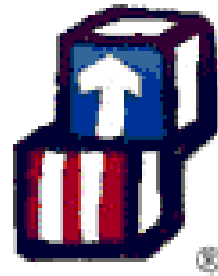


SARPY COUNTY COOPERATIVE HEAD START



2018-2019 PARENT HANDBOOK

PARENTS + CHILDREN = HEAD START

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Sarpy County Cooperative Head Start

Mission:

Supporting. Educating. Advocating. Empowering. One child, one family, one community partnership at a time.

Vision:

Helping children and families achieve positive health and educational outcomes leading to school readiness, resilience, and self-sufficiency.

Dear Parents and Caregivers:

Welcome to Head Start and Early Head Start! Your family is very important to us, and we look forward to working together on behalf of your child.

Head Start is a national program with the mission of “getting young children and their families ready for school and ready for life.” Local programs like ours carry out that mission by providing services to support quality early learning, health, and family well-being.

We have a set of national Program Performance Standards that ensure our program services are of the highest quality (<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii>). These standards apply to home visiting services as well as services provided in our Early Head Start and Head Start classrooms. We also have a strong emphasis on health and nutrition and will work together with you to support your child’s healthy start in life.

Communication is critical to the success of our program. Communication is also a two-way street—we will reach out in many ways to keep you informed of things happening in the classroom setting and in our community, and ask that you share questions, concerns or suggestions regarding Head Start and Early Head Start services with your child’s Teacher, Home Visitor, Family Support Worker, or with me.

Thank you again for trusting us to join you as you care for your child and help them learn and grow!

Kristy Feden
Executive Director
402-339-6592 x108
kfedden@sarpyheadstart.org

Sarpy County Cooperative Head Start
701 Olson Drive, Suite 111
Papillion, NE 68046-4784
Phone: 402-339-6592
Fax: 402-339-6738
Web site: <http://www.sarpyheadstart.org>

Head Start

Belleaire

1200 W. Mission
 Bellevue, NE 68005
 Classroom: 402-827-6270
 Office Phone: 402-827-6271
 Fax: 402-827-6272

Class Times:

AM Class: 8:30-12 noon; PM Class: 12 noon-3:30pm

Parkview Heights

7609 S. 89th St.
 La Vista, NE 68128
 Classroom & Office Phone: 402- 331-2327
 No fax

Class Times:

AM Class: 8:30-12 noon; PM Class: 12 noon-3:30pm

Fort Crook

12501 S. 25th St.
 Bellevue, NE 68123
 Classroom: 402-827-8573
 Office Phone: 402-827-8574
 Fax: 402-315-1599

Class Times: AM Class: 8:30-12 noon; PM Class: 12 noon-3:30pm

Golden Hills

2912 Coffey Ave
 Bellevue, NE 68123
 Classroom & Office Phone: 402-898-1270

Class Times: 8 am to 2:30 pm

Early Head Start

Early Head Start Child Development Center

701 Olson Dr. Suite 111
 Papillion, NE 68046
 Office Phone: 402-339-6592 Ext. 111
 Classroom: 402-339-6592

Extensions:

- Class 4001- 119
- Class 4002-122
- Class 4003-118
- Class 4004-123

Class Times: 7:30 am to 3 pm

Peter Sarpy

2908 Vandenburg Drive
 Bellevue NE 68123
 Office Phone: 402-594-6688 (cell)
 Classroom: 402-827-1873

Class Times: 7:30 am to 3 pm

Bellevue West

1501 Thurston Ave.
 Bellevue, NE 68123
 Classroom: 402-827-1869

Class Times: 7:30 am to 3 pm

Golden Hills

2912 Coffey Ave
 Bellevue, NE 68123
 Classroom & Office Phone: 402-898-1270

Class Times: 7:30 am to 3 pm

Title	Name	Phone Number
Family Support Worker:		Office Phone Number:
		Cell Phone Number:
Teacher:		Classroom Phone:
		E-mail Address:
Home Visitor:		402-339-6592 ext.:
		Cell Phone Number

Early Childhood Education

Head Start Program Performance Standards require us to implement developmentally appropriate research-based early childhood curriculum. Head Start and Early Head Start classroom settings utilize The Creative Curriculum for Preschool and The Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers and Twos (<https://teachingstrategies.com/>). Our Home Visitors use Parents as Teachers (<https://parentsasteachers.org/>). All staff will use Teaching Strategies GOLD to monitor your child's progress in all areas of development.

Creative Curriculum is an environmentally based curriculum that focuses on each child's interest. The teacher capitalizes on each child's strengths in the pursuit of furthering development through play, as well as, structured activities. The curriculum calls for active teacher and parent relationships, partnering together to work towards school readiness goals. Head Start defines school readiness as children birth-to age five possessing the skills and knowledge to accomplish healthy development that is essential for school success. School readiness is the active engagement of parents and families in order to achieve lifelong school success because parents are their child's first teachers.

Early Head Start Home-Based program uses the *Parents As Teachers Curriculum*. Home Visitors work as a coach and mentor with the parents in the home environment. Parents as well as the Home Visitor work together to establish developmentally appropriate goals for each child. Together they work towards achieving each goal, capitalizing on the child's interests as well as enhancing the parent/child relationship.

Continuity of Care

We are committed to providing the best possible care for your child. We make every effort for children to remain with the same teacher throughout their Early Head Start/Head Start experience. Your child's teacher is responsible for your child's care and all issues or concerns are addressed to them.

Home Visits/Conferences

To keep parents informed of their child's progress and to obtain vital information there will be two home visits as well as two school conferences throughout the year in the centers. Families can expect home visits from their Family Support Worker as well. Each family enrolled in the Home-Based program will participate in weekly ninety-minute home visits as well as monthly group socializations with a Home Visitor. Active participation is expected as well as appreciated.

Outdoor Play/Outdoor Activities

Because experiences with nature and large motor development are essential in the full educational experience, all children will be given the opportunity to play outdoors daily. Daily schedules may adjust, shorten or extend, to accommodate these experiences. In order for outdoor time to be a positive experience, please make sure that your child comes in weather appropriate clothing, shoes and outer wear including hats, gloves or mittens, and a warm coat or jacket when needed. Also, make sure that your child has extra clothing to change into in the event that they would become wet from outdoor play.

Children should wear proper footwear to school in order to participate in all activities. We **require** sneakers/tennis shoes that fit securely on their feet and cover their toes and heels. Wearing flip-flops or sandals put the child at risk for falling or tripping.

Attendance, Tardy, Abandonment, and Leave of Absence

Attendance

Sarpy County Cooperative Head Starts wants children and families school ready! Good habits start now and help to increase attendance as the child continues into their elementary and secondary education. In order for your child to get the most out their early childhood and preschool experience, it is important for them to be in class. Children enrolled in SCCHS **must be in attendance on the days scheduled**. If a child is unexpectedly absent, because a parent did not call the teacher within one hour of the program start time, staff will make attempt to contact the parent to ensure the child's well-being. These attempts may include the following: phone calls to parent/guardians, phone calls to emergency contacts, texts/e-mails to parent/guardians, and unannounced home visits.

- If the absence continues the FSW will contact the parent to determine the reason for the absence and attempt to facilitate the child's return to class.
- The program will review attendance records periodically throughout the year. If child is missing several days, the program will evaluate whether the child may be withdrawn from the program.

It is expected that parent/guardians will contact the classroom teacher **prior to class starting for the day** if the family will be arriving late or if the child will be absent. The parent/guardian can contact the teacher by calling the classroom or sending an e-mail.

Abandonment Policy

- If the child remains at the center an hour after the class is over, and all attempts to reach the parent and emergency contacts have failed, local law enforcement will be contacted and determine the appropriate action to be taken.

Leave of Absence

- A short-term leave of absence may be granted to families with extenuating circumstances (i.e. death in the family, attending a treatment program, cultural events, hospitalization, military deployment, etc.)
- The family will inform the FSW or Home Visitor of the situation and the decision to approve/deny the request will be made by the Leadership Team.

Confidentiality and Release of Records

- The records and all information concerning the children and families are kept confidential and secured. The records can be reviewed (for monitoring purposes) by additional agencies.
- Parents requesting a copy of their child's records will need to complete an Authorization for Release of Records and Other Confidential Information form and submit it to the FSW or Home Visitor. Staff must make the records available in no less than 45 days.
- Parents wanting to review their child's file will need to schedule a time with the teacher, Family Support Worker or Home Visitor

Emergency Contact Numbers:

SCCHS requires at least one readily accessible emergency contact in addition to the parent. This contact needs to include the person's name, telephone number, and address and the individual must be in the local area.

- SCCHS must be able to reach you, a member of your family, or an individual on the emergency contact list **who in the local area.**
- If your emergency contact information changes please inform the FSW/Home Visitor or Teacher.
- Inform individuals that you have listed them on the emergency contact list.
- Children will only be released to parents and persons listed on the contact list unless you provide written notification of a change.

Parent and Family Engagement

When we say "parent" we are also referring to guardians, foster parents and grandparents who are raising their grandchild, or any other person who is in the role of parent of the Early Head Start/Head Start child.

Family Engagement is essential to support family well-being and promote children's learning and development for success during your child's Head Start/Early Head Start experience. SCCHS believes that we get better results for our children by working in partnership with our families. Parents are provided with many opportunities. Be sure to watch for newsletters for information on how you can join in your child's education.

Verification Policy/(for Golden Hills and Early Head Start Centers)

Verification of employment or school attendance is a requirement of the Golden Hills, Fort Crook and the Early Head Start Child Development programs. Acceptable verification include: a current check stub, class schedule, or a Verification of Eligibility in lieu of Paystub form.

- Verifications will be **due on the first school a child starts school and on the first day of class in January.**
- If a verification is not received by the first day the child enrolls OR the first day of class in January, the child may be placed on the waitlist for a part-day program for Head Start or the home base program for Early Head Start.
- If a parent becomes unemployed or leaves school, the parent will have 60 days to find a position or return to school. If after 60 days this has not occurred, the child will be placed on the wait list.

Health and Nutrition

Physical and Dental Exams:

All families will be encouraged to have a primary health/dental health provider. Staff will help the family access providers if needed.

Children in a center based program with food allergies must have Special Allergy Forms completed by the health care provider describing the allergies and any necessary substitutions. Substitutions will not be made without a signed note from the health care provider. The only exception is a Milk Substitution Form may be completed by a Parent/Guardian.

If a child has asthma or any other respiratory health concerns which require an inhaler or nebulizer, an Asthma Action Plan must be filled out and signed by a doctor. Medication must be provided and a Medication Consent form signed by the parent must be in place in order for the child to start/remain in school.

For the health and safety of your child, we ask parents not to bring or send food, toys or treats to school for birthdays, holidays, or other celebrations. An age-appropriate nutritional snack/meal will be provided during the socialization gatherings (Home Base Program only).

Nutrition assessments will be completed on all children and pregnant women enrolled in the Early Head Start/Head Start program by a registered dietician. Information is shared with the parents.

Children participate in daily tooth brushing activities in the classroom to promote oral hygiene. These activities are completed in conjunction with a meal or snack. Infants will have teeth and gums wipes with a piece of gauze and as children get older they are transitioned into toothbrushes.

Should a child receive an injury, experience an illness, or a staff member notices an injury, a staff member will complete a Child Accident and Illness Report. The parent/guardian is asked to sign the report and if they choose to have a copy, a staff will provide it. It would be appreciated that if a child obtains an injury at home that the parent/guardian would notify staff at drop off.

Below are the requirements for health and dental exams:

Early Head Start (birth up to age 3):

- Well Baby Exams at recommended intervals: newborn, 2 mths, 4 mths, 6 mths, 9 mths, 12 mths, 15 mths, 18 mths, 24 mths, and 36 mths
- 12 mths—Well Baby Exam, hemoglobin, lead level and Dental Exam
- 24 mths---Well Baby Exam, lead level and Dental Exam
- Dental Exams—starting at 12 mths and every 6 month thereafter

Head Start (3 to 5 year old)

- Annual Physical Exam
- Hemoglobin
- Lead Level (drawn after 24 mths of age)
- Dental Exam every 6 months

Immunizations:

All children enrolled in the program must have a copy of their immunization record on file in accordance with state laws. Immunizations must be age-appropriate as required by the State of Nebraska and on file with Head Start prior to enrollment or within 30 calendar days of enrollment.

Student Age Group	Required Vaccines
Birth-23 months	As recommended by the Center for Disease Control
Ages 2 years through 5 years	4 doses of DTaP, DTP, or DT vaccine 3 doses of Polio vaccine 3 doses of Hib vaccine or 1 dose of Hib given at or after 15 months of age 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine 1 dose of MMR or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age 1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. 4 doses of pneumococcal or 1 dose of pneumococcal given on or after 15 months of age

Communicable Disease and Illness:

SCCHS staff will notify parents if their child has been exposed to a communicable disease. Most children with mild illness can safely attend school or childcare. A child is too sick to attend if the child has any of the following symptoms, unless a health provider determines that the child is well enough to attend and that the illness is not contagious:

- The child does not feel well enough to participate comfortably in the programs activities.
- The staff cannot adequately care for the sick child without compromising the care of the other children.
- The child has any of the following symptoms, unless a health provider determines that the child is well enough to attend and that illness is not contagious:
 - Fever above 101°
 - Excessive coughing, uncontrollable coughing, excessive nasal drainage, difficulty breathing, wheezing, extreme irritability
 - Diarrhea more than three times in the last 24 hours
 - Vomiting more than once in the last 24 hours
 - Mouth sores with drooling
 - Rash
- Head Lice-no nits or lice. Upon return to class staff will check the child's head/hair. Staff may periodically check for head lice to prevent outbreak from occurring.
- Children with infectious diseases should not attend school unless they have been:
 - Seen by a health care provider (a signed Dr. note provide to school)
 - Have been on treatment for 24 hours
 - Have been symptom free for 24 hours

These diseases may include but are not limited to: Pink eye, strep throat, scabies, head lice, impetigo, chicken pox, mumps, measles, pertussis, rubella, shingles, tuberculosis, etc.

- Children returning to school after hospitalization, surgery, broken bones, cast removal, etc. must provide a doctor's note to attend class.

Medication:

SCCHS staff may dispense medications only if the following conditions are met:

1. The medication must be in the original prescription container. The container must be labeled with the student's name, physician's name, and directions for taking the medication. Any changes to the prescriptions need to be reflected with the new information listed on the bottle.
2. Over the counter medications (i.e. cough syrup, Tylenol) cannot be given without a prescription or a doctor's note and the label containing the information listed in #1. All dosages must be in accordance with the label's instructions.
3. A signed parental permission form must accompany medications or the staff will not dispense the medication to the child. If the parent sends a note, it must include the following information:
 - Child's name
 - Date medication starts/ends
 - Name of Medication
 - Amount to be given
 - Time to be given
 - Instructions for giving medication
 - Parent/guardian signature and date

Any changes in medication administration such as dosage, time, etc. must be accompanied with a newly signed parental permission form and prescription. Staff will not dispense medication without a new permission form.

Emergencies that Require a Rapid Response

Sarpy County Head Start trains all staff members having direct contact with children in First Aid and CPR. Should an emergency arise that a child needs immediate medical attention, staff trained in First Aid and CPR will provide care and, if needed, secure and authorize emergency medical care and/or treatment for the child. This care may include transportation to the nearest accessible medical facility. Children having a known condition such as asthma, diabetes, or severe allergy, must have a plan authorized by a health care provider prior to enrollment. This plan may include emergency medicine. Staff are trained in administration of Epi-Pens and asthma medication during their First Aid/CPR training. Other training is provided on an individualized basis, when an issue is identified, in order for staff to provide proper care and/or emergency response.

Special Services

SCCHS and the Early Childhood Special Education personnel in each school district work together to provide special services to eligible children and families. Services for children with special needs in the areas of vision, hearing, speech, cognitive skills, motor skills and social-emotional development are provided in a positive, nurturing environment.

Throughout the year, children may be referred to the school district for evaluation. SCCHS will assist in and monitor the referral process. In the case of a child qualifying to receive special education services (according to Nebraska guidelines), every effort will be made for SCCHS to obtain the child's written IFSP/IEP in a timely manner. SCCHS will assist in helping the child meet the goals stated in the IFSP/IEP.

In the case of the enrollment of a child with a current IFSP/IEP a copy of the IFSP/IEP will be required for the child's file.

Mental Health

Mental health can impact parents and children. Promoting Mental Health services to enrich the lives of the children and families we serve is an important part of the daily work Teacher, Home Visitor and Family Support Workers do. Sarpy County Cooperative Head Start has resources available to assist you, please talk to your Family Support Worker or Home Visitor.

Unscheduled School Closing

In case of inclement weather, SCCHS will cancel classes and/or scheduled home visits.

- Announcements of school cancelations due to inclement weather are made via Textcaster (if you are registered), Facebook, and are also posted to local radio and television broadcasts.
- Please refer to the calendar for other closings.
- To Sign Up go to: <http://www.sarpyheadstart.org/> Click on: Textcaster--Sign up Now!

Child Safety Policies

Child Abuse or Neglect

Nebraska State Law LB-28710 says: “abuse or neglect shall mean knowingly, intentionally, or negligently causing or permitting a minor child to be: (a) placed in a situation that endangers his or her life or physical or mental health; (b) deprived of necessary food, clothing, or shelter, or care; (d) left unattended in a motor vehicle, if such a minor child is six years of age or younger; (e) sexually abused; or (f) sexually exploited by allowing, encouraging, or forcing such person to solicit for or engage in prostitution, debauchery, public indecency, or obscene or pornographic photography, films or depictions.”

Sections 28-710 to 28-727 of the Nebraska Child Protection and Family Safety Act specifically includes leaving a child left unattended in a motor vehicle, if such minor child is six years of age or younger as abuse or neglect.

SCCHS is required by state law to report suspected child abuse or neglect. Staff will work with community agencies to provide positive support services to families where abuse has occurred.

Child Safety

Staff is required to immediately notify law enforcement for any of the following:

- If a staff member observes a child being transported without a proper child restraint.
- If staff suspects that a parent/guardian who is transporting a child is under the influence of alcohol or any illegal substance, the child will be allowed to leave only if it is a parent/guardian and law enforcement will be notified. If the individual is a non-parent, the parent will be contacted and the child will not be permitted to leave.
- If children under the age of 7 are left unattended in the car while the parent drops off/picks up children.
- Staff are not able to secure children in car seats.

Lockdown/Emergency Procedures

Your child’s safety is critically important to us. We have Program Performance Standards in place as well as comprehensive safety plans at each of our sites regarding fire, tornado, severe thunderstorm, evacuation, and emergency lock-down procedures.

Classrooms in the Bellevue Public Schools follow safety procedures outlined by the District (<https://www.bellevuepublicschools.org/>). Click on “Students and Parents” and scroll down to Student/Parent Resources to find in-depth information regarding safety plans and procedures.

Classrooms in Papillion La Vista Community Schools follow safety procedures outlined by the District (<https://www.plcschools.org/domain/1210>). This link will take you directly to a presentation by the Director of Student Services regarding safety in PLCS classrooms.

Classrooms at the SCCDC also have a safety plan in place. Parents at that site will receive information regarding emergency procedures from their child’s teacher.

It is important to note that Bellevue Public Schools and Papillion La Vista Community Schools will coordinate communication with our agency as well as with parents. We will utilize Text Caster as a primary source of communication, so it is critical you sign up for this service and make sure you always have a current phone number on file. Questions regarding safety should be directed to the Executive Director so that we can work together to create safe and nurturing learning environments for our children, families, and staff.

Smoke-Free Environment

All SCCHS sponsored events are smoke-free and vape free. No smoking or vaping is allowed on the grounds and in buildings and vehicles.

Pets and Animals

Due to health concerns, families **must** refrain from bringing in pets or other animals into our centers. In some classrooms there are children who are highly allergic to animals. Additionally, our staff does not have any health or immunization records on these animals in case an incident would occur.

In-Kind

SCCHS is required to contribute 20% of the total cost of the budget in use of volunteers and donations. Some of the ways in which families can contribute in-kind are:

- Participate in Parent Sharing Groups and Policy Council
- Volunteering in the classroom
- Participating in the Book Buddy Adventure and School Readiness activities at home with your child.

Supporting Challenging Behaviors

SCCHS does not withdraw services from a child with persistent, aggressive behaviors. An Intervention Team is used to effectively manage children with high levels of aggressive behavior. Individuals included in this Intervention Team could be child's parents, a Mental Health Professional, Teacher, Family Support Worker, and Special Education and Literacy Specialist. This team will work together in developing a plan with Positive Behavior Supports.

Aggressive behavior is defined as behavior that is continuous, disruptive, aggressive, persistent and harmful to himself/herself or other children or staff members. These behaviors will include but are not limited to: hitting, biting, kicking, screaming and throwing property.

In unusual circumstances when a child's aggressive behavior presents a **significant** threat to his safety or the safety of others:

- Child development services may temporarily be provided through home visiting as we work to help the child re-enter and participate successfully in the Head Start classroom.
- Transitioning the child to a more intensive program than Head Start when recommended by a Mental Health Professional and/or school district Special Education professional.

Zero Tolerance Policy

SCCHC maintains a zero tolerance for violence. Accordingly, any acts of violence, whether perceived or actual, by employees, volunteers, or parents, while engaged in program activities or while on program premises, will not be permitted and could possibly be subject to legal recourse. The following offenses are examples of intolerable behavior/actions:

- Possession or use of any weapon, whether perceived or actual.
- Physical or verbal altercations.
- Physical or verbal harassment.
- Threats, threatening language or any other acts (perceived or actual) of aggression or violence.

Local law enforcement agencies will be notified as a result of all potentially dangerous and/or threatening situations.

Parent's Rights

Inspect Record-- A parent has the right to inspect a child's records or file. Once the request has been made, staff must make the records available in no less than 45 days. A parent can only inspect information pertaining to the parent's child. Parent/guardians will need to make an appointment to inspect the record with a SCCHS staff member present. The program shall not destroy a child record with an outstanding request to inspect and review the record.

Amend Record-- A parent has the right to ask the program to amend information in the child record that the parent believes is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the child's privacy. The program must consider the parent's request and, if the request is denied, provide a written decision to the parent within a reasonable time that informs the parent of the right to a hearing.

Hearing-- If a parent requests a hearing to challenge information in the child record, the program must schedule a hearing within a reasonable time, notify the parent, in advance, about the hearing, and ensure the person who conducts the hearing does not have a direct interest in its outcome. The program must ensure the hearing affords the parent a full and fair opportunity to present evidence relevant to the issues. If the program determines from evidence presented at the hearing that the information in the child records is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the child's privacy, the program must either amend or remove the information and notify the parent in writing. If the program determines from evidence presented at the hearing that information in the child records is accurate, does not mislead, or otherwise does not violate

the child's privacy, the program must inform the parent of the right to place a statement in the child record that either comments on the contested information or that states why the parent disagrees with the program's decision or both.

Right to copy of record— The program must provide a parent, free of charge, an initial copy of child records disclosed to third parties with parental consent and unless the disclosure was for a court that ordered neither the subpoena, its contents, nor the information furnished in response be disclosed.

Right to inspect written agreements— A parent has the right to review any written agreements with third parties involving their child.

Request Policies:

All of Sarpy County Cooperative Head Start's policies are available to parents upon request from the SCCHS staff.

CACFP Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

As stated above all protected bases do not apply to all programs, *“the first six protected bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability and sex are the six protected bases for applicants and recipients of the Child Nutrition Programs.”*

The State Agency administering the Child and Adult Care Food Program is:

Nebraska Department of Education

Nutrition Services

P. O. Box 94987

Lincoln, NE 68509

Telephone: 402-471-2488

Website: <http://www.education.ne.gov/NS>

WIC (Women Infants and Children) Nutrition Program:

The Nebraska Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Program (WIC) provides health food at no cost and breastfeeding and nutrition information to help keep pregnant women, infants and children under five, healthy and strong. You are automatically eligible for WIC if you currently receive ADC, SNAP (food stamps), Kids Connection or Medicaid. Fathers, guardians or foster parents may apply for WIC for their children. Call 1-800-942-1171 or (402) 444-1770 or check out their website at www.dhhs.ne.gov/wic/ to determine your eligibility and apply for the program.

Acronyms used in the Handbook:

SCCHS-Sarpy County Cooperative Head Start

HS-Head Start (3 to 5 years)

EHS-Early Head Start (0 to 3 years)

FSW-Family Support Worker

HB-Home based

ICP-Individual Child Profile

IEP-Individual Education Plan

IFSP-Individual Family Service Plan

Parent: The term parent refers to a child's mother or father, other family member who is a primary caregiver, foster parent, guardian or the person with whom the child has been placed for purposes of adoption pending a final adoption decree.

Sarpy County Resource Directory

Information and Referral Service- dial 2-1-1 www.ne211.org

Abuse/Neglect

Child Protective Services 1-800-652-1999
Heartland Family Services (24 hour hotline for Domestic Abuse). 1-800-523-3666

Clothing

Big Wheels to Butterflies 402-991-1030
Heartland Family Services 402-553-3000

Counseling

Family Advocacy Program - Offutt 402-294-7860
Heartland Family Service –Therapy 402-552-7400
Great Plains Counseling Center 402-292-7712
Lutheran Family Counseling Bellevue 402-292-9105
Papillion 402-592-0639
Methodist Hospital Community Health Program (FREE) 402-354-6891

Emergency Assistance- (utility and rental assistance, food)

Heartland Family Service 402-339-2544
ENCAP 402-292-2961
Bellevue Human Resources. 402-682-6602
Department of Health and Human Services 1-855-444-5556
(SNAP (food stamps), Title XX, TANF, Medicaid)
website: www.accessnebraska.ne.gov
Mobile Food Bank
website: <http://www.foodbankheartland.org/default.aspx>

Employment

Job Service of Nebraska 402-595-3000
website: <http://dol.nebraska.gov/>
Goodwill Industries, Inc 402-592-2751
Heartland Workforce Solutions 402-595-3000
Website: www.hws-ne.org
NE WORKS www.networks.nebraska.gov

Health/Dental and Nutrition

Sarpy/Cass County Immunization Clinic. 402-593-3222
Sarpy/Cass Department of Health and Wellness (Car Seats) 402-339-4334
Hope Medical Outreach Coalition 402-502-8845
Kids Connection 1-800-383-4278
One World Community Health Center Bellevue. 402-502-8855
Women, Infants & Children (WIC) 1-800-942-1171 or 402-444-1770

Hotlines

Child Support Hotline. 1-800-831-4573

Nebraska Family Helpline. 1-888-866-8660

Housing

Bellevue Housing Authority (BHA) 402-734-5448
Habitat for Humanity 402-292-6560
Omaha Housing Authority 402-444-6900
Family Housing Advisory Services 402-546-1013

Legal Assistance

Legal Aid Society 402-348-1069
Omaha Bar Association 402-280-3603

Recreation

Bellevue Recreation 402-293-3142
LaVista Community Center 402-331-3455
Lied Center 402-293-5000
YMCA (Sarpy Branch) 402-339-9861
Omaha Children’s Museum-Welcome Fund 402-342-6164

Shelters

Lydia House 402-829-1531
Open Door Mission 402-422-1111
Stephen Center 402-731-0238
Sienna Francis House 402-341-1821

Special Services

Lutheran Family Service Respite Care Program. 402-592-0639
(for children with severe emotional disturbances)

Other

Latina resource center of the Midlands 402-733-3720
Juan Diego Center 402-731-5413
Consumer Credit 402-333-2227
Gamblers Anonymous 402-978-7557
Sarpy/Douglas Extension Office 402-444-7804
Southern Sudan Community Association 402-554-0759
Lasting Hope Recovery Center 402-717-4673
Early Childhood Services(teen/young parents). 402-559-1077
EPS Essential Pregnancy Services 402-933-2988
Visiting Nurse Association 402-342-5566

Please contact your Family Support Worker or Home Visitor for more information and resources