

2024 IMPACT REPORT



A letter from the executive director



Reflecting on 2024, one word rises to the top: **partnership**.

This past year, Voices for Children in Nebraska has grown, evolved, and deepened our impact—not alone, but in close collaboration with others who share our vision of a Nebraska where every child can thrive. Our work has always been rooted in community, but in the past year, we leaned into partnership more intentionally than ever.

We strengthened relationships across the state, working side by side to elevate local voices and ensure that policy solutions reflect the lived experiences of Nebraska's children and families. It's why we took our first statewide road trip since the pandemic, connecting in person from Scottsbluff to Santee. It's also why we expanded our youth engagement efforts, creating more opportunities for young people to lead, advocate, and partner in shaping the systems that affect their lives. Their courage and clarity inspire and guide our work.

Partnership also shows up in our generous supporters—new and longtime—who believe in our mission and invest in our future. Your generosity fuels our ability to act boldly and sustainably.

These partnerships have expanded our reach and made our work more responsive, inclusive, and powerful. Together, we have advanced policies protecting and uplifting children, produced and shared trusted data and research through our annual Kids Count in Nebraska Report, and remained a steadfast, nonpartisan voice for what's right for kids.

Looking ahead, we are energized and emboldened by what is possible when we work together. We know that lasting change doesn't happen in isolation but in partnership, allowing us to meet the moment with purpose and integrity.

We are so grateful to be in this work with you. Thank you for standing with us, advocating for all Nebraska kids.

Warmly,

Juliet Summers, J.D.

Vision

We envision a Nebraska with strong communities, where every child has all they need to lead a healthy, secure, and fulfilling life.

Mission

We advocate for equitable opportunities for children in Nebraska through research, policy, and community engagement.

Values

We keep children at the heart of everything we do and follow a core set of values that serve as a guide for our words and actions.

Integrity

We serve as an independent and non-partisan voice to drive systems change.

Information

We use research, data, and community input to inform our direction and guide our actions.

Equity

We intentionally center diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in all we do.

Courage

We fight against the status quo when necessary to amplify youth's voices and transform systems.

Collaboration

We listen and partner in order to support children and families according to their needs.

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Youth and community engagement



130+

students engaged through advocacy cohorts, youth rallies, and leadership councils



29+

community events facilitated or attended across the state



Even one person can make a change, no matter how small.

-Jacqueline E., Youth Policy Fellow

“ I have a voice and it needs to be heard. ”

- Lakira T., Youth Policy Fellow



1,100+

Kids Count in Nebraska
Reports distributed statewide



42+

media mentions including interviews with staff and data points shared



15+

presentations delivered to organizations, churches, and youth groups



Pro-kid policy

Grounded in research, data, and proven best practices, our priorities focus on real solutions that improve child well-being. We recognize how factors like race, socioeconomic status, and geography impact opportunity, and we're committed to removing barriers so that every child has the chance to grow up happy, healthy, and successful.



Health



Economic Stability



Child Welfare



Juvenile Justice



38

pieces of legislation weighed in on across two unicameral sessions



10+

infants per year protected through extension of the Safe Haven Act



121,000+

children fed through the adoption of Summer EBT



73,000+

73,000 students protected from prosecution for excused mental health absences from school

*A full list of this year's policy priorities can be found on the 2024 Policy Agenda page on our website.



Voices for Children supported **Ballot Initiative 436, Paid Sick Leave for Nebraskans**, which voters approved to benefit an estimated 250,000+ families.

Legislative highlight

We played a key role in the passage of **LB 233** to address child support for families on the Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) program. Policy coordinator Katie Nungesser brought technical expertise and prior lived experience as a single mom on ADC, to highlight the bill's critical importance for about 1,000 Nebraska children. The law now allows low-income families participating in the program to keep part of their court-ordered child support, leaving more money in the family budget to support their children's basic needs.

Our supporters

Voices for Children in Nebraska thanks the following individuals, foundations, organizations, and businesses for supporting the work we do each day to advocate for a Nebraska where every child can thrive.

\$250,000+

Sherwood Foundation

\$100,000 - \$249,999

Annie E. Casey Foundation

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Edward & Sally Malashock
Family Foundation

Lozier Foundation

Weitz Family Foundation

William & Ruth Scott
Family Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Charles & Lynn Schusterman
Family Philanthropies
Lutheran Service Corps

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Countryside Community Church
Kate & Roger Weitz
Presbyterian Church of the Cross

\$5,000 - \$9,999

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Family Trust

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\$2,500 - \$4,999

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Buffett Early Childhood Fund

Craig & Kathy Moore

Glenn Summers & Denise Miller-Dolan

Nan Summers

UNMC College of Public Health

Supporters continued

\$1,000 - \$2,499

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Ali Khan, PhD

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Arbor Bank

Curt Field

FNBO

Fred & Sally Bekins Foundation

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Jeffrey Couch

Lorraine Chang & Eric Pearson

Liz Orrick

Lutz

Omaha Public Schools Foundation

Patti Koraleski

Robert C. Townsend

Security National Bank

Shamrock Development, Inc.

Thomas D. Stalnaker

Union Bank & Trust

\$500 - \$999

Adam & Sarah Yale

Amy Christensen

Bob J. Bleicher

Dean & Jessie Rasmussen

Emily Tonniges

Great Plains Annual Conference
of the United Methodist Church

John & Kay Lynn Goldner

John & Wende Kotouc

John Tully

John V. Morey

Jon Meyers

Keegan & Justin Korf

Kelley Peterson

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Shucks Downtown, LLC

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\$250 - \$499

Alima Nickerson

Aubrey & Matthew Mancuso

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Michael Meyers

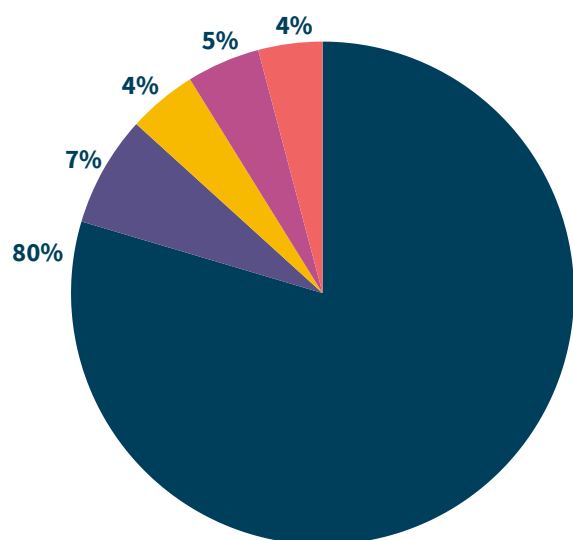
Rick Holdcroft

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Financials

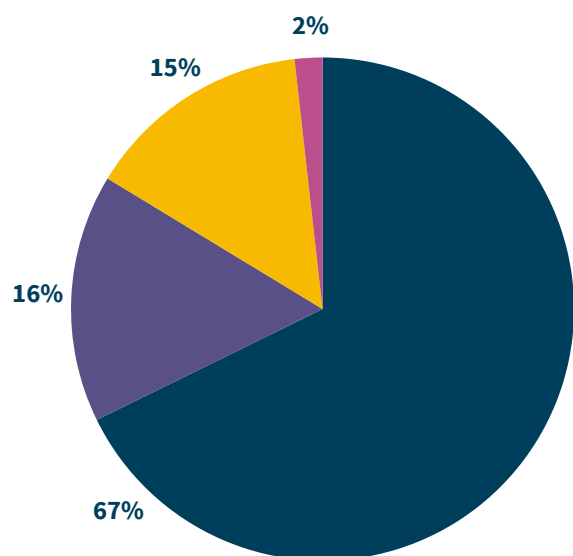


Revenue

Grants*	\$718,700
Special Events	\$ 64,418
Individual Contributions	\$ 40,060
Organization Contributions	\$ 42,530
Other	\$ 37,227

Total **\$902,935**

*Grant Revenue reporting reflects the FASB Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2018-08. We report pledges in the year they are made.



Expenses

Research, Education, & Community Engagement	\$512,696
Management & Administration	\$120,710
Fundraising	\$110,003
Lobbying	\$ 13,490

Total **\$756,899**



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