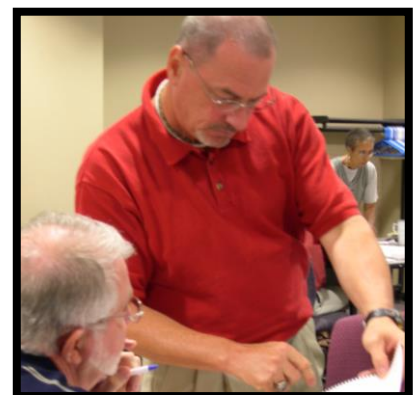


# CHILD PROTECTION & SAFETY

## TRAINING TEAM DIRECTORY

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Center on Children, Families, and the Law (CCFL) provides Child Protection & Safety New Worker Training to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services-Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS). The CCFL training team brings expertise in both the work of Child Protection & Safety and the broad and complex issues that impact the safety and well-being of children, youth, and families within communities.



**1/5/16**

For additional copies of this document, please contact Janet Walters at (402) 472-7105.

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# Trainers

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**Krista Roebke:** kroebke@unl.edu

**Phone:** (402) 472-9813

**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Krista is the Child Welfare Training Coordinator for CCFL. She coordinates the classroom training and ensures that training is meeting the needs of the field. She is a trainer for Introduction to Child Protection & Safety, Case Management I, and is a facilitator for Interviewing and Critical Thinking. Krista was a Social Caseworker in Denver, Colorado with Adams County Department of Social Services (2001-2004). She was a P&S Worker in the Lincoln office (2004-2007), a P&S Supervisor (2007-2010), and then was a court liaison with KVC Behavioral Healthcare (2011-2012). Krista joined CCFL in 2012 and has a Bachelor's degree from University of Nebraska- Kearney with a major in Psychology and a minor in Family Relations and Human Development.

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**Chad Gressley:** cgressley@unl.edu

**Phone:** (308) 865-1569

**Office:** 1910 University Drive, #213, Kearney, NE 68849-4130

Chad is the In-Service Training Coordinator for all NDHHS Service Areas. He is a certified Motivational Interviewing trainer and certified Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory trainer. Chad's past training experience includes Juvenile Services Specific Topics. Chad worked at the Attention Center for Youth in Lincoln, the YRTC in Kearney, and was a JSO in Lexington and Grand Island. As a JSO, Chad primarily served OJS youth along with status offenders. He also worked in the Integrated Care Coordination Unit in Central Service Area. Chad joined CCFL in 2002 and has a BS in Criminal Justice.

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**Mark Ells:** mells@unl.edu

**Phone:** (402) 472-8716

**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Mark is a member of the CCFL Legal Team, which provides all of the law-related aspects of training. From 2008 through 2013, Mark was Director of the Midwest Child Welfare Implementation Center, a project of the Children's Bureau. Before coming to CCFL, he was Director of the National Center for Prosecution of Child Abuse. Mark was a criminal prosecutor for 10 years in Alaska and Nebraska, served as a Magistrate in Alaska, and did criminal defense and guardian ad litem work in Alaska. Mark has a JD from Creighton University School of Law, and an LL.M. from the UNL College of Law. Mark has been with CCFL since 1997.

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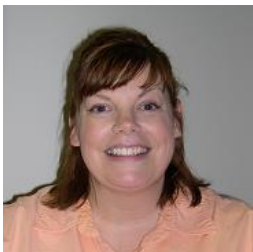
**Angela Gebhardt:** agebhardt@unl.edu

**Phone:** (402) 472-0755

**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Angela is a Special Projects Coordinator that trains Domestic Violence and Substance Use. She also trains for the Mentoring Program through N-DHHS, and Cluster Based Planning for Region V. Angela is also on the Human Trafficking Workgroup for Nebraska. Angela worked as a Project Manager for the Midwest Child Welfare Implementation Center with projects in Wisconsin and Iowa (2009-2013). She also was a Care Coordinator for Lincoln Public Schools and Families, First & Foremost in Lincoln, NE (2001-2009). She worked for Child Support with Lancaster County Attorney's office (1999-2001) and volunteered as a Mentor for Region V. She is also on the board for the Family Violence Council. Angela has a BS in Human Psychology and Behavioral Sciences from Concordia University, Seward, NE., a Masters in Forensic Science from NE Wesleyan University in Lincoln, and a Masters in Social Work from the University of Omaha.

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**Wendy Kahland:** wkahland2@unl.edu

**Phone:** (402) 472-9491

**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Wendy is a Training Specialist and a trainer for units in the Case Management course of study. She was a Nebraska Protection & Safety Worker from 2000-2003 and a Protection & Safety Integrated Care Coordinator from 2003-2006. Wendy joined CCFL in the fall of 2006 and has an Associate's degree in Human Sciences from Southeast Community College and a BA in Human Relations from Doane College.

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**Roger Lott:** rlott1@unl.edu

**Phone:** (402) 472-2874

**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Roger Lott is a member of the CCFL Legal Team and trains all units in the Working within the Legal System course of study. He teaches various in-services on topics from legal matters to psychology. Roger is a lawyer and psychologist, a former county attorney, served as the executive director of the Nebraska County Attorneys Association, and has practiced trial law for over 40 years. Roger joined CCFL in 1993.

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## Trainers

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**Michelle Paxton:** mpaxton@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-0926  
**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Michelle is a member of the CCFL Legal Team and trains all units in the Working within the Legal System course of study. Prior to joining CCFL in 2008, Michelle was a Deputy County Attorney in Douglas and Lancaster Counties. Michelle has a JD degree from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

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**Bryan Poppe:** bpoppe1@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-3475  
**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Bryan is a Training Specialist and a certified Mandt® trainer. He trains Worker Safety and the Mandt® System in the Case Management course of study. Bryan worked as a Protection and Safety Worker in Lincoln and has 28 years of employment experience in the Social Work profession. Bryan joined CCFL in 1997 and has a Bachelor of Social Work from Union College in Lincoln and an MS in Family Science from UNL.

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**Elizabeth Sterns:** esterns3@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-0637  
**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Elizabeth is a member of the CCFL Legal Team and trains all units in the Working within the Legal System course of study. She has practiced in the Nebraska Separate Juvenile Court, served as a court appointed Guardian ad Litem, and represented parents and putative fathers. She worked at CCFL on the initial development of the NE Court Improvement Project. Elizabeth holds a BS in Architectural Studies and Juris Doctor from the University of Nebraska Lincoln.

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**Barbara Sturgis:** bsturgis1@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-9809  
**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Barbara trains units on Interviewing, Interviewing Children, and Critical Thinking in New Worker Training. With a Ph.D. in Psychology, she is a licensed psychologist with 35 years of experience providing services in rural Nebraska, with a special emphasis in child sexual abuse. She obtained a Masters of Legal Studies in 1993 and has been on the staff at CCFL since 1991. She also has a private practice in Norfolk, Nebraska.

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**Cheryl Turner:** cheryl.turner@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-8881  
**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Cheryl trains on topics related to Children, Youth, and Families. She is a Licensed Independent Mental Health Practitioner and has areas of strength in trauma, attachment, children and families. Cheryl was the Outpatient Clinical Manager and trainer for Child Guidance Center from 2008 to 2014 and has been providing direct care, training, and oversight in the family services and mental health field since 1998.

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**Cheryl Yoder:** cyoder@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-9766  
**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Cheryl is a Training Specialist. Cheryl began her career as a police officer and worked with DHHS for 29 years in the areas of Title XX eligibility, food stamp eligibility, Adult Protective Services, and Child Protective Services. She has held positions as PSW, PS Supervisor, Acting PS Administrator, Personnel Officer, and Quality Assurance Specialist in Protection & Safety. Cheryl joined CCFL in 2007 and has a BS in Criminal Justice.

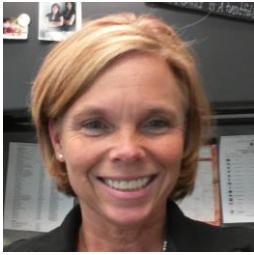
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## Field Training Specialists (FTSs) and Trainers

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**Paulette Sombke:** psombke2@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (308) 385-5601  
**Office:** 1811 West 2nd, Suite 105, Grand Island, NE 68803

Paulette is the Field Training Coordinator for CCFL. She also facilitates training in the Case Management and N-FOCUS course of study. Paulette was a PSW for 17 years in Nebraska, Iowa, and Missouri. In Missouri, she helped develop, implement, and manage the Professional Foster Parent Program. Paulette is also a forensic interviewer for the Central Nebraska CAC and a member of the Crisis Center Board in Grand Island. Paulette joined CCFL in 2002 and has a BSW from UNL.

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**Shelly Egge:** segge@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-1504  
**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Shelly is an FTS for the Southeast Service Area. She coordinates field-learning experiences for CFS Specialist trainees and facilitates lab units in the Case Management course of study. She primarily works with the CFSS trainees in the field helping to ensure they have an understanding of their jobs and also to ensure they are able to implement what they've learned through training out in the field with their families. She also coordinates and schedules hands on field learning experiences for the trainees. Shelly previously worked for 9 years in human services before she was a Protection and Safety Worker in Lincoln, working primarily with OJS youth and in the ICCU. Shelly joined CCFL in 2005 and holds a BA in Psychology from Doane College.

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**Angela Graham:** agraham2@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-0471  
**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Angie is the FTS for the Eastern Service Area. She observes, shadows, and supports the CFS Specialist trainees in the field. She also schedules, structures, and facilitates all learning activities for CFS Specialist trainees. Angie worked as a PSW for 5 years in both the Grand Island and O'Neill offices. Angie joined CCFL in 2003 and has a BA in Human Services from Midland Lutheran College.

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**Bob Hock:** bhock@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (308) 440-0019  
**Office:** 24 W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street Kearney, NE 68845

Bob is an FTS for the Central Service. He coordinates field-learning experiences for CFS Specialist trainees and facilitates lab units in the Case Management course of study. Bob has worked in human services for the past 10 years. He has worked with the child welfare system for the past 3 years that includes working with Contractors, YRTC and as a PSW in the Kearney office. Bob joined CCFL in 2012 and has a BS in Criminal Justice from University of Nebraska at Kearney.

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**Becky Jones:** rjones3@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (308) 530-2117  
**Office:** Craft State Office Building, 200 S. Silber St., North Platte NE 69101

Becky is an FTS for the Western Service Area. She coordinates training schedules and field-learning experiences for CFS Specialist trainees, facilitates lab units such as Interviewing, Engaging Families, and Car Seat training, and is a back-up trainer for Case Management 2 and Adoption. In addition, she helps with other in-service trainings for the Western Service Area. Becky worked as a CFSS for three years in the North Platte and Lincoln HHS offices and a CFS Supervisor for nearly two years with the North Platte ICCU. Becky joined CCFL in 2008 and has a B.S. in Family Science from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and an M.S. in Criminal Justice from the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

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**Jill Knox:** jknox@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-0934  
**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Jill is an FTS for the Southeast Service Area. She primarily works with the CFSS trainees in the field helping to ensure they have an understanding of policy and they are able to implement what they've learned through training out in the field with their families. Jill also coordinates and schedules hands on field learning experiences for the trainees. She also assists in classroom learning for the Case Management courses of study and is a Mandt<sup>®</sup> certified trainer. Jill worked seven years in human services, five of which were as a PSW in the Lincoln office. Jill joined CCFL in 2003 and has a BA in Psychology from UNL.

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## Field Training Specialists (FTSs) and Trainers

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**Amber Pelan:** amber.pelan@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 367-8456  
**Office:** 726 Cottonwood Street, Brainard, NE 68626

Amber is a FTS for the Northern Service Area. She coordinates field learning experiences for trainees in the field as well as provides hands on learning opportunities for trainees and is lead trainer for Medicaid topics. Amber has two years of experience as a Community Treatment Aid with Region V Services as well as four years of experience as a CFS Specialist for DHHS and KVC Behavioral HealthCare. She was also an Agency Based licensed foster home and currently volunteers for TeamMates, is a Cub Scout leader, and is a nationally registered EMT. Amber joined CCFL in 2012 and graduated with a BA in Psychology from UNL.

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**Leslie Schlecht:** leslie.schlecht@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 720-6524  
**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Leslie Schlecht is the FTS for the Northern Service Area. Her main areas of coverage include Fremont, Blair, Dakota City and Norfolk. She observes, shadows, and supports the CFS Specialist trainees in the field. She also schedules, structures, and facilitates all learning activities for CFS Specialist trainees. Leslie worked as a PSW for 6 years in both the West Point and Fremont offices and a Quality Assurance Program Specialist for 7 years. She was with DHHS for a total of 13 years. Leslie joined CCFL in 2013 and has a BA in Human Services from Bellevue University.

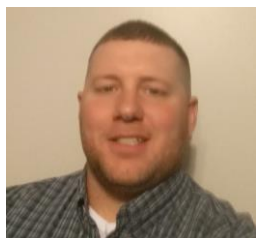
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**Joyce Starke:** jstarke2@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (308) 436-6942  
**Office:** 1600 10<sup>th</sup> Street, P.O. Box 540, Gering, NE 69341

Joyce is an FTS in the Western Service Area. She provides coordination of field training and facilitates lab units in the Case Management course of study. Joyce is also a Master Trainer for the PRIDE Program. Joyce was a PSW for 3 years before becoming a Protection and Safety Supervisor in 1995. Joyce joined CCFL in 2001 and has a BS in Health Sciences and Human Ecology, as well as an associate's degree and license in Practical Nursing.

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**Cody Struss:** cstruss2@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (308) 440-7250  
**Office:** 3715 29th Avenue, Kearney NE 68845

Cody is an FTS for the Central Service Area. He coordinates field-learning experiences for the CFS Specialist trainees and facilitates lab units in the Case Management course of study. Cody has worked in human services field for the past 11 years. For the last 3 years Cody was a police officer, but before that he had worked with DHHS at the Hastings Regional Center, YRTC, and was also a CFS Specialist in the Kearney office. Cody joined CCFL in 2015.

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## Training Coordination and Production

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**Audine Oehm:** aoehm2@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-0212  
**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Audine coordinates the logistics of Child Protection & Safety Training across the state. She also coordinates the Child Protection & Safety in-service training offered by CCFL. She serves as the contact person for all training calendar and training location decisions. Audine manages the training database for Child Protection & Safety Training. She joined CCFL in 1999.

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**Stacie Zetocha:** szetocha2@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-3479  
**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

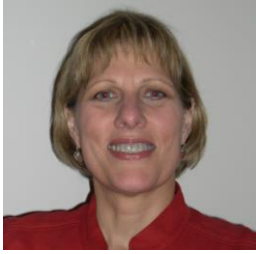
Stacie Zetocha is the Staff Associate for CCFL. She provides assistance and support to numerous projects along with managing the front desk. She is primarily responsible for coordinating the production and distribution of training materials for NDHHS New Worker trainees and staff. Stacie joined CCFL in 2015 and has a B.S.B.A. degree in Management with a minor in Marketing from UNL and an A.A.S. degree in Office Professional with a Medical Focus from SCC.

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## Training Administration

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**Kathy Olson:** kolson1@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-3138  
**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Kathy is the Associate Director of CCFL. She is the administrator of CCFL's training activities for DHHS. She is a member of the CCFL Legal Team and trains various units in the Working within the Legal System course of study as well as Specialized Adoption. Kathy has been a lawyer since 1981 and joined CCFL when it was formed in 1988. Her legal experience is primarily in juvenile and family law. Kathy also is an adjunct clinical professor at the University of Nebraska College of Law.

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**Shelly Johnson:** shelly.johnson@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-0930  
**Office:** 206 S. 13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Shelly is the Training Administrator, responsible for coordinating the Center's training activities under the NDHHS training contract to provide competency-based training to CFS staff. In 2013, Shelly began work at NDHHS Central Office, as Unit Administrator for the newly created Training and Professional Development Unit. This position is a "Special Assignment" established from a partnering relationship with CCFL. Responsibilities include new worker training, development of a strategic plan for ongoing training, retention and satisfaction of CFS employees and the assessment of needs and training. Shelly has over 25 years of experience in child welfare and 10 years of experience as a case manager for both children and adults in the Lincoln local office. Shelly joined the CCFL staff in 2000 and has a BSW from UNL/UNO.

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## Curriculum Development and Evaluation

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**Janet Walters:** jwalters@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-7105  
**Office:** 206 S.13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Jan is the Director of Curriculum Development at CCFL. She works with the DHHS and CCFL training staffs to create the Child Protection & Safety Training. Her specific interests include the psychosocial well-being of individuals and families and the successful transition to adulthood for youth in care. Previously she worked with DHHS as a Program Development Specialist in the areas of preparation for adult living for foster youth, mentoring, and adoption. Jan joined CCFL in 1995 and has an MA in Adult & Continuing Education and a PhD in Family Science.

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**Megan Paul:** mpaul@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-9812  
**Office:** 206 S.13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Megan provides curriculum development assistance and is jointly responsible for conducting training evaluation and competency assessment projects designed to improve the selection, training, performance, and retention of Child and Family Services Specialists in Nebraska. Megan joined CCFL in 2000 and has a PhD in Industrial-Organizational Psychology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

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**Laurie Voelker:** lvoelker@unl.edu  
**Phone:** (402) 472-9811  
**Office:** 206 S.13th Street, #1000, Lincoln, NE 68588-0227

Laurie supports and assists curriculum development and implementation with the trainers and training staff. Laurie joined CCFL in 2010 and has a BA in Anthropology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

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