



ANNUAL REPORT 2025



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Over the past year, Nebraska's children and families have faced a policy landscape defined by uncertainty and upheaval. Long-standing supports like food assistance, health coverage, and justice-system protections have been questioned, restructured, or placed at risk. For families already navigating rising costs and limited access to care, these policy decisions are not abstract. They determine whether children have enough to eat, can see a doctor when they are sick, and are met with help when in crisis.

In moments like these, an independent, data-driven voice matters more than ever. It's our why. At Voices for Children, we do not represent a program, party, or political interest. We represent children—especially those whose voices are too often excluded from policy conversations.

I am so proud of the work and impact of this organization. In 2025, we fought for children's futures: advancing quality data that highlighted gaps in child well-being, showing up consistently at the Legislature, and working alongside advocacy partners across the state to protect children's rights and supportive resources for families.

Our work ensured that children were part of the policy conversation, even when competing priorities threatened to push them aside.

Fighting for futures also means staying the course, and our supporters make that possible. Because of the individuals and organizations listed in this report, Voices for Children remains a fierce and reliable presence, ready to seize opportunities to build systems that truly support children and families.

As we look ahead, we know the challenges will continue. But we also know that children are resilient, families are strong, and Nebraskans care about building a brighter future for all. We will stay in that fight, working together, committed to the belief that every child in Nebraska deserves the chance to grow up healthy, safe, and supported.

Warmly,



Juliet Summers, J.D.



OUR MISSION

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

OUR VISION

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

OUR 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.

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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YOUTH & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



1,100+

Kids Count in Nebraska
Reports distributed statewide



50+

presentations and community
events across 9 counties in Nebraska



190+

students engaged through camps,
cohorts, and other youth events



POLICY & ADVOCACY

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



Child Welfare



Economic Stability



Juvenile Justice



58+

pieces of legislation worked on with 7 big wins for kids and more defensive victories holding the line



Raising Justice

new podcast launched in 2025 to educate Nebraskans about our work to improve child well-being in the state through policy and advocacy



ACLU Roger Baldwin Civil Libertarian of the Year Award

received along with RISE for our work collaborative work toward a youth justice system that heals not harms

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

Lozier Foundation

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Annie E. Casey Foundation

Edward & Sally Malashock

Family Foundation

Weitz Family Foundation

William & Ruth Scott

Family Foundation

\$20,000 - \$49,999

Presbyterian Church of the Cross

\$10,000 - \$19,999

Elizabeth Summers

Kate Noble Weitz & Roger Weitz

Katie Weitz, PhD & Tim Wilson

UNMC College of Public Health

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Bruce Meyers

Heider Family Foundation

John & Dianne Scott

Lorraine Chang

Mortenson Construction

Mutual of Omaha

Nebraska Civic Engagement Table

\$2,500 - \$4,999

American National Bank

Boys Town

Buffett Early Childhood Fund

Craig & Kathy Moore

Jane Tonniges

Nebraska Medicine

SUPPORTERS CONTINUED

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Absolutely Fresh Seafood West, LLC
Al Davis
Ali Khan, PhD
Amy Christensen & Ron Lindhardt
Arbor Bank
Bob J. Bleicher
Children's Nebraska
Dean & Jessie Rasmussen
Fred & Sally Bekins Foundation
Glenn Summers & Denise Miller-Dolan
Keith D. Allen
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Partnership for America's Children
Patti Koraleski
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Sally Kaplan
Schwab Charitable Foundation
Thomas D. Stalnaker
Union Bank & Trust
WarHorse Gaming, LLC

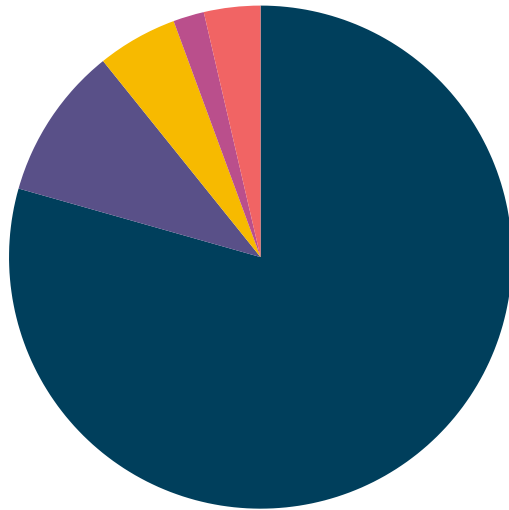
\$500 - \$999

Amy & Dennis Boesen
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John & Wende Kotouc
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Shucks Downtown, LLC
Shucks Legacy, LLC
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\$250 - \$499

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FINANCIALS

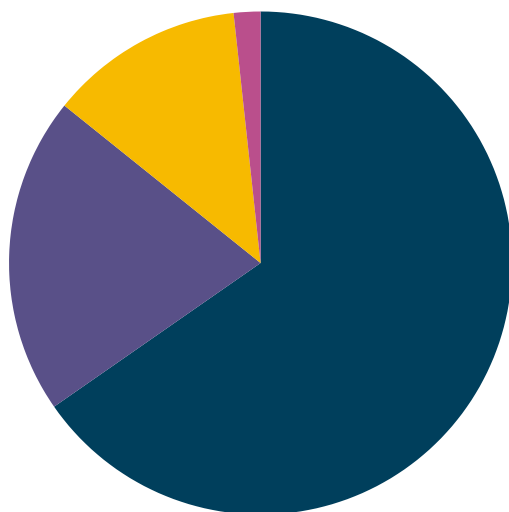


Revenue

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| ■ Grants* | \$755,787 |
| ■ Special Events | \$93,607 |
| ■ Individual Contributions | \$49,063 |
| ■ Organizational Contributions | \$18,928 |
| ■ Other | \$34,537 |

Total **\$951,922**

*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 | \$590,056 |
| ■ Management & Administration | \$185,912 |
| ■ Fundraising | \$114,018 |
| ■ Lobbying | \$20,367 |

Total **\$910,353**



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