



Nebraska Crime Commission - Youth Programs Division

December 2025

Nebraska Youth Diversion Model Programs Guide

The Nebraska Crime Commission is excited to announce the release of the Nebraska Youth Diversion Model Program Guide (2025)—a practical, resource-rich tool designed to help counties and diversion programs implement evidence & cultural based practices for youth.

Most young people engage in impulsive or risky behavior at some point. The good news? Research shows that most will not re-offend, even without court involvement. That's where diversion comes in. Effective diversion programs intervene with youth before they enter the formal justice system, connecting them to supports that help redirect their path without the long-term consequences of system contact.

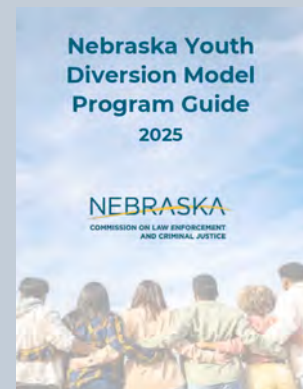
This work has never been more important. Despite declining crime rates nationally, Nebraska is one of only five states where incarceration rates are rising. Diversion and community-based alternatives are key strategies for addressing this trend—helping youth early.

Studies are clear: any exposure to the juvenile justice system—even simply stepping into a courtroom—raises the likelihood of future system involvement, including as an adult. By reducing this exposure and offering timely interventions, diversion programs can change the trajectory for Nebraska youth and strengthen communities statewide.

The new Model Program Guide provides:

- Best practices for diversion programming
- Evidence-based intervention recommendations
- Guidance to ensure consistency and quality across counties
- Tools for tracking outcomes and improving services

For more information please visit our website at ncc.nebraska.gov



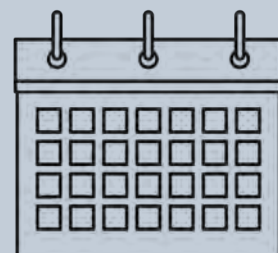


LifeLabs - Journey.do

The Nebraska Crime Commission has a contract with Lifelab Studios, a research-driven company focused on personal growth, life wellness and positive behavioral change, to utilize their platform Journey.do. for diversion programs. Built on decades of research in learning sciences, strength-based coaching and digital experiences, Journey.do empowers youth to thrive through growth journeys that are personal, social, and data-driven. This service will be available for diversion programs to use as a supplement to their existing program, or to help start a diversion program in areas where staff and resources are limited. This platform also comes with training for all diversion programs and officers to work on moving away from monitoring to catch bad behavior to helping build up youth and teach them positive behaviors and skills. We are pleased to announce there are 20 open slots available to participate in the upcoming Journey.do training program. If you are interested in taking part, [please follow this link to reserve your spot.](#)

Important Dates

- December 18th** OVP Grant Due Date. Closes @ 5p.m
- December 31st** End of Quarter 2
- January 7th** CBA & EB Application Deadline. Closes @ 5p.m
- January 30th** Diversion Data Due Date





MAYSI-2

The Nebraska Crime Commission will be purchasing several licenses for counties to utilize the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument – Second Version (MAYSI-2), a scientifically validated mental health screening tool designed to identify pressing behavioral and emotional needs among youth entering the juvenile justice system. Developed by Dr. Thomas Grisso and Dr. Richard Barnum, the MAYSI-2 provides a brief yet powerful means for front-line staff to screen for mental health concerns within minutes. The Nebraska Screen and Assessment Tool (N-SAT) is designed for diversion programs to assess risk, needs, and to identify if additional mental health screening is necessary; the MAYSI-2 provides this additional screening for diversion programs to identify immediate mental health needs. Many counties already utilize this tool, but now it will be available to all counties. If you're interested in obtaining the MAYSI-2, please contact Erin Wasserburger at erin.wasserburger@nebraska.gov or 420-471-3450.

Welcome, Allen! (and Sadie!)

The Crime Commission is thrilled to have Allen join our Youth Justice team! Allen will be your point of contact for the Juvenile Case Management System (JCMS) and Nebraska Screen and Assessment Tool (N-SAT).



ABOUT ME

My name is Allen Windle, I'm the Youth Programs Administrative Specialist here at the Nebraska Crime Commission and I'm here to tell you a bit about myself! I got married to my wife Skye in March of 2020 (Last wedding at the venue before everything shut down) and then swiftly moved from Arizona to Lincoln Nebraska. I worked various jobs at UNL before beginning my career with the NCC in July of 2025. Shortly after starting at NCC my first child, Sadie, was born! It's been a roller coaster of adjustments and change in my life but I couldn't be happier or prouder!

Reach Out!

301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68509

JCMS/NSAT Questions?

531-500-9183
Allen.Windle@Nebraska.gov

Title II Questions?

531-310-1762
John.Turner@Nebraska.gov

CBA/JS/Diversion Questions?

402-471-3450
Erin.Wasserburger@Nebraska.gov