

UNIVERSITY of NEBRASKA-LINCOLN

Center
on Children,
Families, and
the Law



• • • Commitment • • •

• • • Collaboration • • •

• • • Community • • •



••• A Letter from Our Directors

Back in the 1980s, a popular book by Gregory Stock called *The Book of Questions* had over 200 probing questions to consider by yourself or with others. One question asked, “Would you rather be a member of a world championship sports team or be the champion of an individual sport?” Our answer was, and continues to be, that we would rather be a member of a team. Being part of a team allows us to work together toward a goal, share our sorrows, and celebrate victories. There is just something beautiful about being part of a team.

Fortunately, at Center on Children, Families, and the Law, we are part of a vast team reaching across the university, the state of Nebraska, and beyond. As you will see in the pages of this report, we partner with many organizations and local, state, and federal agencies. Teaming up with these partners provides us with opportunities we would never have alone. It allows us to take a holistic approach to problem-solving and address issues at multiple levels while fulfilling our mission of helping the helpers. It broadens commitment, brings about collaboration, and builds community. Despite the difficulties and trials of these past two years, you will see in this report that we still have much to celebrate with our team within and outside CCFL.

We also approach leadership from a collective perspective, and for the first time in over thirty years, we welcomed a third member to our team. Christine Henningsen became CCFL’s second associate director. Christine’s thoughtful and patient approach to leadership has already proven an asset, and we are excited to share this experience with her.

Eve Brank, JD, PhD

Director

Kathy Olson, JD, MA

Associate Director

Christine Henningsen, JD, BSW

Associate Director

••• Welcome to Our Newly Renovated Office

The Center on Children, Families, and the Law (CCFL) moved to the 9th and 10th floors of the Sharp Building in 2008. Eleven years later, in November of 2019, a much-needed office renovation began. Updates on the 10th floor included fresh paint and carpeting, while the 9th floor was gutted and rebuilt to meet CCFL’s growing needs. These changes created additional staff offices, a computer lab, a kitchen, a staff wellness room, and a large training room that can convert into three smaller training spaces.

CCFL’s amazing Audine Oehm, lead training coordination associate, supervised this process from start to finish while maintaining her regular job duties. To complete the renovation during the pandemic amid changing protocols required next-level skill. She expertly scheduled all office packing while it was still allowed and organized a million details to keep the renovation on track while staff worked remotely.

Audine coordinated with building managers, architects, contractors, workers, AV specialists, furniture companies, leadership, and staff. Additionally, she oversaw all CCFL’s furniture and boxes being moved temporarily to another floor and then moved back. To say what she accomplished was miraculous would be an understatement. CCFL nominated Audine to receive an Applause Award from the College of Arts and Sciences, which she won. Audine always goes above and beyond. However, what she achieved throughout the renovation despite the pandemic is remarkable.

We welcome you to our newly renovated office because of her dedication. Thank you, Audine!



Center on Children, Families, and the Law

The Center on Children, Families, and the Law is one of 57 departments, centers, programs, and institutes located within the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. CCFL was established in 1987 to serve as a home for research and public service on child and family policy issues. The knowledge of child and family issues we gain is used to educate policymakers, scholars, service providers, and the public. Our work serves as the primary basis for new local, state, and national legislation and has been cited in court rulings, including the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Helpers

- Child Welfare Practitioners
- Community Health Workers
- Respite Coordinators
- Policymakers
- School Personnel
- Indigenous Tribal Leaders
- Local, State, and Federal Agencies
- Mental Health Practitioners
- Service Providers
- Judges
- Attorneys
- Law Enforcement
- Probation Officers
- Community Leaders
- Basic and Emergency Needs Providers

How We Help the Helpers



Those Helped

- Neglected and Maltreated Children
- Vulnerable Infants and Toddlers
- Parents and Families
- Older Adults
- Foster and Adoptive Parents
- Service Professionals
- Individuals Impacted by Health Disparities
- Families Impacted by Domestic Violence
- Youth Impacted by the Justice System
- Caregivers and Care Recipients
- The Community
- At-Risk Populations
- Individuals with Disabilities
- Survivors of Trafficking
- Individuals Experiencing Homelessness

Our Mission

Helping the Helpers: We provide an interdisciplinary and collaborative approach to improve systems and outcomes for children and families.

Our Commitment to the N2025 Strategic Plan

In 2019, the University of Nebraska–Lincoln celebrated its 150th anniversary and unveiled N2025, a faculty-led strategic plan identifying six ambitious aims driven by the tenet that at Nebraska, every person and every interaction matters.



Aim: Innovate student experiences that prepare graduates to be life-long learners and contributors to the workforce in Nebraska and the world

CCFL is committed to providing pedagogically-sound and empirically-based training that educates and empowers professionals in diverse fields across the state and nationally. We will offer interdisciplinary expertise and experiential learning opportunities to prepare the workforce we train for success.



Aim: Establish a culture at Nebraska committed to increasing the impact of research and creative activity

CCFL is committed to confronting complex issues with creative ideas and collaborative partnerships. Faculty and staff are intent on finding innovative solutions to address areas of need. We will cultivate a culture of imagination and inquiry to create more equity and inclusion within current systems.



Aim: Focus research, scholarship, creative activity, and student experiences to foster innovative, interdisciplinary endeavors and solve challenges critical to Nebraska and the world

CCFL is committed to an interdisciplinary approach. Our multidisciplinary backgrounds include social work, education, social psychology, counseling psychology, industrial-organizational psychology, law, criminal justice, forensic science, and more. We will work together to solve complex challenges.



Aim: Broaden Nebraska's engagement in community, industry, and global partnerships

CCFL is committed to partnering with agencies in our community and nationwide to inform policy and improve lives. We will collaborate with local, state, national, and international organizations on research, teaching, and public service issues related to child and family policy and services.



Aim: Create a climate at Nebraska that emphasizes, prioritizes, and expands inclusive excellence and diversity

CCFL is committed to cultivating inclusive excellence. We provide services and resources to currently underrepresented populations while critically addressing systemic barriers in policy and practice. We will promote diversity, equity, and inclusion at every level to increase awareness and action.



Aim: Prioritize participation and professional development for all Nebraska students, staff, and faculty

CCFL is committed to professional development and growth. We explore new subjects and expand skills through workshops, seminars, retreats, and conferences, and innovative ideas and improvements are always welcome. We will support professional growth to empower each person's exceptional potential.



We believe that every person and every interaction matters.

In the following pages, we will share how CCFL is putting the N2025 Strategic Plan into action. Our highlighted projects vary, but we know you will see our commitment to these aims within each one.



• • • Community Services Division

Team: Abby Spicer, Liz Woods, Alexandria Labenz, Jeff Chambers, Toby Burnham, Danell McCoy Vaughan, Sally Buchholz, Denise Packard, not pictured: Angel Shafer, Skye Windle



The leadership and direction that CCFL provides to the City of Lincoln and, specifically, Lincoln's Homeless Coalition are truly invaluable. The community is very fortunate to have an organization like CCFL to help guide and assist efforts to help low-income individuals and families.

Bradd Schmeichel
City of Lincoln
Urban Development Department



CCFL has been an essential partner in coordinating Lincoln's response to homelessness. This coordination has created the opportunity for homeless service providers to focus efforts and prioritize safe housing for the most vulnerable members of our community. It is not an overstatement to say that it is life changing.

Leah Droge
Assistant Director of Program Development
Friendship Home
Lincoln Homeless Coalition Chair



Partners Include: City of Lincoln, Lincoln Homeless Coalition, Lincoln Community Foundation, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Nebraska Department of Economic Development, Lancaster County Human Services, U.S. Department of Treasury, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Community Services Division

• • • Project Highlight: Lincoln Prevention Assistance Common Fund



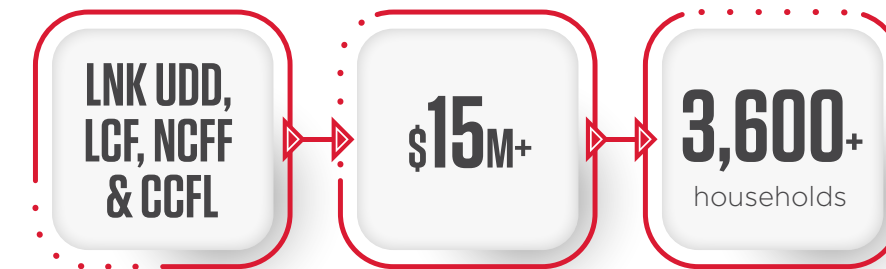
CCFL's Community Services Division houses a network of projects that help provide essential services to those in need of basic and emergency aid, including housing, food, and financial assistance. Working alongside community partners, CCFL has been instrumental in helping distribute emergency relief funds to at-risk populations that have seen a drastic increase in needs due to the pandemic.

The Community Services Division established the coordinated entry system, All Doors Lead Home, in 2017 to connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness with appropriate housing as quickly as possible. Responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, the team worked with

providers and policymakers to assess needs, identify solutions, develop implementation strategies, and analyze impact. These actions quickly expanded All Doors Lead Home into a system for preventing homelessness.

The Community Services Division partnered with the City of Lincoln Urban Development Department, Lincoln Community Foundation, and Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to establish the Lincoln Prevention Assistance Common Fund. Collaborating with the City, County, and multiple community-based providers since July of 2020, they have distributed over \$15 million in rent and utility assistance to more than 3,600 households in Lincoln and Lancaster County.

Lincoln Prevention Assistance Common Fund





Answers4Families

Team: Michael Reinmiller, Allison Jones, Mitchell Hesseltine, Charlie Lewis, Stacie Zetocha, Jessica Cook, not pictured: Josh Rice



As a health disparities researcher, I've learned firsthand from Community Health Workers (CHW) that they need a database to connect their clients quickly to resources anywhere in the state. Charlie Lewis has been a team player in addressing resource sharing as it relates to CHWs. Her team partnered with Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, where she led an effort to build and manage such a statewide app. The Nebraska Resource and Referral System (NRRS) app is in the early phase of implementation. I'm excited to connect Answers4Families with other researchers and creators to explore further collaboration. Together we can work to improve the reach and ease of use of these resource-based apps in Nebraska.

Virginia Chaidez, PhD, RD
Associate Professor, Nutrition and Health Sciences
University of Nebraska-Lincoln



Partners Include: University of Nebraska College of Education and Human Sciences, University of Nebraska Medical Center Munroe-Meyer Institute, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Nebraska Department of Education, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, Children's Hospital & Medical Center: Center for the Child & Community, Community Health Workers across Nebraska

Answers4Families

Project Highlight: Community Health Workers



Community Health Workers (CHW) serve as a trustworthy bridge between public health and individuals in the community. CHWs provide outreach, facilitate access to services, decrease health disparities, and promote overall health. CCFL developed Answers4Families (A4F) to deliver online resources to families with special needs. One of the ways A4F does this is by supporting CHWs with online education, networking, and the Nebraska Resource and Referral System (NRRS) mobile app.

A4F designed the NRRS app to empower families and those who work with them to locate community service providers, resources, and programs. With the NRRS app, CHWs can offer families an informed choice between various service providers. It also enables them to locate local and state agency services that can meet their unique needs. The free NRRS app is available

through Apple or Google Play, and it allows users to easily search through thousands of resources and save favorites for quick access later.

A4F is also collaborating on a new research project with Dr. Virginia Chaidez, associate professor, Nutrition and Health Sciences at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, that will further assist CHWs in their work.

While still early in the implementation phase, this project aims to identify systemic gaps and opportunities for COVID-19 interventions in community systems across rural Nebraska. The research will examine attitudes, behaviors, experiences, challenges, resources, policies, and trusted communication and information sources that affect the overall risk and impact of COVID-19. Relevant results will be shared through the statewide NRRS app to help address health disparities.



U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2020



• • • Nebraska Resource Project for Vulnerable Young Children

Team: Pamela Caudill Jordan, Cassandra Roberts, Kelli Hauptman, Melissa Villarreal, Jamie Bahm, Haifaa Al-saadi, not pictured: Tracey Kock, Samantha Byrns, Lindsey Ondrak, Chad Gressley, Meredith Cartwright, Sarah Barker



The partnership between our project, Rooted in Relationships, and the Nebraska Resource Project for Vulnerable Young Children made a huge difference in expanding Nebraska’s collective capacity to introduce, grow, and sustain new evidence-based practices that enhance the social-emotional development of children, birth through age eight. In the words of Helen Keller, **‘Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much.’** This describes our experience in working with CCFL!

Betty Medinger, LCSW
Senior Vice President
Nebraska Children and Families Foundation



Partners Include: Rooted in Relationships Nebraska Children, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Nebraska Department of Education, Lancaster County Nebraska, Douglas County Nebraska, Early Development Network, Nebraska CASA Association, Nebraska Extension, Nebraska Law, Head Start State Collaboration, Project Harmony, Iowa-PCIT, Erikson Institute, Nebraska Association for Infant Mental Health

Nebraska Resource Project for Vulnerable Young Children

• • • Project Highlight: Early Childhood Mental Health



The early years of a child’s life are critical for physical, cognitive, and social-emotional development. Many factors can negatively impact child development, including untreated parental substance use or mental health issues. Early intervention and Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH) services can help prevent children from experiencing—or can mitigate—lifelong adverse effects.

The Nebraska Resource Project for Vulnerable Young Children (NRPVYC) supports the early childhood mental health of Nebraska’s young children by engaging with professionals through three areas: ECMH Clinical Training Programs, Outreach, and Community of Practice Support. Using video conferencing this last year to overcome the constraints caused by the

pandemic, the NRPVYC expanded its ECMH services aimed at protecting and nurturing young children, which included:

- a Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP) training cohort
- Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) training cohorts
- ECMH consultation and trauma trainings
- an on-demand ECMH online course
- a Fall Webinar Series with almost 600 registrants
- a Community of Practice annual conference with over 300 participants

In 2020, NRPVYC trained

1,530 professionals

in ECMH and reflective practice.



• • • Field Training

Team: Melissa Mager, Sarah Hansen, Shailynn Mundil, Grady Schmitt, Angie Graham, Paulette Sombke, Jill Knox, Leslie Schlecht, Rachel Kloke, Joyce Starke, Cody Struss, Bob Hock, not pictured: Kristin Adkins

Center on Children, Families, and the Law receives national 2021 Quality Program Award

CCFL was recently honored by the National Staff Development and Training Association (NSDTA) for our innovative and interdisciplinary Child Protection and Safety training program, developed in collaboration with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

NSDTA is an affinity group of the American Public Human Services Association, which is a national membership association focused on improving outcomes for people by supporting state and local health and human services agencies nationwide. NSDTA serves to support those “responsible for human service training and organizational development on the local, state, or federal level.”

With our parallel mission of **helping the helpers** to improve outcomes for children and families, CCFL was thrilled to be nationally recognized with NSDTA’s 2021 Quality Program Award.



• • • Pre-Service and In-Service Training

Team: Mindy Liebelt, John Turner, Mitchell Hesseltine, Christine Henningsen, Michael Rumbaugh, Amy Peters, Charlie Lewis, Shelly Johnson, Audine Oehm, Krista Roebke, Jessica Cook, Shelly Egge, Tari Miller, Cheryl Turner, Megan Paul, not pictured: Kathy Olson, Michael Reinmiller, Wendy Kahland, Mark Ells, Barb Sturgis, Angela Gebhardt, Laurie Voelker, Cheryl Yoder, Allison Jones, Hicham Mahir, Amelia Feit, Rebecca Wilson

Partner: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

Training for the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services, Protection and Safety Workforce

• • • Pre-Service and In-Service Training



CCFL’s training team consists of approximately 40 dedicated faculty and staff with more than 600 years of collective child welfare experience. For the past 34 years, CCFL has been working to improve the lives of children and families in partnership with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services—Division of Children and Family Services (NDHHS-DCFS).

CCFL is passionate about providing comprehensive Child Protection and Safety (CP&S) Pre-Service and In-Service training to:

- Child and Family Services (CFS) Specialists with NDHHS-DCFS
- Nebraska Tribal staff
- Contracted child welfare staff

CCFL’s training is infused with interdisciplinary expertise and experiential learning opportunities. The training team’s multidisciplinary backgrounds include social work, education, social psychology, counseling psychology, industrial-organizational psychology, law, criminal justice, forensic science, and more.

CP&S Training is developed in collaboration with NDHHS-DCFS and provided by CCFL. Pre-Service training is engaging and skill based, using immersive practice and case simulation to prepare participants for success in the field. In-Service training offers ongoing professional development and strategic support.

CCFL is committed to equipping the child welfare workforce with the high-quality training they need to provide strong advocacy to those most vulnerable.

In the last FY CCFL has provided:



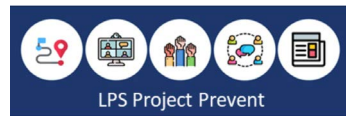
New: LPS Project Prevent and Trauma Capable Schools

Project Lead: Cheryl Turner



Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) and CCFL partnered in 2020 on Project Prevent to support school personnel in addressing the impacts of trauma in the educational setting. Cheryl Turner developed this groundbreaking program, along with nationally recognized trainers in child welfare, legal systems, mental health, and education. Training, assessment, and consultation focus on enhancing professional skills, improving system interventions for at-risk students, and providing staff with essential tools for student success.

Over the last year, Project Prevent successfully reached over 700 staff across three high schools to provide training, consultation, and strategies that improve student learning capacities across virtual and in-person classrooms. CCFL also delivered LPS professional development training to other staff across the district's 55 schools throughout the summer of 2021.



Looking forward, CCFL is excited to partner on a second project with LPS that facilitates an accessible and sustainable Trauma Capable Schools training program for all school personnel across the district. Over the next three years, CCFL will develop and launch asynchronous and synchronous training that staff can access regardless of previous training or knowledge. This online training library will include foundational understanding, skill-building strategies, and practices, along with large-scale system approaches. It will expand each year, culminating in 25+ classes available to LPS's 6000+ employees.

CCFL is pleased that this collaborative partnership enables school personnel to address the trauma-related learning barriers many students face and transform the classroom experience with trauma-informed supports that empower positive learning.

Project Prevent training this last year

700

staff in 3 high schools

75

district professionals trained

New: Children's Justice Attorney Education Program

Project Lead: Michelle Paxton



The Children's Justice Attorney Education program (CJAE) was recently created by CCFL and Nebraska Law. This innovative fellowship program will provide extensive training, expert case consultation, and reflective practice to transform legal representation for vulnerable children and families across the state.

Michelle Paxton, director of the Children's Justice Clinic (CJC) and the CJAE, developed the program based on the CJC's successful approach, which provides comprehensive interdisciplinary training to law students as they become Guardians ad Litem. Similarly, the attorney program will

educate attorneys in child welfare and juvenile justice to improve the availability and quality of legal representation for children and families in rural communities, including underrepresented low-income, Latinx, and Indigenous populations.

The CJAE is pleased to be partnering with Legal Aid of Nebraska for program development and management. The team is excited that this novel solution to a complex need will educate and empower rural attorneys to become high-quality advocates in juvenile court across Nebraska.

In a 2020 survey by Attorney Services, **40%** of the responding Nebraska judges state that it is difficult to find qualified attorneys for child welfare cases.

About **6%** of Nebraska attorneys have child welfare training. Over **60%** of abuse & neglect cases are rural.



Cheryl Turner has transformed the way our staff thinks about trauma and its impact on students, their learning and behavior. Through Project Prevent, she has created additional ways to provide staff development by including in-depth online training and in-person training. She has also worked with our social workers and counselors to deepen their knowledge of traumatic events that influence child development. Cheryl is helping us develop a long-range staff development plan to create trauma-capable schools.

Russ Uhing, Director of Student Services, Lincoln Public Schools



Partner: Lincoln Public Schools



Applying the CJC model to rural communities with the CJAE program is an essential step to improving quality representation in Nebraska.

Deb VanDyke-Ries
Director of the Nebraska Court Improvement Project



Partners Include: Nebraska Court Improvement Project, Nebraska Law, Legal Aid of Nebraska, Casey Family Programs, Aviv Foundation



We are thrilled to once again be partnering with CCFL to improve the quality of child welfare representation in Nebraska. Our mission to develop inclusive leaders goes beyond our current students. The CJAE program reaches into rural communities and helps develop the leaders who are serving the state's most vulnerable children.

Richard Moberly
Dean of the Nebraska College of Law and Professor of Law



New: **Safe and Healthy Families Initiative**

• • • Team: Jamie Bahm, Angela Gebhardt, Pamela Caudill Jordan



The Safe and Healthy Families Initiative is a powerful new project that provides a coordinated response to domestic-violence-related child maltreatment cases in Lancaster County. The Safe and Healthy Families Court, led by Separate Juvenile Court Judge Elise White, will be the first domestic-violence-centered child welfare court in the state.

CCFL's Angela Gebhardt, training specialist for CP&S New Worker Training; Jamie Bahm, project manager with the Nebraska Resource Project for Vulnerable Young Children; and Dr. Pamela Caudill Jordan, research assistant professor, will bring their extensive expertise in child welfare and domestic violence (DV) to the initiative.

CCFL is honored to be working alongside community partners and deeply committed to the project goals of providing a domestic-violence-informed coordinated response by the agencies that work with impacted families to:

- improve child safety
- strengthen partnerships with parents
- hold perpetrators more accountable
- provide professionals with domestic violence education and development training

In 2019 in Lancaster County there were

4,500

reports of child maltreatment

2,188

Child and Family Services accepted intakes

505

of those identified a DV issue

Newly Named Service: **Workforce Solutions**

• • • Project Leads: Michelle Graef, Megan Paul



In line with our mission of helping the helpers, CCFL is pleased to offer human service agencies the consultation expertise of Michelle Graef and Megan Paul, leaders of Workforce Solutions.

Both bring a wealth of wisdom with doctorates in Industrial-Organizational Psychology and over 50 combined years of experience in the field. Their team provides evidence-based consultation on strategic human resource questions and develops high-quality workforce interventions tailored for each organization's unique needs. This level of insight proves invaluable in enhancing individual and organizational performance, empowering human service agencies to fulfill their missions of service effectively and efficiently.

Under their latest five-year cooperative agreement funded by the Children's Bureau, they established and led the Quality Improvement Center for Workforce Development (QIC-WD), which worked with eight agencies across the nation to build an understanding of how improvements could be made within the child welfare workforce to enhance child and family outcomes for state and tribal systems.

While the name **Workforce Solutions** is new, the services offered are not. CCFL has provided consultation and evaluation services to human service agencies for over 34 years.

Areas of Expertise:

- Workforce Needs Assessment
- Workforce Analytics
- Job Analysis
- Recruitment and Selection
- Onboarding and Training
- Performance Improvement
- Employee Well-Being
- Employee Turnover
- Change Management
- Program Evaluation and Cost Analysis
- Evidence-Based Management
- Continuous Workforce Improvement



What's been great in working with the Center on Children, Families, and the Law to create the Safe and Healthy Families Initiative has been the way CCFL staff members have shown their commitment to collaboration. CCFL staff members have provided excellent expertise but also have been great at listening and valuing all the project partners. A big part of a coordinated response project like Safe and Healthy Families is for the professionals to all model the healthy behaviors we hope families will adopt. CCFL staff members have done that.

Bob Moyer, Executive Director, Family Violence Council



Partners Include: Family Violence Council, Voices of Hope, Friendship Home, CASA of Lancaster County, Child Advocacy Center, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services



The partnership during the QIC-WD process was instrumental in achieving the tasks and goals set in the change management project. Louisiana DCFS was afforded genuine expert input throughout each step of the planning. The needs assessment was a thorough process that led to the Louisiana Child Welfare Job Redesign. The QIC-WD group displayed a highly qualified team of professionals; they defined each task, maintained timelines, and supported Louisiana to and through each phase. Louisiana Child Welfare is better because of this experience.

Leslie B. Calloway, Louisiana DCFS Deputy Assistant Secretary, Workforce Development





Commitment

CCFL began in 1987 with three people working out of a tiny basement office with a deep desire to improve the lives of children and families by helping the helpers. Since then, CCFL's work has exponentially expanded, but our mission remains the same. From those first few who concentrated all their dedication on a singular child welfare training grant, CCFL has grown to over 80 faculty, staff, and graduate students working on 57 contracts and grants. Our projects focus on early childhood mental health, child welfare, youth justice, community health, homelessness prevention, and much more. What drives our research and training is dedication to our mission. Amid a pandemic that has had a far greater impact on those most vulnerable, we remain unwaveringly committed to helping the helpers.

3 ▶ 80 staff
1 ▶ 57 grants



Collaboration

CCFL recognizes that improving the lives of children and families cannot be done alone and must be viewed through multiple lenses. Our interdisciplinary team reflects this approach at CCFL. We also support and are supported by countless committed individuals working in agencies alongside us. You have heard from a few of our collaborative partners on the previous pages. As we help the helpers, they are empowered to help others. Together we evaluate interventions, challenge broken systems that harm, and find creative solutions to complex problems. Together we push back against barriers and biases and move toward creating inclusive communities where all children and families are seen and supported. CCFL is grateful to collaborate with such outstanding organizations in this crucial work.

94%
 FY grant success rate

100+
 partners



Community


CCFL's founder, Dr. Gary B. Melton, began our work believing that community connections could create profound change in the well-being of children and families. Thirty-four years later, CCFL sees the result of this vision twofold: in our community of partners working with us to improve outcomes and in the increase of protective factors in urban and rural communities that transform lives. Our aspirations are mighty. We want to protect all children. We want to address all housing vulnerability. We want to empower all families with the resources they need. This work is vast. Yet one simple word can enable immense change—community. As we help the helpers in many communities, we know we are part of a collaborative community of committed changemakers. We are honored to serve with you.



Connect

The University of Nebraska–Lincoln's Center on Children, Families, and the Law believes in the power of partnership to achieve shared goals and enact change. We would love to hear about the exciting work that you are doing.

We invite you to:

 **Reach out to discuss collaborative projects:**
ccfl.unl.edu/about/contact

 **Support our work helping the helpers:**
ccfl.unl.edu/about/giving

 **Join our online community:**
[@UNLCCFL](https://twitter.com/UNLCCFL)

CCFL has ten satellite locations stretching across the state of Nebraska. Our main office is in the Sharp Building at 206 S. 13th Street, downtown Lincoln. We look forward to connecting with you soon!



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