

2022

ANNUAL REPORT



MENTOR
NEBRASKA



ABOUT US



MENTOR Nebraska has been the unifying champion of quality youth mentoring for more than 20 years. We are the state affiliate of MENTOR, the national leader of the mentoring movement.

Our work is research-based with the ultimate vision to close the mentoring gap and drive equity through quality mentoring relationships for young people. This is accomplished through:



TRAINING



NO-COST CONSULTING



ADVOCACY



MENTOR RECRUITMENT



OUR MISSION

We fuel the quality and quantity of mentoring relationships, strengthen collaboration, and advocate for mentoring



OUR VISION

For every young person to have the supportive relationships they need to grow and develop into thriving, productive and engaged adults



NEW IN 2022



MENTOR
NEBRASKA



STATE OF MENTORING REPORT

In 2021, MENTOR Nebraska embarked on a three-phase planning process to better understand the state of mentoring in Nebraska. This process involved extensive data collection and review, including a statewide mapping project, focus groups, and interviews with stakeholders. In 2022, we released "The State of Mentoring in Nebraska" report to provide stakeholders with ideas on how to support mentoring programs across Nebraska in meaningful and responsive ways with the intent to improve quality mentoring practices for youth. We utilized the findings of the report to help shape the vision for our future work and design a new strategic plan.

[Read the Report](#)

KEY TAKEAWAYS

The findings and recommendations from the report highlight these areas of work for MENTOR Nebraska to consider moving forward:



Support program growth in regions with high need and limited opportunity



Advance best practices across the state through no-cost training and consulting



Elevate BIPOC mentor recruitment



Support efforts to offer unique programming for diverse populations



THE STATE OF
MENTORING IN NEBRASKA
2021



STRATEGIC PLAN

MENTOR Nebraska released a three-year strategic plan to set a vision for our organization's future work. The planning process was designed to be inclusive and engage the range of stakeholders that interact with and are impacted by MENTOR Nebraska, including sectors that work closely with mentoring programs, such as education and juvenile justice, as well as a range of mentoring program providers, young adults engaged in mentoring, funders, board members, and staff.

[Read the Plan](#)

THREE YEAR STRATEGIC GOALS

By the end of 2024, the following statements will demonstrate success:



MENTOR Nebraska is the responsive and equitable resource and clearinghouse for quality mentoring.



MENTOR Nebraska serves as a trusted advisor to mentoring programs statewide.



MENTOR Nebraska ensures youth representation, choice, and voice in mentoring.



MENTOR Nebraska promotes policies that increase funding for mentoring.



2023 - 2025

STRATEGIC PLAN



TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

As a resource to promote best practices throughout Nebraska, MENTOR Nebraska provides training opportunities to help mentoring programs gain the support and resources they need to provide high quality mentoring experiences for young people.

We expanded these opportunities to include a "Reimagining Mentoring" symposium series and "Critical Mentoring" book club focused on equity.

**REIMAGINING MENTORING**
through an equity lens
SYMPOSIUM SERIES CONVENED BY MENTOR NEBRASKA

NOV 09
9 AM - 12 PM CT
VIRTUAL EVENT
REGISTER TODAY!
MENTORNebraska.org
Supported by The Lozier Foundation

PANELISTS

Salvador Hernandez
Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker

Jacques Musavyimana
UNO Academic Advisor

Renee Sans Souci
Cultural Consultant & Educator

Ashlei Spivey
Director of I Be Black Girl

Nyajuok Tongyik
Author and Founder of ROSS Girls Breaking the Silence

**REIMAGINING MENTORING**
through Investment in Quality Practices
FUNDER SYMPOSIUM CONVENED BY MENTOR NEBRASKA

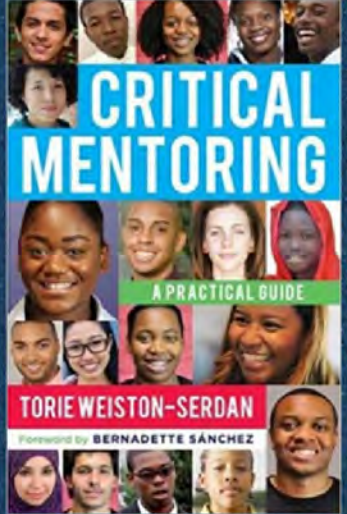
THURSDAY FEB 24
10-11 AM CT
VIRTUAL EVENT
Join MENTOR Nebraska and fellow funders as we discuss key findings from the newly released **STATE OF MENTORING REPORT** and what it means for young people in Nebraska.



**MENTOR**
NEBRASKA

CRITICAL MENTORING BOOK CLUB

**SPECIAL GUEST**
Dr. Torie Weiston-Serdan





EXPANSION

To help expand MENTOR Nebraska's network and reach across Nebraska, we welcomed:

- Three new staff members
- One intern
- Four AmeriCorps members

We also onboarded six new consultants to provide no-cost consulting to programs across the state.

We will continue to intentionally include individuals who reflect the demographics of the communities we serve in our work.



SUSIE OWENS
Director of Strategic Partnerships



CHRISTOPHER MCCROY
Associate Director of Training & Program Development



FRED WHITTED
Associate Director of Outreach & Engagement



NIA LYONS
Social Media Intern



JOHNNAH BAILEY
AmeriCorps Member Initiatives Coordinator



TRE GOULD
AmeriCorps Member Recruitment & Orientation Coordinator



FATUMA HILOWLE
AmeriCorps Member Outreach Coordinator



ALLANA POMMIER
AmeriCorps Member Expansion Coordinator

PARTNERS

We welcomed four new Tier 1 Members:

- International Council for Refugees and Immigrants (Omaha)
- TeamMates of Lincoln (Lincoln)
- TeamMates of Millard (Millard)
- TeamMates of Omaha (Omaha)



NICHOLAS BANKS
Consultant



DASIA HORNE
Consultant



EMILY KOOPMAN
Consultant



DUSTIN OLTMAN
Consultant



KEENAN TOMLINSON
Consultant



LAYLA YOUNIS
Consultant

IMPACT IN 2022



MENTOR
NEBRASKA



TRAININGS

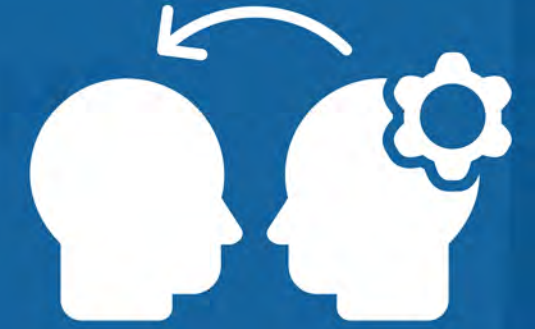


Facilitated 16 best practice trainings

- Combatting White Saviorism
- Critical Mentoring
- Critical Mentoring Book Club
- 3-Part Cultural Competency Miniseries
- Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring
- Fostering Youth Purpose
- How to Implement Culturally Responsive Programming
- Immigrant and Refugee Support
- Intro to E-Mentoring
- Recruiting Diverse Mentors
- Screening Applicants for Effectiveness (SAFE)
- Social Emotional Learning
- Supporting Refugee Mentors
- STRIVE Refugee Mentoring
- Success Mentors
- Trauma 101



Led 52
no-cost trainings



Trained 643
youth-serving professionals
and mentors



"We had quite a few staff that were not as experienced in match closures and this training helped them understand the long-term benefits of a properly done match closure versus the possible damage a poorly executed or non-existent match closure could cause."

- NEBRASKA MENTORING PROGRAM



CONSULTING



Provided no-cost consulting to mentoring and youth-serving programs to increase the number, quality, and safety of mentoring relationships

- 100 Black Men of Omaha*
- ABOTURIBO 1972
- Banister Leadership Academy
- Basic Hope Foundation
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Lincoln*
- Big Pals Little Pals
- Centura Public Schools
- East African Development Association of Nebraska
- Girls Inc. of Omaha
- International Council for Refugees and Immigrants, Inc.
- Mentoring Plus
- Mentoring Works
- Muscogee (Creek)
- O.NE Mentoring Academy
- Partnership 4 Kids*
- The Keys Foundation
- University of Nebraska at Omaha

*Program completed the National Quality Mentoring System in FY22



Averaged 4.7/5
satisfaction rating



Provided 480+ hrs
to 20+ programs



"As a new mentoring agency, we didn't have any processes in place. We now have a firm foundation with processes in place."

- NEBRASKA MENTORING PROGRAM



SUCCESS MENTORS



Supported 33 schools serving 232 students with a history of chronic absenteeism

- Grand Island Public Schools
- Millard Public Schools
- Omaha Public Schools

PROJECT STRIVE



Served 96 newly arrived refugee students through five partnerships

- Grand Island Public Schools
- International Council for Refugees and Immigrants, Inc.
- Lincoln Public Schools
- Omaha Public Schools
- TeamMates of Lincoln

Provided 313 hours of no-cost consulting

\$96,632+

Provided pass-through funding to school districts and community organizations hosting intentional mentoring programs



ADVOCACY



Led advocacy efforts for state and federal funding to serve more youth

Coordinated Capitol Hill Day, where we convened 20+ mentoring advocates from 12 Nebraska-based organizations to discuss mentoring legislation with Nebraska's State Representatives

Created our first ever policy and advocacy plan that focuses on:

- Connecting funding sources to mentoring programs
- Building relationships with policymakers
- Educating, informing, and directing funding for quality mentoring
- Identifying and implementing key strategies to engage in systems-level advocacy



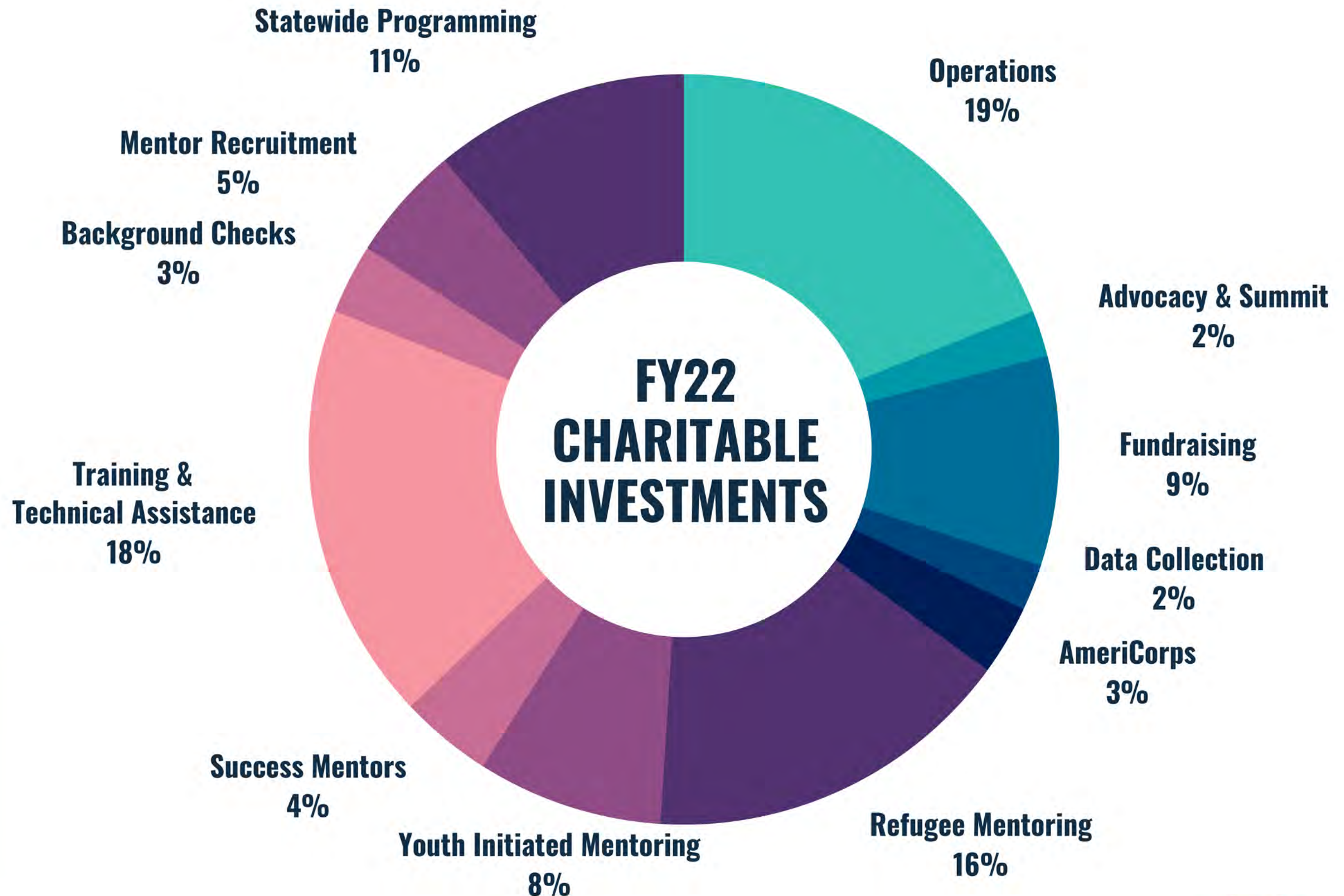
20+ mentoring advocates from Nebraska met with Members of Congress for Capitol Hill Day



INVESTMENTS IN 2022



OUR INVESTMENTS



DONORS \$20K+

Cooper Foundation
Holland Foundation
The Lozier Foundation
MENTOR National
Nebraska Dept. of Health & Human Services
Omaha Community Foundation
Peter Kiewit Foundation
ServeNebraska
The Sherwood Foundation
William and Ruth Scott Family Foundation

IN-KIND

Fun-Plex
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska
Rose Theater

\$1K - \$19,999

Baird Holm
Bland Cares Foundation
City of Omaha
James & Jacqueline Clough Family Foundation
Matthew & Laura Enenbach
Farm Credit Services of America
FNBO
Fraser Stryker
Justin & Fran Frauendorfer
Dave & Julie Hefflinger
Lori & Paul Hogan
Valerie Houchin
Kiewit Corporation
Kutak Rock
Lincoln Community Foundation
Millard Foundation
Mutual of Omaha Foundation
Omaha Public Power District
Omaha Public Schools Foundation
One Source The Background Check Company
Schneider Electric
Scoular Foundation
Annette & Paul Smith
Valmont Foundation
VGA
Weitz Family Foundation
Woods Charitable Fund

UP TO \$999

George Achola
Kimberly Balkovec
Tre Brashear
Moniki Cannon
Jeremy Christensen
Cathy Davalos (In memory of Dale Bubak)
Jean Douchev
Justine Drvol
Scott Focht
Give Nebraska
Greg Gonzalez
Daniel Gutman
Brittany Hansen
Carol Houchin
Joseph Kohout
Kevin Langin
Amanda Levos
Melissa Mayo
Danielle McCawley
Kari O'Neill Potts
Sarah Ordway
Juan Padilla
Mrunmayee Parvate
Robert Patterson
Cathleen Plager
Chris Rodgers
Carol & Rick Russell
Elizabeth Seacrest
Nichole Turgeon
Hope Vavra
Betsy Vidlak
Donna Welchert

LEADERSHIP IN 2022



MENTOR
NEBRASKA



OUR TEAM



**MELISSA
MAYO**

Executive Director



**KARIMA
AL-ABSY**

Associate Director of Advancement
& Organizational Strategy



**CHRISTOPHER
MCCROY**

Associate Director of
Training & Program Development



**SUSIE
OWENS**

Director of
Strategic Partnerships



**TERESA
RIESBERG**

Associate Director of
Marketing & Communications



**FRED
WHITTTED**

Associate Director of
Outreach & Engagement



OUR YOUNG LEADERS



**JOHNNAH
BAILEY**

AmeriCorps Member
Initiatives Coordinator



**TRE
GOULD**

AmeriCorps Member
Recruitment & Orientation Coordinator



**FATUMA
HIOWLE**

AmeriCorps Member
Outreach Coordinator



**NIA
LYONS**

Social Media Intern



**ALLANA
POMMIER**

AmeriCorps Member
Expansion Coordinator



EXECUTIVE

KARI O'NEILL POTTS, PRESIDENT
Valmont Industries

DR. AMANDA LEVOS, VICE PRESIDENT
Grand Island Public Schools

JUSTIN FRAUENDORFER, TREASURER
Bland & Associates

DANIEL GUTMAN, SECRETARY
Law Office of Daniel Gutman

MONIKI GUNN, AT-LARGE
Boys Town

JUAN PADILLA, AT-LARGE
Canopy South

MATTHEW ENENBACH, IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Kutak Rock LLP

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Baird Holm LLP

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Omaha Police Department, Retired

SCOTT FOCHT
Omaha Public Power District

KEVIN LANGIN
First National Bank of Omaha, Retired

CHRIS RODGERS
Douglas County & Creighton University

CAROL RUSSELL
Community Volunteer

ELIZABETH SEACREST
Nebraska Legislature

BETSY VIDLAK
Community Action Partnership of Western Nebraska



TIER 1 MEMBERS

100 BLACK MEN OF OMAHA (OMAHA)
ACE MENTOR PROGRAM (OMAHA)
ASTUTE COFFEE (OMAHA)
BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF CENTRAL NEBRASKA
(GRAND ISLAND)
BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS LINCOLN (LINCOLN)
BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF THE MIDLANDS (OMAHA)
BIG PALS LITTLE PALS (COLUMBUS)
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS (NORTH PLATTE)
GIRLS INC. OF OMAHA (OMAHA)
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR REFUGEES AND
IMMIGRANTS (OMAHA)
KIDS CAN COMMUNITY CENTER (OMAHA)
MENTORINGWORKS (HASTINGS)
PARTNERSHIP 4 KIDS (OMAHA)
RELEASE INC. (OMAHA)
TEAMMATES OF LINCOLN (LINCOLN)
TEAMMATES OF MILLARD (MILLARD)
TEAMMATES OF OMAHA (OMAHA)

EDUCATION PARTNERS

OMAHA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SUCCESS MENTORS & STRIVE

GRAND ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SUCCESS MENTORS & STRIVE

LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
STRIVE

MILLARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SUCCESS MENTORS



OUR MEMORIES



OUR MEMORIES





CONNECT WITH US

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