

August 2023

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska | PUBLIC POLICY
CENTER



POLICYTALK

The Latest in Public Policy
Center News and Events

Featured News

Safe2Help Nebraska Releases New Videos Highlighting How and When to Report Concerns



This Summer, the Nebraska Department of Education, Nebraska Council of School Administrators, Boys Town, and the Public Policy Center partnered to develop a series of live-action and animated videos to educate schools, students, and parents about the Safe2Help Nebraska reporting system. The videos will be used by schools to explain how and when to use the reporting system.

If you see something concerning or feel that someone may need help, the reporting system is a safe and anonymous way to report concerns about bullying, substance use, suicide, threats of violence, or abuse via the Safe2Help Nebraska app or website. **Read more.**

Safety Training Prepares Schools, Law Enforcement, and

Emergency Services for Back to School Season



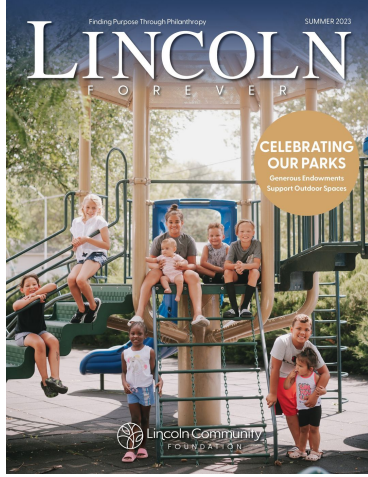
photo by Tyler Dahlgren, NCSA Communications Manager

This summer, Nebraska Educational Service Unit (ESU) 16 hosted school districts, first responders, and law enforcement for an emergency operations planning tabletop exercise on the brink of “back to school” season. The training, which presented hypothetical emergency scenarios for the attendees, was facilitated by the **University of Nebraska Public Policy Center** through their partnership with **Nebraska Department of Education**. “We don’t want just the schools to be there,” says Kurt Mantonya, a research manager at the Public Policy Center. “We want their emergency managers, their community’s emergency managers, law enforcement, EMS, and other first responders to attend too, because it takes an entire community to be active in your emergency operations planning,” Mantonya said. [Read more.](#)

Partner Highlight

Lincoln Community Foundation Highlights Community Engagement Collaboration

The latest issue of *Lincoln Forever*, highlights a collaboration between the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center and the Lincoln Community Foundation. Utilizing a new research method to share data and center community members with lived experiences as experts, we co-hosted multiple

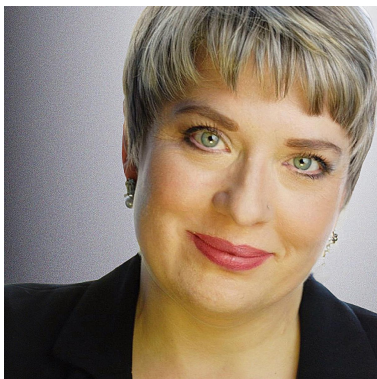


data walks in different neighborhoods throughout the Lincoln community to gain public feedback on data about diversity and equity in Lincoln. Insights gained from these conversations will inform a future issue of the Lincoln Vital Signs report. [Learn More.](#)

Events

Serving Youth and Families in Crisis with Dr. Cate Jones-Hazledine

FREE VIRTUAL TRAINING
Thursday, Sept. 28, 2023



The free virtual event will provide an overview of working with youth in crisis. It is intended for professionals in psychology, behavioral health, and social work. The speaker, Dr. Jones-Hazledine, is a clinical psychologist. It has been approved for 2.75 continuing education credits for psychologists. The event will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Central) on Zoom.

Sponsored by the Department of

Great Plains Association of Threat Assessment Professionals Training Event

VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON TRAINING
Friday, Oct. 20, 2023



Great Plains
CHAPTER

The 2023 Association of Threat Assessment Professionals Great Plains Chapter training event will focus on preventing targeted violence in diverse environments. Speakers include Dr. Wendy Patrick, Dr. Stephanie Leite, Joe Wright, Dr. James Cawood, and Patrick Prince. The event will be held virtually and in-person from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Embassy Suites in Lincoln, NE. [Learn More.](#)

Health and Human Services and the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center.

Presented by the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals Great Plains Chapter.

**Register
Today**

**Register
Today**



Nebraska School Safety and Security Summit

NCSA

IN-PERSON EVENT

Nebraska Council of
School Administrators

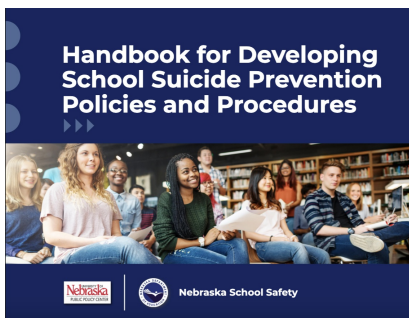
October 19, 2023

The Nebraska Council of School Administrators, in partnership with the Nebraska Department of Education, University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, and Boys Town will hold the 6th Annual Nebraska School Safety and Security Summit with a focus on Prevention and Preparedness. This year's event will be held at Embassy Suites in downtown Lincoln from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Register
Today**

In Other News

Author Recognizes Nebraska's Suicide Prevention Efforts



Theodora Schiro, author of *A Culture of Caring: A Suicide Prevention Guide for Schools (K-12)*, visited Nebraska to speak at the Nebraska School Mental Health Conference this past June. After looking at suicide prevention efforts in similarly-sized states, Schiro highlights resources found on the Nebraska Department of Education's Suicide

Prevention webpage, including a handbook the Nebraska Department of Education and the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center created for **Developing School District Suicide Prevention Policies and Procedures**. [Read more.](#)

Student Spotlight

Congratulations to University of Nebraska Public Policy Center graduate student,



Lillian Bopp for receiving the Hatcher Turner scholarship at the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals National Conference this year. As a doctoral student in the Clinical Psychology Training Program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, she works under the mentorship of Dr. Mario Scalora and is a member of his Targeted Violence Research Lab where she is engaged in threat assessment, school safety, and behavioral health research.

Community Resources

Nebraska Youth Suicide Prevention

Nebraska Youth Suicide Prevention is working to decrease the suicide rate among young people by sharing resources on their website for people currently dealing with anxiety and worry. During difficult or challenging times, mental health is especially important.



Visit Our
Website

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Call or Text 988

Free 24/7 confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals.

Nebraska Family Helpline

1-888-866-8660

Free 24/7 confidential support for all Nebraskans.

Rural Response Hotline

1-800-464-0258

(M-F from 8AM-5PM)

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