

# **CRIME COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT 2016**

**NEBRASKA**

Good Life. Great Service.

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**COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT  
AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

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## FROM THE DIRECTOR

My Fellow Citizens;

2016 has been a time of transition for the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice. Each division within the Commission has had many accomplishments and challenges during the past year. Here are a few highlights:

- A significant increase in the VOCA funding from \$2.5 million to nearly \$13 million dollars. With this significant increase in funding comes additional oversight, audits and monitoring from the federal funding agency, as well as additional burdens on the Grants Division to pre-audit all cash reports and budgets to ensure the money is being spent according to plans;
- The initiation of a long-range strategic plan for the Training Center in Grand Island;
- The securing of federal funding to assist in building a data repository for crime data, and the beginning of transition from Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) to the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) by 2021;
- The honorable retirement of Mike Overton, longtime IS Division Chief and the builder of the Nebraska Criminal Justice Information System (NCJIS), a secure data portal with nearly 9,000 registered users and over 8 million inquiries each year.

Our staff of dedicated employees continue to serve the citizens of the State of Nebraska. They realize how fortunate they are and continue to lead the way by facilitating communication and cooperation among agencies, providing training and technical assistance, funding effective projects, and delivering accurate data to decision makers. These accomplishments and the enhancements to our processes are significant and have taken a substantial amount of hard work and dedication by the entire Commission staff to complete. These accomplishments could not be reached without our number one resource, our people, who make us successful. Our committed staff take good ideas and make them great! Each and every staff member should be proud of the accomplishments of the past year.

Sincerely,



Darrell Fisher

Executive Director

## **MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT AGENCY VALUES AND GOALS**

### **VISION**

The Crime Commission will strive to be a leader in criminal and juvenile justice progress through the dedication of forward-thinking staff, services provided with integrity, and leadership in the spirit of cooperation.

### **MISSION**

The Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice will sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the criminal justice system.

### **VISION**

The Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice will fulfill its role as a leader in Nebraska's criminal justice system by facilitating communication and cooperation among agencies, providing training and technical assistance, funding effective projects, and delivering accurate data to decision makers.

### **VALUES**

- Attitude
- Ethics/Integrity
- Professionalism
- Tolerance
- Respect

### **GOALS**

The Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice will provide coordination and leadership for the criminal justice community by ensuring a continued focus on the enhancement of the state's criminal justice system and law enforcement agencies through data collection and outcome measurement, distribution of state and federal grant programs, assistance to victims of crime, technical support and records retention through NCJIS, and sound policy research.

## BUDGET DIVISION

The Crime Commission’s budget is divided into ten (10) budget programs, with a total staffing Lincoln of 31.3 positions and 18.0 in Grand Island. The following contains a brief description of each budget program, as well as a breakdown by type of funds, operations, and aid.

### AGENCY SUMMARY

General Funds	12,075,091
Cash Funds	1,756,257
Federal Funds	18,937,206
Total Appropriation	32,768,554

### JUVENILE SERVICES

General Funds, Operations	117,648
General Funds, Aid	564,300
Total General Funds	681,948

These funds are distributed to local communities for programs which provide alternatives to juvenile incarceration. The Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice Committee makes decisions on awarding these funds, the Community-Based Juvenile Services funds, and the federal Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Funds.

### VICTIM-WITNESS ASSISTANCE

General Funds, Operations	3,908	Federal Funds, Operations	625,968
General Funds, Aid	50,457	Federal Funds, Aid	11,893,407
Total General Funds	54,365	Total Federal Funds	12,519,375

The Commission provides funding for local victim assistance and domestic violence centers. These centers provide follow-up support services to crime victims and witnesses as they proceed through the criminal justice system. Partial funding is provided for 37 centers across the state.

### CRIME VICTIMS’ REPARATIONS

General Funds, Operations	7,524	Cash Funds, Aid	303,474
General Funds, Aid	19,200	Federal Funds, Aid	121,980
Total General Funds	26,724		

Funding is provided from this budget program to compensate victims of crime who receive bodily injuries and do not have funds available from other sources to pay medical expenses. Funeral costs and lost wages not covered by insurance are also reimbursed. All claims are examined by Commission staff and approved or denied by the Executive Director.

**JAIL STANDARDS**

General Funds, Operations 303,786

The Jail Standards Board is responsible for the enforcement of minimum standards for the operation and construction of local jails. Staff from this budget program conduct annual inspections of local jails and juvenile detention facilities and also provide technical assistance.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM (CJIS)**

General Funds, Operations 179,717

Federal Funds, Operations 810,634

The CJIS Advisory Committee has developed a statewide strategic plan for improving the exchange of information among criminal justice agencies. Appropriated funds are used to implement those projects identified in the CJIS strategic plan.

**COMMUNITY-BASED JUVENILE SERVICES AID**

General Funds, Aid 6,048,000

General Funds, Operations 1,062,654

Total General Funds 7,110,654

These funds assist counties and tribes in providing services identified in their comprehensive juvenile services plan. Programs funded include diversion, delinquency prevention, intensive juvenile probation, shelter care, assessment/evaluation, and family support services.

**CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION BUDGET**

General Funds, Operations 596,500 Federal Funds, Operations 903,896

General Funds, Aid 493,457 Federal Funds, Aid 4,520,673

Total General Funds 1,089,957 Total Federal Funds 5,424,569

Cash Funds, Operations 41,140

This budget program provides the central administrative services for the agency. It also includes most of the major federal grant programs administered by the Crime Commission.

**FUNDED PROGRAMS**

- \*Uniform Crime Reporting
- \*Statistical Analysis Center
- \*Sexual Assault Services
- \*Statewide Crimestoppers Aid
- \*Hate Crimes Reporting
- \*Racial Profiling Reporting
- \*Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
- \*Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Funds
- \*Violence Against Women Act Funds
- \*Residential Substance Abuse Treatment
- \*VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday)

**NEBRASKA LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER (NLETC)**

General Funds, Operations	1,989,342
Cash Funds, Operations	898,509
Federal Funds, Operations	60,648
Total Operations	2,948,499

The NLETC, located in Grand Island, is administered by the Crime Commission. The Police Standards Advisory Council is consulted on all matters pertaining to the Training Center and acts as a subcommittee of the Crime Commission governing body. A renovation and expansion of the Training Center facility was completed in 2005 at a cost of \$11,385,000. This project added classrooms, a gymnasium, weight room, dorm rooms, office space, a firearms simulator, a vehicle inspection building and a dog kennel. In addition, the dining room and kitchen were expanded, and improvements made to the firearms range, driving track, and student lounge. The State Patrol Training Academy is now co-located at the expanded Training Center facility

**OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION**

General Funds, Operations	106,644
General Funds, Aid	336,000
Total General Funds	442,644

The primary responsibility of the State Office of Violence Prevention is to help promote and assess statewide violence prevention programs in the State of Nebraska. The Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) aids privately funded organizations, local government subdivisions, and other community leaders and advocacy groups in developing proven and cutting-edge Prevention, Intervention, and Enforcement theories and techniques.

Through a competitive grants process administered by the Crime Commission, the OVP recently awarded \$350,000 to eight separate organizations in Nebraska that have shown a history of documented success in helping to reduce violent crime in Nebraska.

**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS DIVISION**

General Funds, Operations	195,954
Cash Funds, Operations	513,134
Total Operations	709,088

The Community Corrections Division continued to work toward fulfilling their core mission which remains unchanged: To promote the establishment and use of community corrections programs as alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenders.

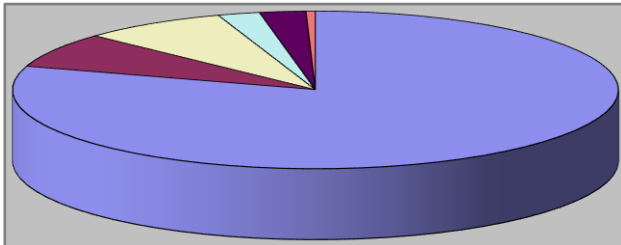
The primary mandate of the division is to support the continued development and implementation of a statewide network of community corrections programs as a means to reduce prison overcrowding. This is part of a collaborative effort involving both criminal justice agencies and community stakeholders. The role of the division in this effort is to evaluate and recommend improvements to existing community corrections programs, improve the data collections and analysis capabilities of community corrections programs, and provide objective research and information on community corrections issues to policy-makers, stake holders and the public.



**CRIME VICTIMS REPARATIONS**

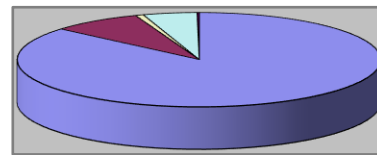
This program, administered by our Budget and Accounting Division, provides financial assistance for victims of crime who suffer physical injuries. With the passage of LB510 in 2010, more general and cash funds are available for the Crime Victim’s Reparations program. The amount of federal matching funds will increase as a result. We process 150 claims per year. In years prior to 2014 we were processing 70 claims per year.

**Crime Commission Grant Programs  
 Federal Funds 2016/2017  
 \$14,902,437**



- Victim Assistance \$11,893,407
- Byrne Justice Assistance Grants \$1,074,357
- Violence Against Women \$1,159,020
- Juvenile Justice Title 2 \$334,617
- Sexual Assault Services \$366,723
- Residential Substance Abuse Treatment \$74,313

**Crime Commission Grant  
 Programs  
 General Funds 2016/2017  
 \$7,012,214**



- Community-Based Juvenile Services \$6,048,000
- Juvenile Services \$564,300
- Victim Assistance \$50,457
- Office of Violence Prevention \$336,000
- Statewide Crime Stoppers \$13,457

## GRANTS DIVISION

### JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG)

This federal grant program allows states and local governments to support a wide range of activities to prevent and control crime and to improve the criminal justice system. JAG funds may be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, strategic planning, research and evaluation, data collection, training, personnel, and criminal justice information systems that will improve such areas as: Drug Treatment and Enforcement Programs; Court Programs; Prevention and Education; Corrections and Community Corrections; Crime Victim and Witness Programs; Law Enforcement; Planning, and Evaluation, and Technology Improvement Programs. In 2016 Nebraska received \$1,193,730 in JAG funds. A total of 14 projects in 2016 received funding.

2016 JAG funds were awarded to fund several **Evidence Based** projects. In 2016, for the first time, Dr. Wiener, Charles Bessey Professor of Law and Psychology University of Nebraska at Lincoln, participated in the application reviews for all JAG programs. Dr. Wiener identified programs that needed attention to move along the Evidence Based Practice continuum to help them show effectiveness at the reduction of violent crime and/or recidivism. Lincoln Police Department, under the guidance of Dr. Wiener, developed a program that encourages property owners to clean up their tenant base and adopt a new business model in which they rent to law-abiding citizens who become stable residents. The goal of the project will be to make neighborhoods safer and lower the risk for violent crime. A logic model will be developed for the project and comparison groups will be identified. FY 2016 JAG funds were awarded to the Omaha Police Department and under the guidance of Dr. Wiener a new model was developed that will utilize JAG money to fund officers and probation officers to conduct Juvenile Probation checks at the youths' homes. This is primarily for the purpose of making contact with the youth's families, educating the youth and their parents, and establishing supportive relationships. The checks will encourage the youth to participate in the free PACE programs that will involve the youth in afterschool sports activities with police mentors designed to deter the juveniles from gang membership. A grant award was awarded to Nebraska Department of Correctional Services for their Reentry Housing Initiative. This project collaborates with Parole, Probation and current Grantees to identify barriers and gaps in services specific to the target population-individuals leaving prison on post-release supervision or parole with housing needs in addition to substance use and/or mental health treatment needs and other life skills needs. The Reentry Housing Initiative promotes the use of evidence-based practices and strategies by third-party service providers when substance use, mental health treatment or life skills are needed for successful reentry into the community.

The three year JAG Strategic Plan was completed in 2016. This plan is a federal requirement and a copy of the plan can be viewed at <https://ncc.nebraska.gov/strategic-plans>.

### RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT (RSAT)

This pass-through grant is a federal program that provides support for the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment programs housed within the correctional facilities. The Nebraska Department of Corrections has with these funds, established a comprehensive treatment program for offenders prior to their being eligible for parole. A total of **36 inmates** in 2016 entered the program, and **13 of that total completed** the program, while 23 are still active in the program.

The Nebraska Crime Commission serves as the State Administering Agency for two formula based grant programs supported under the federal Violence Against Women Act. These are the S.T.O.P Grant Program and the Sexual Assault Services Program.

### **S.T.O.P. (SERVICES, TRAINING, OFFICERS AND PROSECUTORS)**

The S.T.O.P. Grant Program is designed to support a multifaceted approach to responding to the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This grant program emphasizes state, local and tribal partnerships among law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, victim advocates, health care providers, faith leaders, organizations that serve culturally specific and underserved communities, and others. The grant funds are used to help provide victims across the life span with the protection and services they need to pursue safe and healthy lives, while improving communities' capacity to hold offenders accountable for their crimes. Nebraska achieves this purpose through support of local and statewide Coordinated Response Teams.

VAWA requires that 25% of the funds supports law enforcement, 25% prosecution, 5% courts, and 30% victim services of which 10% must be dedicated to culturally specific services. Of the total funds, 20% is for sexual assault services, and 4.75% (2016) went to support state efforts to come into compliance with the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). Grant program priorities and purpose areas are outlined in the NE S.T.O.P. Implementation Plan 2014- 2016 available at <https://ncc.nebraska.gov/strategic-plans>. Target populations include underserved and marginalized communities, those living in rural or remote areas, the elderly, victims who speak limited English, immigrants and undocumented victims, inmates and members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community.

In 2016, these funds supported 16 projects across the state for a total of \$1,091,132. Among these projects achievements:

- Facilitation of 20 local Coordinated Response Teams (CRT) covering 29 counties and 8 local Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART) covering 12 counties.
- Facilitation of Nebraska's statewide CRT and SART.
- Through the combined efforts of the projects 5,031 victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking were served.
- 13 projects provided training opportunities to over 7,700 professionals on effective methods and best practices. Among those attending were 1,808 law enforcement officers; 335 prosecutors; 347 victim advocates; 90 sexual assault forensic nurse examiners; 203 court personnel; 186 educators, 101 faith-based organization staff, and 129 health care professionals.

### **SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES PROGRAM (SASP)**

In 2016, the SASP Grant Program totaled \$366,723 to provide intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, support services, and related assistance to those victimized by sexual assault. The Nebraska Crime Commission in partnership with the Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence used SASP funds to supplement the efforts of 18 programs across the state; each a member of Nebraska's network of domestic violence and sexual assault providers. SASP funds are helping to enhance goals and strategies for working with sexual assault victims, including people who are victims of sexual assault within the context of domestic violence.

During 2016, of the 18 programs receiving funds 17 reported data. Of those reporting, SASP funding supported services to 531 individuals victimized by sexual violence. Personnel supported with SASP funds responded to 1,269 hotline calls and 898 walk-in requests for services from victims. In addition, 188 individuals considered “secondary victims” of sexual assault received necessary assistance.

### **VICTIM ASSISTANCE (VOCA)**

The Victim Assistance grant program is supported by federal formula based funding through the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) in addition to state funds allocated in the amount of \$50,457. The VOCA funds under this grant program are to provide direct services to individual crime victims at no cost to the victim. These federal funds come from the national Crime Victims Fund supported by the fines and penalties collected from convicted offenders. Of these funds, at least 10% must be dedicated to each crime victim category of sexual assault, domestic violence and child abuse and another 10% to victims of violent crime who are underserved. Since 2000, VOCA funding has been allocated to the state at a rate of approximately \$2.5+ million per year with the exception of 2014 when the funding reached just over \$3 million. However, in 2015, the VOCA funding supporting direct services to crime victims increased to \$11,760,309. VOCA funding increased for Fiscal Year 2016 with Nebraska receiving \$13,278,442.

This influx of VOCA funding lead to statewide strategic planning efforts and the development of Nebraska’s Strategic Plan for Victims and Survivors of Crime 2015-2020. This document is available at <https://ncc.nebraska.gov/strategic-plans>.

In 2016, 62 projects were funded through VOCA dollars funding 165 positions across the state including advocates, victim specialists and forensic interviewers. Recognizing the importance and value of volunteers to assist in meeting the needs for victims of crime, 194 full time equivalent volunteers were used during the grant year with a combined total of 98,547 volunteer hours. Of the 62 projects, 9 were new applicants. Many of these newer applicants had experienced reduced budgets due to cuts in local, county and state funds. Agencies providing Statewide legal services to victims of crime was funded for the first time. VOCA supported projects include Nebraska’s victim notification system (VINE), Statewide Sexual Assault Exam program, Victim/Witness Units, domestic violence and sexual assault programs, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) programs, and child advocacy centers across the state. Each year, these projects report on the numbers of victims served, and for 2016, they reported 110,016 victims (duplicated across projects) served. Among the crime victims served were 99 individuals that are deaf/heard of hearing; 2,651 reported homeless; 1,817 immigrants/refugees; 2,422 individuals with Limited English Proficiency; 175 LGBTQ individuals; 2,391 are victims with a disability and 132 crime victims are Veterans. A total of 197,101 units of services were provided such as court accompaniment, therapy, assistance with filing for compensation benefits, crisis counseling, shelter/safe housing, legal assistance, and safety planning. The units of services reported are lower than the actual units provided due to agencies adjusting to the new data tracking system implemented by Office for Victims of Crime. Several agencies were not able to track unit of service until mid-way through the grant year.

### **JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION TITLE II**

This federal program has a broad scope with 34 purpose areas. 8 juvenile programs were funded in 2016; 13 applications were received. Across the state, a variety of programs for juveniles were funded including diversion services, gender specific programs, culturally specific

programs, restorative justice, alternatives to detention, and risk/needs assessments. A total of \$366,167 was available to award.

The youth firesetters program is currently funded under Title II and offers fire prevention education to youth who have been firesetters along with their families. The program targets the family as a whole to target younger siblings as a preventative measure. Title II programs were also selected to participate in an evaluation to determine whether the program is evidence based. The selected programs were offered recommendations following their assessment. Conducting evaluations of programs has helped the Crime Commission determine where potential technical assistance is needed for programs to help them towards becoming evidence based or best practice.

### **STATE JUVENILE SERVICES**

In 2016, 17 juvenile programs were funded; 20 applications were received. Programs across the state included mentoring programs, IOP programs, shelter projects, prevention/intervention programs, truancy abatement, gender specific programs, after school programs, academic improvement, and diversion services. A total of \$587,812 was awarded.

Two programs were selected to work with an evaluator to help structure their program towards becoming evidence based. African Aid Initiative offers a mentoring service out of Omaha specific for refugees and Girl Scouts of Nebraska is specifically targeting the female refugee population in Lincoln Nebraska. These programs are working with the University of Nebraska to implement a foundation that follows an evidence based model and an effective data tracking system. Several programs were evaluated to determine if they were evidenced based or best practice. The results of the evaluation included recommendations to work towards that goal.

### **JUVENILE COMPLIANCE MONITORING**

Juvenile Compliance Monitoring: Under the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, as amended in 2002 (“JJDP”), Nebraska has designated the Nebraska Crime Commission as the agency responsible for maintaining an adequate system of compliance monitoring with respect to the four core requirements of the JJDP: 1) Deinstitutionalization of status offenders and nonoffenders (“DSO”); 2) Separation of juveniles from adult inmates; 3) Removal of juveniles from adult jails and lockups; and 4) disproportionate minority contact (“DMC”). The Crime Commission’s full-time Statewide OJJDP Compliance Monitor is responsible for overseeing the compliance monitoring program, including the development of policies and procedures, classification and inspection of secure and non-secure facilities, and data collection and verification for facilities in Nebraska that may hold juveniles pursuant to public authority or court order. Nebraska continues to maintain compliance with the JJDP; however, for the 2015 Federal Fiscal Year, Nebraska received a PREA reduction in the amount of \$6,333, lowering its minimum allocation of \$400,000 to \$393,667.

In 2016 we provided trainings to law enforcement across Nebraska in order to increase our presence and strengthen our relationship with Law Enforcement for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the Core Requirements.

### **DISPROPORTINATE MINORITY CONTACT (DMC)**

The state of Nebraska strives to reduce and eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system. Youth of color are overrepresented at nearly every point of contact with the juvenile justice system and this “disproportionate minority contact weakens the credibility of the justice system which is charged to treat everyone equitably.” Nebraska has taken major steps

to address, reduce and eliminate these disparities and with the Reauthorization Act of 2015 Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Nebraska looks to strengthening these steps by implementing clear direction to localities to implement data-driven approaches and report those efforts.

We have focused on DMC efforts on the entire state collecting data on each county. We have found that there are rural areas in the state with relatively new DMC issues due to the migration of minority families and workers into those areas. We feel that by tracking the entire state we can see trends that could possibly be addressed at the preventative stage.

In 2016 the Crime Commission contracted with Dr. Wiener to evaluate Crime Commission funded DMC programs. Over the past year, Dr. Wiener has worked with several programs to assist in the development of program models that will result in producing the desired effects and assisting the programs in securing the resources needed to implement the programs. In addition, data collections were designed for several DMC funded programs. The Crime Commission contracted with the Law/Psychology Program at the University of Nebraska/Lincoln under the direction and supervision of Dr. Wiener evaluated programs in Nebraska that have the goal to reduce continued contact with youth that show Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) with the juvenile system.

### **COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS FROM LANCASTER COUNTY DMC**

Lancaster County Lincoln Police Department Chief of Police, Jeff Bliemeister, presented on Project RESTORE during the keynote of the Coalition for Juvenile Justice Disproportionate Minority Contact Conference on December 5 – 6, 2016. Project RESTORE is a school-based diversion program developed to reduce the overrepresentation of youth of color at arrest system point. Youth who have police contact for assaults occurring at school are immediately referred to the program and case plans are developed within a week of the occurrence. Typical plans involve completing a Restorative Justice Victim Offender Dialogue, writing apology letters, providing restitution, and community engagement. This program was developed with technical assistance provided through Georgetown University and Title II funding from the Nebraska Crime Commission.

### **Goals for 2016**

- To conduct a strategic plan for DMC in 2017 followed by a DMC assessment in 2017. This will guide efforts in effectively reducing disparities;
- Education for Law Enforcement on DMC and Effective Police Interactions with Youth;
- Exploring OJJDP's DMC Reduction Model and discussing Nebraska's Relative Rate Index (RRI) data to determine at what stage of the model Nebraska falls and how to effectively move forward;
- Develop Language Access Plan to ensure meaningful access to court services for those with Limited English Proficiency;
- Adopt common definitions Statewide; and
- Develop an education plan to expand knowledge among juvenile justice system stakeholders about DMC and should coordinate the provision of cross-agency training opportunities to improve cultural competence.

## **JAIL STANDARDS DIVISION**

The Jail Standards program as established in 1975 under Chapter 83, Sections 4.124 – 4.134 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska, provides for a twelve member jail Standards Board appointed by the Governor. This Board is responsible for the promulgation and enforcement of minimum standards for adult and juvenile detention facilities and juvenile staff secure facilities, and for the maintenance, operation, and construction of all local criminal detention facilities. Staff support to the Board is provided by the Jail Standards Division of the Nebraska Crime Commission. The board meets quarterly to consider inspections reports, address local facility requests, and to consider approval of facility construction or renovation plans.

Jail Standards staff provide a variety of training opportunities for detention facility staff across the state.

### **TRAINING**

- In 2016, jail Standards staff participated in providing Initial Jail Training for 157 new detention center staff in jails throughout Nebraska. This included training at the Law Enforcement Training Center, Hall County, Scottsbluff County, Lancaster County, Platte County, and Buffalo County.
- In 2016, staff updated two units of the Initial Jail Training Program for new employees of adult jails
- In 2016, staff provided a Jail Management Development course for 20 jail managers.
- In conjunction with the Nebraska Correctional Administrators and Managers Association, Jail Standards staff presented the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Conference for detention and corrections professionals. The 2016 Conference, held in Kearney, included 238 participants, 24 vendors and two full days of excellent and relevant presentations designed to continue the professionalization of corrections and detention in Nebraska.
- In 2016, staff provided a Training for Trainers course for 20 new jail training officers.
- In 2016, staff provided the NIC Jail Administration course for 20 jail administrators.

The primary responsibility of the Jail Standards Division is the implementation and administration of the Jail Standards program. Major activities related to this function in 2016 are listed below

### **ANNUAL INSPECTIONS**

Staff completed an annual inspection of all 68 adult jails, 3 juvenile detention centers, and 3 staff secure facilities in the state in 2016. Written reports of these inspections were prepared and submitted to the Jail Standards Board for review and official action on a quarterly basis. At the end of 2016, 4 detention centers in Nebraska were officially out of compliance with the standards. Adult facilities are inspected for compliance with standards regulating personnel, records and statistic, admission and release of inmates, classification, security and control, library material, rehabilitative services, mail, visiting and telephone service, health services, food services, inmate's rights, inmate behavior, discipline and grievance processes, and existing and new facility design and construction.

### **DATA COLLECTION**

In 2016, the division continued to collect data on the characteristics and flow of inmates through local jails. This provides an ongoing database that is critical to both state master planning and planning at the local facility level. For communities planning construction of new jail facilities, this data is essential in determining appropriate size and design characteristics.

### **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

Jail Standards staff provide assistance, where possible, to assist jails in meeting standards. During 2016, technical assistance was provided in the following areas.

- The division has the responsibility for review of plans and specifications in jail facility construction and renovation. The board must give final approval for all projects before they can be built. Staff establishes ongoing working relationships with architects, consultants, and local officials through the duration of such projects, providing input into needs assessment, preliminary planning, pre-architectural programming, and design development. Cheyenne County, Richardson County, Seward County, Washington County, Thurston County, Webster County, Boone County, and Sarpy County had new facilities under construction, older facilities undergoing renovations, or new facilities in planning during 2016
- The division regularly provides problem solving and technical assistance to jails related to provision of medical services, policy and procedure development, and legal issues.

### **RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

Staff continually develop and update resource documents, prepare reports, respond to information requests, and sponsor workshops related to relevant topics such as Inmate Behavior Management, sharing of inmate medical information, and policy and procedure development. Some resources that were provided during 2016 include:

- Model Policy and Procedures
- Model jail Records
- Policy and Procedure Resource Manual and Inmate Handbook
- The Jail Planning and construction Manual
- Jail Bulletin Training Modules, and
- A wide variety of National Institute of Corrections materials.

## **INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION**

The Information Services Division consists of six individuals. They provide support in three primary areas: research and statistics, support of criminal justice integration and meeting the agencies internal IT needs. Given the advances in technology, the power of automation and the goal of reducing redundancy for our agency as well as the many entities that the Crime Commission works with, there is a great deal of inter-action in the projects and duties addressed by the Division. Statistical projects overlap with local law enforcement automation. Data integration provides opportunities for data collection. These efforts help make for cost effective, long term solutions instead of stand-alone projects.

### **NEBRASKA CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM (NCJIS)**

NCJIS is a secure portal providing access to a variety of data to certified users. It provides a



cornerstone for sharing data among agencies as searches allow users to see all activity related to a particular individual. In 2016, there were over 9,658 users from 616 agencies.

7,451,865 searches were conducted across criminal histories, probation, corrections, jail, court and other related systems;

1,531,565 court pages were displayed;

1,739,617 DMV driver histories were viewed;

49 Agencies uploaded NIBRS plus data;

## **RESEARCH AND STATISTICS**

Data is produced in various forms and is also available for user defined searches on the Crime Commission website. Statistics and research programs include:

UCR/NIBRS (Uniform Crime Report / Nebraska Incident Based Reporting System) – These provide the basis for looking at reported crime and arrests by law enforcement. Beginning in January of 2021 NIBRS law enforcement agencies will only be allowed to submit in NIBRS format.

Traffic Stops - Law enforcement contacts are collected to provide an annual report relating to the nature of stops and the possibility of racial profiling

Jail Holds from local facilities is gathered to support the needs of the Jails Standards Division for planning purposes.

## **JUVENILE COURT REPORTING**

The Information Services Division also provides statistical support for the Community Corrections Division regarding certain offender populations.

## **DATA COLLECTION AND SHARING**

Information Services staff are continually working to increase the collection and sharing of data among criminal justice and related agencies. Accomplishments include:

1. Operating NCJIS (Nebraska Criminal Justice Information System), a secure internet based data portal providing access to criminal justice and related data.
2. Providing NDEN (Nebraska Data Exchange Network) as a resource with limited views of NCJIS, primarily non-restricted data, to non-criminal justice users. Over 1,200 Department of Health and Human Services users access NDEN. Also, users from the Child Advocacy Centers use this tool to help in the investigation of child abuse cases.
3. Providing victim notification and detainee information through VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday), a service available since May 2000. Individuals can either obtain information on someone being held in jail or prison or request to receive information of a release. We started the service with phone and email notifications but added text message

notifications in 2016. In 2016, there were 16,122 new registrations by people wanting to be notified of the release of an arrestee or offender, an average of over 1,300 people per month, an increase from 2015. The public can call or check online for the status of an offender, saving calls that otherwise may have gone directly to County Attorneys or corrections staff. There were 22,792 notifications in 2016. Over 575,000 online searches for offender information were also conducted, including phone searches.

4. Increasing online access to data by providing both reports and searchable data on the Crime Commission website. This includes details on crimes as well as about 500,000 traffic stops in Nebraska. People are able to create their own queries to get detailed information about either statewide or city and county level detail on reported offenses, arrests, juvenile court data and crime rates.

## **DATA INTEGRATION**

Data integration efforts of the CJIS Advisory Committee focus on two main areas.

*Increasing access to data.* This is driven by NCJIS, a secure data portal providing access to a wide variety of justice and related datasets to users at their desks, in their cars or using mobile devices. Data includes criminal histories, jail and corrections holds, probationers, court cases and mug shots. NDEN provides a limited view

*Improving data through the criminal justice cycle.* Efforts to help local automation have included sponsoring local automation for law enforcement, jails, electronic citations, protection orders and prosecutors. After the data is captured locally, it is also being moved across agencies, such as from the prosecutors to the courts, to improve availability as well as eliminate duplicate data entry.

## **COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS DIVISION**

The Community Corrections Division continues to work toward fulfilling their core mission which remains unchanged: To promote the establishment and use of community corrections programs as alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenders.

The primary mandate of the division is to support the continued development and implementation of a statewide network of community corrections programs as a means to reduce prison overcrowding. This is part of a collaborative effort involving both criminal justice agencies and community stakeholders. The role of the division in this effort is to evaluate and recommend improvements to existing community corrections programs, improve the data collections and analysis capabilities of community corrections programs, and provide objective research and information on community corrections issues to policy-makers, stakeholders and the public.

The development of an integrated community corrections data system, public education, and program evaluation are three priorities the division identified with the primary focus being data collection and analysis. Grants from the Uniform Data Analysis Fund continue to fund the development of improved case management systems for Probation, Specialized Courts, Board of Parole/Division of Parole Supervision and Services, and the Department of Correctional Services. Improvement of these systems is essential to program evaluation and making the case that these programs work. In FY16/17 \$330,000 was awarded to the Nebraska

Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, Board of Parole/Division of Parole Supervision and Services, and Probation Administration.

The third responsibility of the division is to report annually to the Governor and the Legislature on the development and performance of community corrections facilities and programs. The report is to include a description of community corrections programs which includes the following: the target populations and geographic area served, eligibility requirements, number of offenders using the facility, services provided, total cost to operate the program and the cost per offender, funding sources, recidivism rates and outcome data. The division distributed the third annual report in January 2017 and will continue to work toward expanding the report to include additional details regarding the progress in expanding community corrections statewide, analyzing the need for additional community services and evaluating the impact of community corrections programs on the inmate population within the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services.

In 2016 LB679 was passed which changes the reporting requirements of the Community Corrections Division of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice. The changes are intended to broaden the scope of the language in the Community Corrections Act, to give a better understanding of the data required for the annual report on the community corrections programs, facilities and supervision provided within the State of Nebraska.

LB 605 was passed in 2015 and gave the responsibility of drafting rules and regulations for the County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program to the Crime Commission. The rules and regulations were drafted by the Community Corrections Division and became law as Title 74 in December of 2016. Title 74 creates a process to distribute \$480,000 to county jails that demonstrate they have experienced an increase in their average daily jail population due to the sentencing changes made in LB 605. Grant applications have been received and awards will be made in early 2017.

An additional responsibility assigned to the division policy analyst, is to act as the Crime Commission's legislative liaison. The Community Corrections Division also staffs and supports the Justice Behavioral Health Committee that has a voluntary membership whose mission is to "ensure integration, cooperation, and active communication between the justice system and treatment systems; substance abuse and mental health".

## **OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION DIVISION**

### **THE OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

In May of 2009, the Nebraska Legislature passed LB 63, establishing the Office of Violence Prevention within the Nebraska Crime commission. A provision within LB 63 provided for the establishment of the Advisory Council to the Office of Violence Prevention. The Council is to meet quarterly and is directed to recommend, to the Crime Commission Board, rules and regulations regarding fundraising, program evaluation, coordination of programs, and criteria used to assess and award funds to violence prevention programs.

### **OBJECTIVES**

One of the objective of the office is to break down the issues regionally throughout Nebraska. A goal of the OVP is to help outline the project operation for organizations in Nebraska that work in the areas of crime prevention, intervention, enforcement, and diversion.

Another objective is to establish sustainability in order to aid communities throughout Nebraska into the future. To accomplish this goal, the OVP is also seeking to develop continuous and reliable funding sources that will aid in continuing this collaborative effort.

Through a competitive grants process administered by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (Crime Commission), the OVP awarded 2016 funds of \$350,000 to seven (7) separate organizations in Nebraska that have shown either a history or promise of documented success in helping to reduce violent crime in Nebraska.

Priority for funding is given to communities and organizations seeking to implement violence prevention programs which appear to have the greatest benefit to the state and which have, as goals, the reduction of street and gang violence, and the reduction of homicides and injuries caused by firearms. In March of 2015, the Nebraska Legislature passed LB 167 which also included the creation of youth employment opportunities in high-crime areas as an additional priority focus.

The grant recipients are required to develop goals, objectives, and performance indicators in order to help evaluate the success of the financial distribution. Upon awarding of the funds, grantees will be required to submit quarterly activity and cash reports to the OVP/Crime Commission. Also, grantees will be required to provide an evaluation report and a portion of the grant funds will be used for a professional evaluator. The report must provide a comprehensive review of the program's overall effort, and measurable results during the grant cycle. Those results are provided to the Office of Violence Prevention.

### **ESTABLISHING A BLUEPRINT FOR SUSTAINABILITY**

"Prevention is an active process of creating conditions and fostering personal attributes that promote the well-being of people." (Lofquist, 1989) To that end, the OVP has been working to foster local community collaborative initiatives that address the risk and resiliency factors related to violence based on the Collective Impact Model. Previous OVP grantees, who have employed similar efforts, have seen marked decreases in delinquency behaviors in targeted populations.

## **JUVENILE DIVERSION DIVISION**

The Director of Juvenile Diversion Programs of the Nebraska Commission of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice is responsible for fostering, promoting, researching, and assessing juvenile pretrial diversion programs that divert juveniles away from the judicial system and into community-based services, and developing new programs in collaboration with designated representatives of Nebraska cities and counties. Other responsibilities include oversight of statewide data collection; report annually on juvenile pretrial diversion programs in Nebraska; provide best practice recommendations, guidelines, and procedures used to develop or expand local juvenile diversion programs; and creation of a statewide steering committee.

### **DATA COLLECTION**

In 2016, the Division continued to oversee the maintenance and enhancement of the Juvenile Diversion Case Management System (JDCMS) within the secure Nebraska Criminal Justice Information System (NCJIS) portal. The data collected provides an ongoing database that is critical to the analysis and evaluation of both individual diversion programs and diversion on a statewide level.

### **TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

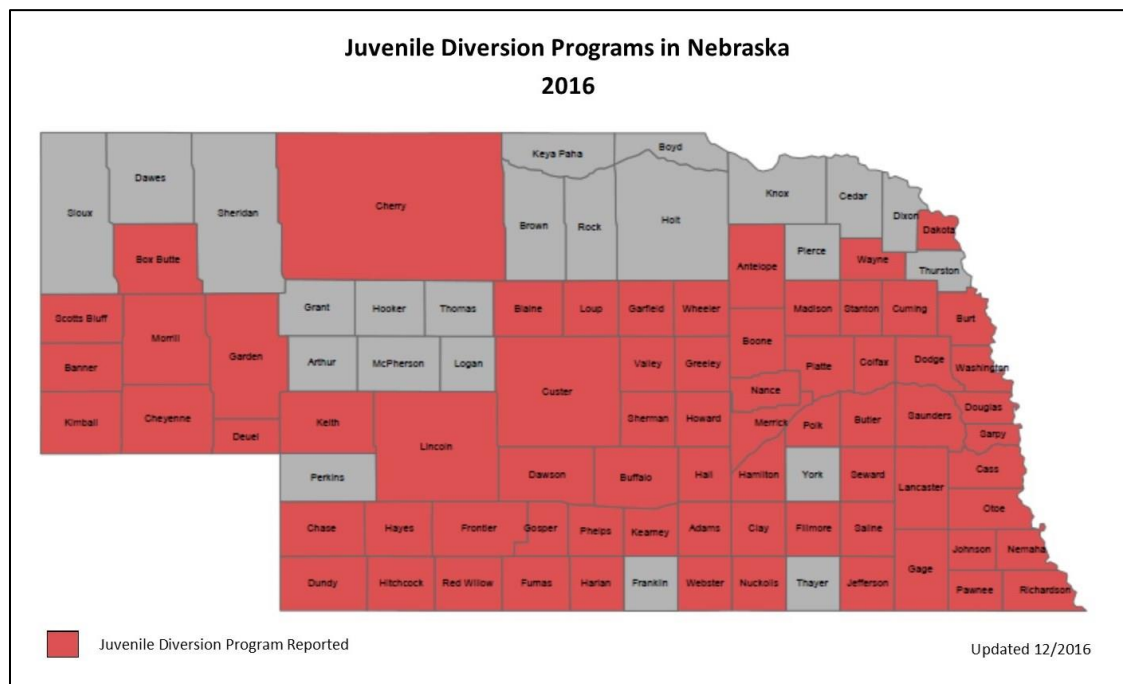
The director provides assistance and training to juvenile diversion programs on best practice guidelines and recommendations to established programs, as well as the development of additional juvenile diversion programs. In 2016, the director developed a program monitor procedure for conducting diversion program monitors. The on-site program monitors provide one on one technical assistance on improving program quality, checking for statutory compliance and implementation of best practice recommendations.

Training and technical assistance also includes updated and continued training on JDCMS, developing and updating resource documents, preparing reports, responding to information requests, and assisting in workshops and trainings related to juvenile diversion and juvenile justice reform. The director provides individual presentations and information sharing with community planning teams, county commissions, and county attorneys on the establishment of juvenile pretrial diversion programs. The director also facilitates communication and information sharing among juvenile pretrial diversion program directors through regional and statewide meetings and a Nebraska Listserv for diversion programs.

### JUVENILE DIVERSION SUBCOMMITTEE

The Statewide Diversion Subcommittee, part of the Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice, was established pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute § 81-1427(2) (h). The Statewide Diversion Subcommittee is committed to working with diversion programs to monitor effectiveness, develop and enhance quality diversion programs statewide, and provide ongoing training and technical assistance.

The number of diversion programs across the state continue to increase. Currently, 70 of the 93 counties report offering a juvenile pretrial diversion program. Three new counties began offering juvenile pretrial diversion programs in 2016.



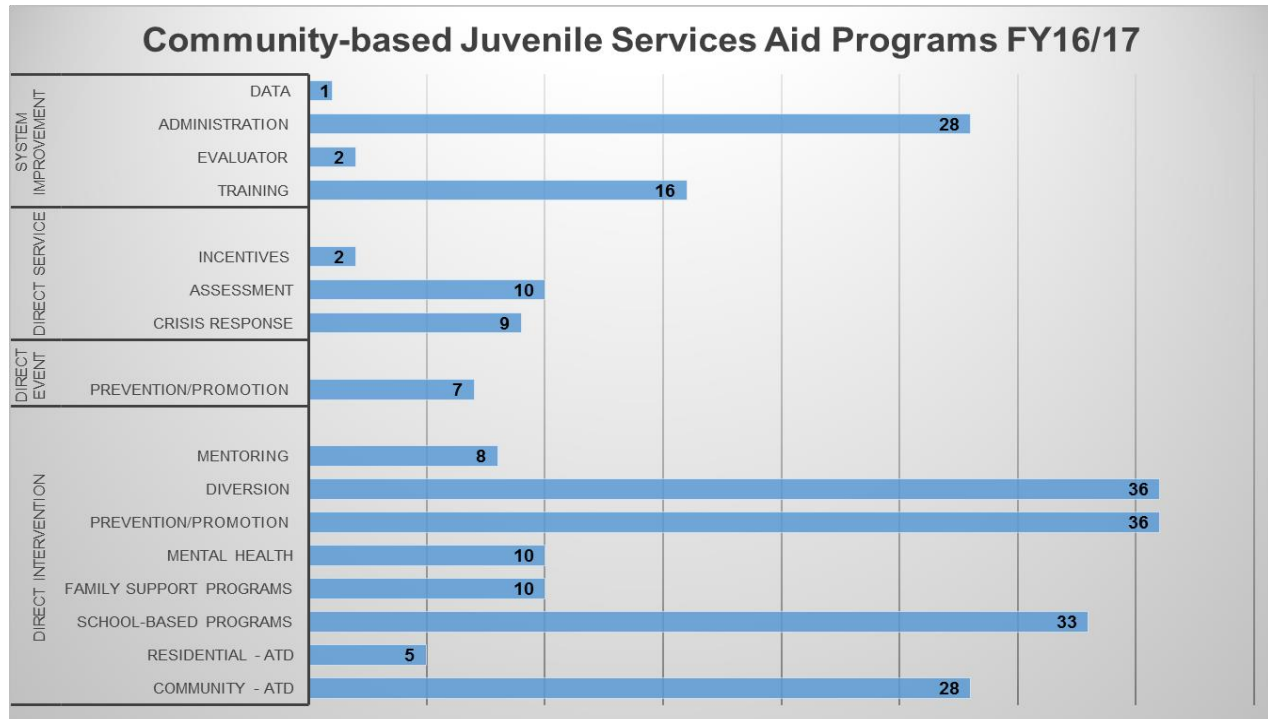
## **COMMUNITY-BASED JUVENILE AID DIVISION**

The Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Division is a separate and distinct budgetary program within the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (Crime Commission). Funds under this program shall be used exclusively to assist the aid recipient in the implementation and operation of programs or the provision of services identified in the aid recipient's comprehensive juvenile services plan, including programs for local planning and service coordination; screening, assessment, and evaluation; diversion; alternatives to detention; family support services; treatment services; truancy prevention and intervention programs; pilot projects approved by the commission; payment of transportation costs to and from placements, evaluations, or services; personnel when the personnel are aligned with evidence-based treatment principles, programs, or practices; contracting with other state agencies or private organizations that provide evidence-based treatment or programs; preexisting programs that are aligned with evidence-based practices or best practices; and other services that will positively impact juveniles and families in the juvenile justice system.

The Director of the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Division of the Nebraska Crime Commission is responsible for providing technical assistance and guidance for the development of comprehensive juvenile services plans; coordinating the review of the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program application and making recommendations for the distribution of funds; developing data collection and evaluation protocols, overseeing statewide data collection, and generating an annual report on the effectiveness of juvenile services that receive funds; developing relationships and collaborating with juvenile justice system stakeholders, providing education and training as necessary, and serving on boards and committees when approved by the commission; assisting juvenile justice system stakeholders in developing policies and practices that are research-based or standardized and reliable and are implemented with fidelity and which have been researched and demonstrate positive outcomes; developing and coordinating a statewide working group as a subcommittee of the coalition to assist in regular strategic planning related to supporting, funding, monitoring, and evaluating the effectiveness of plans and programs receiving funds; and working with the coordinator for the Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice in facilitation their obligations specific to the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program. The Financial Grants Monitor is responsible for fiscally monitoring subgrantees, processing reimbursement contingent upon documentation, reviewing cash reports, processing cash requests, and the overall fiscal oversight of the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program.

### **COMMUNITY-BASED JUVENILE SERVICES AID FUNDS**

For Fiscal Year 2016/2017, a total of \$6,048,000 was distributed across 67 counties and 2 Indian tribes. Ten percent of funds are set aside for the development of a common data set and evaluation of the effectiveness of the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program. The common data set maintained by the Crime Commission shall be provided to the University of Nebraska, Juvenile Justice Institute to assess the effectiveness of programs.



## COMMUNITY PLANNING ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE

The Community Planning Advisory Subcommittee is charged with assisting the Director of the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program in regular strategic planning related to supporting, funding, monitoring, and evaluating the effectiveness of plans and programs receiving funds.

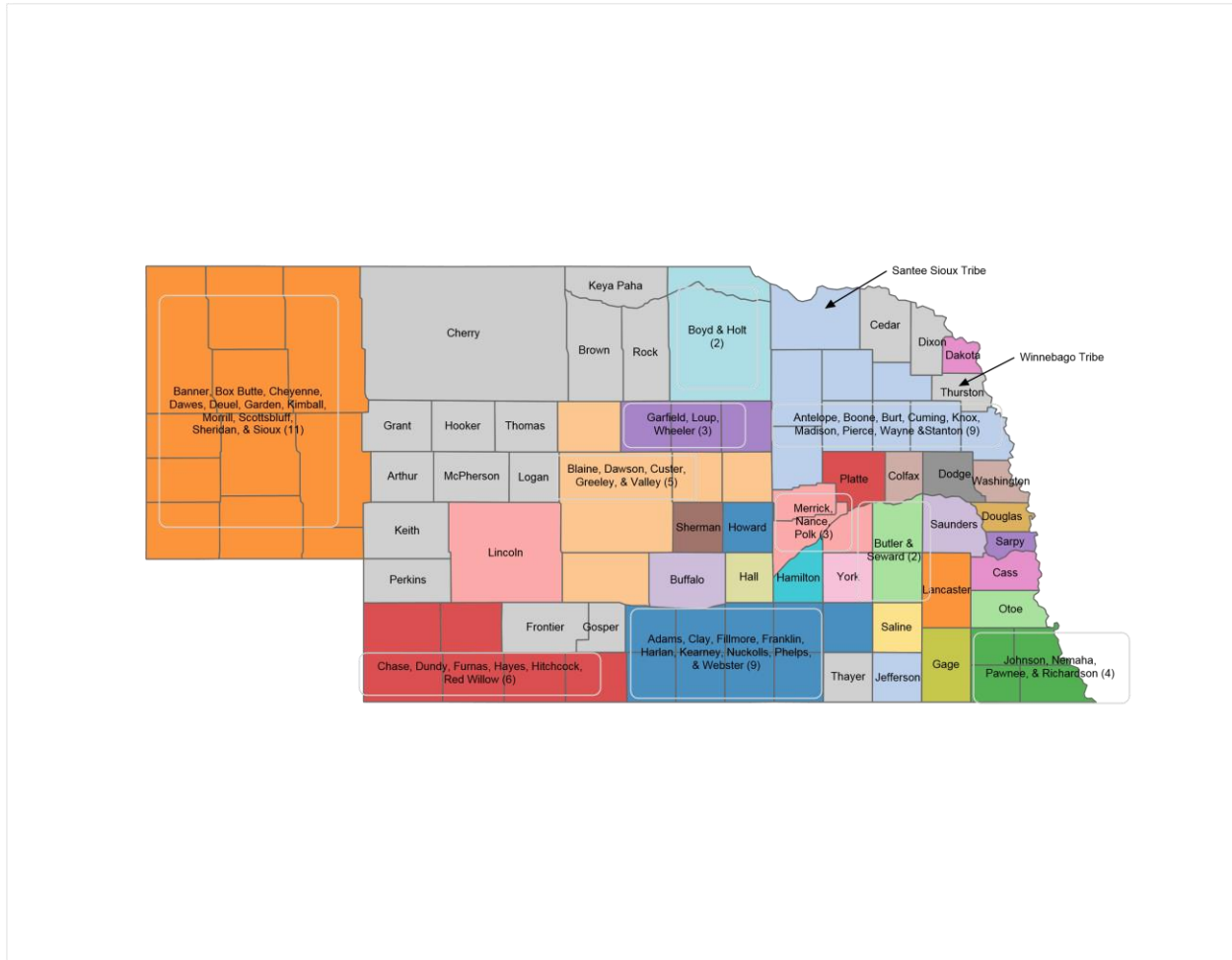
In 2016, the Community Planning Advisory Subcommittee reviewed and provided feedback on all community plans and grant applications. The Subcommittee assisted with the 2016 Community Aid & Juvenile Justice Conference in October which focused on community-based aid, community planning, and evidence-based practices.

## COMPREHENSIVE JUVENILE SERVICES COMMUNITY PLANS

To be eligible for participation in the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program, a comprehensive juvenile services plan (community plan) shall be developed, adopted, and submitted to the Nebraska Crime Commission. Each community plan is required to be developed by a comprehensive community team representing juvenile justice system stakeholders; be based on data relevant to juvenile and family issues; identify policies and practices that are research-based or standardized and reliable and are implemented with fidelity and which have been researched and demonstrate positive outcomes; identify clear implementation strategies; and identify how the impact of the program or service will be measured.

Currently, there are 33 community plans filed with the Nebraska Crime Commission which represent 76 counties and 2 Indian tribes.

COMPREHENSIVE JUVENILE SERVICES COMMUNITY PLANS  
 JULY 1, 2015 – JUNE 30, 2018



\*Counties without community plans are denoted in grey  
 \*Boxes are placed around those counties with a joint community plan

## NE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER (NLETC)

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center is dedicated to educate, train, and evaluate law enforcement officers; as well as regulate statewide training academies and mandated programs, to ensure all meet state certification requirements as established by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice through the Police Standards Advisory Council

### VISION

To be the premier law enforcement training facility with highly qualified instructors and staff capable of meeting the needs and expectations of the citizens of Nebraska for developing highly trained and competent law enforcement officers



## **NLETC**

The Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center (NLETC) was created by Nebraska State Statute 81-1402 to (1) test all law enforcement candidates on behalf of the Police Standards Advisory Council to ensure that they meet pre-certification and certification requirements, (2) oversee and monitor other training schools and training academies to ensure that they meet pre-certification and certification requirements, and (3) conduct certification programs and advanced law enforcement training as directed by the Council.

The Training Center is under the supervision and control of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (81-1403 & 81-1406). The Training Center Director (81-1404) is directly responsible to the Executive Director for compliance with the duties prescribed in the statutes and reports on all activities pertaining to the Training Center.

The Police Standards Advisory Council (81-1403) provides recommendations to the Commission and the Training Center Director on all matters pertaining to Center operations. The Council, subject to review by the Commission, promulgates rules for the operation of the Training Center. Additionally, the Council promulgates rules for certification and training requirements for all law enforcement officers in the State of Nebraska. The Council serves as a fact-finding board for officer revocation actions and it makes recommendations pertaining to an officer's certification status to the Commission. The Commission reviews the Council's recommendation and makes a final determination regarding the officer's certification status. Through the efforts of the Director, Executive Director, Council and Commission, the public is assured that Nebraska Law Enforcement officers are competent and professional.

The Training Center is home for two law enforcement academies. The Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy (NLETA) services every Nebraska agency requiring law enforcement certification training except the Omaha and Lincoln police departments who operate their own academies under the guidance of the Council in their respective jurisdictions. The Nebraska State Patrol Training Academy (NSPTA) is collocated at the Training Center with the NLETA. The NSPTA trains both entry-level law enforcement troopers as well as in-service and training for all NSP sworn and civilian employees.

The Training Center is located on a 40 acre campus adjacent to the Grand Island Airport. The two academies share administrative office and classroom space, 104 double-occupancy dorm rooms, a driving track, outdoor firearms range, police service dog facility, carrier enforcement training building, on-site dining facilities, and a host of other police training facilities. The budget of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center as administered by the Commission, supports both the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy and the Nebraska State Patrol Training Academy.

**The following training was delivered by the  
Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in 2016**

(excludes NSPTA courses that are reported via NSP)

- 1- Mandatory Courses** (10 courses, 97,919 training hours, 321 graduates)
  - **Basic Officer Certification** (641 hours, 16 weeks, training hours 89,352)  
Three basic sessions were started with 174 students, graduating 153

- **Basic Jail Certification** (80 hours, 2 weeks, training hours 3,680)  
Two basic jail sessions were held, graduating 46
- **Management Certification** (51 hours, 5 days, training hours 1,938)  
Two Management sessions were held, graduating 38
- **Reciprocity/Reactivation Certification** (90 hours, 1,170)  
Two sessions held, starting with 21 seats and graduating 13
- **Supervision Certification** (24 hours, 3 days, training hours 1,704)  
Two sessions were held, 2 regional, 71 graduates

**2- Specialized Courses** (118 courses offered, 986 students, training hours 14,948)

Specialized offerings included, Basic Dispatcher, Child Abuse & Neglect on-line, Defensive Tactics Instructor & recertification, Drug Enforcement, Emergency Medical Dispatcher, EVOC Instructor, Firearms Instructor & recertification, FTO Training, GAGE Instructor, Instructor Development, NCIC Telecommunicator, NSP Post Crash Investigation, NSP VIN Inspection, Sheriffs Continuing Education, Police Service Dog, Patrol Rifle & Shotgun Instructor Course, Active Shooter Threat Instructor, Taser Instructor.

**3- Drug Grant Courses** (5 Courses offered, 42 students, training hours 718)

Under the Crime Commission drug grant, offerings included; Statement Analysis, Knife Defense Instructor, and Tactical Medical.

**4- Highway Safety Grant** (61 Courses offered, 1,631 students, training hours 17,654)

Under the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety Grant, regional and NLETC hosted training including, Advance Crash Investigation, Advanced Roadside Impairment, Intermediate Crash Investigation, In-Car-Video, Laser Radar, DataMaster Breath Testing, Preliminary Breath Testing, Radar, Standardized Field Sobriety Testing. Technical Accident Investigation course, IPTM Crash Reconstruction.

**5- Total Offerings, 201 Courses, 3,023 students, 131,239 training hours**

**6- New Licenses issued, 205; Licenses Revoked for cause, 2**

Issued : NLETC 153, Lincoln 20, NSP 19, Reactivation 8, Reciprocity 5

**BLUE COURAGE—FULL STATE IMPLIMENTATION PLAN FOR IN-SERVICE OFFICERS**

Nebraska was selected to pilot a Department of Justice project to implement Blue Courage at the four Nebraska police academies in 2015. Instructors from all four of the state’s police academies attended the DOJ funded train-the-trainer course and all four academies have Blue Courage instructors.

In 2016, Nebraska joined a list of states to implement Blue Courage to all current “in-service” officers. We received another DOJ grant to host an additional train-the-trainer class in 2017 that will be open to Nebraska law enforcement agencies desiring their own Blue Courage curriculum and trainers.

Blue Courage is a transformational teaching methodology that infuses Blue Courage concepts emphasizing police ethics, nobility of policing, respect, developing character strengths, health habits, courage, and positive psychology. In return, we hope to get better retention of law enforcement officers with a higher motivation and understanding of the *nobility of policing*.

More information can be found at <http://bluecourage.com/>

### **NEW RECIPROCITY RULES APPROVED**

In 2016, the PSAC and Crime Commission promulgated a change to NAC Title 79, Chapter 3 governing accepting law enforcement certifications from other states. This rule passed all approval processes and became effective at the end of December.

The largest change to the rule made it clear that reciprocity recognition can apply to members of the United States Armed Forces who have received law enforcement training and worked law enforcement positions as a service member in addition to federal law enforcement positions. The rule also provides that if training was deficient in one of five subject matter areas, the director could allow that person to make up the deficiency by attending the subject area as it is being taught to basic students. This has barred previous applicants who lacked in one area and was left with no choice but to attend the entire 16 week academy.

All previous tests and preadmission requirements remain in place but it is our hope to grow Nebraska by giving well qualified service members an opportunity to remain in Nebraska communities by recognizing police training and experience service members already possess. The rule may help our large basic class demand as well by diverting these students to the more abbreviated Reciprocity training course.

### **NEW RULES ADOPTED ON POLICE CANINE TEAMS**

In 2014, the PSAC and Crime Commission promulgated a new rule (NAC Title 79, Chapter 18) regarding the certification of police canine teams. This has led to a new curriculum for certification of police canine teams effective in 2015.

Up to the new rule taking effect, the Council offered a voluntary standard that was taught at the police canine facility located at NLETC under the guidance of the Nebraska State Patrol's Police Service Dog Division. Now the Nebraska standard is required of any police canine team deployed in law enforcement work. Teams already certified under the voluntary standard remain in compliance. Teams not Nebraska certified had until the end of 2015 to achieve certification.

The Nebraska certification is offered at no tuition to agencies. Contact Lt. Russ Lewis at the Training Center for more information.

### **ROOFING PROJECTS**

Five roofing projects were started or completed in 2016. First was the rebuilding of the "clear story" windows in the lobby to fix water leaks and moisture problems followed by drywall repairs. Second, the roof on the original 1980 portion of the main building was replaced with a new 30 year roof. Third was removal of the pyramid window structure needing repairs in the main lobby and replaced with a flat roof. The fourth was replacing the roof on the 1980s EVOC fleet garage (connected to VIB). Last, the south entrance balcony is being enclosed to fix water penetration issues. The additional space generated by the enclosed balcony will add to the existing, small second floor student lounge. Project 309 funds were used for the roofing projects.

### **FULL BASIC CLASSES**

Law enforcement demand for basic academy seats continued to be high in 2016. The 193<sup>rd</sup> Basic started with 63 students which made this the largest class in our history and exceeded our desired capacity of 50. This accepted everyone with approved packets with no wait list. 55 students out of the 63 graduated.

As a result of this class, PSAC motioned that future classes shall not exceed 50 and mandated that we do three basic sessions annually.

The 194<sup>th</sup> Basic began August 1, 2016 with 48 students despite having invited two alternates the first day. One had a pre-existing undisclosed back injury and three additional failed the entrance physical (Physical Readiness Entrance Test or PRET).

To address this concern, we scheduled the next PRET for the 195<sup>th</sup> well ahead of the December 5<sup>th</sup> start to help ensure that the class start with the desired 50. We received 70 packets for the 50 allotted seats. Of the 70, 50 were invited to the PRET on November 15 with an additional 16 invited as alternates. We had five PRET failures and backfilled with alternates. We ended with 9 to carry over to the April 2017 Basic.

The PRET is explained at [http://nletc.nebraska.gov/entrance\\_physical.html](http://nletc.nebraska.gov/entrance_physical.html)

## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



## LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO CRIME COMMISSION STATUTES - 2016

**LB 679** expanded the requirements for the Community Corrections Division annual report in Neb. Rev. Stat. §47-624.

Effective date – July 21, 2016

**LB 843** was amended to include portions of LB 1097 to change provisions relating to sexual assault forensic testing, and created a new position within the Commission to administer the Sexual Assault Payment Program Cash Fund, which is found in Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-1429.03.

Operative date: July 1, 2017

**LB 846** was amended into LB 1000 and requires two new policies be reported to the Commission by Police Agencies. The first requires the Commission to adopt a model policy regarding eyewitness suspect identifications, and agencies using this identification practice must create their own policies which include the minimum standards created by the Commission. The second requires the adoption of a body worn camera model policy by the commission, and law enforcement agencies using body worn cameras to adopt at least the minimum standards contained within the model policy. The law governing body worn cameras are located in Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-1453 and 81-1454, and the eyewitness suspect identification requirements can be found in Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-1455.

Effective date – July 21, 2016