

NEBRASKA'S FOSTERING CONNECTIONS LIAISON NETWORK (FCLN)

Over the past several years, the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) has collaborated with the Nebraska Supreme Court, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Nebraska State Probation Administration, and Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council (ESUCC) to address the education of the children and youth served by these systems. Through this effort, **Nebraska's Fostering Connections in Education Initiative** was established in 2011, to support school stability and improve academic outcomes for systems-involved students through cross-systems communication and coordination.

As part of the *Fostering Connections in Education Initiative*, a network of liaisons has been created at the State, regional, and local levels to serve as points of contact and coordination regarding the education of students involved in the child welfare, juvenile/criminal justice, and behavioral health systems. The **Fostering Connections Liaison Network (FCLN)** includes representatives from:

- Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services—Children and Family Services (DHHS-CFS), DHHS-CFS Service Areas, and Nebraska Families Collaborative (NFC);
- Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services—Behavioral Health (DHHS-BH) and Behavioral Health Regions;
- Nebraska State Probation Administration and State Probation Districts; and
- Nebraska Department of Education, Public School Districts, Special Purpose Schools, Interim-Program Schools, Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council (ESUCC), and Educational Service Units (ESUs).

The role of the **FCLN Liaison**, in part, is to serve as the primary contact for school-related information and assistance with the education of systems-involved students. In some instances, the FCLN Liaison may be working directly with a student; in other cases, the Liaison may be “directing traffic” to coordinate with the systems assisting the student. The FCLN Liaison’s role is of particular importance in promoting educational stability for children and youth placed in out-of-home care.

To facilitate cross-systems communication and collaboration, contact information for all the liaisons is included in the **FCLN Directory**. If you have any questions about the *Fostering Connections Liaison Network*, please contact any of the FCLN State Liaisons listed below.

NEBRASKA'S FOSTERING CONNECTIONS IN EDUCATION STATE TEAM

Education	Michele Borg, Education of Systems-Involved Students (ESIS) Coordinator Nebraska Department of Education Phone: (402) 310-1348 / Email: borgworks@gmail.com
Child Welfare	Emily Kluver, Program Development Administrator / Legislative Coordinator Nebraska Dept. of Health and Human Services – Children and Family Services Phone: (402) 471-8424 / Email: emily.kluver@nebraska.gov
Probation	Lori Griggs, Chief Probation Officer State Probation District #3J Phone: (402) 441-7383 / Email: lori.griggs@nebraska.gov
Behavioral Health	Susan Adams, Behavioral Health Network Services Administrator Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services – Behavioral Health Phone: (402) 471-7820 / Email: susan.adams@nebraska.gov

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