and pathology data to assess associations between pesticide exposure and impacts on tadpole health.

Songbird sentinels of pesticide contamination: Unlike tadpoles, songbirds utilize a range of terrestrial and aquatic habitats and thus provide an opportunity to assess broader landscape-level patterns of pesticide contamination. From Spring 2021 through Summer 2024, over 350 songbird egg samples [red-winged blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) and brown-headed cowbirds (*Molothrus ater*)] were collected (Figure 2). These samples will allow us to compare pesticide burdens across years and across spatial gradients relative to the AltEn site and agricultural areas where byproducts (wetcake) from the AltEn facility were deposited.

In preliminary testing, 33 samples from 2021 were selected for chemical residue analysis using the pesticide screening protocol described above for tadpoles. Three neonicotinoid-related compounds (clothianidin, clothianidin desmethyl, and thiamethoxam) were detected in bird tissues, indicating exposure in the study area. The highest concentrations of pesticide residues

in bird eggs were identified in samples collected from areas bordering the AltEn facility and near a location that housed an undistributed wetcake pile. Fungicides were not detected in these eggs.

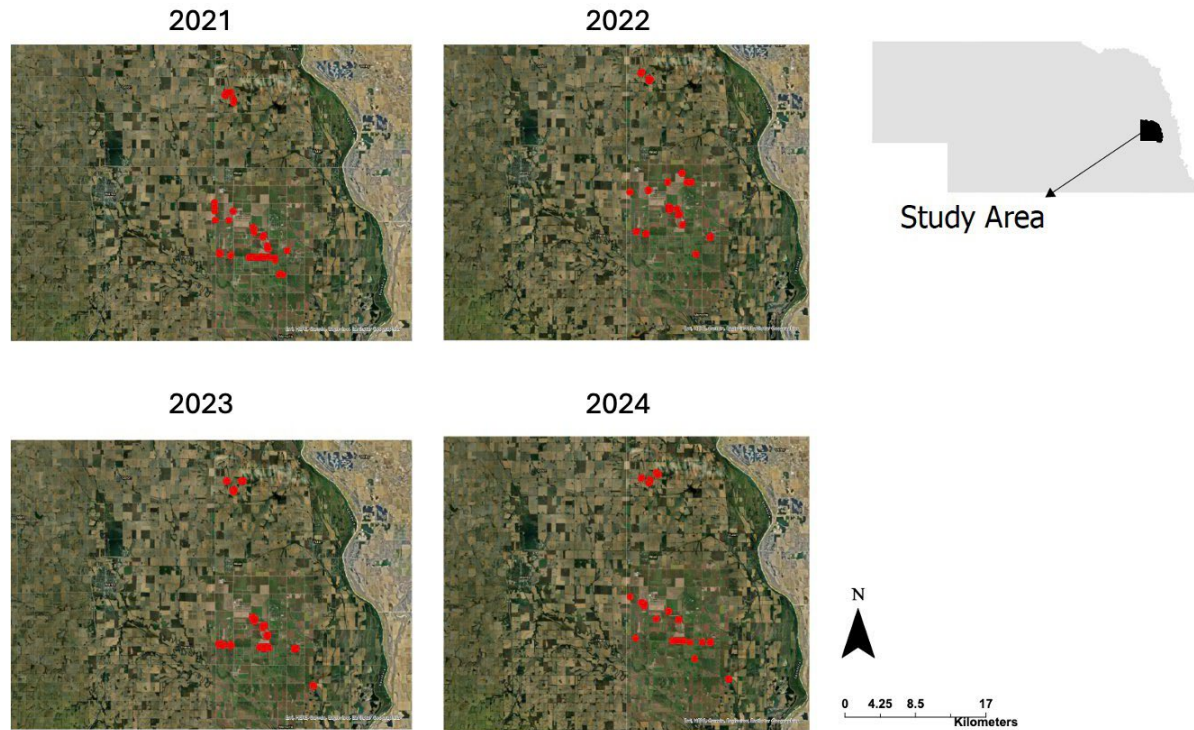


Figure 2: Spatial distribution of songbird nest sites where egg samples were collected from 2021 to 2024 near Mead, Nebraska. Red circles indicate individual nest locations.

To expand spatial and temporal distribution, we selected an additional 63 samples from the broader egg collection sites sampled in 2021-2024 for chemical residue testing, which was recently completed at our USGS partner laboratory. While we will expand our spatial and temporal analyses, our preliminary results demonstrate that tadpoles and songbird eggs are effective sentinel species for the detection of agrochemical pollutants in the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems surrounding the AltEn facility in Mead, Nebraska. Our findings show spatial differences in pesticide contamination in aquatic and terrestrial environments surrounding the AltEn facility and highlight the potential for exposure of wildlife to these contaminants.

Publications and presentations of findings: In addition to presenting study design and preliminary results in Mead, NE community meetings with the larger project team, we have shared findings through regional and national conferences described below. We anticipate four wildlife publications in peer-reviewed journals.

- Wu-Smart, J. & E. VanWormer. From science to policy: Realizations of effective science messaging and advocacy. Entomological Society of America Conference, Phoenix, AZ, November 2024.
- Muller, S., Hladik, M. L., Ferraro, D., Powell, L., Schoup, A.G., & E. VanWormer. Tracking agrochemical contaminants in aquatic and terrestrial environments using tadpoles and songbirds as sentinels. Nebraska Water Conference, Lincoln, NE, October 2024.
- Powell, L. One Health student training in a contaminated landscape. Invited presentation to Wachiska Audobon Chapter, Lincoln, NE, February 2024.
- Hladik, M.L., Schoup, A., Ferraro, D., Powell, L., & E. VanWormer. Occurrence of seed treatment pesticides in tadpoles and songbird eggs. Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) North America Meeting, Louisville, KY, November 2023.

- Hladik, M.L., Schoup, A., Ferraro, D., & E. VanWormer. 2023. Pesticide concentrations in American Bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*) tadpoles collected from ponds and reservoirs near Mead, Nebraska: U.S. Geological Survey data release, <https://doi.org/10.5066/P9NAY0GM>
- Snow, D.D., Bartelt-Hunt, S., Wu-Smart, J. & E. VanWormer. Insecticide and fungicide residue release and exposure from treated seed recycling at Nebraska Bioethanol Facility. Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) North America 42nd Annual Meeting, Virtual, November 2021.

Shannon Bartelt-Hunt, Ph.D., has been investigating the levels of neonicotinoids in surface and ground water, as well as soil, in the area east of AltEn. In 2021 her research group found significant levels of neonicotinoids in Johnson Creek, particularly the Reservoir. Multiple samplings each year since then have shown that the levels of neonicotinoids have decreased, but they are still detectable. Soil and groundwater samples taken from the cattle feedlot just south of the AltEn plant, also showed detectable levels of neonicotinoids. The data from the multiple samples of surface water collected in Johnson Creek and Reservoir were published in various publications. A study was also conducted in collaboration with the United States Geological Survey to evaluate drinking water quality of residents in the area. Other publications are still in the final stages of preparation. This project also provided support for a masters' student in environmental engineering, Jascika Maclean. A postdoctoral scholar, Dr. Moushumi Hazra, also worked on the project.

Citations

Maclean, Jascika A.A.; Bartelt-Hunt, Shannon; Snow, Daniel D.; Borsuah, Josephus F.; Becker, Raquel Wielens; Hazra, Moushumi. Aquatic occurrence, fate and potential ecotoxicity of insecticide and fungicide residues originating from a biofuels production facility using pesticide-treated seeds, *Journal of Hazardous Materials*, Volume 486, 2025, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhazmat.2024.136922>

Maclean, Jascika A A; Bartelt, Shannon; Cristale, Joyce; Onanong, Sathaporn, Snow, Daniel D. "Multi-Residue Environmental Method for Seed Treatment Insecticides, Neonicotinoid Degradation Products, and Fungicides Using Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry with a New Ionization Source." *Analytical and bioanalytical chemistry*. 417.18 (2025): 4097–4110. Web.

Maclean, Jascika A.A. "Optimized Analysis of Neonicotinoids, Strobilurins and Their Degradation Products Using Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry for Studying Release of Pesticide-treated Seed Residues" Master's Thesis (embargoed). April 2024.

Michelle L Hladik, Dana W Kolpin, Matthew D De Parsia, Daniel D Snow, Shannon Bartelt-Hunt, Brenda K Densmore, Laura E Hubbard, David L Rus, Jonathan J Spurgeon, Brittany G Perrotta, Karen A Kidd, Johanna M Kraus, Carrie E Givens, Christopher J Kotalik, David M Walters, Pesticide concentrations in multiple physical and biological stream matrices are impacted by a bioenergy production facility receiving pesticide-coated corn seeds, *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*, 2025;, vgaf139, <https://doi.org/10.1093/etojnl/vgaf139>

Bradley, Paul; Meppelink, Shannon; Romanok, Kristen; Schreiner, Molly; Smalling, Kelly; Bartelt-Hunt, Shannon; Densmore, Brenda; Gordon, Stephanie; Loftin, Keith; McCleskey, R;

Rogan, Eleanor; Rus, David; Snow, Daniel. Tapwater-Contaminant Mixtures and Risk in a Biofuel-Facility Impacted Private-Well Community, submitted to Environmental Science: Water Research and Technology.

Activities at Creighton University

Creighton University's contribution, led by **John Schalles**, Ph.D., and **Joseph Phillips**, Ph.D., has focused on assessing the ecological condition of streams, reservoirs, and adjacent lands to document the spatial extent of impacts from pesticide (i.e., neonicotinoid) and associated fertilizer contamination originating from the AltEn site. Aquatic organisms are highly sensitive to such contaminants and therefore serve as important indicators, providing context for more direct assessments of human health impacts. This work has three core components: (1) surveys of aquatic invertebrate animals in Saunders County streams of varying proximity to the AltEn site, (2) analysis of archived satellite imagery of reservoirs in Saunders and Douglas counties to determine geographic extent and duration of elevated algal blooms potentially arising from fertilizer contamination, and (3) high resolution drone imagery to qualitatively monitor the condition of the wastewater lagoons and wet cake pile on the AltEn property. This work has documented altered species composition of aquatic invertebrate animals consistent with pesticide contamination well beyond immediate proximity to the AltEn site. Moreover, analysis of archived satellite imagery from 2014 to 2024 indicates heightened algal blooms among those reservoirs closest to AltEn during the years of its operation; those reservoirs most impacted have yet to return to their pre-AltEn pattern of algal blooms. These results are currently being prepared for publication.

This core work has been complemented by the efforts of **Marie Adomako**, Ph.D. and **Pierce Greenberg**, Ph.D. Adomako has been focused on the potential for sediment and soil microbes to metabolize neonicotinoids, which could provide a basis for future remediation efforts. This work has documented potential for certain bacterial strains to metabolize different neonicotinoids and derivatives, with ongoing work focused on isolating specific strains to further elucidate underlying genetic and biochemical mechanisms. This work is expected to result in several publications. Greenberg (now at Clemson University) constructed a publicly available "story map" which integrates maps, imagery, and narrative text to provide human context to the scientific documentation of human and ecological impacts.

Story map: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/4cba4b516c134977b165e89d1419f4c7>

Activities at UNMC

Kaleb Michaud, Ph.D., has developed an online health surveillance system for residents of all ages living in Saunders County, which would track possible health problems associated with exposure to the AltEn pesticide contaminants over the years. The health surveillance system has not been activated because we are still seeking funding for running the system for at least five years, and preferably ten years, to capture possible chronic health effects. The biggest challenge is obtaining a less biased data source for possible health changes around the AltEn area, and as such, Dr. Michaud has focused his attention on the analysis using CyncHealth data between Saunders County residents and a control location in Washington County for possible health signals to follow up locally.

Under the leadership of **Jesse Bell**, Ph.D., members of the AltEn Health Study group at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) College of Public Health (COPH) conducted a project titled, “UNMC Health Risk Perceptions Survey” which was supported by Hubbard/ARPA funds. The purpose of the survey was to evaluate community needs following the AltEn situation. UNMC contracted with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) Bureau of Sociological Research (BOSR) to administer the survey. UNMC also collaborated with the Three Rivers Public Health Department and Creighton University on this project. Complete details of survey methodology are available in the BOSR report and in the publication. In short, a 54-question survey was administered to households located within a 10-mile radius of the AltEn facility. The general public could complete the survey electronically. Survey questions addressed several topics including household members’ awareness, concerns, and perceptions of environmental and human and animal health impacts. A total of 459 household respondents completed the survey, a 38% response rate.

Key Findings:

The majority of respondents were concerned about contaminants affecting water (82%), soil (79%), and air (72%) quality. Most respondents (74%) felt ‘some’ or ‘a lot’ of stress related to potentially compromised health; however, 51% did not believe they had health symptoms resulting from the contamination. The most common self-reported physical health symptoms among primary respondents were sinus ($n = 17$), respiratory ($n = 22$), cognitive/neurological symptoms ($n = 15$), and allergies ($n = 17$). Depression and anxiety were the primary mental health symptoms reported with 31 mentions. The top community need was wanting the environment cleaned up, including proper removal of waste and land restoration.

Publication

Gribben KC, Johnson K, Greenberg P, Mencia R, Taiba J, Kintziger KW, Michaud K, Rogan E, Uhing T, Bell JE. Environmental contamination associated with biofuel production involving pesticide-coated seed corn as feedstock: a survey of community environmental and health impacts. *Environ Health*. 2025 Apr 7;24(1):17. doi: 10.1186/s12940-025-01174-7. PMID: 40189568; PMCID: PMC11974023.

<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11974023/#Sec16>

Number of students/trainees involved on the project from the UNMC College of Public Health:

2 MPH, 1 PhD, and 1 postdoctoral researcher.

Eleanor G. Rogan, Ph.D., and **Muhammad Zahid**, Ph.D., have conducted studies of neonicotinoids in house dust and air, as well as people. In a pilot study of 11 houses in Mead, Nebraska, as well as six houses in Kennard and Omaha, Nebraska, used as “control” houses, all of the houses in Mead showed significant levels of neonicotinoids in air and dust both inside and outside the houses. The houses in Kennard and Omaha showed significantly fewer neonicotinoids and lower levels. In a pilot study of urine samples from 30 people living in the area surrounding the AltEn plant, approximately one-third of the people had detectable levels of neonicotinoids in their urine sample. The samples were collected at two timepoints, approximately six months apart, and 11 people were sampled both times. Several of them had detectable neonicotinoids at both timepoints. The results of both of these studies have been published in scientific journals (see below). HVAC filters from buildings on UNL’s ENREEC property, adjacent to the AltEn plant, were analyzed for the presence of neonicotinoids and were found to be contaminated with various levels of neonicotinoids. Air samples from four sites

along County Route 10, which runs between the town of Mead and the AltEn plant, were analyzed in 2023 and found to have negligible levels of neonicotinoids. This finding is consistent with the hypothesis that neonicotinoids found in houses in Mead were derived from the AltEn plant contamination. The results of the last two studies have not been published. In addition, health data were requested from CyncHealth, and data on hospital and clinic visits for persons living in five zip code areas in Saunders County and five zip code areas in Washington County (control area) were obtained. The data include more than 124,000 visits from 2018-2024. The data are currently being analyzed by Jerrod Anzalone, Ph.D., and Kaleb Michaud, Ph.D. to investigate whether persons living in the vicinity of the AltEn plant had more health problems than those living far from the plant. We will also learn whether specific types of health problems, for example, respiratory problems, were exacerbated by living near the plant.

Student: Jabeen Taiba, Ph.D., worked on this project as a graduate student.

Publications:

Taiba J., Rogan E., Snow D., Achutan C., Zahid M. Characterization of environmental levels of pesticide residues in household air and dust samples near a bioenergy plant using treated seed as feedstock. *Int J Environ Res & Public Health* 2023, 20:6967.

Zahid M., Taiba J., Cox K., Khan A., Uhing T., Rogan E. Pesticide residues in adults living near a bioenergy plant with 85,000 tons of contaminated wetcake. *Chemosphere* 2024, 349: 140941.