

NEBRASKA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Annual Report
2021

Unleash

ACTIVE

HOPE



NEBRASKA COMMUNITY

F O U N D A T I O N

Unleash Active Hope

active hope ['aktiv hōp]

noun

proactive optimism for
the future

verb

creating one's own
destiny

At Nebraska Community Foundation, we say the phrase “active hope” is both a noun and a verb. In its noun form, it’s “**proactive optimism for the future.**” Those with regular hope simply sit back and wish things were better. As a verb, it means “**creating one’s own destiny.**”

This has been a year of active hope for the NCF network. Though the past year was full of uncertainty and upheaval, resilient Nebraskans in every corner of the state summoned their active hope to further fuel a movement that is bettering our hometowns and making them more attractive and welcoming for the next generation.

Network accomplishments in fiscal year 2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021) were remarkable:

- NCF affiliated funds received \$55 million in gifts with 39 affiliated funds each receiving contributions of \$100,000 or more
- Total assets in the NCF network now exceed \$247 million—triple the amount of just 10 years ago
- Endowed assets now total \$159 million, four times what they were 10 years ago
- Community unrestricted endowments now total \$67 million, a huge increase from \$11 million in 2012. Seventeen community-based affiliated funds now have annual discretionary grantmaking capacity of at least \$50,000.

The NCF network granted over \$28 million last year. These investments are creating a “margin of excellence” in our hometowns that will attract people, improve quality of life, and increase prosperity—like early childhood development, community infrastructure, leadership development, youth engagement, arts and culture, small business support, K–12 curriculum enhancements, and improvements in safety, health, and wellness. Since 1994, the NCF network has reinvested \$423 million in our Nebraska hometowns.

The NCF network is helping Nebraskans dream bigger about what is possible. For those who have been part of this journey for a while, thank you for all you are doing to build a Greater Nebraska. Your investments of time, talent, and treasure are creating a brighter future. For those just learning about or joining our movement, we’re so glad you are here. Together a Greater Nebraska! ■



Jeff Yost, *President and CEO*



Dale Dueland, *Board Chair*

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Our Vision

Nebraska is a place where
our hometowns are achieving their dreams.



Stuart is home to the only splash pad in Holt County thanks to the tireless work of local citizens, including those involved with the Stuart Community Foundation Fund. Not only did the fund host the account that was used to get the \$180,000 project finished, it also made a sizeable grant to provide this family-friendly amenity to a growing number of young people who are moving to the area.



Our Mission

We *unleash* abundant local assets, *inspire* charitable giving, and *connect* ambitious people to build stronger communities and *a Greater Nebraska.*



NEBRASKA COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

The Work We Do

Ask 10 volunteers in the NCF network what Nebraska Community Foundation does and you're likely to get 10 different answers. That's because our services are vast and vary greatly depending on the needs of a community . . . and they often evolve over time.

Put simply, Nebraska Community Foundation unleashes abundant local assets, inspires charitable giving, and connects ambitious people. The benefits of being part of the NCF network are countless and our talented team is proud to provide the support necessary to help over 1,500 volunteers do more. Among many other things, Nebraska Community Foundation:

- Enables affiliated funds to receive tax-deductible contributions without setting up a 501(c)(3) charitable organization
- Handles all gift receipting, accounting, legal work, investment, audit, and tax filing
- Ensures that all distributions from affiliated funds are in compliance with IRS rules
- Assists in arranging complex gifts to affiliated funds, such as gifts of real estate or agricultural commodities
- Educates professional advisors, volunteers, and generous Nebraskans on the importance, benefits, and many avenues of gift planning
- Provides training for volunteers on dozens of topics and skill sets including fundraising, community visioning, asset mapping, leadership development, and more
- Employs a full-service communications department available to assist with affiliated fund marketing needs
- Connects members to peer learning opportunities with volunteers from hundreds of communities across the state
- Manages donor data using the industry's foremost software products
- Links affiliated funds to funders and challenge grant opportunities available exclusively to members of the NCF network





Our Goals

Nebraska Community Foundation's 2019—2023 Strategic Framework is challenging staff, board, and volunteers to push the NCF mission further than ever before. NCF serves as a value-added partner in accomplishing these six ambitious goals, designed to guide our path into the future and turn up dream switches across the state.



1. Affiliated Funds have the capacity, competence, and confidence to inspire, lead, and support progress in their place



2. Affiliated Funds are using payout from their unrestricted endowment to create positive change that otherwise may not occur



3. People attraction is occurring in Nebraska hometowns



4. The NCF network is diverse and inclusive



5. NCF is known for building an optimistic, confident brand for Greater Nebraska



6. NCF has the institutional capacity and financial stability to carry out its mission

Hope for the Future of Our Places

At Nebraska Community Foundation, our number one priority is people attraction—enticing stayers to remain, returners to come back, and newcomers to join us in community. The earlier we start, the better.

NCF’s youth survey initiative is one tool to help our network in this effort. Beginning in January 2020, NCF teamed up with Center for Public Affairs Research at the University of Nebraska at Omaha to co-create a survey designed to explore young people’s perceptions of their Greater Nebraska hometowns. Now, after two years, more than 2,500 students have participated in youth surveys.



McCook high school student Tucker Gillespie addresses Fund Advisory Committee leaders from Southwest Nebraska at a regional networking event in Palisade.

Like 2020, the 2021 results indicate that Greater Nebraska youth are increasingly embracing their hometowns and seeking ways to contribute to their shared future. Students say their dream communities look a lot like where they live now. Sixty-four percent said their ideal community is small, like their hometown—a significant increase from 47% in 2020. When asked whether a stigma accompanied staying in or returning to their community, 76% said no—up from 70% last year.

Greater Nebraska youth are also community-oriented—and busy. They balance sports, jobs, volunteering, and club activities all while attending school. Despite these high levels of engagement, only 25% of respondents said they feel they play a role in their community.

These results serve as a call to action for community leaders across the state—we must continue inviting young people to share their voices. The future of our places depends on it.

KEY FINDINGS

They prefer small, safe communities. Students resoundingly said their ideal communities are small like their hometowns. The traits they seek in their ideal community—safety, good schools, and proximity to family—are already abundant in Greater Nebraska.

They embrace their roots. A persistent myth of stigma hangs over returning to or staying in our Greater Nebraska hometowns; however, youth today are dismantling that notion with the vast majority surveyed saying no such stigma exists.

They are engaged, active, and welcoming. Greater Nebraska youth are community-oriented—and busy. They balance sports, jobs, volunteering, and club activities all while attending school. They are involved and want to play a part in shaping their community—adults and community leaders must continue inviting them to share their voice. ■

What is the ideal size of a community to live in?



SMALL,
like my hometown
64%



MEDIUM,
like Grand Island
23%

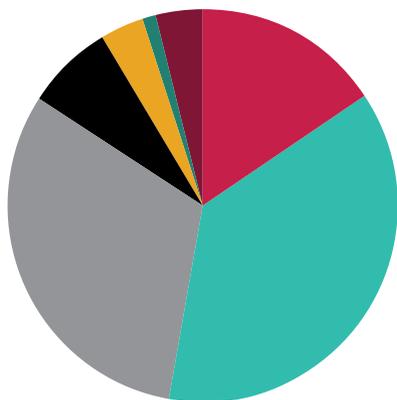


LARGE,
like Omaha
9%



VERY LARGE,
like Chicago
4%

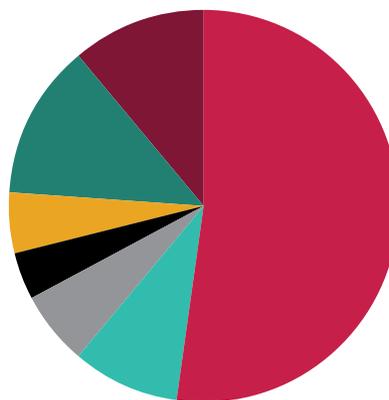
If you were to live in this area as an adult, what do you think the main reason would be?



- Job or business opportunity = **13%**
- Good place to raise a family = **31%**
- Family ties = **26%**
- Low cost of living = **6%**
- Quality schools = **3%**
- Recreation opportunities = **1%**
- Other = **3%**

17% of those surveyed do not plan to return

If you do not plan to live here as an adult, what is the main reason you would not live in this area?



- Job or business opportunity elsewhere = **53%**
- Better places to raise a family elsewhere = **9%**
- Family ties elsewhere = **6%**
- Lower cost of living elsewhere = **4%**
- Quality schools elsewhere = **5%**
- More recreation opportunities elsewhere = **13%**
- Other = **11%**

My peers and I are invited to share our opinions or get involved in town projects or happenings.

TRUE **67%**

FALSE **33%**

I play a role in this community (ex. you are involved in decision making about the community like events, programs, lawmaking, or projects).

TRUE **25%**

FALSE **75%**



NCF's 2021 Hometown Interns gathered in Seward this summer for a peer learning session with supervisors and NCF staff.

Interns Activate Hope

For a third consecutive summer, energetic young Nebraskans returned home to strengthen their connections to the places that raised them and further the community-building work of local Nebraska Community Foundation affiliated funds.

Following up on the success of 2020's Hometown Interns, NCF expanded the program to allow more communities to participate in 2021. Nineteen college students took part this year, living and working in Albion, Callaway, Chester, Columbus, Deshler, Diller, Ewing, Guide Rock, Hebron, Johnson, McCook, Nebraska City, Norfolk, Ogallala, O'Neill, Red Cloud, and Rosalie.

The students' work positioned them to see their communities from a new vantage point by placing them among local leaders dedicated to building a brighter future. Catching the NCF network's enthusiasm and active hope was inevitable in such company.

"I have loved this experience so far because I'm actually happy with the work I'm doing. In past job experiences, I was just working to get paid, but with this Hometown Internship I feel like I have a purpose," said Diller Community Foundation Fund intern Hayley Denner. "I am motivated to come to work every day and enjoy the projects I'm working on. This internship will help me become the best version of myself that I can be."

Interns' unique perspectives helped us all recognize and appreciate Greater Nebraska's untapped abundance. They already knew their community and its residents—many of them their whole lives. By giving them an opportunity to contribute to their hometowns' growth, interns began to see the allure of building a life in Greater Nebraska. ■



2021 HOMETOWN INTERNS

Dakota Cherney *Intern Coordinator*
Miranda Shreves *Intern Coordinator*

Amber Cherney Chester
Megan Collins Thayer County*
Hayley Denner Diller
Emily Erickson Boone County
Katie Hawk Holt County
Cheyanna Jacobs Thayer County*
Cheyenne Knehans Red Cloud*
Luke Kramer Cuming County

Paige Kniep Deshler
James Mockry McCook
Emily Morrow O'Neill*
Rachel Orth Keith County
Luke Partsch Nebraska City
Connor Rosfeld Callaway
Jocelyn Shipman Red Cloud*
Austin Truex Norfolk
Kelli Schoch Columbus*

* Not pictured



*This is the richest experience.
It is not in any way contrived. It is lived.*

– BETH ROELFS,
Intern Supervisor, Diller Community Foundation Fund





Attendees at the Thayer County Dream Switch event in Deshler admire the creativity of local students who constructed their ideal community with cardboard dioramas. The event highlighted *The Dream Switch*, Hometown Interns, and youth survey results.

Maximizing Every Opportunity

Nebraska Community Foundation's success relies on relationships. Not only between people, but across ideas, projects, and perspectives. When we make visible the threads tying our communities together, our chances of success increase.

Thayer County volunteers, Hometown Interns, and NCF staff recently discovered a three-pronged approach to community-building during a discussion of a county-wide youth survey, highlighting the importance of collaboration between three NCF programs: Hometown Interns, *The Dream Switch*, and the survey.

In the summer of 2021, affiliated funds in Thayer County employed five Hometown Interns, the most of any community engaged in the program. Over the course of the summer, interns gained a multitude of experiences spanning marketing to healthcare. Many also reported the opportunity had given them new perspective on the possibilities a future in Thayer County presented.

The Thayer County Youth Survey results revealed most local high schoolers prefer communities the size of their hometowns, and 58% said they were extremely or somewhat likely to return someday. *The Dream Switch* put those themes in a narrative frame. Deshler hosted the performance in October, inspiring attendees to boost people attraction in their communities.

These three programs—*The Dream Switch*, Hometown Interns, and youth surveys—harbor considerable potential. When combined, dreams can come true for our Nebraska hometowns.

The most important part of capitalizing on this trifecta is letting young people know there's a place for them in Greater Nebraska and inviting them home. ■

Investing in Our People

As the sun set on a late summer evening in downtown Nebraska City, residents engaged in a group discussion hosted by Nebraska City Community Foundation Fund. Inspired by *The Dream Switch*, they set about celebrating their city and pondering ways to make it more welcoming to all.

"I love it here," said Reverend Ever Mudambanuki, pastor at First United Methodist Church and a native of Zimbabwe. "I love the trees, I love the people, and I love the rich history of Nebraska City. There is such peace and tranquility within the city."

The concert was made more inclusive by ensuring both Spanish and English speakers were able to understand and engage with the performance. The printed program was offered in both languages, an interpreter translated on-stage, and invitations were made to involve organizations and vendors with connections to Nebraska City's growing Latinx community.

Perhaps one of the most fundamental ways the Fund furthers its mission of "investing in people" is through its nontraditional scholarship program. Twenty years ago, NCCFF awarded its first non-traditional scholarships, and between July 2005 and August 2021, it awarded more than \$70,000 to 36 students.

Ashlee Miller, nurse practitioner at CHI Health St. Mary's, can attest to the life-changing power of higher education. She received one of NCCFF's 2016 non-traditional scholarships, which helped during her pursuit of an advanced degree.

"The Fund is made up of some really caring compassionate people that truly just want to help the community," Miller said. "They want to see it grow. They want to see it flourish. They want to see people have a chance to use their talents." ■



Students from Nebraska City Public Schools and Lourdes Central Catholic sing a song from *The Dream Switch* called "When I Look Outside" about loving your hometown.

Rising to the Challenge

There are countless examples of active hope on full display across the NCF network—perhaps none more apparent than a community challenge grant.

Challenge grants epitomize active hope from all sides—the generosity and belief in hometown from the investor, and the optimism and commitment of local volunteers to get the job done. From Building Community Capacity challenges to endeavors inspired by local donors, ambitious Nebraskans continually rise to the challenge.

Over the past 10 years, the Building Community Capacity challenge presented a transformative opportunity to numerous Greater Nebraska hometowns: if local volunteers could raise \$500,000 for their community unrestricted endowments within three years, The Sherwood Foundation would provide a \$250,000 match for a grand total of \$750,000. The endeavor's third round ended December 2020 with Columbus, Howells, Imperial, Keith County, and Stuart meeting their fundraising goals and receiving the accompanying boost to their unrestricted endowments, which will increase payouts to use toward whatever dreams they collectively conjure.

These campaigns are about much more than money. What people might see from outside—financial capital, success, growth—is only the tip of the iceberg. To meet their lofty goals and achieve lasting change, local leaders had to build genuine relationships with their neighbors and champion giving by everyone in the community, whether through dollars, talent, time, or creativity.

“This proved to the committee, and more importantly to our community, that we could raise these kinds of funds for an unrestricted endowment instead of one-time fundraising for capital campaigns,” said McCook FAC Chair and NCF board member Cindy Huff. “The funds will greatly increase our granting capacity.”



By the end of 2020, affiliated funds in Columbus, Howells, Imperial, Keith County, and Stuart had each met an ambitious \$500,000 fundraising goal. Their success means each received a \$250,000 match for a grand total of \$750,000 to grow their community unrestricted endowments.



Kelly and Virginia Holthus, who have made a very generous hometown challenge grant to their beloved hometown, served as Grand Marshals in the Bertrand Days Parade.

KEEPING IT LOCAL

Kelly and Virginia Holthus, who grew up and started their family in Bertrand, challenged the Bertrand Area Community Fund in 2019 to raise \$300,000 before December 31, 2021. Should the Fund raise the full 2:1 match, the Holthuses will provide \$150,000 in challenge funds, resulting in a \$450,000 increase to Bertrand's community unrestricted endowment, significantly increasing the Fund's capacity to award grants to area nonprofits, causes, and projects.

"Kelly and Virginia Holthus grew up in Bertrand and have never forgotten their roots," said Beverly Hansen of the Fund Advisory Committee. "The Holthus Challenge is highly important to Bertrand and our future. This opportunity to more than double our endowment payout will let us make a greater impact through our grantmaking. Completing the Holthus Challenge will allow Bertrand area residents and especially our youth to dream bigger, to see a brighter future. It gives us hope."



The Challenge will allow Bertrand area residents and especially our youth to dream bigger, to see a brighter future. It gives us hope.

– BEVERLY HANSEN,
Bertrand Area Community Fund



Though the Holthuses no longer live in Bertrand, they have maintained their admiration for their hometown and care deeply about the future of the area. The community recognized the couple this summer by making them the grand marshals of the Bertrand Days parade.

Across the state in communities of all sizes, generous people are stepping up and joining together to realize their shared vision of what is possible. Challenge grants have a way of bringing out the best in our communities while also creating opportunities to make them even better. ■



The arts have become a centerpiece to quality-of-life offerings in Valley County. Named for its iconic corn husk walls, The Golden Husk is an iconic Valley County landmark and major contributor to the regional economy.

Active Hope Abounds in Valley County

Decades ago, members of the Valley County community decided it was time to do something bold. The region had been hit hard by crisis after crisis—the farm crisis, loss of its role as a service provider in a globalizing world, economic recession, and rural depopulation.

It started in 1999 with a generous bequest by a local couple, John and Alice Wozab. That snowballed into dozens of new opportunities and experiments, among them HomeTown Competitiveness—a community development framework focused on four pillars: leadership, entrepreneurship, philanthropy, and youth engagement. Commitment to this model would change the future of Valley County forever.

It wasn't easy, but little by little, momentum grew, and things began to change. The collective mindset shifted from one of deficit to a culture of abundance. Local businesses, government, entrepreneurs, artists, innovators, and philanthropists started working together and collaborating. Before they knew it, Valley County had become a thriving ecosystem. Valley County had changed its destiny.

Today, Valley County is raised up in national circles as a model for what a rural economy can look like. Young people are returning home and newcomers are flocking for the promise of a quality of life they can't find in urban places. The approach to community and economic development are one and the same. Local affiliated funds have over \$10 million in endowed assets and \$4 million in planned gifts.

"Valley County is such a success story because of its people," said Nancy Glaubke, CEO of the Valley County Health System.

"I didn't know a community could reinvent itself in so many different ways," said Jeff Yost, President and CEO of Nebraska Community Foundation.

Yet here we are, in 2021, and this entrepreneurial epicenter is about to do it again. ■

Energizing Entrepreneurial Ecosystems



The next iteration in Valley County's success story? A chapter called Energizing Entrepreneurial Ecosystems (E3). Nebraska Community Foundation, NetWork Kansas, and Valley County Economic Development—with the support of the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation—are collaborating to launch a new experiment, while inviting more Nebraska hometowns into the fold.

Six communities form the initial E3 cohort: Valley County, Holt County, Keith County, Sidney, Red Cloud, and McCook. As local leaders and entrepreneurs make their way through the three-year-long experience, they will each reach out to neighboring communities to

peer mentor, resulting in a total of 20 communities that will forge new connections to resources, training, and peer networking across the state.

When the group first met in the fall of 2021, the same ethos that has served Valley County so well over the years quickly emerged: when our community is strong, our economy is strong.

"This whole thing has been energizing," said Kim Matthews, Sidney's Economic Development Director. "I can't wait to bring it back to energize my community."

"This works," said Don Macke, a consultant to the E3 program. "There are communities like Valley County all across rural Nebraska." ■



E3 addresses today's reality, recognizes what has changed, and is taking advantage of an extraordinary opportunity."

– KC BELITZ,
Nebraska Community Foundation

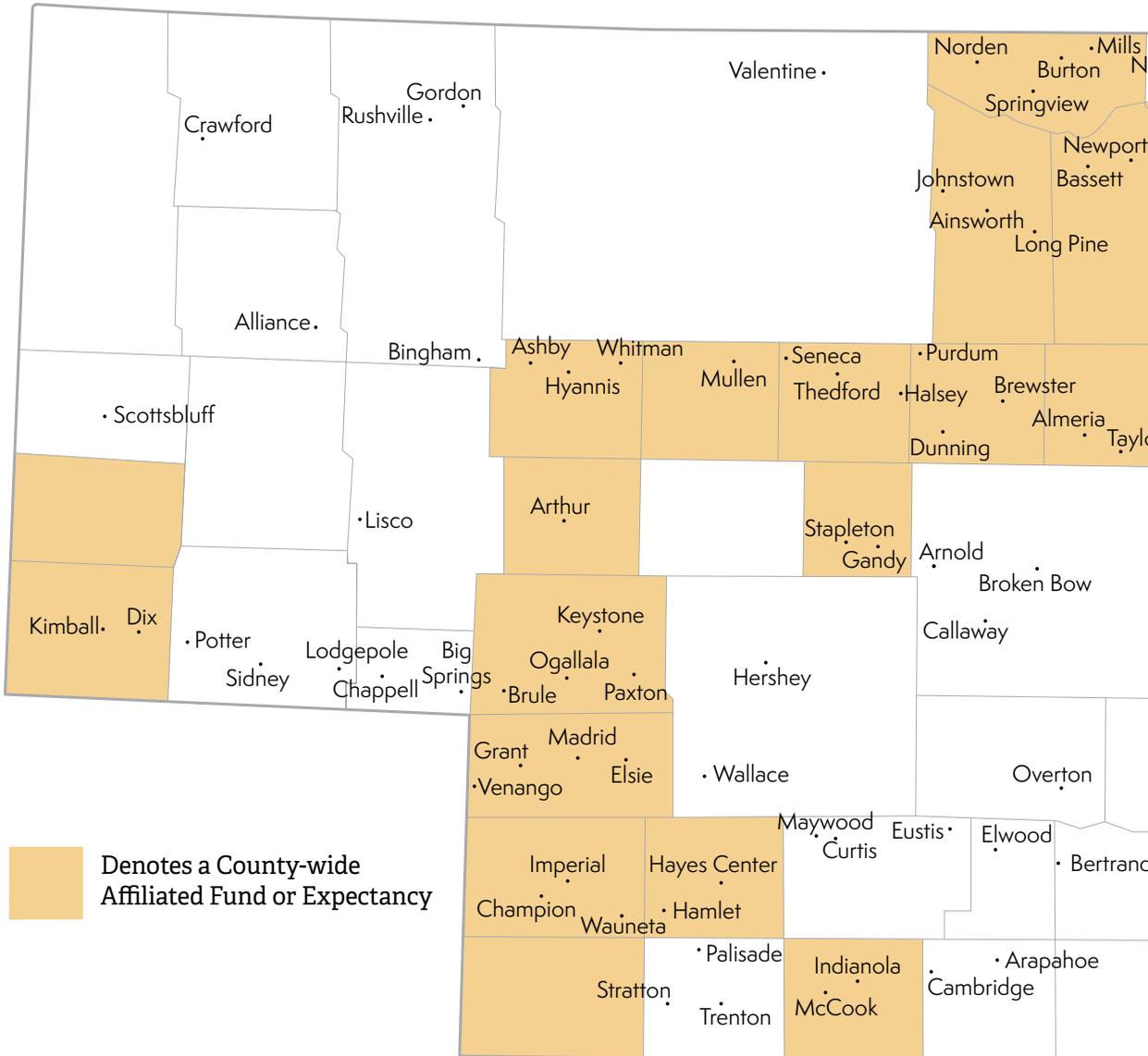


Richard Gibson and Lisa Kraus returned to her hometown of Ogallala in 2016. In 2020, the City of Ogallala offered the opportunity to purchase the former Goodall City Library to the entrepreneur with the best idea for the building. Richard and Lisa's proposal to convert the library into a new craft brewery rose to the top and they plan to open in 2022.

Affiliated Funds of Nebraska Community

This map depicts counties and communities that benefit from planned gifts and affiliated funds of Nebraska Community Foundation.

June 30, 2021



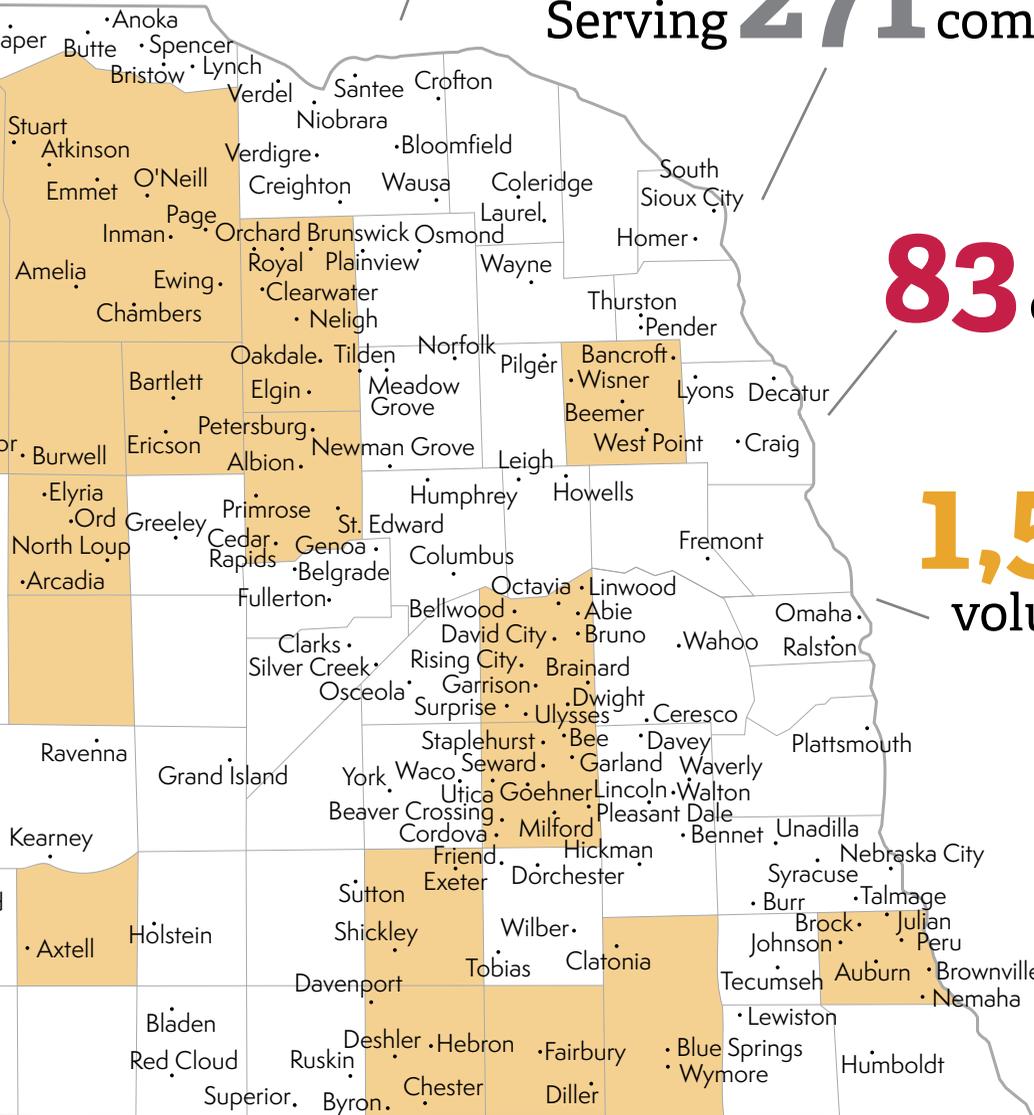
Community Foundation

249 Affiliated Funds

Serving **271** communities

83 counties

1,500 volunteers



Transferring Abundance

Over the next 10 years in Nebraska, \$100 billion will transfer from one generation to the next. In 50 years, that number exceeds \$950 billion.

This phenomenon has come to be known as the intergenerational transfer of wealth and Nebraska Community Foundation is known nationally as one of the first organizations to study it and evangelize the unprecedented potential available to our communities. Nebraska Community Foundation's 2021 Transfer of Wealth Study has revealed even more abundance and even more reasons to be hopeful about the future of Greater Nebraska.



There is always a transfer from generation to generation, as parents pass away and leave their estate to their children. But if the heirs no longer live where they grew up, that wealth may leave as well. Importantly, many Nebraska counties are approaching or are already in the midst of their peak transfer years. In other words, there is real urgency to act now. The opportunity will never be greater.

Imagine if just five percent of this abundance were given back to the places where it was made and accumulated. That's well over \$47 billion. If it were endowed, think of the impact that kind of money could have on education, health, prosperity, and quality of life. Think of how it could contribute to a community's ability to attract quality talent and young families. Harnessing just a small percentage of the transfer of wealth could be a game changer for the future of our hometowns. ■

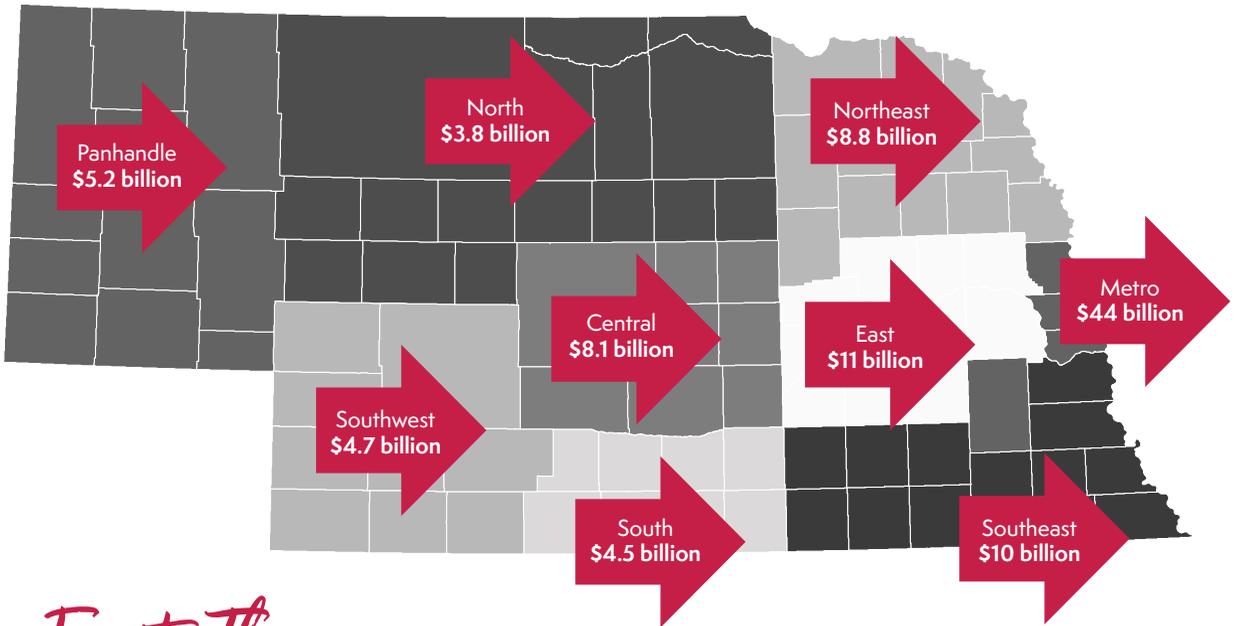


*The transfer of wealth opportunity is real.
I see it in my work as a financial planner every day.
It's why I chose to make my own planned gift and it's why
our local affiliated fund is intent on reaching our goal
of 100 planned gifts in the next five years.*

– KIEL VANDERVEEN,
Nebraska City Community Foundation Fund



10-YEAR TRANSFER OF WEALTH



Five to Thrive

Think of the Nebraska hometown you love. This is your opportunity to enrich its future. We're asking you to consider leaving just five percent of your assets to your favorite Nebraska hometown or to Nebraska Community Foundation to benefit all of our communities. When you leave just five percent to a community's endowment, you can secure your family's future and help your hometown thrive.

REMEMBER:

Once our wealth leaves the community, it is gone forever.

Once our wealth is endowed in our community, it is here forever.

The time to act is now—the opportunity will never be greater!

Learn more at www.fivetothrivene.org.



NCF Board of Directors



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Lynn Roper of Lincoln, *Treasurer*



Lora Damme of Talmage, *Immediate Past Chair*



Greg Vasek of Lincoln, *Chair, Advancement Committee*



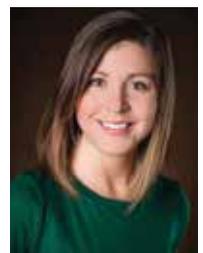
Dan Bahensky of Kearney



Brad Bauer of Grand Island



Jeff Gerhart of Newman Grove



Megan Helberg of Taylor



Cindy Huff of McCook



Kurt Kruse of Albion



Paul Madison of Nebraska City



John Miyoshi of Wahoo



Jane Moreland of Imperial



Adam Pavelka of Hastings



Al Steuter of Johnstown



Kiel VanderVeen of Nebraska City



Kent Warneke of Norfolk

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 Susan Ugai of Lincoln
 Mimi Waldbaum* of Omaha
 Richard Walter of Shickley
 Jeanene Wehrbein* of Plattsmouth
 Ray Welsh of Pender
 Jim Wolf* of Albion
 *Deceased



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 K.C. Belitz, *Chief Operating Officer*
 Teri Alley-Davis, *Office Manager*
 Dena Beck, *Affiliated Fund Development Coordinator*
 Steve Brewster, *Affiliated Fund Development Coordinator*
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 Jana Jensen, *Affiliated Fund Development Coordinator*
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 Kristen Ohnoutka, *Youth Survey Coordinator*
 Liz Petrzilka, *Database Specialist*
 Juli Rosso, *Office Assistant*
 Kara Weander-Gaster, *Affiliated Fund Development Coordinator*
 Diane M. Wilson, *Manager of Public/Private Partnerships*
 Michael Wunder, *Community Storyteller*

101 Community-Based Affiliated Funds

Arnold Community Fund

Arthur Area Community Foundation Fund

Atkinson Community Foundation Fund

Axtell Community Fund

Bennet Community Fund

Bertrand Area Community Fund

Big Springs Community Fund

Bladen Area Community Fund

Blaine County Area Community Foundation Fund

Bloomfield Community Foundation Fund

Boone County Foundation Fund

Brown County Community Foundation Fund

Burr Community Fund

Butler County Area Foundation Fund

Byron Community Foundation Fund

Calamus Area Community Fund

Callaway Community Fund

Ceresco Community Foundation Fund

Chambers Community Improvement Foundation Fund

Chappell Community Fund

Chester Community Fund

Coleridge Area Fund

Columbus Area Future Fund

Craig Community Fund

Crawford Area Fund

Creighton Community Foundation Fund

Crofton Community Foundation Fund

Cuming County Community Fund

Curtis Community Foundation Fund

Davenport Area Community Fund

Davey Area Community Foundation Fund

Deshler Community Fund

Diller Community Foundation Fund

Dorchester Community Foundation Fund

Elgin Community Foundation Fund

Eustis Area Community Foundation Fund

Exeter Area Community Foundation Fund

Friend Area Fund

Future of Decatur Foundation Fund

Greater Waverly Area Foundation Fund

Greeley Community Fund

Hayes County Community Fund

Hebron Community Fund

Hickman Area Community Foundation Fund

Holt County Economic Development Fund

Howells Community Fund

Humboldt Area Community Foundation Fund

Hyannis Area Community Foundation Fund

Imperial Community Foundation Fund

John and Alyce Wozab Memorial Fund (Valley County)

Keith County Foundation Fund

Keya Paha County Foundation Fund

Kimball Area Foundation Fund

Laurel Area Community Foundation Fund

Legacy Fund for Seward County

Leigh Legacy Fund

Lodgepole Community Fund

Logan County Community Foundation Fund

Lynch Area Future Fund

McCook Community Foundation Fund

Mullen Area Foundation Fund

Naper Community Foundation Fund

Nebraska City Community Foundation Fund

Neligh Area Community Fund

Nemaha County Future Fund

Newman Grove Community Foundation Fund

Niobrara Community Foundation Fund



Overton Area Community Fund helped make a local science teacher's dream of creating an interactive, hands-on learning environment come true. Seth Ehler's students are highly engaged in STEM learning, not to mention exploring new career paths in their expanding Educational Greenhouse.

Norfolk Area Community Foundation Fund
 Oakdale Community Fund
 O'Neill Community Foundation Fund
 Osmond Community Fund
 Overton Area Community Fund
 Palisade Community Foundation Fund
 Pender-Thurston Education & Community Foundation Fund
 Perkins County Community Foundation Fund
 Plainview Brunswick Community Fund
 Plattsmouth Community Foundation Fund
 Ralston Community Foundation Fund
 Ravenna Area Vision Fund
 Red Cloud Community Fund
 Rock County Community Fund
 Rushville Community Fund
 Ruskin Community Foundation Fund
 Shickley Community Foundation Fund
 Spencer Community Foundation Fund
 Stratton Community Foundation Fund
 Stuart Community Foundation Fund
 Syracuse Development Foundation Fund
 Tecumseh Community Foundation Fund
 Thedford Area Community Foundation Fund
 Tilden-Meadow Grove Community Foundation Fund
 Unadilla Area Community Fund
 Valley County Community Foundation Fund
 Verdigre Community Foundation Fund
 Wallace Community Foundation Fund
 Wauneta Community Fund
 Wausa Community Foundation Fund
 Wayne Area Legacy Fund
 Wheeler County Community Foundation Fund
 Wilber Area Community Foundation Fund
 Wymore-Blue Springs Area Fund

33 Organizational Affiliated Funds

Auburn Public Schools Foundation Fund
 Boone County Health Center Foundation Fund

Brown County Hospital Endowment Fund
 Cedar Rapids/Riverside High School Alumni Association Fund
 Chase County Hospital Foundation Fund
 Christian Heritage Endowment Fund
 Connecting Young Nebraskans Fund
 Diane Nelson Endowment for the Governor's Residence Fund
 Fillmore County Hospital Foundation Fund
 Foundation for Thayer County Health Services Fund
 Grace Lutheran Church Foundation Fund
 Hillcrest Nursing Home Endowment Fund
 Kearney County Health Services Fund
 Lakeview Education Foundation Fund
 Lewis and Clark Visitor Center Endowment Fund
 Lucille Burch Foundation for Animal Companions Fund
 Milford Public Schools Foundation Fund
 Nebraska Cattlemen Research and Education Foundation Fund
 Nebraska LEAD Program Foundation Fund
 Nebraska Library Association Foundation Fund
 Nebraska Statewide Arboretum Fund
 Northeast Nebraska RC&D Foundation Fund
 Northern Cheyenne Breakout Legacy Fund
 ServeNebraska Fund
 SkillsUSA Nebraska Foundation Fund
 Syracuse Library Foundation Fund
 The WealthSpring Fund
 Ukena Charitable Trust Fund
 Valley County Health System Foundation Fund
 Wachiska Audubon Society Fund
 West Holt Medical Services Foundation Fund
 Wheeler Central Public Schools Endowment Fund
 Wymore Public Library Foundation Fund

50 Donor-Advised Funds

Howard and Peggy Atkins Fund

Erna R. Badstieber Trust Donor-Advised Fund
 BCBSNE Fund for Quality & Efficient Health Care
 Jane and Doyle Busckohl Family Fund
 Claybaugh Family Fund
 Connie Fund
 Countryside Bank Donor-Advised Fund
 William H. and Erma C. Damme Fund
 Daycos4Good Donor-Advised Fund
 Alice DeVoe Fund
 Rudolph R. Elis Donor-Advised Fund
 FNBO Employee Impact Fund
 Farmers National Education Foundation Fund
 First National Bank of Omaha Fund
 First State Bank Nebraska Donor-Advised Fund
 Flood Communications Cares Fund
 Bud and Georgie Gerhart Family Fund
 Lawrence Goscha Scholarship Fund
 Graff Charitable Foundation Donor-Advised Fund
 Dennis and Sally Hansen Donor-Advised Fund
 Jim & Vicki Herzog Family Donor-Advised Fund
 Robert and Jeanette Hunt Great Plains Communications Fund
 Leona Ihde Fund
 Kenner Family Fund
 Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund
 Virginia and M. Marvin Lewis Charitable Fund
 McGregor Family Donor-Advised Fund
 McIntosh Family Fund
 Steven J. and Lorraine K. Miller Charitable Fund
 Tom and Cynthia Olson Family Donor-Advised Fund
 Omaha Hearing School for Children Donor-Advised Fund
 Jerry and Bev Owens Donor-Advised Fund
 Jim and Lanita Recob Donor-Advised Fund
 Jennifer Reinke Donor-Advised Fund
 Marguerite Rose Donor-Advised Fund

Margaret Russell Trust Donor-Advised Fund
 Paul and Karen Seger Family Fund
 Brad and Nancy Sherwood Donor-Advised Fund
 Sherwood Foundation Fund for Rural Nebraska
 Frank and Shirley Sibert Donor-Advised Fund
 Sidney Community Donor-Advised Fund
 Irene C. Stenger Donor-Advised Fund
 Thuman Family Donor-Advised Fund
 John and Darlene Wood Family Donor-Advised Fund
 Richard H and Dorothy L (Rolfes) Yaeger Donor-Advised Fund
 Yost/Leak Donor-Advised Fund
 Anonymous Donor-Advised Funds (4)

8 Public/Private Partnership Funds

Basin Coalition Fund
 Nebraska Habitat Projects Fund
 North Platte Decree Committee Fund
 Partnerships for Innovation Fund
 Platte River Recovery Implementation Program Fund
 Platte River Resilience Fund
 Rainwater Basin Joint Venture Fund
 USDA/National Institute of Food and Agriculture Fund

39 Designated or Field of Interest Funds

Banks-Glenn Scholarship Designated Fund
 Orin and Ruby Barlean Scholarship Fund
 Blackburn Family Designated Fund
 Allen G and Kay L Blezek Undergraduate Student Fund for International Travel
 Allen G and Kay L Blezek Endowment for Leadership Development
 Bridging the Learning Gap Fund
 Butte Anoka Scholarships Fund
 Centennial School Scholarship Fund
 Chief Standing Bear Journey for Justice Scholarship Fund
 Concordia University Nebraska Endowment Fund

Connecting Elders with Family Fund
 Ralph and Madeline Copenhaver Fund
 Energizing Entrepreneurial Ecosystems Fund
 Don and Artice Fells Fund
 Bobby Foehlinger Memorial Scholarship Fund
 Freiberg Designated Fund
 Larry and Genevieve Frerichs Designated Fund
 Fund for Children and Youth
 Ken Good Scholarship Fund
 Lyndall A. Harris Memorial Fund
 Neal and Pauline Keller Scholarship Fund
 Lindekugel Designated Fund
 Donald Keenan Memorial Fund for Math and Science Education
 Martens Family Scholarship Fund
 McManigal Family Fund
 Nagengast Family Scholarship Fund
 Nebraska Flood Recovery Fund

Nebraska Reporting Fund
 Nebraska Wildlife Conservation Fund
 Glen and Janet Olson Fund
 Omaha Hearing School for Children Scholarship Fund
 Irene and Verne Pretzer Scholarship Fund
 Edna and Richard Reinke Scholarship Fund
 John and Geraldine Slama Designated Fund
 St. Edward Medical Clinic Fund
 Tri-Valley Medical Foundation Designated Fund
 Verner and Mildred Vinzant Elwood Care Center Endowment Fund
 Waco Community Scholarship Fund
 Youth Scholar College Scholarship Fund

16 Life Income Funds

Additional gifts are invested through NCF to benefit Nebraska communities and organizations and provide income for donors.



Born out of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Connecting Elders with Family Fund offered matching grants of up to \$10,000 (for a total impact of \$20,000) to help combat isolation in communities like Perkins County.

Benefactors Advance Our Mission

Cumulative Lifetime Gifts through June 30, 2021

These generous donors' cumulative gifts have helped build and sustain NCF's work for over 25 years.

\$1,000,000 and above

The Ford Foundation
New York, NY

W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Battle Creek, MI

The Sherwood Foundation
Omaha

\$250,000 to \$999,999

Consolidated Companies/Thompson Family
Lincoln

First National Bank of Omaha
Omaha

Robert and Jeanette Hunt Great Plains Communications Donor-Advised Fund
Blair

Peter Kiewit Foundation
Omaha

Judy and Ron Parks/Millard Manufacturing Corp.
Omaha

Pinnacle Bank
Nebraska

Union Bank & Trust
Lincoln

Jim* and Elaine* Wolf

\$100,000 to \$249,999

Abel Foundation
Lincoln

Ameritas Charitable Foundation
Lincoln

Bruning Bank
Bruning

W.H. and E.C. Damme Farms LLC/Lora Damme and Jay Longinaker
Talimage

Brandon and Tammy Day/Daycos
Norfolk

Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Nebraska
Lincoln

Judy Hemberger
Estes Park, CO

Carol and Fred Lockwood/Lockwood Foundation
Scottsbluff

MNB Entities and Graff/Thomas Families
McCook

Frank and Shirley* Sibert
Kearney

Kathleen Thuman/Community First Bank/UniBanc Corp
Lincoln

Lynn and Dana Roper
Lincoln

Richard and Darlene Walter
Shickley

\$50,000 to \$99,999

Cornerstone Bank
York

Great Plains Communications
Blair

Richard E.* and Louisa L. Manning
Geneva

Ken Morrison*

Omaha World-Herald Foundation
Omaha

Dennis and Nancy Stara
Lincoln

Al and Lois Steuter
Johnstown

\$25,000 to \$49,999

America First Foundation
Omaha

Lemoine "Andy*" and Geri* Anderson

Bellevue University
Bellevue

Bettenhausen Family Foundation/Robert Bettenhausen
Lincoln

BluePrint Financial Planning/Kiel VanderVeen
Nebraska City

Bridges Trust
Omaha

Wayne and Bev Buller
Albion

Cooper Foundation
Lincoln

John and Carmen Gottschalk
Omaha

First State Bank Nebraska
Lincoln

Kenner Family Donor-Advised Fund
Hebron

Kurt and Jerene Kruse
Albion

Bruce and Kim* Lauritzen
Omaha

Paul and Angie Madison
Nebraska City

Bob Mundy/Coordinated Planning Inc. dba Mundy Associates
Omaha

Nebraska Investment Finance Authority
Lincoln

Security Bank
Laurel

Bob and Jean Stowell/Springdale Title & Realty
Ord

Tri-County Bank/Schmaderer Family
Stuart

Greg and Marcia Vasek
Lincoln

Sandi* and Steve Wendell
Axtell

Jim and Elaine Wolf Foundation
Albion

Jay and Susie Wolf
Albion

Jeff Yost and Cindy Ryman Yost
Lincoln

\$15,000 to \$24,999
Auburn Agency Crop, Inc.
Auburn

Baird Holm LLP
Omaha

Dennis Berens Rural Health Fund
Lincoln



A grant by the Norfolk Area Community Foundation Fund helped fund a new musical playground at the Nursery of Hope in Skyview Park. The leaders of the project believe in the healing power of music and hope the instruments will help bring peace to families dealing with the loss of loved ones.

Judy K. and Don A. Brockmeier

Eustis

Countryside Bank

Unadilla

D.A. Davidson

Lincoln

Diller Telephone Company

Diller

Bob and Michelle Dudley

Norfolk

Dale and Mary Dueland

McCook

Elkhorn Valley Bank

Norfolk

Farmers National Company

Omaha

Fillmore County Hospital Foundation

Geneva

Fortify Group

Shickley

Shannon Harner and Philip Goddard

Lincoln

Jim and Terri Gustafson

Lincoln

HBE Becker Meyer Love LLP

Lincoln

Moeller Electric

Byron

Pete and Jonnie Peterson

Ft. Collins, CO

Sara Coffee Radil and Gary Radil

Omaha

Reinke Manufacturing Company

Deshler

Sandman Family Foundation

Diller

Curt and Susan Wischmeier

Aberdeen, SD

**Donor is deceased*

Annual Gifts Support Our Work

Gifts received from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

\$100,000 and above

Anonymous

\$25,000 to \$99,999

Abel Foundation

Lincoln

Lora Damme and Jay Longinaker

Talmage

Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Nebraska

Lincoln

Graff Charitable Foundation

McCook

Peter Kiewit Foundation

Omaha

Pinnacle Bank

Nebraska

Lynn and Dana Roper

Lincoln

Kathleen Thuman

Lincoln

\$10,000 to \$24,999

Ameritas Charitable Foundation

Lincoln

Bridges Trust

Omaha

Bruning Bank

Bruning

Consolidated Companies

Lincoln

Kurt and Jerene Kruse

Albion

Paul and Angie Madison

Nebraska City

Judy and Ron Parks

Papillion

Al and Lois Steuter

Johnstown

Greg and Marcia Vasek

Lincoln

Jim and Elaine Wolf Foundation

Albion

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Pam and Michael Abbott

Ogallala

American National Bank

Omaha

Kiel and Mimi VanderVeen/ BluePrint Financial Panning, Kiel VanderVeen, CFP®

Nebraska City

Anonymous

Cornerstone Bank

York

First State Bank Nebraska

Lincoln

HBE LLP

Lincoln

Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation

Kansas City, MO

MNB Financial Services, Inc.

McCook

Security Bank

Laurel

Security First Bank

Lincoln

Curt and Susan Wischmeier

Aberdeen, SD

Jay and Susie Wolf

Albion

Jeff Yost and Cindy Ryman Yost

Lincoln

\$2,000 to \$4,999

Baird Holm LLP

Omaha

Brad and Bonnie Bauer

Grand Island

Behlen Mfg. Co.

Columbus

K.C. and Colleen Belitz

Columbus

Bettenhausen Family Foundation

Lincoln

Blackburn Manufacturing Company

Neligh

Charter West Bank

Pender

Cline, Williams, Wright, Johnson & Oldfather, LLP

Lincoln

Community Hospital

McCook

D.A. Davidson

Lincoln

Daycos, Inc.

Norfolk

Dale and Mary Dueland

McCook

Elkhorn Valley Bank & Trust Co.

Norfolk

Farmers National Company

Omaha

Mark and Linda Graff

McCook

Fortify Group

Shickley

Frontier Bank

Pender

Casey and Valerie Garrigan

Omaha

Jeffrey and Becky Gerhart

Newman Grove

Great Plains State Bank

Columbus

Eldon and JoAnn Gustafson

Ralston

Jim and Terri Gustafson

Lincoln

Chuck and Janel Hibberd

Lincoln

Cindy and Tom Huff

McCook

Millard Manufacturing Corp.

La Vista

Moeller Electric Inc.

Byron

Moravec Financial Advisors, Inc.

David City

Nebraska Investment Finance Authority

Lincoln

Parker, Grossart and Bahensky LLP

Kearney

Pinpoint Communications, Inc.

Cambridge

Jennifer Reinke Donor-Advised Fund

Hebron

Reinke Manufacturing Company Inc.

Deshler

Runza

Lincoln



A new disc golf course is just one more example of how the Bertrand Area Community Fund is investing in local youth.

Sandhills State Bank

North Platte

Sandman Family Foundation

Diller

Thayer County Bank

Hebron

Tri-County Bank

Stuart

UniBanc Corp

Maywood

\$1,000 to \$1,999

James and Carol Bishop

Lincoln

Jason Bombeck

Lincoln

Judy and Don Brockmeier

Eustis

Janny and Ryan Crotty

Auburn

Endacott Peetz Timmer

Lincoln

Jeff and Judy Greenwald

Lincoln

Lockwood Foundation

Scottsbluff

Randy Moeller

Pender

Moravec & Associates CPA, P.C.

David City

James Stuart III Family Foundation

Lincoln

Kent and Susan Warneke

Norfolk

\$500 to \$999

Doug and Louise Bereuter

Lincoln

Steve Brewster

Stuart

Reggi and Doug Carlson

Lincoln

C.J. & Cindy Guenzel Family

Omaha

Jason and Tracia Kennedy

Roca

John and Carol Miyoshi

Wahoo

Jane and Michal Moreland

Imperial

Bob and Maggie Mundy

Omaha

Anders Olson

Tekamah

Russ and Lori Pankonin

Imperial

Jeff and Lynn Pirruccello

Omaha

Richard and Darlene Walter

Shickley

Welsh Financial Services

Pender

Sandi* and Steve Wendell

Axtell

Wilson/Richter Donor-Advised Fund

Lincoln

Jay Yost and Wade Leak

New York, NY

\$499 and under

Anonymous

Teri Alley-Davis

Lincoln

Verna Barnett

McCook

Dena and David Beck

Minden

Kent and Peggy Been

Indianola

Phuong and Kimiko Dinh

Lincoln

Amy and Craig Fey

Crete

Denise Garey

McCook

Doug and Judy Gaswick

Imperial

Kira and Eric Geiger

Lincoln

Neil Helenbolt

Stuart

James Hewitt

Lincoln

James Hoffmeyer

Erie, CO

Vaughn Jaenike

Charleston, IL

Jana and J.C. Jensen

Bingham

Steve and Glenda Knoche

Virginia

Les and Terri Long

Lincoln

Network for Good

Southfield, MI

Beverly Novak

Pender

The Tom & Cynthia Olson Family Foundation

Lincoln

Dave and Lori Pankonin

Plattsmouth

Liz Petrzilka

Lincoln

Juli Rosso

Lincoln

Vickie Schaepler

Kearney

Emily Sulzle

Lincoln

Deloris Taliaferro

Montrose, CO

Foundation for Thayer County Health Services

Hebron

Brian Thompson

Waverly

Susan Ugai

Lincoln

Chris and Brandie Vasek

Lincoln

Randy and Mitzi Vavrina

Clarkson

Jason Weigle

Sidney

The NCF Legacy Society

Honors those generous individuals who have made a planned gift of any amount to Nebraska Community Foundation to support our community-building mission.



330

Planned Gifts

TOTALING \$58.6 Million

to benefit NCF and its affiliated funds

Dan and Beth Bahensky

Kearney

James and Patricia Blackburn

Neligh

Judy K. and Don A. Brockmeier

Eustis

Fred and Penni Bruning

Bruning

Wayne and Bev Buller

Albion

Steve Buttress and Jan Weber

Kearney

Gary* and Jan Chvala Family

O'Neill

Judith Scherer Connealy and Matt

Connealy

Decatur

Tom and Deanne Damkroger

Lincoln

Lora L. Damme

Talmage

Brandon and Tammy Day

Norfolk

Dale and Mary Dueland

McCook

Douglas A. and Patricia L. Friedli

Nebraska City

Denise Garey

McCook

Douglas and Judy Gaswick

Imperial

Mark and Linda Graff

McCook

William and Sandra Graves

McCook

Jim and Terri Gustafson

Lincoln

Don and Alice Harpst

McCook

Bernard and Susan Hay

Scottsdale, AZ

In Memory of Leo Hink

Thomas and Cynthia Huff

McCook

Jana M. Jensen

Bingham

Kurt and Jerene Kruse

Albion

Bethanne Kunz

Loomis

Greta Leach

Malcom

Paul and Angie Madison

Nebraska City

Jane A. Moreland

Imperial

Maxine and Francis Moul

Lincoln

Anders Olson

Tekamah

Irv and Wanda* Omtvedt

Lincoln

Lori and Russ Pankonin

Imperial

Judy and Ron Parks

Papillion

Pete and Jonnie Peterson

Ft. Collins, CO

Beverly and Jack* Pollock

Ogallala

Gary Radil and Sara Coffee Radil

Omaha

Lynn and Dana Roper

Lincoln

Jon D. and Jennifer L. Schmaderer

Stuart

James P. Scholz

Omaha

Nicole Sedlacek

O'Neill

Frank and Shirley* Sibert

Kearney

Dennis and Nancy Stara

Lincoln

Al and Lois Steuter

Johnstown

Bob and Jean Stowell

Ord

Emily Sulzle

Lincoln

Brian Thompson

Waverly

Kathleen Thuman

Lincoln

Kiel and Mimi VanderVeen

Nebraska City

Greg and Marcia Vasek

Lincoln

Richard Vosteen and Joyce Flood

Vosteen

Lincoln

Richard and Darlene Walter

Shickley

Gene Weedin

McCook

Ray and Deb Welsh

Pender

Marcia A. White

Lincoln

Diane M. Wilson

Lincoln

Jay and Susie Wolf

Albion

Jeff Yost and Cindy Ryman Yost

Lincoln

Benedict and Jane Zach

Omaha

**Donor is deceased*

Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2021 and 2020

	2021	2020
ASSETS		
Cash and temporary cash investments	\$30,002,383	\$6,375,176
Certificates of deposit	23,699,966	28,689,144
Investments	191,887,973	144,203,526
Investment in real property	48,448	48,448
Interest receivable	89,601	94,768
Gift annuities insurance	-	258,647
Property and equipment, net	91,080	122,464
Contracts receivable	897,776	935,189
Other	9,354	9,354
Total assets	<u>\$246,726,581</u>	<u>\$180,736,716</u>
LIABILITIES		
Funds held for agencies	\$16,700,315	\$10,756,984
Accrued payroll liabilities	111,667	68,544
Accrued other liabilities	973	55
Gift annuities payable	355,922	696,083
Total liabilities	<u>17,168,877</u>	<u>11,521,666</u>
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions, undesignated	196,193,375	139,644,861
Without donor restrictions, board designated reserve	2,395,386	2,190,832
Without donor restrictions, board designated endowments	20,996,928	15,728,093
With donor restrictions	9,972,015	11,651,264
Total net assets	<u>229,557,704</u>	<u>169,215,050</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$246,726,581</u>	<u>\$180,736,716</u>

Statement of Activities

For the years ended June 30, 2021 and 2020

	2021	2020
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS		
Revenue and support		
Contributions	\$50,833,783	\$28,268,272
Investment income/(loss)	35,757,714	5,424,414
Actuarial gain/(loss)	(55,157)	(68,595)
Administrative fee revenue and reimbursements	2,081,603	1,929,307
Total revenue and support	<u>88,617,943</u>	<u>35,553,398</u>
Expenses		
Program services	24,303,243	33,103,347
Management and general	3,336,785	3,188,212
Fundraising	635,261	656,767
Total expenses	<u>28,275,289</u>	<u>36,948,326</u>
INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	60,342,654	(1,394,928)
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>169,215,050</u>	<u>170,609,978</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$229,557,704</u>	<u>\$169,215,050</u>

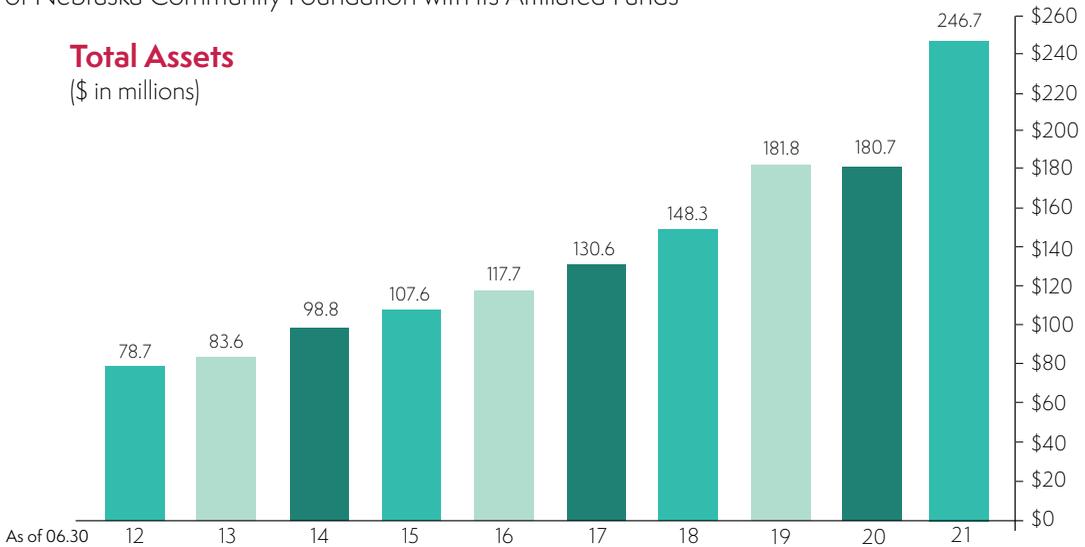
The financial statements of Nebraska Community Foundation are audited annually by an independent public accounting firm. A copy of the audited financial statements may be obtained by contacting the Foundation's office. A copy of the Foundation's tax filing (Form 990) may be obtained on the Foundation's website or by contacting the Foundation's office.

Assets, Disbursements, and Contributions

of Nebraska Community Foundation with its Affiliated Funds

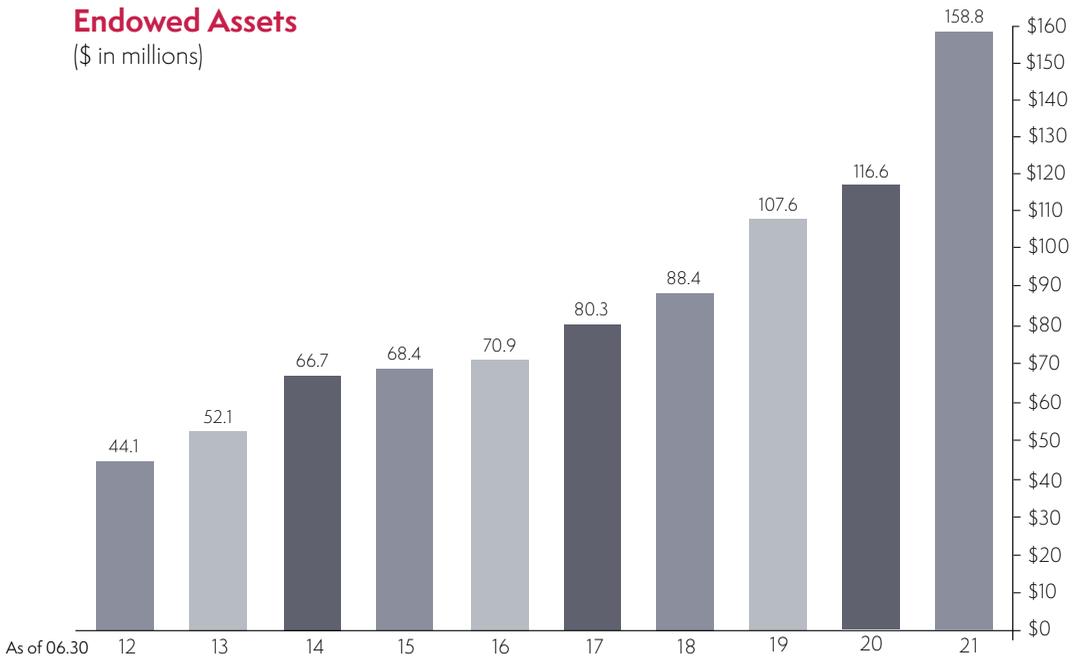
Total Assets

(\$ in millions)



Endowed Assets

(\$ in millions)



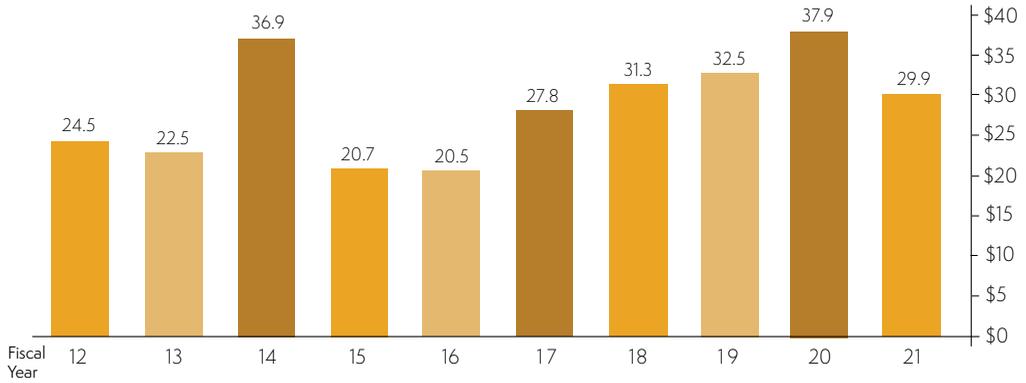
Total assets
\$246.7
Million



Endowed assets
\$158.8
Million

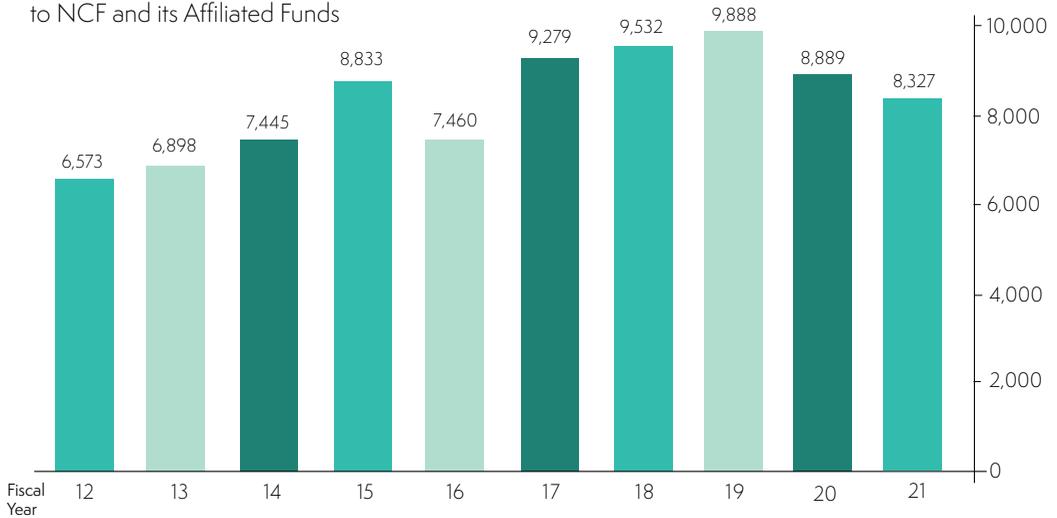
Grants and Disbursements

(\$ in millions)



Number of Contributions

to NCF and its Affiliated Funds



45,915

Contributions in the last

5 years



\$423
Million

Reinvested since 1994



Nebraska Community Foundation is not just about raising money and making grants; it empowers communities to be agents of change by teaching them to identify local assets and resources and take action.

–BOB STOWELL
Valley County Community Foundation Fund



NEBRASKA COMMUNITY

F O U N D A T I O N

Contact Us:

P.O. Box 83107 ■ Lincoln, NE 68501-3107

www.nebcommfound.org

402.323.7330 ■ 402.323.7349 (FAX)

info@nebcommfound.org



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