



NEBRASKA
RESOURCE PROJECT
FOR VULNERABLE
YOUNG CHILDREN

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

10 *years*

A Decade of Difference:

*Empowering Professionals to
Support Nebraska's Children*



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Letter from the Directors

It's hard to believe our project is turning 10 years old this year. In some ways, it feels like those early days were only yesterday. Transitioning from the Nebraska Court Improvement Project, most of our work at first focused on juvenile courts in Nebraska. We provided technical assistance to juvenile courts, we trained juvenile court practitioners on early childhood mental health issues, and we created guides and checklists for parents involved in the system. We also continued to train clinicians in Child-Parent Psychotherapy and we realized not only the huge clinical need for supporting young children and their families but also the need for providing support through reflective practice to the professionals helping them.

Since our first days, we have strived to respond to the real needs on the ground. Our NRPVYC staff is comprised of current and former clinicians, caseworkers, and attorneys. We know how systems meant to support professionals often do the opposite. In too many situations, professionals are chronically burnt out and don't get the support they need to do the work.

So when something seems to work, we try to listen and respond. What started as reflective consultation in 2015 to caseworkers quickly grew with demand and became the Nebraska Center on Reflective Practice. And what started as a CPP training cohort every other year has quickly grown to an entire platform of clinical trainings for providers working with young children and their families.

Over the last few years, we have recognized the increased need to support professionals in better managing the stress and burnout they feel and so we have tried to listen and respond through a new training program called CE-CERT. We hope our project continues to evolve in this way to meet the needs of the professionals we serve.

We greatly appreciate our partners and supporters and look forward to continuing the work. **We could not do this without you!**



- Kelli Hauptman, Jamie Bahm, and Samantha Byrns



Our Mission

To improve the well-being of vulnerable young children in Nebraska through supporting and strengthening professionals serving them across systems.



Did you know?

The Nebraska Resource Project for Vulnerable Young Children (NRPVYC) was founded in 2015 by Kelli Hauptman and Jennie Cole-Mossman **as the successor to the Infant-Toddler Court Improvement Project.**

NRPVYC's initial focus:

- increasing CPP trainings
- training professionals to screen for trauma
- offering reflective practice for professionals in the field
- supporting juvenile court judges and teams



The Infant-Toddler Court Improvement Project partnered with juvenile courts to expand access to infant mental health services, particularly Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP). It emphasized early childhood development, the juvenile court's role in the well-being of children involved in court cases, and the need to support professionals working with young children.

The NRPVYC Approach



Nebraska Center on
Reflective Practice

Reflective practice helps professionals manage the emotional impact of their work and improve their interactions with others.

NCRP Training Platforms

Facilitating Attuned Interactions (FAN)

Components for Enhancing Career Experience and Reducing Trauma (CE-CERT) **NEW**



Infant & Early Childhood
Mental Health (IECMH)

Early interventions and IECMH services can prevent or mitigate the negative effects of maltreatment, neglect, trauma, or loss.

IECMH Training Platforms

Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP)

Integration of Working Models of Attachment into Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (IoWA-PCIT)

Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) International

Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) **NEW**

DC:0-5™ Diagnostic Classification of Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of Infancy and Early Childhood **NEW**

Court Infusion

Focusing on relationships and infusing evidence-based practices into court processes can improve outcomes for children and families.

Current Projects

Lancaster County Safe & Healthy Families Initiative and Court

FAN Training and consultation for judges, attorneys, and caseworkers

Needs assessments and evaluation to courts

Lancaster County Family Treatment Drug Court (FTDC)

CELEBRATING 10 Years of Growth



Did you know?

The Nebraska Young Child Institute is a biennial conference. Each NYCI requires nearly two years of extensive planning and coordination.

Our staff is instrumental in its success. They manage everything from speaker coordination and attendee material preparation to on-site support and certificate issuance. We also have multiple staff who contribute as presenters.

2015



Created the **Nebraska Child-Parent Psychotherapy Learning Collaborative**.

- First trained 170+ child welfare professionals to use a trauma screening tool in its Understanding and Screening for Trauma in Young Children training.

2016



Reached 1,000 **annual attendance**.



Nebraska Center on
Reflective Practice

Established the Nebraska Center on Reflective Practice (NCRP) within NRPVYC.

NEBRASKA
— Young Child Institute —

Held the first Nebraska Young Child Institute.

2017

- Assumed management of the first revenue-based cohort of CPP. Built infrastructure to permanently support CPP, including maintaining a statewide list of CPP providers.
- Trained the first five FAN trainers in Nebraska through the FAN train-the-trainer process.

2018

- Established the **NCRP Community of Practice.**

2019

- Samantha Byrns and Lori Rodriquez-Fletcher began the train-the-trainer process to become certified CPP trainers.
- Expanded our court-infusion work throughout Nebraska.
- Expanded the NCRP mentor and consultant program.
- Created the **FAN Library** to provide resources to FAN Training graduates.



Lori Rodriquez-Fletcher, Dr. Joy Osofsky, and Samantha Byrns

2020



- First **Parent-Child Interaction Therapy** clinical training program cohort using the IOWA-PCIT model.
- Launched new free, online and on-demand training: **Understanding Early Childhood Attachment, Trauma and Development.**

TO DATE
1,222
people have enrolled in the course

2021

Staff increased to 10 full-time members.



Training attendance reached 2,950, nearly double 2020's figure.

- Created the **Counselor Cafe** as a platform for Nebraska infant and early childhood mental health clinicians to network and foster community.

SINCE LAUNCH

📅	21 events
👤	240 clinicians attended

2022

🚩 Exceeded 10,000 attendees at all trainings and events since inception.

🚩 Exceeded 1,000 FAN-trained professionals since the inception of FAN training in Nebraska.

2023

🚩 **NCRP record year:** Hosted 50 events with over 800 attendees.

- Held Nebraska's first **Components for Enhancing Career Experience and Reducing Trauma (CE-CERT) training** in Lincoln.
- Partnered with Dr. Lynne Clure to host the first **Parent-Child Interaction Therapy International** clinical training cohort.
- Established the **CPP Work Reimbursement Program** for services CPP clinicians performed that are not reimbursable by insurance or other funding opportunities.

2024

🚩 Exceeded 2,000 attendees for Understanding and Screening for Trauma in Young Children training.

🚩 Held the 4th **NYCI** in Kearney, NE. Record-breaking: 671 attendees

- Created the **Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Community of Practice (IECMH CoP) library** to provide resources to IECMH clinicians.
- Brought the **DC:0-5™** Diagnostic Classification of Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of Infancy and Early Childhood Clinical Training back to Nebraska. Supported five Nebraska clinicians to become certified DC:0-5™ trainers.





NRPVYC recognizes that consistency and the flexibility to adapt when needed are essential to its mission. Each experience builds upon the last, offering valuable guidance and fostering personal and professional growth. This journey empowers individuals to become better people, peers, and colleagues. Being part of this work has been truly inspiring, and I am grateful for the opportunities to learn, grow, and contribute. I am a better person because of all I have experienced with NRPVYC.



Aiesha Rahn

*Associate Vice President of Early Childhood
Sixpence Childcare Partnership Programs*

First CE-CERT training
in Nebraska





Did you know?

NRPVYC has significantly expanded its infant and early childhood mental health clinical training programs, growing from a single modality in 2015 to five in 2024.

2015

vs

2024

■ Child-Parent
Psychotherapy
(CPP)

■ Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP)



- Integration of Working Models of Attachment into Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (IoWA-PCIT)
- PCIT International
- Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)
- DC:0-5™ Diagnostic Classification of Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of Infancy and Early Childhood Clinical Training

2015 CPP Cohort





Safe and Healthy Families Initiative (SAHF)



Attachment Workshop



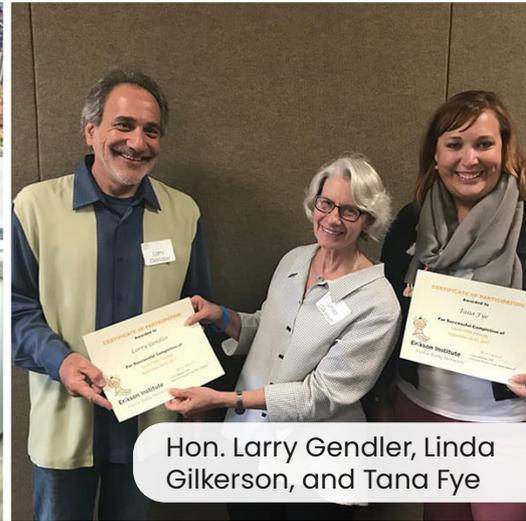
Barb Jessing & Mark Hald



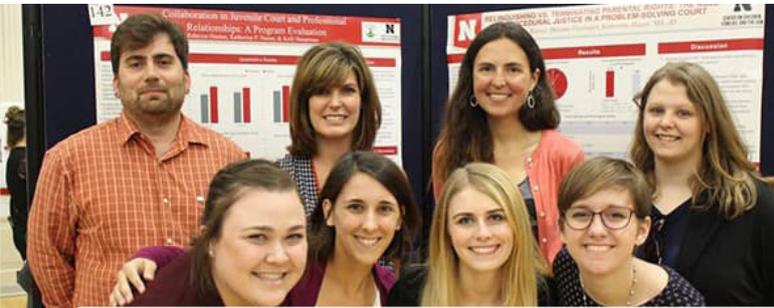
2023 Spring
IoWA-PCIT cohort



FAN trainers



Hon. Larry Gendler, Linda
Gilkerson, and Tana Fye



NRPVYC staff and graduate research assistants



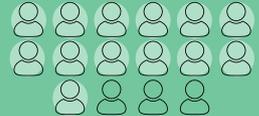
Did you
know?

Our staff has more than
tripled in 10 years!

2015

vs

2024



4 full-time staff
1 Graduate
Research
Assistant

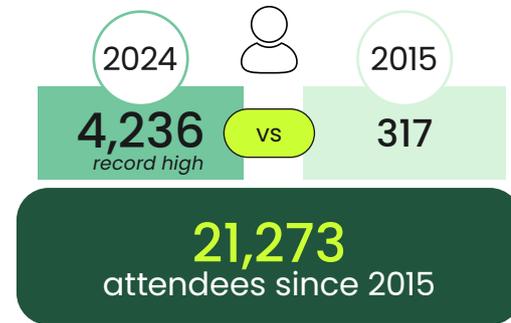
13 full-time staff
3 Graduate
Research
Assistants

Our Impact by the Numbers

Number of Events



Number of Attendees



FAN Training since 2015



CPP Training



PCIT Training



Understanding and Screening for Trauma in Young Children Training



Spring/Fall/Winter Webinar Series


4,198
attendees
since 2015


404
Spring Webinar
Series attendees
in 2024


561
Fall Webinar
Series attendees
in 2024

IECMH Overview Webinars


265
attendees
in 2024

Reflective Consultation


810
attendees
since 2015


124
attendees
in 2024

FAN Mentor Groups


305
groups
since 2015


58
attendees
in 2024

The training opportunities through NRPVYC have helped us to strengthen our peer and supervisory relationships. The tools that our team learned through Reflective Practice FAN training provide a framework for engaging staff and supporting self-awareness and reflection, which are critical to remaining in the work.

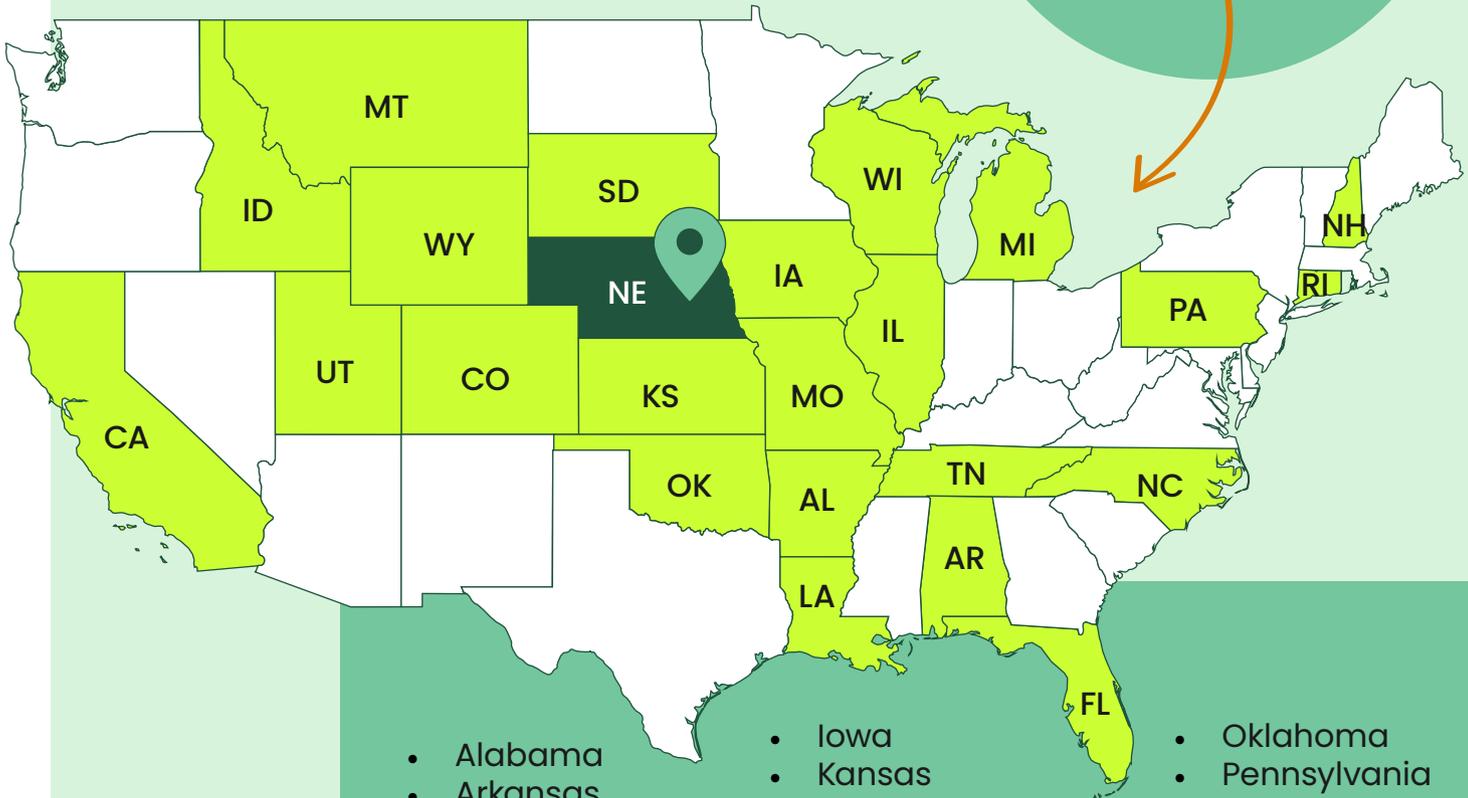

Leah Droge
Executive Director
Friendship Home in Lincoln



Did you know?

While our primary focus will always be serving Nebraska professionals, the ease of access to our virtual events has attracted professionals outside of Nebraska.

In 2024, our virtual audience included professionals from 23 other states.



- Alabama
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Florida
- Idaho
- Illinois

- Iowa
- Kansas
- Louisiana
- Michigan
- Missouri
- Montana
- New Hampshire
- North Carolina

- Oklahoma
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Utah
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming

What's Next?

We are continuing to listen and respond to the needs of the professionals we serve.



Thank you!

We would not be where we are today without every one of our staff members, advisory board, and partners.

★ Our Staff

Top row: Cassie Roberts, Lily Lagerman, Tracey Kock, Kelli Hauptman, Ashtyn Beck, Melissa Villarreal, Emily Starr

Middle row: Lindsey Ondrak, Jamie Bahm, Dayna Goff, Samantha Byrns, Pamela Caudill Jordan

Bottom row: Natalie Chin, Haifaa Al-saadi, Meredith Cartwright, Yanelli Guzman



Did you know?

Our staff brings a diverse range of expertise to the project. We have professionals from legal and child welfare backgrounds, mental health clinicians, researchers, and current University of Nebraska-Lincoln doctoral candidates.

★ Our Advisory Board

- **Amy Bunnell**
Co-Director
Early Development Network
- **Barbara Jessing**
Consultant and Trainer
Fontenelle House
- **Claire Bazata**
Attorney
- **Deb VanDyke-Ries**
Director
Nebraska Court Improvement Project
- **Dr. Holly Hatton**
Assistant Professor & Early Childhood Extension Specialist
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- **Jen Goettemoeller Wendl**
Early Childhood Consultant
- **Joanna Halbur**
Director of Mental Health Services
Project Harmony
- **Judge Amy Schuchman**
Judge of the Separate Juvenile Court
Douglas County
- **Judge Elise White**
Judge of the Separate Juvenile Court
Lancaster County
- **Kathleen Stolz**
Deputy Director
NE DHHS-Division of Children and Family Service
- **Lynne Brehm**
Retired
Early Childhood Systems
- **Melanie Kirk**
Attorney
- **Michelle Nunemaker**
Systems of Care Administrator
NE DHHS Division of Behavioral Health
- **Sarah Bernhardt**
Licensed Independent Mental Health Practitioner
Options in Psychology

★ Our Major Partners



Let's connect!



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NEBRASKA
RESOURCE PROJECT
FOR VULNERABLE
YOUNG CHILDREN



CENTER ON CHILDREN,
FAMILIES, AND THE LAW

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