

The background of the lower half of the cover is a map of Lincoln, Nebraska. The map is overlaid with a white grid. Various areas of the city are highlighted in different colors: green, yellow, orange, and red. A prominent blue and purple shaded area, possibly representing a river or a specific district, runs vertically through the center of the map.

**Annual Report to the
Community 2014-2015**

**Community Health
Endowment of Lincoln**



Place Matters

A Message from CHE Leadership

In the year 1510, the phrase “Hic Sunt Dracones” appeared on one of the first European globes. Translated to “Here Be Dragons,” the phrase meant dangerous or unexplored territories. In short, it provided a warning to travelers that ‘we don’t know what’s out there.’

Throughout history, maps have helped us define, explain and navigate our way to a desired destination. Advancing beyond the question of mythical creatures inhabiting the earth, today’s sophisticated mapping technologies educate us about how our



location in the world – even our very street address – influences and impacts us.

The acclaimed PBS series *Unnatural Causes* had a clear message: “place matters” when it comes to health. The series stressed that “*Health is more than health care.*” It is “...*the jobs we do, the money we’re paid, the schools we attend, the neighborhoods we live in (that are) as important to our health as our genes, behaviors and even medical care.*”

In 2014, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Commission to Build a Healthier America issued “*Time to Act: Investing in the Health of Our Children and Communities,*” a landmark report emphasizing the connection between community development and health.

Inspired by these two notable organizations and with the strong belief that “place matters,” the Community Health Endowment of Lincoln (CHE) undertook a mapping



project to better understand the role of place in health status and behaviors in our own community. In collaboration with the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, the City of Lincoln Urban Development Department and NeighborWorks® Lincoln, we gathered information on demographic, socioeconomic and health indicators at the census tract level.

We filled our walls with a gallery of geographic impressions of our community and spent hours interpreting their meaning and messages. Each map provided us with new insight and understanding of the community we call home.

CHE used this information to create new funding priorities which you will find on page 10. We believe that the better we understand Lincoln, the more effectively we can target our resources to effect change and improve the health of our community. We also believe this project can better equip policymakers, health and human service providers,



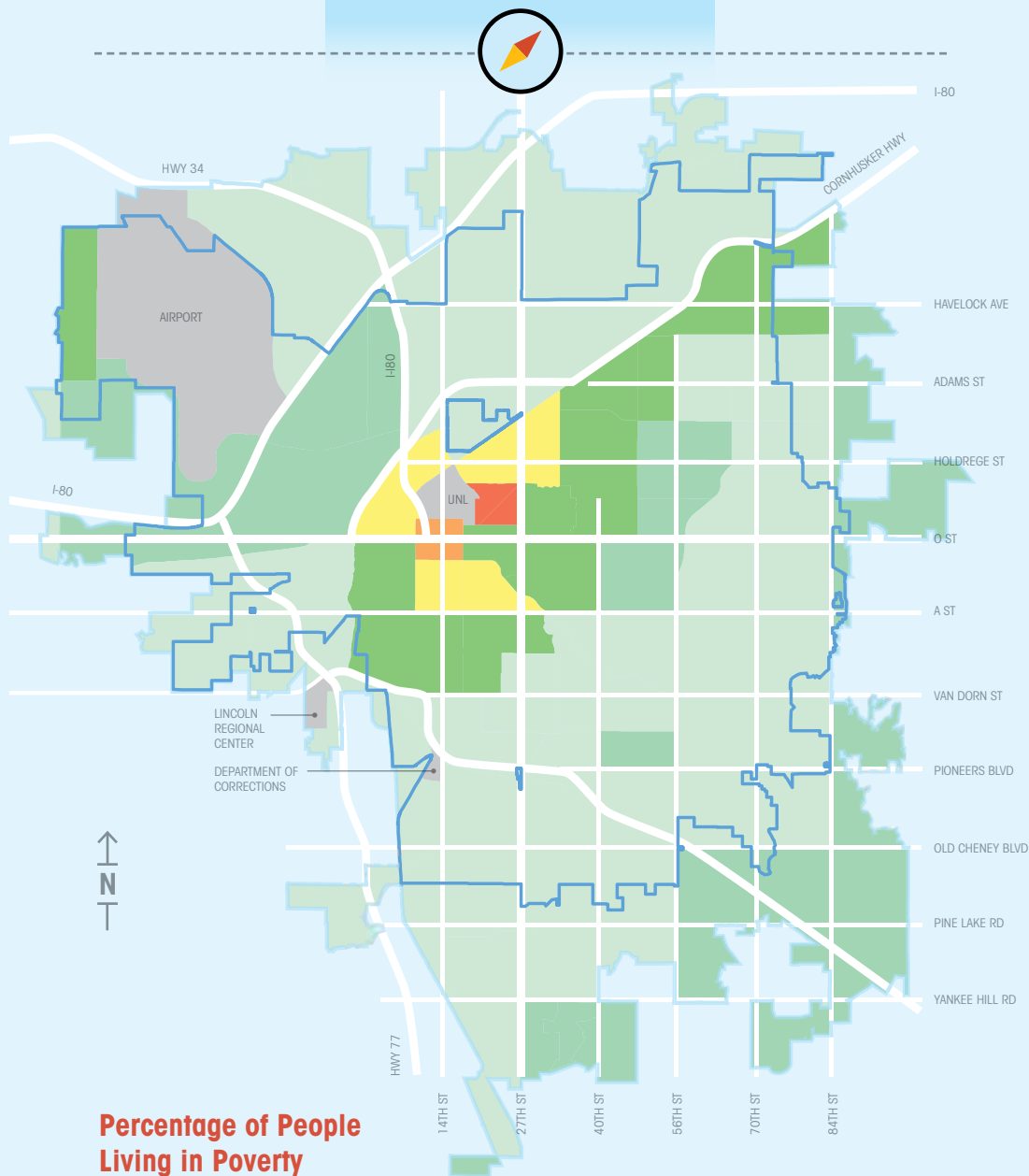
funders, educators, corporate partners and others to translate data into action.

You will see some maps in this report. You will find more at www.chelincoln.org. Use these visual representations of our community to learn more about Lincoln and become acquainted with your city in a new way. There are no dragons, only opportunities to navigate our way to a healthier community – a healthier and more prosperous place to live, work and play for all our residents wherever they live.

Because place does matter. **This place matters.**

Kimberly A. Russel, Chair

Lori Vrtiska Seibel, President/CEO



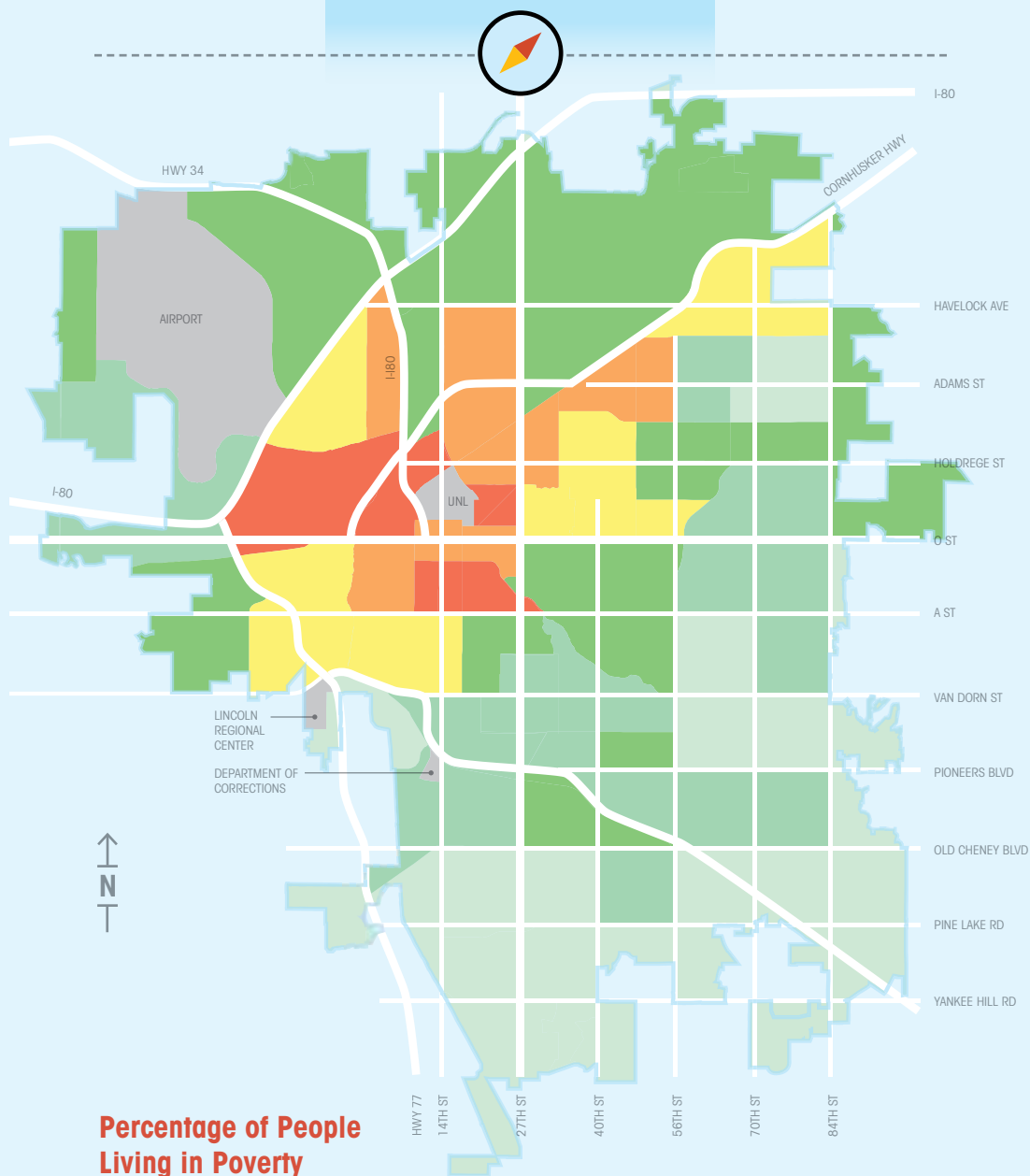
Percentage of People Living in Poverty

- 0-5%
- 5.1-10%
- 10.1-20%
- 20.1-30%
- 30.1-40%
- 40.1-50%
- Excluded
- Current City Limits
- 1980 City Limits

Poverty 1980

In 1980, 18 census tracts had at least 10% of residents living in poverty. Since then, poverty has expanded in every direction from the core, most notably to the northwest and northeast. Poverty is defined as 100% of the federal poverty threshold as determined by the U.S. Census Bureau.

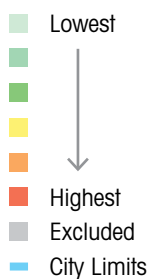
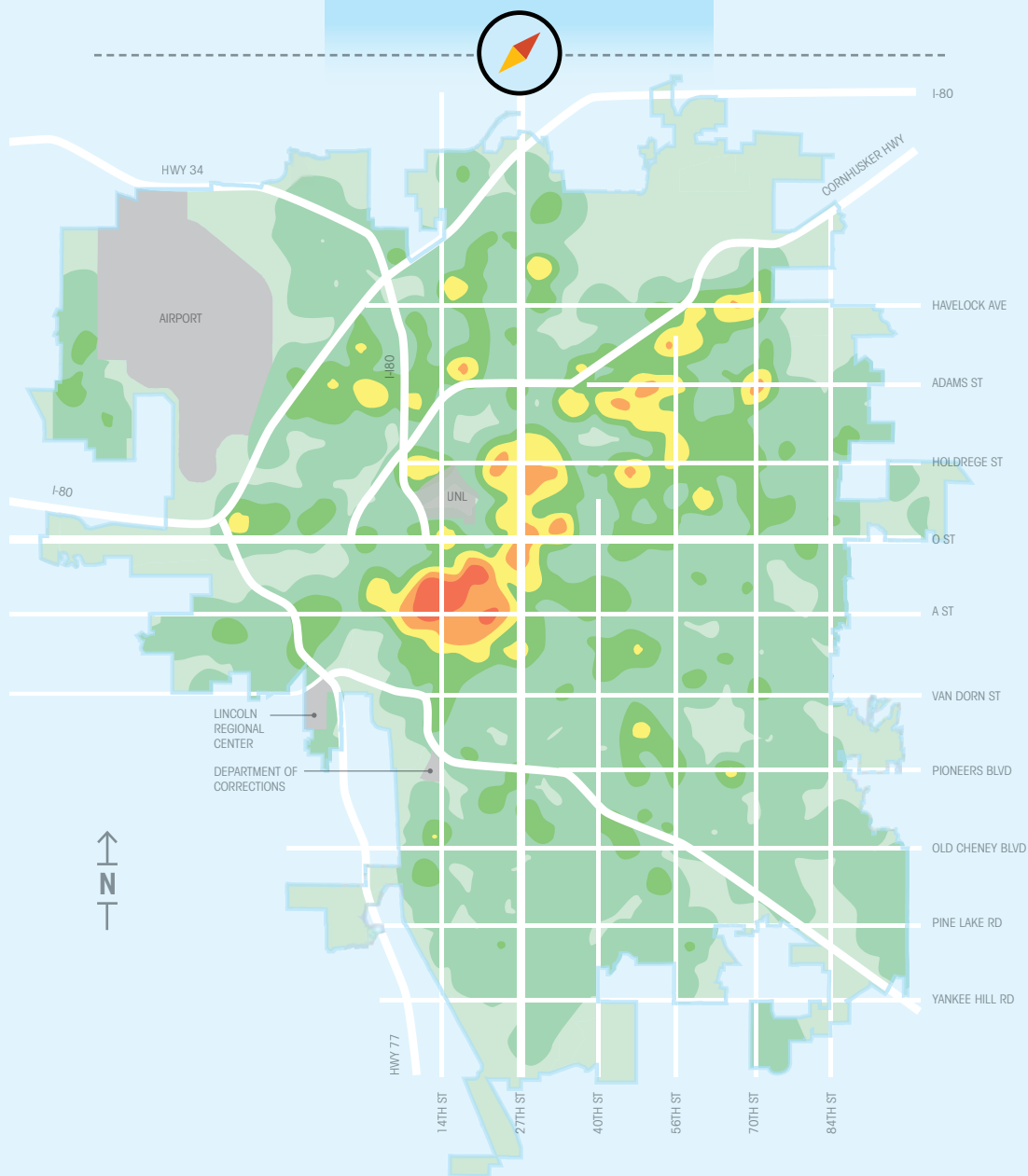
Data Source: United State Census Bureau



Poverty 2009-2013

By 2013, it is clear that Lincoln is experiencing a suburbanization of poverty with 42 census tracts having at least 10% of residents living in poverty. Programs designed to serve the urban poor must adapt to serve residents living across the city.

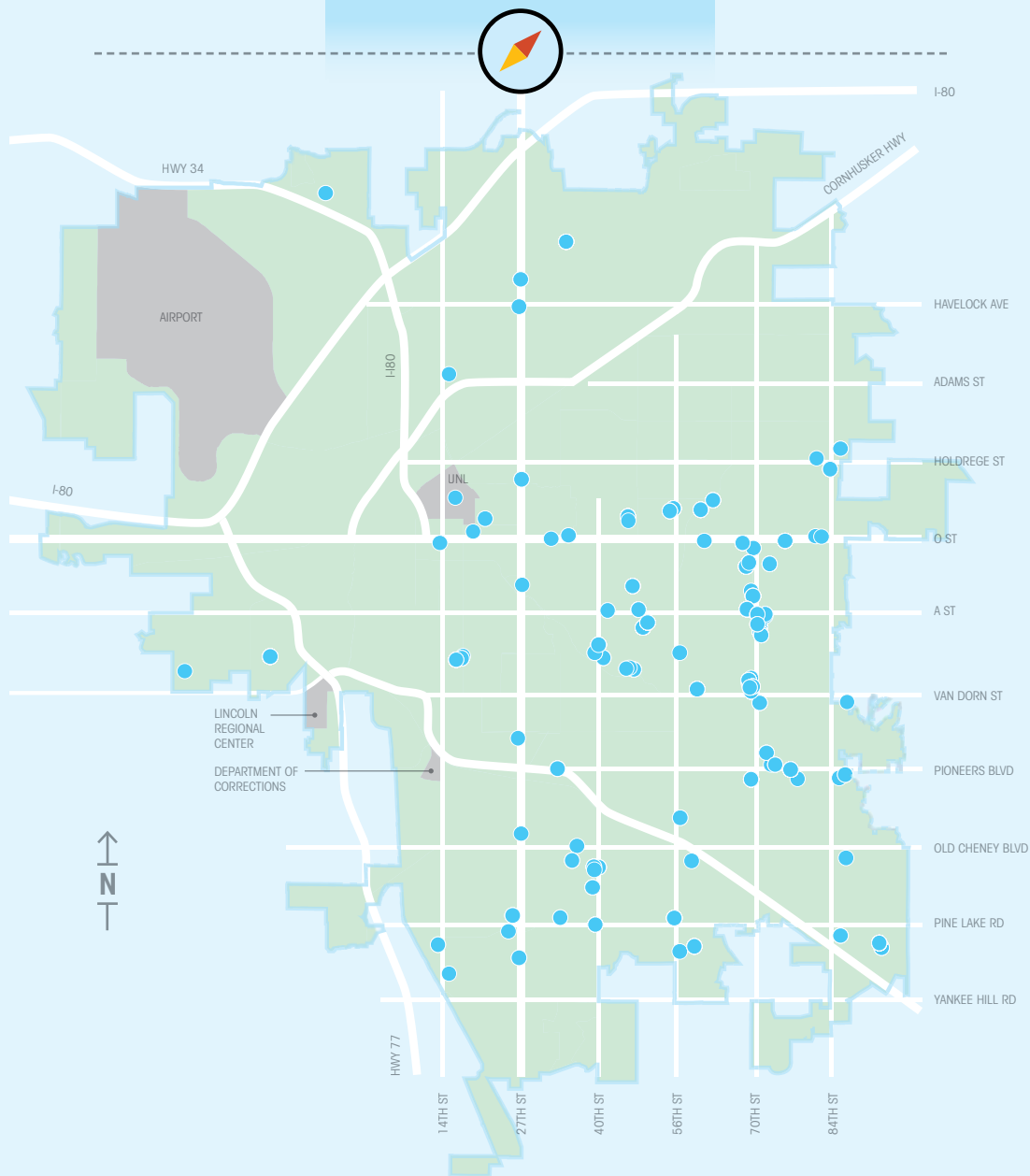
Data Source: United State Census Bureau



*Data Source: Lincoln Police Department
Jails, hospitals, schools and detention
centers also excluded.*

Bellwether Crimes

Although crime in Lincoln is at its lowest level since 1970, disparities exist across Lincoln. This map shows how cases of child abuse/neglect, domestic violence, protection orders and residential burglary are concentrated across the city (2014). These “bellwether crimes” are often symptomatic of more complex issues related to economic and neighborhood distress.

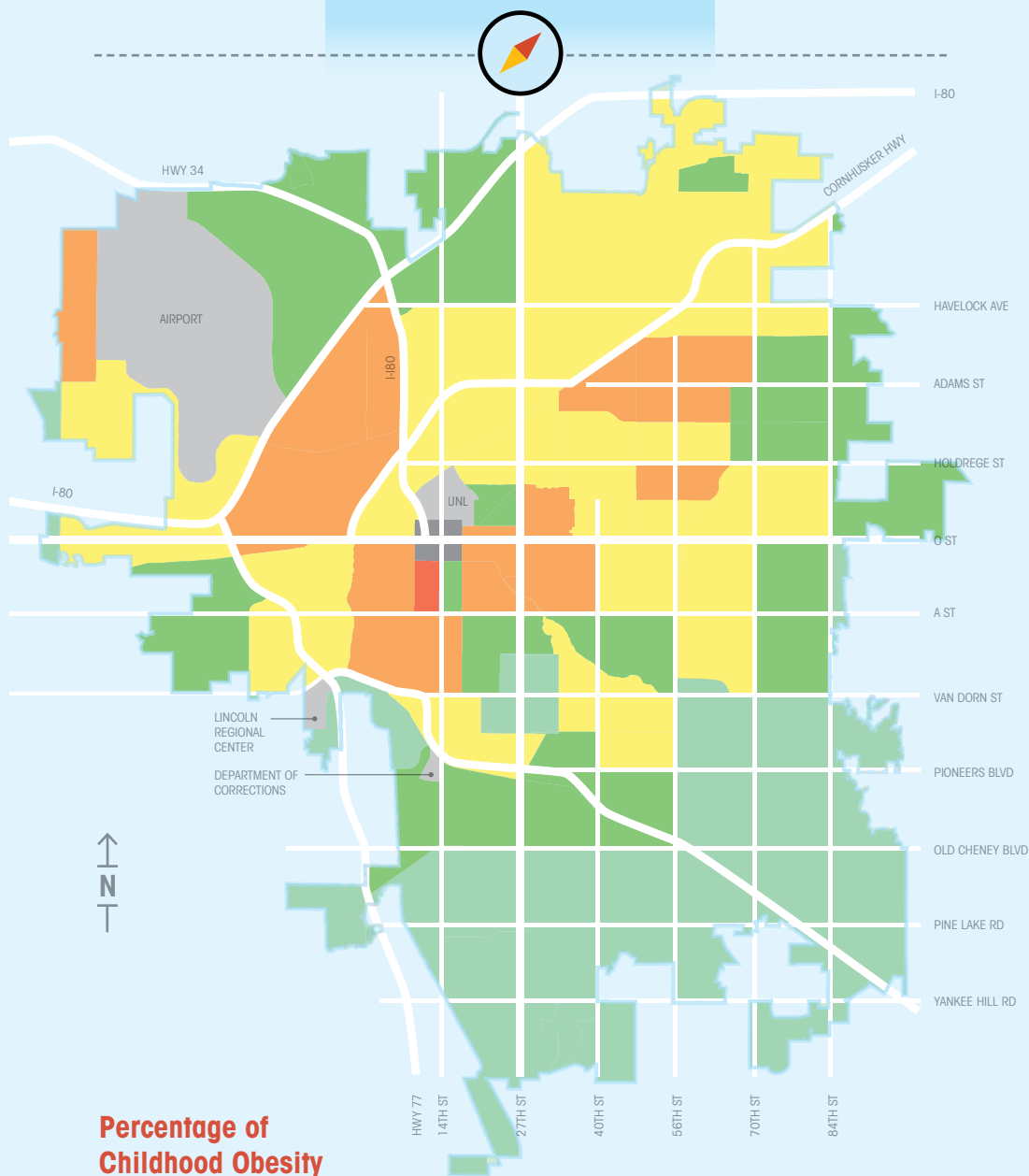


- Primary Care or Internal Medicine Practice
- City Limits

Access to Care

This map identifies the locations of primary care and internal medicine practices in the city. Market forces are a key factor when decisions about practice location are made. The number of primary care and internal medicine practices is lowest in the areas of Lincoln where poverty, and, arguably, health care needs are highest.

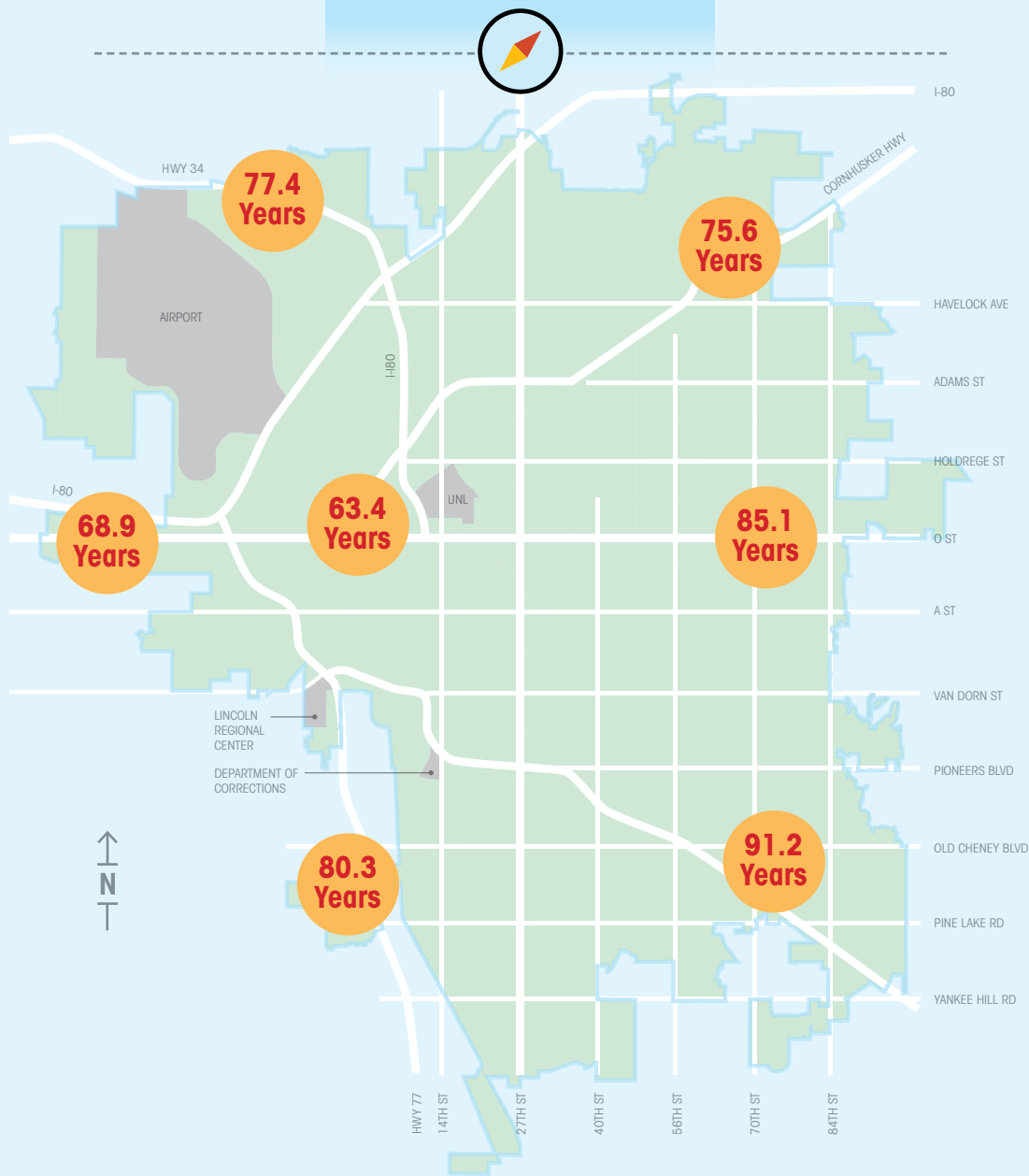
Data Source: Lancaster County Medical Society



Childhood Obesity

Lincoln can be proud of its progress in reducing childhood obesity. Thanks to a strong collaborative effort, Lincoln reached its goal of reducing obesity in schoolchildren six years ahead of schedule. However, geographic disparities persist, and work remains to be done. Obesity is defined as a Body Mass Index (BMI) at or above the 95th percentile for children of the same age and sex.

Data Source: Lincoln Public Schools



- Red Square: Average Years
- Grey Square: Excluded
- Blue Outline: City Limits

Life Expectancy

The average life expectancy for babies born to mothers in Lincoln varies dramatically across the city. Babies born to mothers living in southeast Lincoln can expect to live nearly three decades longer than babies born to mothers in central Lincoln just a few miles away.

Data Source: Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department



Lincoln is a vibrant community with many strengths and assets. Yet, we know that health disparities and inequality exist here. CHE undertook this community mapping project to better understand the role of “place” in a person’s health and wellbeing. This information, whether expected or startling, has highly influenced CHE’s

new funding priorities. For many years, CHE has been part of creating a successful health care safety net in Lincoln. Based on the information we learned during the Place Matters mapping project, CHE believes the hope of an even healthier community lies in “health beyond health care” and used that insight to develop the following:

2015-2016 Funding Priorities and Preferences

Priorities

- > Innovative practices that result in health care and behavioral health providers taking an active role in helping patients stay healthy outside a clinical setting, including non-traditional collaborations between health care, behavioral health and social/human services;
- > Investments in early childhood that have the greatest potential to reduce health disparities over the lifespan, with a specific focus on:
 - adverse childhood experiences and toxic stress;
 - childhood obesity; and/or
 - improved maternal health, and healthy birth and early childhood outcomes;
- > Intentional linkages between housing, health, neighborhood organizations, financial institutions and economic development; and
- > Prevention-focused efforts that foster healthy behaviors and lead to improved health outcomes.

Preferences

Within these priorities, CHE encourages applicants to:

- > Consider the relationship of poverty to the issue being addressed and how poverty influences both the cause of, and the solution to, the identified issue.
- > Utilize, whenever possible, locally-based geographic data to identify target groups and/or high-risk areas or neighborhoods.
- > Utilize, whenever possible, evidence-based data or research to identify target groups, high-risk populations, and/or program delivery models.

More information about CHE grant making is available at www.chelincn.org. If you have specific questions about the mapping project, contact CHE at info@chelincn.org or (402) 435-5516.



Top row from left:
Douglas A. Ganz, Jodi Loos.
Second row: Georgia Blobaum,
Kimberly A. Russel, Judy
Halstead, Loren Mestre-Roberts,
DiAnna Schimek, Lori Seibel.
Front row: Tom Beckius, Tina
Udell, Carole Burt, Michael
Molvar, D.D.S., Marcia White.
Not pictured: Kim Moore,
Jose Soto, Tom Sullivan, Rusty
Vanneman, Charles Wilson, M.D.



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CLS Investments

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Lori Vrtiska Seibel
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Marcia White
Program Manager

Jodi Loos
Office Manager



Grants and Financial S t a t e m e n t s

The most recent audited financial statements are available by contacting the Community Health Endowment. A list of all past grants is available on the CHE website, www.chelincoln.org.



CHE offers free use of our community room to local nonprofit organizations for business-related purposes during regular business hours. Contact Jodi Loos, 402-436-5516, for more information and to make reservations.

Community Health

250 N. 21st Street, Suite 2
Lincoln, NE 68503



Endowment of Lincoln

402-436-5516
www.chelincoln.org



facebook.com/chelincoln

If you wish to contribute to the health of Lincoln and make a gift to the Community Health Endowment, please contact the President/CEO, Lori Vrtiska Seibel.