

Windows of Opportunity





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Not Pictured: Kim Moore.



Windows

“When a window of opportunity appears, don’t pull down the shade.”

- Tom Peters

When we visit larger cities with their abundance of towering skyscrapers, we are drawn to the highest windows with the promise of the best vantage point. When we build our homes, we carefully consider the size and location of each window in order to assure the best views. Despite the harsh weather conditions, even the pioneers desired windows to see the vast expanse of prairie and the challenges that awaited them each day. There is universal delight found when a long

winter draws to a close and windows are opened to let in the first breezes of spring.

At CHE we believe that windows can represent opportunity. They can encourage a fresh perspective, a new start, and promising adventure. Windows are a far cry from a blank wall. They represent a new start, a broader viewpoint, and a clearer vision.

In this report, you will find pictures and stories of people who threw open the windows of opportunity and made the choice to embrace change and challenge. CHE has been proud to support their efforts and to be witness to their personal and professional successes. They are among

many more individuals in our community who are eager to tell their stories and who are excited for what lies ahead. View them as witnesses of what can happen when the shade comes up and a world of opportunity lies ahead.

Join us in embracing our community, with all its successes and challenges, as we look for windows of opportunity.

Michael A. Tavlin,
Chair

Lori Vrtiska Seibel,
President/CEO

Todd Fitzgerald & Maria Salinas Sherffius – Both participated in **Project A.L.L.: Academy for Local Leadership**, a project funded by CHE and run by Leadership Lincoln. Maria says, “Project A.L.L. has sharpened my knowledge base in order for me to be an effective board president. Additionally, the networking contacts and friends I have made during the classes have been very rewarding. Since Project A.L.L., I feel more connected to the community and that I’m making an impact that will benefit the City of Lincoln.” Todd also now serves as the President of a non-profit board and was appointed by the Mayor to an Advisory Committee. Todd echoes Maria’s comments and has found giving back through board service to be very rewarding and a way to make a difference in our community.





About The Endowment

CHE is a municipal endowment dedicated to improving the health of all individuals in the Lincoln community. CHE was created as the result of the sale of Lincoln General Hospital and was established to provide funding to “health and health-related programs or projects which further the health, safety, or welfare of the residents of the City of Lincoln.”

Since inception in 1998, CHE has provided nearly \$16 million in grants to local agencies and organizations. CHE places an emphasis on building on Lincoln’s strengths, serving those at highest risk for the poorest health outcomes, and pursuing effective community collaborations.

Our Values

STEWARDSHIP

Using resources prudently, while growing and preserving assets.

COLLABORATION

Partnering to build healthy children, families, and neighborhoods.

COMMUNITY EXPERTISE

Valuing good ideas from the heart of our community.

INNOVATION

Finding new and better ways to improve the health of our increasingly diverse community.

Our Mission

“To make Lincoln, Nebraska the healthiest community in the nation.”

CHE Grantmaking

1) CHE accepts unsolicited requests for proposals in an open, competitive grant program, allowing agencies to submit proposals for projects which they deem most important or critical to their core mission;

2) CHE creates targeted funding areas and invites proposals from any agency with an interest and ability to address the targeted issue; and

3) CHE develops major, strategic initiatives with partners and invites one or more agencies to apply for funding based upon the identified strategy.

The grant making program is open to any nonprofit organization or governmental agency interested in improving the health of Lincoln. More information about the CHE grants program is available at www.chelincoln.org.



Destenie Commuso & James Garvey – *Destenie works as a Program Coordinator at the **Keya House**, a program of the Mental Health Association of Nebraska (MHA-NE) and partially funded by CHE. James was initially a guest of the Keya House, but became a volunteer and is now a valued staff member. James says the Keya House was somewhere to go at a time he needed it and the staff provided a comfortable environment in which he could share and talk. Both Destenie and James have benefited from their connection with the MHA-NE and the Keya House. “It took me years to find my recovery with both mental health and substance abuse. MHA-NE gives me the opportunity to continue to help myself through helping others trying to find recovery,” says Destenie.*



Grants/Funding Commitments FY 2011-2012

Project Name	Grant Summary	Yr(s)	Amount	Agency
SPARK! FUND				
Brain Injury Community Center of Nebraska	Conduct a feasibility study related to the need for and services of a community center.	1 of 1	\$15,000	Brain Injury Association of Nebraska
Children's Oral Health Project	Purchase dental equipment and supplies needed to expand the scope of pediatric dental services.	1 of 1	\$14,951	People's Health Center
Next Generation Emergency Alert System	Purchase FCC-mandated equipment that provides emergency alerts and warnings to the listening audience of KZUM.	1 of 1	\$4,138	Sunrise Communications/ KZUM Radio
OPEN FUND				
Summer Bike Tour	Provide sustaining funds for the Summer Bike Tour, an exercise and community integration project.	1 of 1	\$10,000	El Centro de las Americas
Prescott Community Park and Gathering Space	Provide partial funding for the construction of Prescott Park and Outdoor Classroom.	1 of 1	\$10,000	Prescott Park and Outdoor Classroom / LPS Foundation
Improving the Health of Vulnerable Children	Increase funding to MilkWorks for breastfeeding support and outreach in response to Nebraska Medicaid cuts.	1 of 1	\$4,000	MilkWorks
Non-Profit Energy Retrofits	Achieve cost savings through improving the energy efficiency in buildings owned and occupied by non-profits.	1 of 1	\$50,000	Cleaner Greener Lincoln - City of Lincoln
Young Families Program	Provide general support to the Young Families Program that assists women who are pregnant/parenting in achieving sustainability.	1 of 3	\$45,000	Lincoln Medical Education Partnership
Family Planning Services Expansion	Provide funding to increase the availability of nursing services in the Lincoln clinic.	1 of 3	\$96,666	Family Health Services, Inc.
Youth In Action for Wellness	Establish a comprehensive wellness program for the youth served by out-of-home and juvenile justice programs.	1 of 1	\$133,500	CEDARS Youth Services
BUILD Project	Provide counseling services to young adults, ages 16-24, who are struggling with behavioral and emotional issues.	1 of 3	\$69,000	HUB-Central Access Point for Young Adults
Pre-Shelter Program	Increase the level of pre-shelter services available to women and children on the Friendship Home waiting list.	1 of 3	\$134,534	Friendship Home of Lincoln, Inc.
Wellness Coordinator	Provide partial funding for a Wellness Coordinator in the Lincoln Public Schools.	1 of 3	\$45,313	Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln
Health 360 - Project Access	Provide specialty care medical services for clients who are uninsured and do not qualify for governmental assistance.	1 of 3	\$75,000	Lancaster County Medical Society



Grants/Funding Commitments FY 2011-2012 (continued)

Project Name	Grant Summary	Yr(s)	Amount	Agency
OPEN FUND (continued)				
ED Connections RN Case Manager	Support an additional RN Case Manager to serve and advocate for mentally ill and substance abusing patient populations who routinely use the emergency department.	2 of 2	\$50,000	Lincoln ED Connections
Community Center Expansion	Assist in new construction that allows for the creation of new programs to serve children, youth and families in poverty.	2 of 3	\$75,000	The Salvation Army
Gardening for the Community	Provide operational support for Community CROPS to expand gardens throughout Lincoln.	2 of 3	\$44,640	Community CROPS
Improving the Health of Vulnerable Children	Continue lactation assistance to women at the Lincoln Medical Education Partnership, WIC Clinic.	2 of 3	\$30,000	MilkWorks
Taking the Game to the Community 2010	Enhance community tennis offerings among low-income children and youth.	2 of 3	\$30,184	Friends of Woods Tennis Inc
Capacity Building Grant	Provide operational support for Teach a Kid to Fish, a childhood obesity prevention project.	2 of 3	\$180,000	Teach a Kid to Fish
Change Begins at Home	Provide operational support to Fresh Start Home, a transitional housing program for adult homeless women.	3 of 3	\$45,000	Fresh Start, Inc.
Changing Attitudes and Making a Difference	Provide continuation funding for the provision of lactation services to clients at the People's Health Center.	3 of 3	\$18,000	MilkWorks
BackPack Program	Continue support of the Backpack Program for the purchase of fresh fruit and milk vouchers.	3 of 3	\$30,000	Food Bank of Lincoln, Inc.
Project A.L.L.: Academy for Local Leadership	Increase the pool of diverse candidates to serve on non-profit and governmental boards.	Year 5	\$9,000	Leadership Lincoln



Laurie Young – Laurie suffers from severe rheumatoid arthritis. Her condition was becoming debilitating, but she could not afford to see a specialist physician and did not qualify for public assistance. Through the help of the Lancaster County Medical Society and the CHE funded **Health360** program, she was able to see Dr. Robert Valente, a rheumatologist, who began treating her condition. Getting care through Health360 allowed her to avoid being put on disability and has given her a greater quality of life. Laurie is extremely thankful for this program and hopes it continues to help people like her.



Grants/Funding Commitments FY 2011-2012 (continued)

Project Name	Grant Summary	Yr(s)	Amount	Agency
TARGETED FUND – MAYOR’S TASK FORCE ON THE HEALTHCARE SAFETY NET				
Health Reform Implementation for a Healthier Lincoln	Provide education for safety net providers and clients regarding the impact of federal health care reform.	1 of 1	\$16,000	Nebraska Applesseed Center for Law in the Public Interest
People’s Health Center Growth and Expansion Project	Assist with expanding the capacity of People’s Health Center.	2 of 2	\$600,000	People’s Health Center
Health Hub	Develop a "hub" of patient advocates to connect uninsured individuals to all forms of available assistance.	2 of 3	\$550,209	Center for People in Need
CARE Project	Provide counseling, alcohol education, referral and evaluation to those struggling with substance abuse and addictions.	2 of 3	\$35,000	Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach
TARGETED FUND – TRANSFORMATION FUND				
Healthy Families America	Convert a current model that serves high-risk pregnant mothers/infants to a national model (Healthy Families America).	1 of 1	\$42,820	Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department
Mental Health Peer Intervention Collaboration	Provide mental health peer specialists to assist adults served by the BryanLGH emergency room, adult/senior psychiatric units, and Lincoln Police Department.	1 of 3	\$395,751	Mental Health Association of Nebraska
Transforming Behavioral Healthcare	Transform the paper-based patient records of CenterPointe, Cornhusker Place, Houses of Hope, and St. Monica’s to electronic patient records for purposes of health information exchange and improved patient outcomes.	1 of 3	\$356,903	electronic Behavioral Health Information Network - eBHIN
City Health and Fitness Channel	Utilize the current City TV Channel 10 as a health, fitness, and wellness channel.	1 of 3	\$135,000	City of Lincoln
TARGETED FUND – HEALTHY LINCOLN (FY 2010-11)				
Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln	Develop a community-wide, collaborative project to: 1. Strengthen Lincoln’s healthcare safety net; 2. Bring community partners together to implement one or more highly visible, public/private initiatives; and 3. Develop strategies to impact health-related policy through advocacy and action.	2 of 3	\$477,000	Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln
TARGETED FUND – INTEGRATION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & PRIMARY CARE (FY 2010-11)				
Integration of Behavioral Health and Primary Care at People’s Health Center	Provide integrated behavioral health and primary care services at the People’s Health Center.	2 of 3	\$ 400,000	People’s Health Center

Financials

Please contact the Community Health Endowment for a copy of the most recent audited financial statements.



Community Health
Endowment of Lincoln
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Lincoln, NE 68503

402-436-5516

www.chelincoln.org

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

Community Health Endowment of Lincoln

