

March 2025

UNIVERSITY OF  
**Nebraska** PUBLIC POLICY  
CENTER



# POLICYTALK

The Latest in Public Policy  
Center News and Events

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## Featured News

### Nebraska Strong Continues to Provide Support to Those Impacted by April 2024 Tornadoes



The Public Policy Center, Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare, and the Division of Behavioral Health at the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) have been working together to help Nebraskans impacted by the April 2024 tornadoes. To date, the program has provided information about disaster recovery and/or crisis counseling to 2300 people. As the one-year anniversary of the disaster approaches, crisis counselors continue to provide support to those in Douglas and Washinton Counties. Learn more about the [Nebraska Strong Recovery Project](#).

## Partner Highlight

## Lincoln Public Schools Threat Assessment Team in the Spotlight at National ATAP Winter Conference

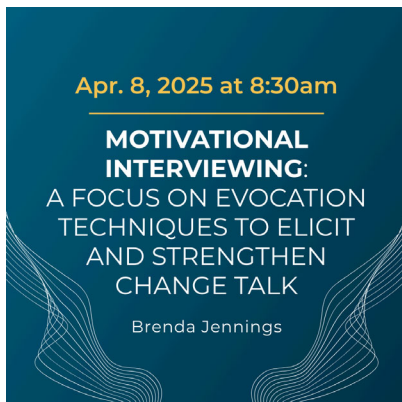
Lincoln Public Schools Threat Assessment Team Leader, Jon Sundermeier was selected to speak to state, national, and international threat experts at the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals' National Winter Conference. Jon Sundermeier was the only person from a K-12 school district invited to speak.



"It's always great to brag up the excellent work that's being done in Lincoln," NUPPC Director, Mario Scalora said in a recent Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) article on the high-quality work of the LPS Threat Assessment Team. Read more about how the LPS Threat Assessment team works on the long-term management of students with violence risk concerns through a prevention-based process.

[Read Full Article](#)

## Events



### **Motivational Interviewing: A Focus on Evocation Techniques to Elicit and Strengthen Change Talk**

**Brenda Jennings**

**Virtual: Via Zoom**

April 8, 2025

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Motivational Interviewing (MI) is an evidence-based technique of effectively communicating with others, to gain rapport and trust, obtain more information, address risk behaviors, and evoke internal motivation to sustain long-term behavior change. [Learn More.](#)

[Register Today](#)

## D.C. Professional Enrichment Academy

Open to current University of Nebraska students from all four campuses in any major/discipline

### Applications due

April 15, 2025

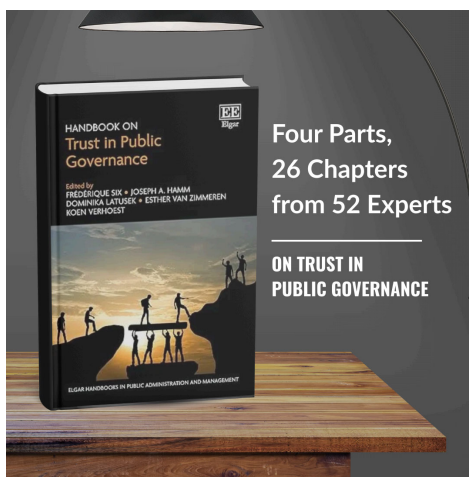
University of Nebraska students planning for summer internships in Washington D.C. are encouraged to apply for this free, value-added program that meets once a week in the evening and connects students with prominent D.C. alumni and each other. Through the program, students will benefit from thoughtful mentoring and programming, expand their network, and learn to transition from college into their professional careers. Financial assistance is available for participating students. [Learn More.](#)



Apply Now

## Center News

### Handbook Written by Expert Co-authors on Trust in Public Governance



Four Parts,  
26 Chapters  
from 52 Experts

ON TRUST IN  
PUBLIC GOVERNANCE

A handbook set to come out this year includes 26 chapters written by 52 experts on trust in public governance. Among these experts, Dr. Lisa PytlikZillig (NUPPC Research Manager and UNL Research Associate Professor) co-authored a chapter on public engagement and trust in institutions with co-author Mariska Kappmeier in a forthcoming book, [Handbook on Trust in Public Governance.](#)

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