

Annual Report

October 2024-September 2025

Timing can turn support into hope

Executive Director's Message

Dear Friends and Partners,

As we close out another year, I am proud to reflect on the incredible work accomplished by Northeast Nebraska Community Action Partnership (NENCAP). Guided by our mission - People helping people; empowering individuals, strengthening families, and enriching communities.- we have continued to make a meaningful impact across our 14-county service area.

This year, NENCAP served over 8,600 clients, providing essential programs in housing, health, education and food security. From Head Start and Early Head Start programs supporting 248 children to 4,204 individuals benefiting from WIC and 3,154 immunizations administered, our team worked tirelessly to meet the diverse needs of our communities. We also provided rental and utility assistance, supported 89 veteran households and delivered weatherization services to improve housing safety and efficiency.

Our service area spans 7,837 square miles, home to nearly 188,149 individuals, with 32% of residents living below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, the need for comprehensive support remains significant - and NENCAP is committed to meeting that challenge.

Beyond our direct services, we strengthened partnerships, upheld efficiency and accountability in the use of federal and state funding and remained diligent in advocating for the communities we served. These efforts reflect our commitment to empowering individuals, fostering solid family foundations and ensuring that all residents have the opportunity to thrive.

As we look ahead, our focus will remain on expanding opportunities, fostering collaboration and adapting to the ever-changing needs of our region. None of this would be possible without the dedication of our partners, the guidance of our Board and the support of our community members who stand with us in this mission.

Together, we are making Northeast Nebraska stronger - one family, one individual, one community at a time.

With gratitude,



Amy Munderloh
Executive Director



Locations

Central Office

- 603 Earl Street
PO Box 667
Pender, NE 68047
Phone: (402)385-6300 or
(800)445-2505
Fax: (402)385-6310
Website: www.nencap.org

Satellite Offices

- South Sioux City Office
2120 Dakota Avenue, Suite A
South Sioux City, NE 68776
Family Services: (402)494-8312
WIC/Imms: (402)494-1429
- Creighton Office
808 Chase Ave
Creighton, NE 68729
Family Services: (402)358-5297
- Norfolk Office
1405 Riverside Blvd
Norfolk, NE 68701
Family Services: (402)371-0377
WIC/Imms: (402)844-4422
- Fremont Office
212 E 8th St, Suite B
Fremont, NE 68025
Family Services: (402)721-0619
WIC: (402)727-0608



E a r l y C h i l d h o o d

Head Start & Early Head Start

- Norfolk Head Start
301 E Omaha Ave
Norfolk, NE 68701
Phone: (402)371-8030
- South Sioux City Head Start
2120 Dakota Ave
South Sioux City, NE 68776
Phone: (402)494-6755
- Wayne Head Start
1210 E 7th Street
Wayne, NE 68787
Phone: (402)375-2913
- Norfolk Early Head Start
600 N 12th ST
Norfolk, NE 68701
Phone: (402)992-8423
- Head Start and Early Head Start
305 Daniels Lane
South Sioux City, NE 68776
Phone: (402)494-1282

Partnerships

- Niobrara School
247 N Hwy 12
Niobrara, NE 68760
Phone: (402)857-3322
- Wisner-Pilger School
801 18th St
Wisner, NE 68791
Phone: (402)529-6465
- Little Panthers
2500 West Norfolk Ave
Norfolk, NE 68701
Phone: (402)644-2501

Mission Statement

Board of Directors

Strategic Plan

Mission Statement

"People helping people; empowering individuals, strengthening families and enriching communities in Northeast Nebraska."

Board of Directors



Government

Ted Connealy - Burt County
Lisa Lunz - Dixon County
Eli Jacob - Antelope County
Lon Strand - Dodge County
Dennis Kment - Stanton County



Low Income

Norbert Holtz - Cuming County
Diane Elwood - Pierce County
Tammy Bodlak - Thurston County
Elaine Bloomquist - Cedar County
Jackie Sharpe - Policy Council



Private Sector

Krista Eckmann - Knox County
Tim Decker - Dakota County
Deb Hammer - Wayne County
Nan Smutko - Washington County
Gregg Hanson - Madison County

Strategic Plan Goals

- ENGAGE workforce talent to enhance programming.
- BUILD governing bodies that are strong advocates for NENCAP's mission.
- SECURE unrestricted funds and other funding streams (grants, foundations, etc.)
- PROVIDE comprehensive services in a centralized location.



Agency History

Community Action Agencies (CAAs) were launched as key elements of President Lyndon Johnson's Economic Opportunity Act of 1964: Johnson's "War on Poverty." Developers of early legislation recognized that poverty had no single cause. Therefore, Community Action Agencies were given the flexibility to develop programs that addressed issues of housing, health, education, nutrition, employment, emergency assistance, and other areas known to be related to poverty.

Today there are approximately 1,000 CAAs in the United States, Nebraska is served by nine CAAs and cover all 93 counties. Northeast Nebraska Community Action Partnership, Inc. (NENCAP), established in 1966 as a private, non-profit organization, serves 14 counties in Northeast Nebraska. This agency, like other CAAs, receives its core funding through the federal and state Community Services Block Grant. Other federal and state grant funds, local government and private support provide additional program revenues. All contributions are tax-deductible.

CAAs are well known proponents of self-sufficiency: "A Hand Up, Not A Hand Out" is our goal. We strive to achieve our purpose through community organization and empowerment. CAAs serve low-income individuals in need regardless of age, sex, handicap, religion or ethnic background.

NENCAP has a proud history of service to the community. Working with local groups and citizens of all income levels, NENCAP continues to partner with many of these agencies in an effort to meet client needs.

The agency's Board of Directors is composed of volunteers representing local governments, low-income communities, and the private sector. It is a cross section of people from different age groups and backgrounds cemented together by a common desire to offer a hand up to their fellow neighbors in need.

NENCAP believes that poverty and hunger are not acceptable conditions in our communities. We believe that ending poverty is an attainable goal through joint community efforts. Each of us has something to contribute; each of us can play a part.





Funding Sources

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
Corporal Daegan Page Foundation
Department of Energy (DOE)
Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
Food Bank for the Heartland
Fremont Area Veterans Coalition
Greenberg Foundation
Head Start Private Donations
Internal Order of the Rainbow Girls
Local Banks
Local Churches
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program (NHAP)
Norfolk Morning Kiwanis
Office of Highway Safety
Omaha Community Foundation
Private Individual Donations
Sixpence
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Wayne Area United Way

If you would like to contribute to funding NENCAP's mission, please visit our website at www.nencap.org or contact Amy Munderloh, Executive Director at 402-385-6300 ext 203. Donations from supporters of Community Action help us to serve the many clients who are in need of assistance in our 14-county service area.

Total Budget

\$10,468,228.00

Total operating budget from October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025.

\$593,694.00

Support Services

\$541,750 - Community Services Block Grant
\$22,335 - Client Assistance Fund/Training
\$29,609 - Administration

\$1,698,694.00

Housing

\$956,142 - Weatherization
\$109,199 - Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program (NHAP)
\$633,353 - Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)

\$5,455,430.00

Education

\$5,455,430 - Head Start

\$1,632,422.00

Food & Nutrition

\$1,419,446 - Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
\$212,976 - Commodities Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)

\$1,087,988.00

Health

\$143,757 - Immunizations
\$181,618 - Early Development Network (EDN)
\$762,613 - Healthy Families Home Visitation/Sixpence





Employee of the Year

Each year since 2004, staff at NENCAP are given the opportunity to nominate a coworker to be recognized as the Employee of the Year. Nominations are reviewed by a committee of NENCAP Program Directors, and an employee is chosen and announced at the annual All-Staff Training.

This year's NENCAP Employee of the Year is Deb Sunderman from Lyons, Nebraska. Deb began her employment with NENCAP in 2022 and is the Healthcare Navigator/Case Manager in the Supportive Services for Veterans Program. A few of the comments on Deb's nomination form included:

- "Your enthusiasm, energy and sense of humor makes my day better."
- "She has a big heart and comes to work to help her clients and makes their lives better by providing excellent services."
- "She is a huge asset to NENCAP and all her clients."
- "I hear veterans on the phone who open up to her and her communication skills never cease to amaze me."

Human Resources

Time, Talent, Commitment



Employees

- 113 Employees
- 32% of employees have been with the agency 5+ years



Benefits

- \$10,955.04 in value added annually by the Employee Benefit Package (\$5.27/hr). The agency pays 100% of health, life, dental and vision coverage for eligible employees.
- 66.4% of employees participate in the agency 401K plan which provides agency matching. The industry participation rate is 55.8%



Recruitment

- 220 applications for employment were received in fiscal year 2024-2025. Platforms included paid/unpaid job boards, paid/unpaid Facebook ads newspaper and agency website.
- 47% of individuals accepting employment were unemployed at the time of the agency's job offer.



Client Demographics

8,663

Clients were served in Fiscal year 2024-2025.

Income

- 82% of clients made less than the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for their household size.
- 33% of clients make less than 50% of FPL.
- 16% of clients make between 101-125% of FPL.

Age

- 57% of clients served are children under the age of 18 and/or citizens over the age of 65.

Housing

- 62% of client households rent their homes.
- 32% of client households own their homes.

Health

- 29% of clients have a disabling condition.
- 87% of clients have health insurance.



Early Childhood Education

In early childhood, timing transforms support into hope - and hope into opportunity.

248 Children Served



Students

- 210 children enrolled in Head Start.
- 38 children enrolled in Early Head Start.



Classrooms

- 26 classrooms
- 5 independent sites
- 4 partnerships



Nutrition

- 42,198 meals and snacks were provided to Head Start and Early Head Start children during the 2024-2025 school year (35,539 Head Start and 6,659 Early Head Start)



Food & Nutrition

\$325,688.53

Value of food and goods donated to and/or distributed by NENCAP programs.



Food Pantry

NENCAP was able to provide 782 food pantry services.

- 40% of food pantry clients were children under age 18.
- 31% of food pantry clients were children ages 0-12.

\$180,579.42

Value of food and goods donated to NENCAP food pantries.

Commodities Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)

Commodities were provided to 582 seniors ages 60 and over.

- 14% of seniors served had a household income below \$10,000 annually.
- 52% of CSFP clients served had one or more disabling conditions.

\$145,109.11

Value of CSFP food boxes distributed.



Health Services

The Health Services programs at NENCAP include Immunizations, Healthy Families and the Early Development Network (EDN). The services provided by these programs are centered around making care and case management accessible, high quality and client-centered.

1,551

Home Visits completed by NENCAP Healthy Families program.

- 97 families were served by Healthy Families.
- 67 families completed the Parent Satisfaction Survey or the Family Resilience and Opportunities for Growth (FROG) parent assessment.

1,217

Resources and referrals were provided to families served by the Early Development Network (EDN) in the Norfolk School District.

- 126 children and their families were served by the EDN program.

3,154

Vaccines were given by the NENCAP Immunization program.

- 666 children received 2,137 vaccines.
- 592 adults received 1,017 vaccines.

Age

- Over 60% of Health Services clients served are children under the age of 18.

Housing

- 38% of Healthy Families client households rent their homes.
- 7% of Healthy Families client households own their homes.

Health

- 16% of Health Services clients have a disabling condition.
- 95% of Immunization clients have health insurance.
- 77% of Healthy Families clients have health insurance.

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)

To care for those who have served and their families is a task that endures over time.

\$305,097.08

Services including rent, utilities, deposits, transportation, daycare, etc were provided to Veterans and their families.

100%

Of Veteran households receiving housing assistance were able to independently exit the program with stable housing following receipt of SSVF services.

100%

NENCAP was able to provide 100% of initially targeted services to Veterans.

173

Household members in 89 Veteran Households received services from NENCAP's SSVF program.



Support Services

Support Service programs at NENCAP provide assistance to clients for both rent and utilities as well as rental and utility deposits to help establish stable housing. Additionally, Family Services staff are able to provide tax preparation assistance, case management and other services as available to NENCAP clients.

2,198 clients served by NENCAP Family Services



\$170,109

In eligible refunds were received by the 138 households served through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program (VITA)



273

Hours of volunteer service were donated to NENCAP programs during Fiscal Year 2024-2025.



477

Clients received rent and/or utility assistance from NENCAP.

- 313 rental assistance
- 80 utility assistance
- 78 rent and/or utility deposit assistance
- 6 hotel/motel assistance





Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

\$3,509,363.04 in WIC benefits were redeemed in WIC approved grocery stores, putting those funds back into community economies in the service area.

4,204

Clients were served by the WIC program.

- 839 infants under 1 year of age were enrolled.
- 1,984 children ages 1-5 received services.
- 705 pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding women participated.

Infants

- 46 infants enrolled were exclusively breastfed.
- 375 infants enrolled were breastfed at some point.
- 181 infants enrolled were partially breastfed.
- 560 infants enrolled were formula fed.

41

Grocery stores and pharmacies in the service area were approved to accept WIC benefits.

Fruit & Vegetable Benefits

- \$26 monthly for children
- \$47 monthly for pregnant, postpartum and some breastfeeding mothers.
- \$52 monthly for women who are fully or mostly breastfeeding their infants.
- \$78 for women who are fully breastfeeding multiples.

New in this fiscal year: Infants 6-11 months may substitute half of their jarred fruits and vegetables for \$10 fresh fruits and vegetables or \$20 for all of their jarred fruits and vegetables.

Weatherization

Good preparation saves time and energy later.

\$603,002.10

Invested back into local economies through weatherization efforts including contract labor, supplies etc.



50

Homes were weatherized.
106 clients served.

- 35% of clients were ages 60 and over.
- 40% of clients were children under 18.
- 25% of clients were disabled.



\$73,125.49

In Weatherization funds were spent on furnace/air conditioner replacements.

- \$22,017.88 in Weatherization Readiness Funds.

\$59,693.39

In Weatherization funds were spent on Health and Safety measures including but not limited to: carbon monoxide detectors, smoke detectors, ventilation to prevent mold and replacing faulty furnaces.



\$300+

Household save on average \$300 or more annually on utility bills.

- For every \$1.00 invested in Weatherization, \$1.72 is generated by energy benefits and \$2.78 in non energy benefits according to national evaluation of the program.



Time spent helping others is never wasted



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