

A Year in Review

2023-2024



COVER FEATURE

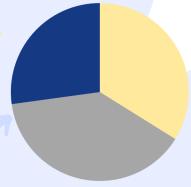
Recent local data revealed an alarming trend. The percentage of children who are considered aerobically fit (Grades 4-8, Lincoln Public Schools) has declined from 75% in 2018-19 to 65% in 2022-23. In some census tracts, the pass percentage is as low as 37%. Given the known positive impact of youth fitness on physical health, mental health, academic success, socialization, and leadership skills, CHE has issued a Call to Action regarding the aerobic fitness of our youth.

CHE takes pride in its commitment to convene the community around important health issues. In May 2024, CHE launched a Youth Fitness, Sports, and Opportunity Task Force comprised of other community stakeholders from schools and education, public health and health care, parents and families, policy and civic groups, and youth sports and community organizations. Recommendations for community action will be issued in early 2025.



INFLATION ADJUSTED: \$30.4 MILLION

TOTAL IMPACT \$111.9 MILLION SINCE 1999:



ORIGINAL BALANCE: \$37.9 MILLION

22 new grants awarded + 28 multi-year grants

= 50 PROJECTS FUNDED

GRANTS AWARDED: \$43.6 MILLION

New Legacy Project: Brave fACEs



Brave fACEs, also known as the ACEs Institute, is dedicated to addressing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) through awareness, education, and technical support. The mission is to prevent ACEs and equip the Lincoln community with valuable knowledge and prevention tools.



Site Visits

CHE Board of Trustees and staff love to see first-hand how nonprofits are making a difference in the community. One of the projects CHE visited this year was the Trauma Warriors of the Santee Sioux Society of Care. This cohort of resilient Native American youth leaders use peer support and cultural wellness practices to build healthier futures.

A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION WITH THE U.S. SURGEON GENERAL, DR. VIVEK MURTHY

In 2023, U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy released a landmark public health advisory regarding the harmful impact of social media on youth mental health. On April 2, 2024, Dr. Murthy visited Lincoln to challenge our community to respond to this public health crisis. Sponsored by CHE and Lincoln Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird, and hosted by Bryan Health, over 300 people attended the sold-out live event, and an additional 1,000 watched the recording.

The Boys & Girls Club also hosted Dr. Murthy at North Star High School for a private discussion with local youth related to mental health and social media. He received a tour of the Boys & Girls Club and the Aviation, Technology, and Entrepreneurship Academy. Dr. Murthy concluded his visit by learning more about Visionary Youth and their mobile, mentor-run barbershop.

Continuing the Discussion...







On May 31, 2024, CHE hosted a live, follow-up conversation: "Youth Mental Health and Social Media Use in Lincoln." More than 150 people heard from informed panelists, including Angela Palmer-Wackerly, PhD, an academic researcher and lecturer at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Phil Boucher, MD, a local pediatrician, and Julio Ramirez, 2024 graduate of North Star High School. A recording can be found at www.chelincoln.org.





CHE, in partnership with the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, released the fifth rendition of Place Matters in September 2023. New in this 5.0 version are maps on Social Vulnerability and Rental Housing Burden. The maps are also available in Spanish for the first time.

History of Place Matters



Scan the QR Code to get a quick look at the history and making of Place Matters!



Marilyn Moore, EdD Chair, Board of Trustees This has been a year of celebration, renewal, discovery, learning, beginnings and endings. We celebrated CHE's 25th Anniversary with a rousing toast to our next 25 years, resumed grantmaking, recognized another Legacy Project that will positively change the landscape of our community, continued to pursue positive place-making, and welcomed powerful national voices to Lincoln. Like every year, CHE convened our community around emerging issues and celebrated what can be done when a community works together for the common good, invests wisely, and leads with boldness. We are grateful for you and for this place we love to call home.



Lori Seibel President & CEO

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250 N. 21st Street, Suite 2 - Lincoln, Nebraska 68503 - 402.436.5516 - www.chelincoln.org

