PROTECTION & SAFETY

The Protection and Safety 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 Office, Child Advocacy Center, Probation, therapists, foster parents, volunteers, group homes and institutional care providers, care providers, advocacy groups, and others.

- **Child Protective Services**
  Responsible for addressing the needs of children where abuse or neglect is suspected or adjudicated, who are dependent, or youth who are duly adjudicated/cross-over. The Protection and Safety hotline receives reports of child abuse or neglect. Abuse and Neglect 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**
  Provides for the prevention, correction, or discontinuance of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult, using the least restrictive alternatives 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, clothes, shelter, and supervision
- Arranging or coordinating services for caregivers

Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 1-800-652-1999

PUBLIC HEALTH

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

- **Colon Cancer Screening**
  This program provides free or low-cost colon cancer screening services for women and men who are 45 years of age and older with low or medium income. For information call 1-800-532-2227 or visit the website at dhhs.ne.gov/crc.
- **Every Woman Matters**
  This program helps women obtain an annual health checkup. The program is for women 25–64 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 dhhs.ne.gov/womenshealth.
- **Women, Infants, and Children (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 dhhs.ne.gov/wic.

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

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- **Nebraska Early Development Network (EDN)**
  EDN provides early intervention services for families with children birth to age three and connects families to needed services. To make a referral, go to edn.ne.gov/cms.
- **General Assistance (GA) from Counties**
  The guidelines and benefits vary according to each county's plan. County Board or DHHS teammates 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.
- **DHHS Helpline**
  Contact the DHHS Helpline with questions or concerns about services and programs at 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 locate an office, call 1-800-383-4278.

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

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- **Aid to Dependent Children (ADC)**
  The ADC Program provides financial payments 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)**
  EF is Nebraska's welfare reform program. The goal of EF 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 people 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 (SSI)Program. People who do not qualify for SSI payments, due to the duration of the disability, may qualify for State Disability benefits because of different standards and regulations.
- **Aid to Aged, Blind, or Disabled (AABD)**
  Provides a financial benefit, in addition to the benefits of the federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program for those aged, blind, or disabled persons who are otherwise eligible and do not have sufficient income and resources to meet their needs. Assistance amount is dependent on the amount of monthly expenses.
- **Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP)**
  Provides financial payments and/or medical 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

- **Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CFSP)**
  CSFP provides food for eligible individuals age 60 years and over to maintain proper nutrition and health of senior citizens.
- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**
  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 for low-income seniors age 65 or older, people who have disabilities, children, pregnant women, parents, and people between the ages of 19-64. All Medicaid categories have specific eligibility requirements.
- **Medically Handicapped Children's Program (MHCP)**
  MHCP 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 DHHS.
- **Aged and Disabled Medicaid Waiver**
  The Aged and Disabled Medicaid Waiver provides 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" including:
  - Adult day health care
  - Assisted living
  - Chore services
  - Child care 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 Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)**
  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

- **Home Visitation**
  Home visitation supports pregnant and parenting families with children up to 5 years old who may struggle with various life stressors.
- **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 include day care services for children, 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. Services include chore services, home-delivered meals, homemaker services, adult day care, congregate meals, respite, and transportation.
- **Child Support Enforcement Program**
  Helps children obtain financial support from both parents, enable current public assistance recipients to end their reliance on public assistance, and 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 their 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, and monitoring supports and services.
- **Child Care**
  Assists eligible parents and caretakers with paying 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.