

Lincoln County
Juvenile Services
Comprehensive Community Plan
December 31, 2012 – December 31, 2015

Prepared By:

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SECTION II

COMMUNITY TEAM

**Lincoln County Juvenile Services Comprehensive Community Plan
2012 – 2015**

Description of Team and List of Team Members

Community Connections has been designated as the agency administrating the County Juvenile Service Aid Program Funding. Community Connections was founded in 1988 and received 501 (c) 3 status in 1999. The mission of Community Connections is to connect agencies, businesses, neighborhoods, schools, and individuals to coordinate activities, services and programs that enhance the quality of life for children and families in Lincoln County. Community Connections is guided by a Board of Directors. Coalitions Programs and Councils enable Community Connections to fulfill its mission and address community priorities identified by community members.

The Community Connections Board has met on a monthly basis since the inception of Community Connections. The nonprofit Board has elected officers (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer). The Board is an active community team with diverse representation. In order to update the Lincoln County Juvenile Service Comprehensive Plan, the Community Team (the Community Connections Board of Directors) convened a group of members and partners to discuss needs, resources, strategies and priorities on November 6, 2012. The team included the following individuals:

Name	Title	Address	Telephone	Email
Brenda Brooks	NE Health and Human Services Protection and Safety Supervisor and Community Connections Board of Directors member	200 South Silber, North Platte, NE 69101	308 535 8042	brenda.brooks@nebraska.gov
Julie Nielsen	School Board member and employee of Equitable Bank	8184 Buffalo Road, North Platte, NE 69101	308 530 8563	jbnielsen@msn.com
Jeff Eastman	Legal Aid of Nebraska Attorney and Community Connections Board of Directors President	102 East 3 rd Street, North Platte, NE 69101	308 532 5793	jeastman@legalaidofnebraska.com
Marlo Roberts	Tobacco Free Lincoln County Coordinator	PO Box 852, North Platte, NE 69103	308 696 3356	tflc@communityconnectionsnc.org
Mayor Marc Kashke	Mayor of North Platte and Community Connections Board of Directors member	211 West 3 rd , North Platte, NE 69101	308 535 6724	marckaschke@yahoo.com
Stephanie Miller	Lincoln County CASA Executive Director	PO Box 1604, North Platte, NE 69103	308 520 0577	lincolncountycasa@gmail.com
Shannon Sell	Region II Prevention	110 North Bailey, North Platte, NE	308 532 4860 x152	shannonsell@r2hs.com

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		69101		
Tom Coviello	Madison Middle School Principal	1400 Madison Ave., North Platte, NE 69101	308 534 7126	tcoviello@nppsd.org
Rodney Brown	North Platte Police Officer, DARE Instructor	701 South Jeffers, North Platte, NE 69101	308 535 6789	brownrd@ci.north-platte.ne.us
Brandi Buscher	TeamMates Coordinator	1200 McDonald Rd., North Platte, NE 69101	308 535 7112	bbuscher@nppsd.org
Diann Vargas	North Platte Public Schools Truancy Official and Community Connections Board of Directors member	1220 West 2nd Street, North Platte, NE 69101	308 535 7105	dvargas@nppsd.org
Amy Connery-Harmon	Assets, Crew and theLinc Coordinator	PO Box 852, North Platte, NE 69103	308 696 3357	ypc@communityconnectionsnc.org
John Lindenberger	Mentoring Coordinator	PO Box 852, North Platte, NE 69103	308 696 0976	mentor@communityconnectionsnc.org
Lauren Henry	Substance Abuse Prevention System Coordinator	PO Box 852, North Platte, NE 69103	308 696 3358	saps@communityconnectionsnc.org
Anne Power	Bridge of Hope Executive Director	410 W. 5th Street, North Platte, NE 69101	308 534 4064	anne@bridge-of-hope-cac.org
Jayna Schaaf	Community Connections Executive Director	PO Box 852, North Platte, NE 69103	308 696 3355	ed@communityconnectionsnc.org

Section III

Juvenile Justice System Analysis Tool

**Lincoln County Juvenile Services Comprehensive Community Plan
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Along with discussing needs, resources, strategies and priorities on November 6, 2012, the above partners also talked about the progress made since the last Three Year Comprehensive Community Juvenile Services Plan was developed and submitted.

There was a consensus among participants that our children and juveniles continue to be exposed to an unacceptable level of risk factors and that this exposure leads to delinquent behavior including but not limited to uncontrollable behavior, truancy, drug use and bullying.

The group acknowledged that a number of community assessments have been conducted in Lincoln County over the last three years. Most recently, the Community Team was responsible for a local substance abuse prevention assessment and various Community Team members and partners present at the November 6th Planning Meeting have participated in other assessments including a Child Well Being assessment and another West Central District Health Department assessment (MAPP). The assessment processes have brought familiarity with a variety of local data and greatly aided in the November 6th conversation. Other data sets available to the Planning Meeting group on November 6th were:

- Lincoln County Juvenile Crime Data
- Lincoln County Juvenile Demographics
- Lincoln County KiDS COUNT Census Data
- Lincoln County Free and Reduced Lunch Enrollment
- Lincoln County Risk and Protective Factor Student Survey Results
- Lincoln County Health Rankings
- Lincoln County Census Data

The outline to the November 6th Planning Meeting is included as Attachment A.

Section IV

Community Socio-Economics

**Lincoln County Juvenile Services Comprehensive Community Plan
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Lincoln County is located in rural, west-central Nebraska. It is the third largest county in the state with 2,564 square miles. Of the 36,288 residents of Lincoln County, 24,733 live in North Platte, the county seat. Lincoln County’s median household income is \$45,183, which is lower than the state and national averages; 11.2% of Lincoln County residents live below the poverty level. Industries providing employment in Lincoln County include educational services, health care and social assistance (21.3%); retail (20.9%); accommodation and food services (14%); and transportation and warehousing (8.4%). More than three-fourths (76.2%) of families with children under the age of 18 have all parents in the labor force (US Census Bureau 2009 & 2010). According to the OJJDP’s Easy Access to State and County Juvenile Court Case 2007 Counts, 150 delinquency petitions were filed in Lincoln County.

Gender, Race & Ethnicity	Total Population of Grant Area		Total Population of Grant Area between 10-17 years of age	
	Number	% of total #	Number	% of total #
Male	17,926	49.4%	2079	52.2%
Female	18,362	50.6%	1904	47.8%
Total	36,288	100.0%	3983	100.0%
White	34,220	94.3%	3868	95.8%
Black	254	0.7%		
American Indian and Alaska Native	218	0.6%		
Asian	181	0.5%	35	0.9%
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander				
Other	1,415	3.9%	133	3.3%
Total	36,288	100.0%	4036	100.0%
Hispanic or Latino	2,613	7.2%	364	9.0%
Not Hispanic or Latino	33,675	92.8%	3672	91.0%
Total	36,288	100.0%	4036	100.0%

Cities, Counties, Towns included above: Lincoln County
Source of data: U.S. Census Bureau 2010 results and American Community Survey 5-year estimates

Lincoln County is fairly isolated in that the nearest metropolitan areas are (Denver, CO, and Lincoln, NE) more than three hours away by ground travel. Lincoln County is fortunate to have several larger lakes and a major Interstate (I-80) running through its center. The North Platte and South Platte Rivers join at North Platte to become the Platte River. Lincoln County developed as a ranching/railroad region, which continues to define the community today. North Platte was the home of Buffalo Bill and his rodeo, which was, and remains to this day, a major aspect of society.

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Today, Lincoln County has a two-year community college, but it is not considered a “college town.” The global community knows of the county seat, North Platte, for two primary reasons. First, North Platte is the home of Union Pacific Railroad's *Bailey Yard*, the largest railroad classification yard in the world. Union Pacific employs 10% of the community's workforce. Second, during World War II, more than six million GI's traveling to either coast before being shipped out to battle in Europe or the Pacific, were welcomed by the community, at the time only 12,000 residents strong. These six million American soldiers were given food baskets, treats and encouraging words solely through the efforts of volunteers. It started on Christmas 1941, when a troop train stopped in North Platte and residents surprised the soldiers with kind words and baskets of food. This has been called the Miracle of the North Platte Canteen. This miracle continues to inspire people today. Lincoln County still maintains its spirit of volunteerism.

Major challenges for Lincoln County are the presence of risk factors (community disorganization, laws and norms favoring use, perceived availability of drugs, poor family management, parent attitudes favoring use, academic failure, low commitment to school, early initiation of antisocial behavior, early initiation of drug use, low perceived risk of harm of drug use) and the lack of protective factors (lack of opportunities for pro-social involvement, low family attachment, and low belief in the moral order). The Nebraska Risk and Protective Factor Student Survey shows higher rates of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, and antisocial behaviors than state averages, indicating the presence of specific risk factors and the lack of protective factors. Other dynamics that impact our youth include:

- 1.) Three collaborative and engaged law enforcement agencies are located in North Platte: North Platte Police Department, Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, NE State Patrol Troop D
- 2.) There are no in-patient treatment facilities in Lincoln County.
- 3.) Our County seat has a prior reputation as "Little Chicago" and has a large blue collar population with a “work hard, play hard” attitude. In a community substance abuse prevention assessment recently conducted, interviews with Lincoln County Judges agreed that substance abuse is a problem throughout our community and at all income levels. Alcohol, marijuana, and prescription drugs are the most common youth cases seen in their courtrooms. The Judges acknowledged poverty and other risk factors that put youth at greater risk for substance use.

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They also noted a societal shift in attitudes, remarking that youth do not seem to want to take personal responsibility for their actions and often are not held accountable by their parents. The judges noted that marijuana has become more “mainstream,” no longer being used by a stereotypical group of youth.

- 4.) Lincoln County youth receive mixed messages about the effects of marijuana because neighboring state Colorado recently legalized marijuana. North Platte is only an hour away from the Colorado border and three and a half hours from Denver. Bordering a state that has legalized marijuana leads youth to believe that marijuana is not harmful and is even helpful. Youths’ views are also shaped by the minimal legal consequences for possession of marijuana. In the State of Nebraska, the maximum penalty for first and second offense is relatively insignificant. There is no mandatory minimum sentence and offenders do not automatically receive the maximum punishment.
- 5.) Specific local norms contribute to youth substance use related problems such as parent approval of underage drinking. The 2010 NRPFS results show that among students who reported drinking during the past 30 days, 27.3% of 6th graders, 10.7% of 8th graders, 11.8% of 10th graders and 7.6% of 12th graders reported that their parents gave or bought alcohol for them. Among students who reported drinking during the past 30 days, 47.4% of 6th graders, 10.7% of 8th graders, 17.7% of 10th graders and 13.0% of 12th graders reported they drank alcohol at home with their parents’ permission. Finally, among students who reported drinking during the past 30 days, 36.8% of 6th graders, 3.7% of 8th graders, 13.7% of 10th graders and 21.1% of 12th graders reported they drank alcohol at someone else’s home with their parents’ permission. These results indicate that too many of our youth consume alcohol underage because of and with parental approval. Finally, low perceived risk contributes to youth use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and prescription drugs. A local condition for low perceived risk is the decline of prevention education in middle school. The D.A.R.E program is offered to all 5th graders in Lincoln County; however, there are no programs targeting all students beyond 5th grade. Without programs that emphasize prevention, the message is lost to students and their perception of risk decreases.
- 6.) Three of the largest employers in North Platte are Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR), Wal-Mart Distribution Center, and Great Plains Regional Medical Center. These employers provide a large

number of steady, well-paying jobs for community residents, but the jobs are shift work, so many youth are left unsupervised while parents are at work.

Section V

Identified Priority Areas & Corresponding Strategies

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As a result of the November 6, 2012 Planning Meeting discussion, the following is a list of priority areas that could be considered for Lincoln County. These priority areas reference issues that take years to impact positively. Given this, many of the strategies selected in the previous 3-year plan remain strategies Lincoln County could continue to employ. There is a very committed group of Lincoln County professionals and community members interested in working together to address the needs of youth across the continuum of services—from prevention to sanctions and treatment.

ISSUE BASED PRIORITY AREAS

PRIORITY #1

General Description:

Truancy remains an accurate predictor of future delinquency. Along with truancy comes the issue of school connectivity. As truancy and school connectivity are related, a community is tasked with the efforts of providing after school activities, mentoring, and other community service activities to youth. The community recognizes the need for juvenile involvement in positive activities and reducing negative behavior. Also, truancy officers along with the school resource officer program need to continue to be supported due to the positive interaction they provide between children in school and law enforcement.

Any Relevant Data:

- Nebraska Risk and Protective Factor Student Survey

Other Contributing Factors:

- Parents/citizens don't value education
- Lack of good role models; negative influences of technology and media
- Substance abuse and mental health issues

Strategy 1

Youth Mentoring Programs

Stakeholders Involved

- Mentors
- Program supporters (Board, Staff, Schools, Referral Agencies)
- Potential mentors

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Timeline

Ongoing implementation of successful programs: Community Connections Mentoring is implemented year round. TeamMates Mentoring is implemented during the school calendar year.

Resources Required

- Current funding
- New mentors

Expected Results

Expected results are based on national research that indicates the involvement of a reliable adult helps youth develop life skills, build self-confidence and resist pressure to begin using drugs. Youth will be less truant, more connected to their schools and less likely to be uncontrollable and ungovernable. Students who meet regularly with their mentors are 52% less likely than their peers to skip a day of school and 37% less likely to skip a class (Public/Private Ventures study of Big Brothers Big Sisters).

Strategy 2

CREW Team- This project serves Lincoln County 9th through 12th grade students and helps build leaders who take pride and ownership in their community and school. CREW allows teens to help their peers and provides positive, safe activities and community service.

Stakeholders Involved

- CREW youth

Timeline

Ongoing implementation of successful programs. CREW is implemented year round.

Resources Required

- Current funding
- CREW members
- Program supporters (Board, Staff, Schools, Community Partners)

Expected Results

Expected results of CREW include implementing three to five fun, supervised, organized, safe activities for 9th-12th grade students and three to five community improvement/service projects throughout each school year so as to provide safe and healthy alternatives to risky behaviors or activities and build school connectivity.

Strategy 3

Assets Teams- Assets Teams is a program that assists with learning achievement, motivation, school engagement, bonding to school, and encourages a caring school climate, parent involvement in schooling, establishing healthy school boundaries and expectations, and youth as resources in the school

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and community. Assets Teams at Madison and Adams Middle Schools are being strengthened through attention to program development and continually assessing where improvements can be made.

Stakeholders Involved

- Assets youth
- Program supporters (Board, Staff, Schools, Community Partners)

Timeline

Ongoing implementation of successful program. Each Assets project (i.e. teacher recognition by students, school blood drives, identifying school families that need assistance) has a timeline. Assets Teams is implemented during the school calendar year.

Resources Required

- Current funding
- Asset Team members
- Program supporters (Board of Directors, Staff, Schools, Community Partners)

Expected Results

Researchers have found that the more assets a young person has, the less likely it is that the child will engage in risky behavior. Additionally, the more assets a young person has, the more likely it is that the child will engage in positive behaviors. Expected results include less school truancy, less violence, and success in school, exhibiting leadership, and resisting danger.

PRIORITY #2

General Description:

Provide additional resources to juveniles before they enter the system. Substance abuse rates are identified as unacceptable. Strategies could be implemented to improve prevention of substance abuse and substance abuse services for juveniles in Lincoln County.

Any Relevant Data:

- Nebraska Risk and Protective Factor Student Survey
- Interviews with local judges
- Substance Abuse Prevention System assessment
- Child Well Being assessment
- Professional experience of team

Other Contributing Factors:

- Local and state level policies and practices contribute to increased youth accessibility, acceptability, and availability.
- Specific local norms contribute to youth substance use related problems including: parent approval of underage drinking; perceived availability of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and prescription drugs is relatively high and perceived availability is often associated with overall social

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approval; and low perceived risk contributes to youth use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and prescription drugs.

- Children need safe and healthy alternatives to risky behaviors or activity.

Strategy 1

Youth Mentoring Programs

Stakeholders Involved

- Mentors
- Potential Mentors
- Program supporters (Boards, Staff, Schools, Referral Agencies)

Timeline

Ongoing implementation of successful programs. Community Connections Mentoring is implemented year round. TeamMates Mentoring is implemented during the school calendar year.

Resources Required

- Current funding
- New mentors

Expected Results

Expected results are based on national research that indicates the involvement of a reliable adult helps youth develop life skills, build self-confidence and resist pressure to begin using drugs. Additionally, children in a recent mentoring survey reported the following: 77% said “I am better able to resist using alcohol and other drugs.” By providing support for mentoring, it is expected these results will continue for the duration of mentoring programs implementation.

Strategy 2

CREW Team- This project serves Lincoln County 9th through 12th grade students and helps build leaders who take pride and ownership in their community and school. CREW allows teens to help their peers and provides positive, safe activities and community service.

Stakeholders Involved

- CREW youth

Timeline

Ongoing implementation of successful programs. CREW is implemented year round.

Resources Required

- Current funding
- Crew members
- Program supporters (Board, Staff, Schools, Community Partners)

Expected Results

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Expected results of CREW include implementing three to five fun, supervised, organized, safe activities for 9th-12th grade students and three to five community improvement/service projects throughout each school year so as to provide safe and healthy alternatives to risky behaviors or activities and build school connectivity.

Strategy 3

Assets Teams- Assets Teams is a program that assists with learning achievement motivation, school engagement, bonding to school, and encourages a caring school climate, parent involvement in schooling, establishing healthy school boundaries and expectations, and youth as resources in the school and community. Assets Teams at Madison and Adams Middle Schools are being strengthened through attention to program development and continually assessing where improvements can be made.

Stakeholders Involved

- Assets youth
- Program supporters (Board, Staff, Schools, Community Partners)

Timeline

Ongoing implementation of successful program. Each Assets project (i.e. teacher recognition by students, school blood drives, identifying school families that need assistance) has a timeline. Assets Teams is implemented during the school calendar year.

Resources Required

- Current funding
- Asset Team members
- Program supporters (Board of Directors, Staff, Schools, Community Partners)

Expected Results

Researchers have found that the more assets a young person has, the less likely it is that the child will engage in risky behavior. Additionally, the more assets a young person has, the more likely it is that the child will engage in positive behaviors. Expected results include less school truancy, less violence, and success in school, exhibiting leadership, and resisting danger.

Strategy 4

Bridge of Hope Child Advocacy Center- The Bridge of Hope Child Advocacy Center is a staffed program that continues to address the need for coordination of investigation and intervention services for children witnessing or alleging abuse. The multi-disciplinary team discusses each individual child's case to assure all team members are informed of and share information in regard to each case, to assure each agency is held accountable for their part of the investigation/intervention process and that each child's individual needs are being met. The team can work together to change direction when a child is likely exposed to risk factors and/or participating in risky behavior such as truancy, alcohol and drug issues, etc. It allows for open communication among these individuals under the state statute and allows for several community members to focus on the child's needs.

Stakeholders Involved

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- Department of Health and Human Services
- Lincoln County Attorney
- Lincoln County Victim/Witness Unit
- Rape/Domestic Abuse Program
- Child Advocacy Center
- Medical and mental health professionals
- Law enforcement
- Schools
- Probation

Timeline

Ongoing implementation of successful program. The multi-disciplinary team meets monthly to discuss each individual child's case.

Resources Required

- Current funding dedicated to Child Advocacy Center for program sustainability
- Ongoing community collaboration and cooperation to meet the needs of children and youth

Expected Results

Successful coordination of investigation and intervention services for children witnessing or alleging abuse.

Strategy 5

Lincoln County CASA-- The Court Appointed Special Advocates are assigned to child abuse and neglect cases by a judge. The CASA follows the child from the beginning to end of the child's journey in the court system and foster care until a permanent, healthy home is found.

Stakeholders Involved

- Current funding
- Local judges
- CASA volunteers, supporters and staff

Timeline

Ongoing implementation of successful program.

Resources Required

- Current resources dedicated to CASA for program sustainability

Expected Results

95% of children with CASA volunteers stay out of long-term foster care, while 90% do not re-enter the child welfare system.

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PRIORITY #3

General Description:

Uncontrollable/ungovernable behavior is charged frequently in Lincoln County. This behavior could be identified as a priority and strategies employed to try to lower the number of juveniles arrested and charged for this type of offense, thereby affecting the number of youth involved in the system. The community recognizes the need for juvenile involvement in positive activities and reducing negative behavior.

Any Relevant Data:

- Professional experience of team
- Lincoln County Juvenile Crime Data OJJDP

Other Contributing Factors:

- Children unsupervised; too little quality time spent with children; neglect
- Lack of emotional support for children; inconsistent parenting rules
- Domestic violence: name calling, putting down, verbal attack, assault, control, physical violence
- Bullying: sibling, peer, teacher-student, coach-athlete, parent-child
- Substance use and abuse (inappropriate behaviors such as teen drinking, alcohol consumption by caregivers, misuse of funds, passing out, smoking during pregnancy and around children)

Strategy 1

Youth Mentoring Programs

Stakeholders Involved

- Mentors
- Potential Mentors
- Program supporters (Boards, Staff, Schools, Referral Agencies)

Timeline

Ongoing implementation of successful programs. Community Connections Mentoring is implemented year round. TeamMates Mentoring is implemented during the school calendar year.

Resources Required

- Current funding
- New mentors

Expected Results

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Mentoring promotes the reduction of risk factors and increase in protective factors, which, as evidence proves, will promote better behavior among juveniles. Expected results are based on national research that indicates the involvement of a reliable adult helps youth develop life skills, build self-confidence and resist pressure to begin using drugs. Additionally, children in a recent mentoring survey reported the following: 74% of youth respondents felt they had a better attitude toward school, 73% felt they had more options for their future, 67% felt they had a more positive view of their future, 67% felt they were more confident in themselves, and 93% felt it is important to try and help others.

Strategy 2

CREW Team- This project serves Lincoln County 9th through 12th grade students and helps build leaders who take pride and ownership in their community and school. CREW helps teens help their peers provide positive, safe activities and community service.

Stakeholders Involved

- CREW youth

Timeline

Ongoing implementation of successful programs. CREW is implemented year round.

Resources Required

- Current funding
- CREW members
- Program supporters (Board, Staff, Schools, Community Partners)

Expected Results

Expected results of CREW include implementing three to five fun, supervised, organized, safe activities for 9th-12th grade students and three to five community improvement/service projects throughout each school year so as to provide safe and healthy alternatives to risky behaviors or activities and build school connectivity.

Strategy 3

Assets Teams- Assets Teams is a program that assists with learning achievement motivation, school engagement, bonding to school, and encourages a caring school climate, parent involvement in schooling, establishing healthy school boundaries and expectations, and youth as resources in the school and community. Assets Teams at Madison and Adams Middle Schools are being strengthened through attention to program development and continually assessing where improvements can be made.

Stakeholders Involved

- Assets youth
- Program supporters (Board, Staff, Schools, Community Partners)

Timeline

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Ongoing implementation of successful program. Each Assets project (i.e. teacher recognition by students, school blood drives, identifying school families that need assistance) has a timeline. Assets Teams is implemented during the school calendar year.

Resources Required

- Current funding
- Asset Team members
- Program supporters (Board of Directors, Staff, Schools, Community Partners)

Expected Results

Researchers have found that the more assets a young person has, the less likely it is that the child will engage in risky behavior. Additionally, the more assets a young person has, the more likely it is that the child will engage in positive behaviors. Expected results include less school truancy, less violence, and success in school, exhibiting leadership, and resisting danger.

Strategy 4

Bridge of Hope Child Advocacy Center- The Bridge of Hope Child Advocacy Center is a staffed program that continues to address the need for coordination of investigation and intervention services for children witnessing or alleging abuse. The multidisciplinary team discusses each individual child's case to assure all team members are informed of and share information in regard to each case, to assure each agency is held accountable for their part of the investigation/intervention process and that each child's individual needs are being met. The team can work together to change direction when a child is likely exposed to risk factors and/or participating in risky behavior such as truancy, alcohol and drug issues, etc. It allows for open communication among these individuals under the state statute and allows for several community members to focus on the child's needs.

Stakeholders Involved

- Department of Health and Human Services
- Lincoln County Attorney
- Lincoln County Victim/Witness Unit
- Rape/Domestic Abuse Program
- Child Advocacy Center
- Medical and mental health professionals
- Law enforcement
- Schools
- Probation

Timeline

Ongoing implementation of successful program. The multidisciplinary team meets monthly to discuss each individual child's case.

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Resources Required

- Current funding dedicated to Child Advocacy Center for program sustainability
- Ongoing community collaboration and cooperation to meet the needs of children and youth

Expected Results

Successful coordination of investigation and intervention services for children witnessing or alleging abuse.

Strategy 5

Lincoln County CASA-- The Court Appointed Special Advocates are assigned to child abuse and neglect cases by a judge. The CASA follows the child from the beginning to end of the child's journey in the court system and foster care until a permanent, healthy home is found.

Stakeholders Involved

- Current funding
- Local judges
- CASA volunteers, supporters and staff

Timeline

Ongoing implementation of successful program.

Resources Required

- Current resources dedicated to CASA for program sustainability

Expected Results

95% of children with CASA volunteers stay out of long-term foster care, while 90% do not re-enter the child welfare system.

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ORGANIZATIONAL PRIORITY AREAS

PRIORITY #4

General Description:

There is no process in place for identifying a juvenile's situation as problematic before it gets to the point of intervention. A community-wide focus on ensuring that delinquent behavior (including bullying, truancy, attacking with intent to harm, stealing, and initiation of drug and tobacco use) is addressed early might be something our Community Team in Lincoln County could work on by bringing a multidisciplinary prevention team together (i.e. juvenile justice professionals, enforcement, school personnel and administrators, youth programs) and providing helpful referrals.

Any Relevant Data:

- Nebraska Risk and Protective Factor Student Survey
- Professional experience of team
- Child Well Being assessment
- Substance Abuse Prevention assessment

Other Contributing Factors:

- Poverty
- Community norms around substance abuse, violence, mental illness, physical health and education

Strategy 1

Convene a group of individuals willing to plan for and develop a standardized process and/or method of addressing problematic behavior before it occurs or necessitates intervention. Once developed, an appropriate team could meet on a routine and systematic/scheduled basis and provide referrals helpful to the juvenile/family. The team could evaluate the efficacy of this new process.

Stakeholders Involved

- Community Team and other partners
- Youth Service groups, agencies, organizations
- Schools and other agencies knowledgeable of problematic situation for youth and families

Timeline

List ideas to engage key people needed and develop process. Create permissions to share information. Begin to use the process as intended before December 2013.

Resources Required

- Research other similar tools being used prior to interventions being necessary
- Policy change necessary to share confidential information
- A multidisciplinary coordinating team

Expected Results

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Fewer children and youth needing intervention and treatment, therefore, fewer youth in the system.

Strategy 2

Review progress made toward issue based priority areas and report back to all involved.

Stakeholders Involved

- Community Team and other Partners

Timeline

- Continue to evaluate at Community Team meetings progress and future gaps in services that can be addressed with strong local capacity.

Resources Required

- Mechanism to report to involved parties
- Ongoing community collaboration and cooperation to meet the needs of children and youth

Expected Results

Improved communication leading ultimately to a reduction in risky behavior and increased protective factors, fewer juveniles entering the system and internal system improvements.

Community-Based Juvenile Services Aid (LB 561)

ADDENDUM

Lead County: Lincoln County
List of Partnering Counties: NA

Name: Jayna Schaaf

Contact Information **Title:** Community Connections Executive Director
Email: ed@communityconnectionslc.org
Phone: 308 696 3355

Which funds did you apply? CB EB Both

Reason for Change: Necessary to in our Three Year Comprehensive Plan a new priority allowing support for probation office space and transportation for short term safe keeping of juveniles until appropriate community based placement or treatment can be obtained.

New Priority
[Can include Probation Office Space] **Description of New Priority:** Secure the office space for new probation officers as required by LB 561 and support for transportation for short term safe keeping of juveniles until appropriate community based placement or treatment can be obtained.

Supporting Data: Ten new probation officers needed to be hired and therefore need office space in which to effectively fulfill their job responsibilities. Transportation of juveniles is necessary for short term safe keeping.

List Priority:

Reason for Change in Strategy:

Existing Priority with New Strategy **Description of New Strategy:**

Supporting Data:

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Reason for Change:

Other Change

Description of Change:

Supporting Data:

Other Comments

*Please submit Addendum with the Community-Based Juvenile Services Aid Application.
Due Date: Friday, January 10th, 2014 by 5:00 p.m. CST

Appendix

- A. Planning Meeting Tool
- B. Organizational Chart
- C. Approval of Plan by County Board

ATTACHMENT A

LINCOLN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MEETING, NOVEMBER 6, 2012

Proposed By Team: MARLO ROBERTS, AMY CONNERY-HARMON, ANNE POWER, BRENDA BROOKS

WHAT ARE THE TOP YOUTH RELATED CONCERNS IN LINCOLN COUNTY

Prescription drug use among high school /middle school students of huge concern. Access to prescriptions high.

Bullying-contributes to truancy, suicidal behaviors, bullying behaviors, sexting, etc..

WHAT DATA SUPPORTS THIS?

- SHARP survey
- Agency involvement suggests this is a large issue in Lincoln County
- Parental knowledge of issue
- Truancy statistics, involvement via agencies, personal and children's experience. Referrals to County Attorney for mental health. Substance abuse etc. related to sexting, truancy and cutting behavior.

WHAT RESOURCES DO WE HAVE TO EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS THESE NEEDS / REDUCE RISK, BUILD PROTECTIVE FACTORS, KEEP YOUTH OUT OF THE SYSTEM AND CREATE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS IF A YOUTH DOES ENTER THE SYSTEM?

- Substance Abuse Prevention Council
- Crew
- Kids Klub
- Strong anti-bullying policy at schools
- Mentoring
- Assets Teams
- CASA
- Local review of court cases

IS THERE ANYTHING THAT WE ARE DOING THAT WE SHOULD BE DOING LESS OF...?

Need less reactive, more prevention. Address problem sooner by identifying children sooner and making appropriate referrals.

WHAT NEEDS ARE NOT BEING MET? DO WE HAVE THE CAPACITY TO ADDRESS THESE NEEDS? IF SO WHO HAS THE CAPACITY?

Awareness of the severity of the issues of prescription drug use in the community, schools and homes. YES-through Substance Abuse Prevention Council, community resources(counseling, Asset Teams, Mentoring, etc). Schools could provide information to families.

Identify youth who are at risk early on who may be in need of intervention. YES-schools, making referrals to mentoring and parent education. Mentors.

DO YOU HAVE ANY "ORGANIZATIONAL PRIORITIES" YOU WOULD LIKE TO LIST?

Substance Abuse Prevention- specific to prescription drug use among teens.

PREVENTION—PREVENTION-- PREVENTION

**Proposed By Team: BRANDY BUSER, RODNEY BROWN, DIANN VARGAS,
JAYNA SCHAAF**

WHAT ARE THE TOP YOUTH RELATED CONCERNS IN LINCOLN COUNTY

1. More uncontrollable youth at younger ages
2. Teen pregnancy
3. Basic needs (insurance, food, adequate sleep)
4. Dropout rates in Lincoln County
5. Prescription drug abuse and other drug use
6. Community awareness and communication

WHAT DATA SUPPORTS THIS?

1. Law Enforcement Data
2. Data exists only through 2009 for teenage pregnancy
3. County health data
4. Need more data

WHAT RESOURCES DO WE HAVE TO EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS THESE NEEDS / REDUCE RISK, BUILD PROTECTIVE FACTORS, KEEP YOUTH OUT OF THE SYSTEM AND CREATE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS IF A YOUTH DOES ENTER THE SYSTEM?

1. Early childhood program, substance abuse prevention, parenting classes, sports, Kids Klub, pre natal care, Healthy Start, Foster care, Community Connections Mentoring, school behavioral consultants, elementary counselors, principals, 4-H, Cub Scouts, Brownies, church youth groups.
2. Family and Consumer Science, Youth for Christ, parenting classes, school counselors, church youth groups
3. Prepared to Learn. Alive at 25, Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition, West Central District Health Department, more healthy school lunches,
4. TLC
5. Mentoring programs, Transitional Intervention program (kids who come back from treatment), youth counselors, Red Ribbon week, physicians

IS THERE ANYTHING THAT WE ARE DOING THAT WE SHOULD BE DOING LESS OF...?

- No

WHAT NEEDS ARE NOT BEING MET? DO WE HAVE THE CAPACITY TO ADDRESS THESE NEEDS? IF SO WHO HAS THE CAPACITY?

5. Need more education at Dr. Offices as many kids are getting addicted to their own prescriptions

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Parenting Classes and/or Counseling involving the parent and child together as Luke McConnell is doing (positive parent child interaction voluntary sessions).

DO YOU HAVE ANY "ORGANIZATIONAL PRIORITIES" YOU WOULD LIKE TO LIST?

Group to intervene between citation and court dates

Proposed By Team: TOM COVIELLO, MAYOR MARC KASCHKE, SHANNON SELL, LAUREN HENRY

WHAT ARE THE TOP YOUTH RELATED CONCERNS IN LINCOLN COUNTY

- Underage drinking
- Tobacco use
- Youth in the system
- Marijuana use and views
- Truancy
- Prescription drug abuse

WHAT DATA SUPPORTS THIS?

- SHARP data
- Input from county judges
- Graduation rate
- Principal input (Madison)
- Truancy rate

WHAT RESOURCES DO WE HAVE TO EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS THESE NEEDS / REDUCE RISK, BUILD PROTECTIVE FACTORS, KEEP YOUTH OUT OF THE SYSTEM AND CREATE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS IF A YOUTH DOES ENTER THE SYSTEM?

- Community Coalitions (Tobacco Free Lincoln County, Substance Abuse Prevention System Sutherland Community Action Team)
- TeamMates
- Crew
- Assets Teams
- Child Advocacy Center
- West Central District Health Department
- Region II
- Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts
- Community Connections Mentoring/Life Skills
- CASA
- After school activities
- Churches
- Salvation Army
- Women's Resource Center
- WIC
- CASA

IS THERE ANYTHING THAT WE ARE DOING THAT WE SHOULD BE DOING LESS OF...?

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WHAT NEEDS ARE NOT BEING MET? DO WE HAVE THE CAPACITY TO ADDRESS THESE NEEDS? IF SO WHO HAS THE CAPACITY?

Educating parents-we have the information but we need to continue to try to reach parents.

Is there an early intervention program that is voluntary for families to participate in that would allow them to receive therapy and services without being in the system. This would allow families to get the help they need to prevent problems.

DO YOU HAVE ANY "ORGANIZATIONAL PRIORITIES" YOU WOULD LIKE TO LIST?

Using the Rec. Center to engage youth, have organized activities for youth when school is out.

Proposed By Team: JOHN LINDENBERGER, JEFF EASTMAN, STEPHANIE MILLER, JULIE NIELSEN

WHAT ARE THE TOP YOUTH RELATED CONCERNS IN LINCOLN COUNTY

1. Poverty-18% (of children) live in poverty in Lincoln County:
 - affordable housing . Average income \$25,319, medium household \$45,181
 - underemployment. Lack of education
 - food. Backpack program, summer food program usage tripled in 4 years. Free and reduced is 41% in 2011-12
2. Substance abuse
 - NRPFS 2010 report
 - Drinking in home without parent approval
 - 2005 17% of NE Youth 9-12 smoked before 13 years of age
3. Violence against youth
 - Bullying, rape, abuse and neglect
4. Lack of collaboration with other youth agencies

WHAT DATA SUPPORTS THIS?

1. Underemployment and education- 19% of Lincoln County residents have BA/BS vs. 28% State average. Also 27% of children in Lincoln County live in a single parent household.
2. 2005 data reports 24% of 1st drink occurs before 13 years of age (YRBS)
3. NRPFS rates in 2010 across 6, 8, 10, 12 high for suspension, guns, arrests, attacks to harm, bullying, and theft.

WHAT RESOURCES DO WE HAVE TO EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS THESE NEEDS / REDUCE RISK, BUILD PROTECTIVE FACTORS, KEEP YOUTH OUT OF THE SYSTEM AND CREATE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS IF A YOUTH DOES ENTER THE SYSTEM?

1. Habitat for Humanity, Lincoln Connection, ADC/WIC, backpack program, food pantries, free and reduced lunch , online, and TLC (we need another TLC)
2. Mentoring programs, Salvation Army, Kids Klub, prescription drug drop off, school
3. Bridge of Hope, Mentoring programs, CASA to keep kids from entering the system and build stability

searches, DARE

IS THERE ANYTHING THAT WE ARE DOING THAT WE SHOULD BE DOING LESS OF...?

Cutting budgets

WHAT NEEDS ARE NOT BEING MET? DO WE HAVE THE CAPACITY TO ADDRESS THESE NEEDS? IF SO WHO HAS THE CAPACITY?

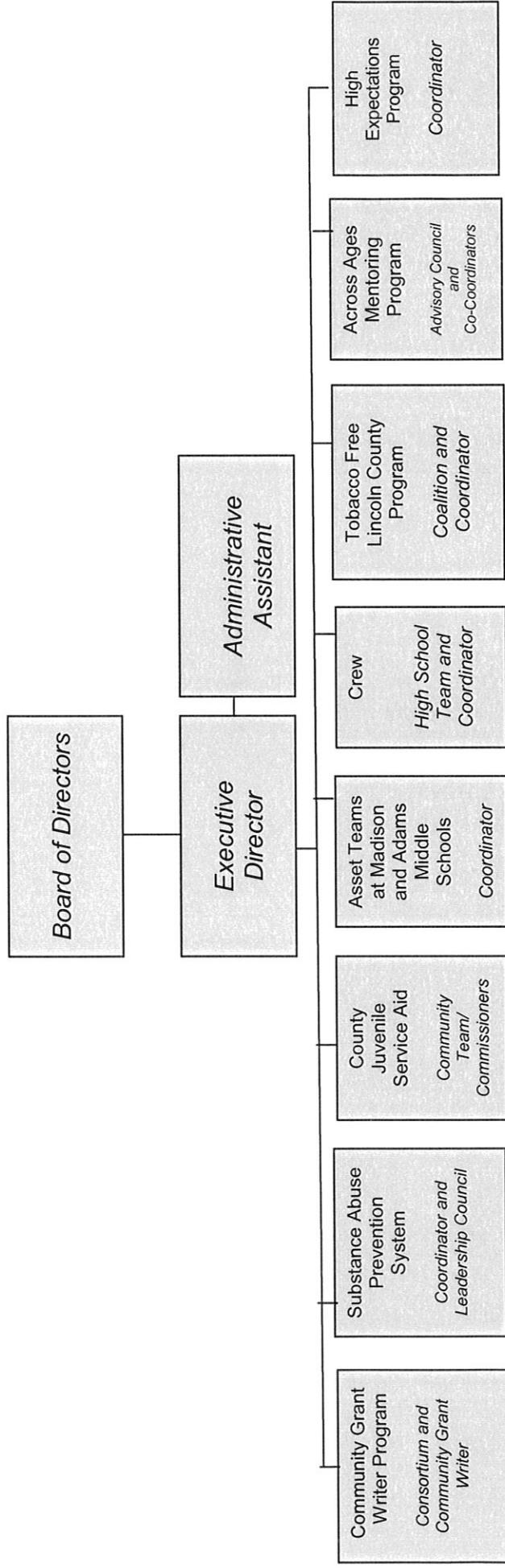
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|---|--|
| <p>1. Poverty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Housing, food• Educate on personal finances and savings• Higher education as a priority (Kearney Bound) <p>2. Substance abuse issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Certified alcoholism counselors• Treatment options• Sports injuries= pain pills• Drug dog that can find prescription drugs• No more diversion or teen curt, or Boys and Girls Home | <p>3. Violence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bullying prevention in schools
(Need stats on youth victims of violent crime) <p>4. Collaboration with City and County government</p> |
|---|--|

DO YOU HAVE ANY "ORGANIZATIONAL PRIORITIES" YOU WOULD LIKE TO LIST?

1. Housing-city government
3. Better understanding of how we all fit together including schools
4. Better technology to collaborate for all agencies.

ATTACHMENT B

Community Connections Overall Network Structure



ATTACHMENT C

I certify that I have reviewed and approve the Lincoln County Juvenile Services Comprehensive Community Plan covering the period of December 31, 2012 – December 31, 2015.

(SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL) <i>Willis Roethemeyer</i>	
December 17, 2012	
(DATE) <i>12-17-2012</i>	
Willis Roethemeyer, County Board Chair	
(TYPED NAME)	(TITLE)
308 532 0969	
(TELEPHONE NUMBER)	