



# E-Vision of Health

Newsletter of the Community Health Endowment of Lincoln

Spring 2009 Edition

## In This Issue

CHE Annual Meeting

Community Event with Dan Buettner

Healthcare Safety Net Task Force

Are We There Yet? Health Report Card

CHE to Launch New Website

## Quick Links

CHE Website

Current CHE Projects

"Say What? The Language Barrier" - Watch Video from MTI Group

MTI Leadership Group



## CHE Board of Trustees

Bill Lester,  
Chair

Rick Boucher,  
Vice Chair

## Dan Buettner to Share Secrets from the "Blue Zones" at CHE Annual Meeting

The Community Health Endowment (CHE) will host its **Annual Meeting with the Community on June 10, 2009, 3 p.m. at BryanLGH East, Plaza Conference Center, 1500 S. 48th Street.** The event will feature a special presentation by **Dan Buettner, adventurer and national best-selling author of "The Blue Zones: Lessons for Living Longer from the People Who've Lived the Longest."**



On assignment for National Geographic magazine and in collaboration with the National Institute on Aging, Buettner has led expeditions to the world's longevity hotspots, or "[Blue Zones](#)." Buettner will share stories of his experiences and what he has learned from the world's longest-lived cultures and what they can teach us about longevity and improving quality of life. Dan has made appearances on multiple media outlets, most recently including CNN's Anderson Cooper 360, Good Morning America, and the Oprah Winfrey Show. This event is free and open to the public. Please register to attend at <http://chelincoln.eventbrite.com> or by calling CHE at 436-5516.

## CHE Celebrate's 10th Anniversary, Co-Sponsors Community Event with BryanLGH Health System

In celebration of CHE's 10th anniversary, BryanLGH and CHE will co-sponsor an extended evening appearance by Dan Buettner at 7 p.m. at BryanLGH East, Plaza Conference Center. The event is free and open to the community, but registration and tickets are required. Register online at [www.bryanlgh.org/calendar](http://www.bryanlgh.org/calendar) or call 481-8886. A high level of interest is expected, so register early to assure your spot at this very special community presentation.



## Mayor Beutler Announces Blue Ribbon Task Force on the Healthcare Safety Net

On April 16, 2009 Mayor Chris Beutler announced the formation of the **Mayor's**



Ed Wimes,  
**Secretary**

Dan Anderson

Lois Baldwin

Bruce Dart, Ph.D.

Chuck Erickson, M.D.

Charlene Gondring

Robert Lanik

Alison Larson

Maria Prendes Lintel,  
Ph.D.

Britt Miller

Kim Russel

Maraget Sutton, M.D.

Michael Tavlin

### **Blue Ribbon Task Force on the Healthcare Safety Net.**

Kim Russel, President and CEO of BryanLGH Health System and a CHE Trustee, will chair the 26-member task force representing health care providers and policy makers, elected officials, ethnic and minority communities and nonprofits. Another CHE Trustee, Bruce Dart, is a member of the task force. The task force will be assisted by a group of advisors who are affiliated with local safety net providers.

"The purpose of the task force will be to develop ambitious recommendations to make sure that a strong, coordinated and sustainable health care safety net catches the uninsured and low-income families in Lincoln," said Mayor Beutler.

The task force began meeting on April 24 and is scheduled to release recommendations in six to eight months. Funding for the task force has been provided by [Health Partners Initiative](#) of Lincoln. Ellen Beck, who has 15 years of experience in analyzing and reporting on health care policy and business, will coordinate the task force. She can be reached at 436-5178 or [ebeck77@yahoo.com](mailto:ebeck77@yahoo.com).

### **Current Project Partners**

[CEDARSYouth Services](#)

[Centerpointe, Inc.](#)

[Child Advocacy Center](#)

[Child Guidance Center](#)

[Community CROPS](#)

[Community Mental Health Center](#)

[Cornhusker Place, Inc.](#)

E.D. Connections  
(BryanLGH Health System & St. Elizabeth Regional Medical Center)

[Food Bank of Lincoln](#)

[Good Neighbor Community Center](#)

[Houses of Hope](#)

[Lancaster County Human Services](#)

[Lancaster County Medical Society](#)

[Leadership Lincoln, Inc.](#)

[LPS/Elliott Elementary](#)

Interfaith Housing Coalition

### **Are We There Yet?**

Since its creation in 1998 from the sale of Lincoln General Hospital, the vision of CHE has been to make Lincoln the **healthiest community in the nation**. In the past ten years the CHE Board of Trustees and staff, along with many community organizations and individuals, have worked hard to achieve this vision. The 10th anniversary of CHE provides an opportunity to reflect and ask "**Are We There Yet? Is Lincoln the Healthiest Community in the Nation?**"

To help answer this question, CHE examined standard, reportable health indicators over five years to compare Lincoln's performance to similar communities around the country. The report card can be accessed here, "[Are We There Yet? On the Road to Becoming the Healthiest Community in the Nation.](#)"

Overall, Lincoln ranked the fourth healthiest community out of the 11 communities in the study. Lincoln performed particularly well in the areas of primary care provision, death rate due to heart disease, and the percent of individuals who visit a dentist. Areas in which Lincoln ranks low are rate of smoking, sexually transmitted disease, and binge drinking.

To be healthy as a community is to have achieved a high level of health across all population groups. One factor not reflected in the report card, but addressed in a more complete report available at a later date, is the continued existence of health disparities. Disparities in health are known to exist among underserved populations, including minority groups and low-income individuals. To successfully reach the vision of Lincoln as "**the healthiest community in the nation**," there must be a continued commitment to

[Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital](#)

[Milkworks, Inc.](#)

[NeighborWorks Lincoln](#)

[People's Health Center](#)

[Region V Systems](#)

[Southeast Community College](#)

YMCA

addressing the causes of these inequities.

CHE welcomes you to [offer your thoughts and comments](#) about this report and about how to create a healthier Lincoln for all.

## Changes at the Community Health Endowment!

You will soon notice big changes at [www.chelincoln.org](http://www.chelincoln.org). The CHE website has been redesigned and will "go-live" this summer. We hope you will find the site easier to navigate and more informative regarding funded projects and CHE activities. We are excited about the changes!



CHE is also transitioning to a new online application and reporting process. With the assistance of Foundant Technologies, CHE has implemented an online application process for the current Stage II grant application cycle. This process is intended to make the application and review process easier and more environmentally friendly.

### [Forward email](#)

#### **SafeUnsubscribe®**

This email was sent to [stephanie.harley@chelincoln.org](mailto:stephanie.harley@chelincoln.org) by [stephanie.harley@chelincoln.org](mailto:stephanie.harley@chelincoln.org).  
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



Community Health Endowment of Lincoln | P.O. Box 81309 | Lincoln | NE | 68501