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MARCH 2018

POLICY TALK

The Latest in Public Policy Center News and Events

IN THE NEWS



Statewide K-12 School Threat Assessment Training Focuses on Prevention

Four two-day training sessions have reached over 80 Nebraska schools since January.

Dr. Mario Scalora and **Dr. Denise Bulling** of the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center partnered with **Dr.**

Jolene Palmer, director of safety and security for the Nebraska Department of Education, to conduct threat assessment training for 85 Nebraska schools. The training was sponsored by local educational service units in four areas of the state and featured guidelines created by the Public Policy Center that translate the science and practice of threat assessment for use by local school and community teams. Participants included educators, administrators, law enforcement, mental health, public health and human resource professionals. The training will be repeated this summer in two more locations. See coverage on [10/11 News](#), [KLKN TV](#), and [NTV News](#).

Gallup BP10 Assessment
to Identify Future Builders
and Entrepreneurs

Prosper Lincoln's objective of Innovation & Entrepreneurship focuses on providing opportunities for students.



Using Gallup's Builder Profile 10 (BP10) assessment, the [Future Builders Challenge](#) allows high school freshmen in Lincoln to "discover and explore what part they can play in building the companies of tomorrow" by identifying their aptitudes to become entrepreneurs, innovators and builders. The Future Builders Challenge is the result of one of the primary objectives of [Prosper Lincoln](#), a four-year initiative that aims to address major issues in our community. The University of Nebraska Public Policy Center and the Lincoln Community Foundation are just two of the organizations that serve leadership roles in developing the overall strategy and objectives for Prosper Lincoln.

Lincoln Community Foundation Aims to Increase Disaster Resilience



The [Lincoln Community Foundation](#) has been selected to participate in a new disaster-preparedness, response, and recovery program. The initiative involves working with individuals interested in making Lincoln a more resilient community through [disaster philanthropy and partnerships](#). The Public Policy Center's Assistant Director, Nancy Shank, and Research Specialist, Ryan Lowry, collaborated with local non-profit leaders, emergency response personnel, public health officials, faith leaders, and others to identify potential obstacles the community would face during a disaster and the resources that would be needed to address them. By understanding how to deal with these challenges and identify the people or networks that could have actionable roles in solving some of the issues before a disaster occurs, the community is better positioned to respond effectively. The goal of the project is to ensure that Lincoln will be more resilient in the face of future disasters.



Lincoln Read Aloud Program Expands Reach

[Read Aloud Lincoln](#), a Prosper Lincoln initiative funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, promotes and coordinates reading aloud through museums and libraries to ensure all children are kindergarten ready. A recent event,

"Dinosaurs & Disasters" at Morrill Hall featured several new read aloud opportunities. The Public Policy Center Associate Director, Dr. Nancy Shank, University of Nebraska Senior Associate to the President, Marjorie Kostelnik, and NU State Museum Director, Dr. Susan Weller are some of the leadership helping guide this project. [See upcoming events.](#)

QUICK LOOK

A Drone by Any Other Name...

[Dr. Lisa PytlikZillig's](#) work "A Drone by Any Other Name..." appears in the March issue of *IEEE Technology and Society Magazine*. Her research, conducted with colleagues in UNL's Department of Computer Science and Engineering, finds that public support for drones is especially related to perceptions of the purposes of the drones and the trustworthiness of drone users. Despite industry arguments for referring to drones by other terms (e.g., "unmanned aerial systems" or UASs), public support was unaffected by terminology. Her results advance understanding of public views of drone technologies used in civilian contexts. [Read the article.](#)



Dr. Denise Bulling featured in New AHEPP e-Magazine

[Dr. Denise Bulling's](#) work titled "Integrating Prevention of Violent Extremism in Health Activities" is featured in the *AHEPP e-magazine Healthcare Preparedness Insights*, a bi-annual digital publication focusing on healthcare emergency preparedness. [Read the article.](#)

Integrating Prevention of
Violent Extremism
in Health Activities

Written by: Denise Bulling



MyPI Youth Preparedness Workshop for Instructors

On March 23rd, Nebraska Extension - Disasters and the [University of Nebraska Public Policy Center](#) are partnering for a My Youth Preparedness Initiative (MyPI) workshop hosted by Disaster Recovery Coordinator Ashley Mueller and Public Policy Center Research Specialist Ryan Lowry. The workshop is for teachers, teen group leaders and program coordinators who want to learn how to teach teens about disaster preparedness and safety. [Learn more about MyPI.](#)





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Our mission is to link policy
with research, process &
practice.

We team with policymakers
and other stakeholders to
actively inform public policy
by bringing expertise in a
variety of areas.



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