CHILD WELFARE & OFFICE OF JUVENILE SERVICES

The Child Welfare system includes collaboration and active involvement with DHHS, children, youth, families, law enforcement, county attorneys, judges, guardians ad litem, court appointed special advocates, medical personnel, Foster Care Review Board, Child Advocacy Center, therapists, foster parents, volunteers, group homes and institutional care providers, care providers, advocacy groups and others.

- **Child Protective Services**
  Protection and Safety is responsible for addressing the needs of children where abuse or neglect is suspected or adjudicated, who are dependent, or who come to the agency through the court as juvenile offenders and status offenders. The Protection and Safety hotline receives reports of child abuse or neglect. CPS Hotline: 1-800-652-1999

- **Foster Care**
  Provides a safe, temporary home for children who have been removed from their homes because of abuse, neglect or delinquency. Foster parents are an important part of the team that helps successfully reunite families whenever possible. 1-800-7PARENT (1-800-772-7368)

- **Adoption Program**
  Enables some children who are wards of the state to be placed in adoptive homes. Adopted children may be eligible for financial assistance for food, clothing and transportation; medical and dental care; legal services; or counseling. Children available for adoption may have an emotional, mental or physical disorder, be school age, or be brothers or sisters who want to stay together. Recruitment hotline: 1-800-7PARENT (1-800-772-7368)

- **Adult Protective Services**
  Adult Protective Services (APS) provides for the prevention, correction, or discontinuance of abuse, neglect or exploitation of a vulnerable adult, using the least restrictive alternative and promoting self-care and independent living.

  Services available under APS include:

  - Receiving and investigating reports of alleged abuse/neglect
  - Services Coordination/Case Management
  - Arranging for services, such as: medical care, mental health care, legal services, financial management, housing, and home health care
  - Arranging for items, such as food, clothing, shelter, and supervision, and
  - Arranging or coordinating services for caregivers

  APS Hotline: 1-800-652-1999

PUBLIC HEALTH

For information about these Public Health programs, call the number listed or visit the website.

- **Colon Cancer Screening**
  The Colon Cancer Screening Program provides free or low-cost colon cancer screening services for women and men over 50 years of age with low or medium income. For information call: 1-800-532-2227 or visit the website at **www.dhhs.ne.gov/crc**

- **Every Woman Matters**
  Every Woman Matters helps women obtain an annual health check up. The program is for women 40–64 years of age who have limited or no health insurance and have a low or medium income. For information call 1-800-532-2227 or visit the website at **www.dhhs.ne.gov/womenshealth**

- **WIC**
  WIC provides nutrition and health information, breastfeeding support and supplemental foods such as milk, juice, cheese, eggs and cereal to pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding mothers, as well as infants and children up to age 5. Across the state more than 100 clinics are open to provide services. Eligible participants must meet income guidelines and have a nutritional risk. Call 1-800-942-1171 or visit the website at **www.dhhs.ne.gov/wic**

For information about additional Public Health Services, please visit **www.dhhs.ne.gov**

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- **General Assistance-from Counties**
  The guidelines and benefits vary according to each county's plan. Your County Board staff or DHHS staff can tell you who administers the program where you live.

  In most counties, the General Assistance Program can assist with life threatening medical needs for people who are not eligible for Medicaid or who don't have insurance. Some counties also assist with less emergent but still necessary medical care. In addition, General Assistance may help with rent and some other basic needs. Counties are also responsible for burial or cremation of people without the funds for those services.

- **Domestic Abuse Program/ Sexual Assault Program**
  DHHS provides services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and their families through grants to local programs to provide emergency services of 24-hour hotlines, emergency shelter, transportation, medical advocacy, referrals to legal services, crisis counseling, and emergency financial aid. The local programs also provide support groups, assistance with completing the petition for a protection order, information/referrals and public awareness and prevention programs. To find the local program, go to **www.nebraskacoalition.org**

- **DHHS Helpline**
  Contact the DHHS Helpline with questions or concerns about services and programs. **dhhs.Helpline@nebraska.gov**

NEBRASKA
Good Life. Great Mission.
DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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SERVICES & PROGRAMS

For Assistance

Available through the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is a state agency with offices across Nebraska. This brochure provides a brief description of some of the available programs.

To find out more about these programs, or to find an office, call: 1-800-383-4278

For information about other DHHS programs and services, check out our website: **www.dhhs.ne.gov**

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- **Aid to Dependent Children (ADC)**
  The Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) Program provides financial payments and/or medical coverage to dependent children age 18 or younger and eligible parents who meet financial eligibility requirements. Participation in Employment First may be required.
- **Employment First (EF)**
  Employment First (EF) is the name of Nebraska's welfare reform program. The goal of Employment First is to help families achieve economic self-sufficiency through training, education, and employment preparation. Employment First is designed to assist families who are receiving ADC transition from welfare to work.
- **State Disability**
  Provides financial and/or medical assistance to persons who have a disability expected to last at least six months, but less than 12 months, and determined to be eligible for the federal Supplemental Security Income Program. People who do not qualify for SSI payments, due to the duration of the disability, may qualify for State Supplement benefits because of different standards and regulations.
- **State Supplement**
  The State Supplement Program provides a financial benefit, in addition to the benefits of the federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program, depending on the amount of monthly expenses. Medical assistance may also be provided for those aged, blind, or disabled persons who are otherwise eligible and do not have sufficient income and resources to meet their medical needs.
- **Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP)**
  Provides financial assistance to refugees who have been resettled in the United States and do not qualify for other programs. Assistance is limited to the first eight months as a refugee.

FOOD

- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as Food Stamp Program (FSP)**
  SNAP assists households with limited assets and income to buy the food they need for good health. Households qualify for SNAP benefits based on available household assets, income and certain expenses. If the household is eligible, SNAP benefits are placed on an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card for the household to buy food.

  SNAP follows regulations and rules established by the federal government.

MEDICAL

- **Medicaid**
  Medicaid pays for health care services to eligible low-income seniors with chronic illnesses or who need long-term care, to eligible people who have disabilities, and to children, eligible low-income pregnant women, and some parents.
- **Kids Connection Health Insurance**
  The Nebraska health insurance-like program that provides access to health care for low-income uninsured children.
  1-877-NEB-KIDS (1-877-632-5437)
- **Medically Handicapped Children's Program**
  Provides diagnosis and referral services to low-income children and purchases necessary treatment for them. Children who have complex medical needs are given an evaluation on request. Children determined eligible for the program are given additional treatment or services by medical providers under contract with the Department.
- **Aged and Disabled Medicaid Waiver**
  The Aged and Disabled Medicaid Waiver provides a thorough needs identification and service planning. Eligible persons are offered the choice of receiving home and community-based services or entering a nursing home. This waiver allows Medicaid funds to be used for services that are not usually considered "medical:"
  - Adult day health care
  - Assisted living
  - Chore services
  - Childcare for disabled children
  - Home-delivered meals
  - Independence Skills Management (ISM)
  - Nutrition services
  - Personal emergency response system
  - Respite care
  - Transportation

SHELTER/UTILITIES

- **Emergency Assistance**
  Emergency Assistance is provided to needy families with minor children in situations where other resources are not available. Examples of situations for which assistance is available are imminent evictions, loss of utility service, or exhaustion of food supplies.
- **Low-Income Energy Assistance**
  Assists low-income households in meeting energy costs. Benefits are based on family size, fuel type, and geographic residency in the state.

OTHER FAMILY SUPPORT

- **Adult Family Home**
  Provides a homelike living arrangement to meet the needs of adults who are unable to live independently, but can function adequately with minimum supervision and protection.
- **Employment/Support Services:**
  Enables low-income families to become self-supporting. Services provided are day care services for children and homemaker, family support and transportation services.
- **Aged and Disabled Services**
  Provides services to low-income recipients to enable them to be as self-sufficient as possible. Such services include chore services, home delivered meals, homemaker services, adult day care, congregate meals, respite and transportation.
- **Child Support Enforcement Program**
  The Child Support Enforcement Program is to help children obtain financial support from both parents, enable current public assistance recipients to end their reliance on welfare, and help prevent single parents from needing public assistance. Child support is a court-ordered monetary amount to be paid by a noncustodial parent for the financial welfare of his/her children. Usually, the parent who pays child support is ordered to pay it once a month.
- **Disabled Persons & Family Support**
  Coordinates and purchases services to assist employed, disabled adults to maintain their independence or helps families keep a disabled family member in their home. Services include: home modifications, attendant care, home health care, housekeeping, payment for prescriptions/ medical supplies, respite care, transportation services, and mobility equipment.
- **Developmental Disabilities Service Coordination**
  Links individuals and families to developmental disabilities support and services by determining eligibility; coordinating resources; helping determine priority status for funding specialized services; authorizing funds; facilitating individual program planning teams; monitoring supports and services.
- **Child Care**
  The Child Care Program assists eligible parents and caretakers pay for the cost of child care while they work, attend employment-related training or school, or participate in another approved activity. Based on their income the family may be responsible to pay a portion of the cost.