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## Local Project Featured on AHRQ Health Care Innovations Exchange

Lincoln E.D. Connections, a project of BryanLGH Health System and Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center, was initially funded by CHE. The project was so successful in reducing emergency room costs it continues with support of both hospitals. The project has received national attention and is featured on the AHRQ Health Care Innovations Exchange - [READ MORE](#).

## The Keya House

In December 2009, the Mental Health Association of Nebraska opened the Keya House, the first peer-run crisis diversion program in the mid-west. The program offers respite for people living with behavioral health issues and who are experiencing escalating symptoms associated with their illness. The home provides a safe place to work on wellness activities designed to help prevent the need for more disruptive, intrusive and costly services. Since opening over one year ago, the Keya House has had a positive impact on Lincoln's emergency psychiatric care system. Learn more at [KEYA HOUSE](#).

## Latino Bike Tour Project Receives Award

The Great Plains Trail Network (GPTN) awarded El Centro de las Americas an annual Project Award at their Annual Meeting on

## Annual Meeting Date & Speaker Announced

### Save the Date - May 17, 2011

The CHE Annual Meeting with the Community will be May 17, 2011. Sekou Andrews, a motivational poet/strategic storyteller with a focus on healthcare, will be the featured performer at this year's event. Other highlights include the presentation of the annual [Horizon](#) and [Closing the Gap](#) Awards and recognition of volunteers supporting our many local health and human service non-profit agencies. The meeting is **free and open to the public**, but registration is encouraged. The meeting will be held at Embassy Suites, 1040 P Street, Lincoln, NE at 3:00 p.m. on May 17, 2011. [CLICK HERE](#) to register online.



### More about Sekou Andrews:

A week in the life of Motivational Poet Sekou Andrews could find him presenting an original piece for international executives, giving the keynote at a healthcare conference, or performing poems for Barack Obama in Oprah's backyard. This schoolteacher turned actor, voiceover artist, award-winning musician and two-time national poetry slam champion creates customized spoken word presentations for such Fortune 500 companies as Kraft, Nike, eBay, and Microsoft, as well as conferences and nonprofits like TEDMED, the ACLU, and Health 2.0. Sekou does more than inspire you with his story, he inspires you with your story - at [www.TheSekouEffect.com](http://www.TheSekouEffect.com).

## FY2010-11 Funding Cycle Update

### Stage II Applications Requested

Fifty eight Stage I applications were received by the deadline on January 14, 2011. Of these applications, 26 were invited to submit a Stage II proposal. Stage II applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on April 1, 2011. During FY2010-11 CHE will make \$1.75 million available for funding, including continuation projects and targeted initiatives.

### Additional Funding Cycle for FY2010-11

To respond to the feedback of grantees, CHE will begin offering a second cycle of funding for the Spark! Fund. The Stage I proposal due date is July 15, 2011, for funding to be made available on January 1, 2012. CHE is pleased to respond to what CHE staff and Trustees heard during focus groups with current and past grantees. "A year is a long time to wait on a great idea," said one focus group participant.

The Spark! Fund is intended to encourage highly innovative ideas and creative efforts by applicants. Spark! grants are limited to one-time, one-year funding of no more than \$15,000. CHE provides Spark! grants as an opportunity to pilot bigger projects or to take a risk on a new or unproven idea. Grantees indicate that Spark! grants often serve as the foundation of larger projects. Further information can be found on the [CHE website](#).

## Vision Services at Clinic with a Heart

### CHE and Lions Club Support Vision Clinics

Positive partnerships are not only win-win but exponential in their impact. In 2009, Dr. Jonathan Knutson approached Clinic with a Heart with the offer to begin providing a vision clinic. The Star City Lions Club also approached the clinic to offer their services. Today, Dr. Knutson along with three optometrists from the Bethany Lions Club, help to provide a monthly vision clinic. Eye screenings and exams are



Feb. 13, 2011. El Centro received the award for the "Latino Bike Tour," a project funded by CHE last year. GPTN Project Awards are given annually to individuals, organizations, or corporations which made significant contributions in time or resources to a specific trail-related project. Congratulations El Centro de las Americas!

## Current Project Partners

[Boys & Girls Club of Lincoln-Lancaster County](#)  
[BryanLGH Health System](#)  
[Center For People In Need](#)  
[Child Advocacy Center](#)  
[Child Guidance Center](#)  
[Clinic with a Heart](#)  
[Community CROPS](#)  
[Community Mental Health Center](#)  
[Cornhusker Place](#)  
[El Centro de las Americas](#)  
[Family Violence Council](#)  
[Food Bank of Lincoln](#)  
[Fresh Start Home](#)  
[Friends of Woods Tennis, Inc.](#)  
[Good Neighbor Community Center](#)  
[Houses of Hope](#)  
[Lancaster County Medical Society](#)  
[Leadership Lincoln](#)  
[Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department](#)  
[LPS/Elliott Elementary](#)  
[Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach](#)  
[Mental Health Association of Nebraska](#)  
[Milkworks](#)  
[People's Health Center](#)  
[Reach Out Christian Center](#)  
[Region V Systems](#)  
[Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center](#)  
[St. Monica's](#)  
[Teach a Kid to Fish](#)  
[The Salvation Army](#)  
[Volunteer Partners](#)

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done and if a patient needs reading glasses, they can receive them the night of the clinic. If a patient gets a prescription for glasses, the Star City Lions Club will determine if the patient qualifies for their assistance and provide aid.

Every month, the [Star City Lions Club](#) provides a group of volunteers to staff the various vision service stations at the clinic. Last year CHE provided a grant to Clinic with a Heart to support and expand this service and they were able to help more than 120 people in 2010. Visit [Clinic with a Heart's website](#) for more information.

## "Smart Cycling" Program Comes to Lincoln

### Opportunity to Learn Bicycle Safety

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department received a grant from CHE to train a core group of individuals to bring the League of American Bicyclists (LAB) bicycle education classes to Lincoln. CHE funding has helped pay for the training of up to 30 individuals to become certified instructors of the program. Up to 400 adults and children are expected to take at least one of the five different LAB classes that will be offered. The "Smart Cycling" program gives class participants of all ages the tips, tools, and techniques to confidently ride safely on roadways and trails and in groups or alone.

The "Smart Cycling" program includes instruction over two levels of traffic skills classes, two different age-specific children's classes, and a commuter education course. The first traffic skills level class, "Traffic Skills 101," covers bicycle safety checks, fixing a flat, on-bike skills and crash avoidance techniques and includes a student manual.

In conjunction with the beginning of these classes, Andy Clarke, President of the League of American Bicyclists, and a national advocate for bicycling and pedestrian issues, came to Lincoln for presentations hosted by the city, school officials, and the biking community. The Mayor hosted the first presentation on February 11, 2011 at the Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department. Mr. Clarke shared what progressive communities across the country are doing to promote bicycling for health, active transportation, and for environmental sustainability.

To learn more about the "Smart Cycling" program and how you can sign up for a skills class, contact Michael Heyl at 402-441-3889 or [mhey1@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:mhey1@lincoln.ne.gov). More information about the specific classes offered can be found by clicking [COURSES](#).

## Child Guidance Center Expands

### Making Room to Meet the Need Campaign

Child Guidance Center recently finished 3,000 square feet of space in their building located at 2444 O Street, Lincoln, NE. The newly finished space has created a new, larger lobby for clients as well as additional office space for new outpatient staff. CHE provided a grant of \$40,000 in 2010 to assist with the renovations. The Child Guidance Center also received a capital grant from CHE in 2008 to help renovate the first floor of the building into an expanded training/conference room, expansion of the Extended Day Program, additional office space, and room to grow new and existing programs.



Child Guidance Center is a professionally staffed, private, nonprofit agency dedicated to providing child-centered, family-focused mental health services to all youth in Lincoln. Learn more about [Child Guidance Center](#).

## About Community Health Endowment of Lincoln

The [Community Health Endowment](#) (CHE) of Lincoln is a municipal endowment of the City of Lincoln, created in 1998 as a result of the sale of Lincoln General Hospital. The vision of CHE is "*to make Lincoln the healthiest community in the nation.*" To further this vision, CHE has invested more than \$13 million in grant funding to Lincoln area non-profits working to improve the health and well-being of the community. 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.

P.O. Box 81309  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501  
Community Health Endowment of Lincoln  
402-436-5516

**Want to learn more about the Community Health Endowment?** CHE staff are available for community presentations regarding the work of CHE and CHE related

projects. Contact Jodi today for further information.



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