

November 2022

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska PUBLIC POLICY
CENTER



POLICYTALK

The Latest in Public Policy
Center News and Events

Featured News

Resources Aim to Help Nebraskans Prevent Suicide



Suicide is the second leading cause of death among Nebraskans between ages 10 and 44. Overall, it is the 13th leading cause of death in the state. The Nebraska Department of Education and the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center have been working together to create the following updated suicide prevention resources for Nebraskans.

- ***Handbook for Developing School Suicide Policies and Procedures***
- ***Nebraska School Suicide Resource Guide***

- **Help for Parents: Dealing with Suicide Concerns**

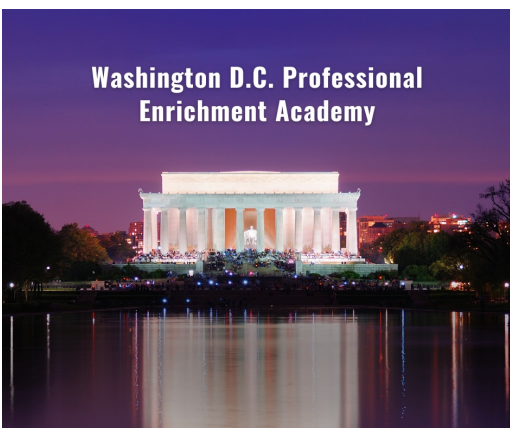
For additional resources on suicide prevention, visit the Nebraska Department of Education's [school safety page](#).

Now Accepting Applicants for 2023 Policy Scholars



The Public Policy Center is now accepting applications and nominations for the second cohort of Policy Scholars. The application deadline is November 21, 2022. Please direct any questions to Liz Green, Policy Scholars Coordinator, at liz.green@unl.edu. [Learn more](#).

Information Session for 2023 Washington D.C. Professional Enrichment Academy



The University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the Public Policy Center held an informational session on the 2023 Washington D.C. Professional Enrichment Academy (DCPEA). It is a free, value-added program that connects students interning in D.C. with alumni and each other. A recording of the information session is now available on the DCPEA webpage. [Learn more](#).

Events

Adolescents and Substance Use

JOIN ON ZOOM



**Dr. Kenneth Zoucha,
Dr. Tianqi Luo,
Dr. Varun Sharma, and
Laura Schutte-Lundy**
December 9, 2022
8:00AM to Noon (Central)
[Learn More](#)

A training titled "Adolescents and Substance Use: Using Our Knowledge and Their Strengths to Find Recovery" will address epidemiology, neurobiology, effective screening and assessment, and evidence-based treatment. The training is presented by the

[Register today](#)

Partner Spotlight

Nebraska DHHS Continues Statewide Campaign Focused on Substance Abuse Prevention



"I choose to **keep myself healthy and fit.**
I choose to live substance free."
Arleth R. > Norfolk, Nebraska

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Division of Behavioral Health continues its "Choose You" Campaign, which launched in October as part of the National Youth Substance Use Prevention Month. The Public Policy Center has been collaborating with DHHS on their substance use prevention efforts

through training and promotional activities. Learn more at dhhs.ne.gov/chooseyou.

Center News

CDC Releases Suicide Prevention Resource for Action

The CDC recently released a new resource titled *Suicide Prevention Resource for Action*, which details the strategies with the best available evidence to reduce suicide. PPC Senior Research Specialist Quinn Lewandowski was one of several suicide prevention experts invited to review the guide prior to publication. [Learn more.](#)



Suicide
Prevention
RESOURCE FOR ACTION



Faculty Fellow Mark Svoboda Talks About New

Technologies Helping Drought Research

Public Policy Center faculty fellow Mark Svoboda was recently featured in the national news speaking about "The Drought Mecca," the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's National Drought Mitigation Center. A new interactive interface and export tool helps users customize U.S. Drought Monitor maps to visualize the extent and severity of drought for any given week across the country or for specific regions or states. **See the story.**



Honorable Mentions

- Dr. Lisa PytlikZillig spoke on "Options for Conflict and What an Ombuds Can Do for You" at UNL's Gender Equity Conference on November 15. This year's conference focused on "Restorative Justice and the Intersections of Gender Equity" and was hosted by the UNL Women's Center and the LGBTQA Resource Center.
- Senior Research Specialist Quinn Lewandowski moderated an online event November 17 presented by Nebraska Public Media. Panelists for the event included Dr. Catherine Jones-Hazledine, Dr. Barbara Buttes, and Sami Bradley.
- Congrats to Dr. Lisa PytlikZillig and her co-authors Shannon Maloney, Elizabeth Mollard, Angela Palmer-Wackerly, Sharon Obasi, and Megan Kelley on their article "Technological Access Barriers, Telehealth Use and Health Care Visits in the Early Pandemic Period," which has been published in the *Journal Health Policy and Technology*. **See the article.**
- Team Kinnami-University of Nebraska was announced as one of three winners in NATO's recent Innovation Challenge. This win could result in the team being asked to improve transportation infrastructure assessments across Europe. The team includes PPC faculty fellow Carrick Detweiler and multiple University of Nebraska-Lincoln, University of Nebraska at Omaha, and University of New Hampshire cohorts.

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

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
Call or Text 988

Free 24/7 confidential support for people in distress, prevention

is especially important.



Visit Our
Website

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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