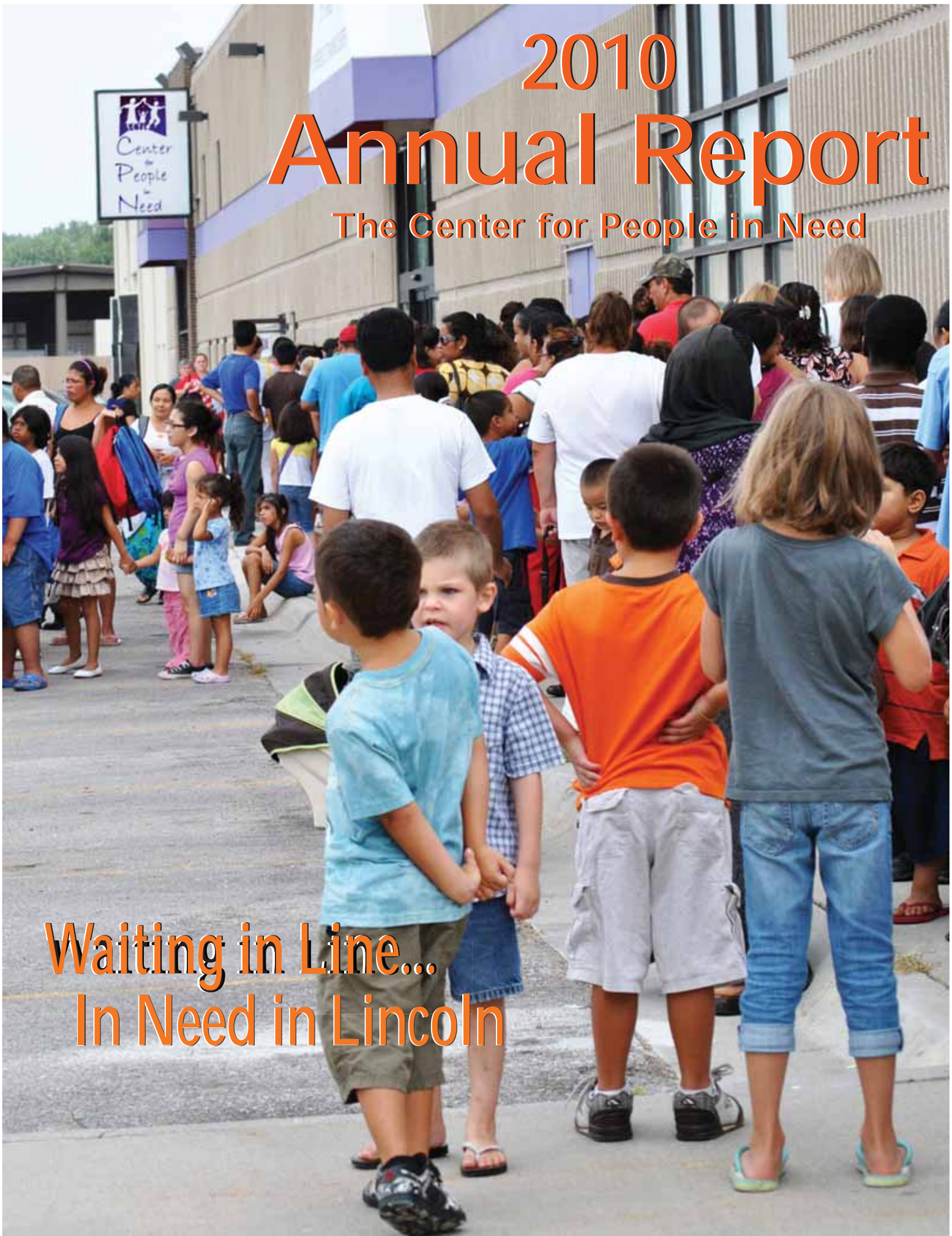


2010 Annual Report

The Center for People in Need

Waiting in Line...
In Need in Lincoln





The
Center
for
People
in
Need

Waiting in Line... In Need in Lincoln
2010 Annual Report, Center for People in Need

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For additional copies of this report or more information about the activities and services of the Center call 476-4357. This annual report and information about the Center are also available online at www.centerforpeopleinneed.org

The Center for People in Need

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Founded in 2003, the Center for People in Need is a community based 501(c)(3) not-for-profit agency administering programs that provide a cohesive network of services for low-income families. Financed primarily by competitive grants and individual donations, the Center

- **Assists other human service agencies** that provide for the well being of low-income, high-needs families throughout Nebraska
- **Provides emergency services** to families who lack basic necessities
- **Provides and supports education and job training**
- **Implements creative means of service delivery** to disadvantaged families
- **Advocates for systemic changes** through the legislature.



Our Mission:
To enhance opportunities for individuals and families as they address socioeconomic barriers limiting their paths to success

Want to Contribute? Need More Information? Fill Out and Return the Coupon Below

I want to help support the work of the Center for People in Need.
My check for \$_____ is enclosed (or contribute online at www.cfpin.org)

Please send me more information about the items checked below

The Center's Programs Volunteering at the Center Contributing to the Center

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Tel: (____) _____ E-mail: _____



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The Center for People in Need is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible. The Center's federal I.D. Number is 06-1669552.

A Message from the director

Waiting in line. Everybody hates it. Arrive a little late at the ticket window, for example, and you feel as if your life is slipping away. Shuffle a few feet, stand counting cracks in the sidewalk, shuffle, stand, shuffle, stand... I want to shout, "Life is too short for this!"

But lines are everywhere, and a line is the great leveler. Old or young, obscure or famous, rich or poor, when we're in line we're all in the same boat.

Except for one thing: the rich don't wait in line as often as the poor do, and they never have to arrive early for fear that the food will be all gone before they reach the distribution floor.

You spend so much time waiting in line when you're poor: You stand in line for food distributions (your kids might go hungry if you didn't). You stand in line for clothing, you stand in line to get a school backpack for your child. You stand in line for job applications, and you stand in line again for a five-minute interview. You stand in line to find out where to go to stand in the next line.

And very little, if any, of your waiting in line is at theater box offices or in front of electronics stores waiting for the release of the latest smart phone or this-and-that-pad.

We haven't eliminated lines at the Center for People in Need, but we're trying to keep people from spending their lives waiting in line. That's why we've introduced programs like Health Hub, which, in partnership with several other agencies, cuts through the barriers to finding health care. That's why we have thirty-five AmeriCorps members helping immigrants, refugees, and other needy people find the assistance that will help them become productive members of society.

And it's why we have developed database software that can process applicants in seconds—and with dignity—making it possible for us to distribute food to as many as five hundred people in about an hour. It's why we teach job skills and language skills. It's why we sponsor back-to-school programs that help pave the way to much-needed diplomas and employment.

Helping low-income people become self-sufficient in their communities is why we continue to improve our Truckloads of Help program that supplies surplus—but brand new—merchandise to 277 agencies statewide for distribution to their clients.

You'll find more details outlining our work and describing our programs for the year 2010 in the pages of this report. I hope you'll take the time to look at it carefully, and I hope you will come away having reached at least these two important conclusions:

First, the Center for People in Need is using its resources well and serving a critical need in the Lincoln community. Second, there are thousands of people among us who are waiting in line—literally—to find their way out of poverty. Shouldn't we all be doing whatever we can to help them?

Beatty Brasch



Executive Director
Center for People in Need



Beatty Brasch, Executive Director, Center for People in Need.

Through the year at CFPIN: A 2010 chronology

January: Open House and Ribbon Cutting at the new Center for People in Need Conference and Job



Education Training Center. Senator Ben Nelson speaks.

The facility houses the Center's job training programs,

computer lab, and other programs, and is available for rental to businesses, organizations, and private parties.

Senator Ben Nelson's office announces \$2.3 million in federal stimulus funds for a job training partnership led by Southeast Community College and CFPIN. The construction job training program, **Pathways Out of Poverty**, will use CFPIN facilities and staff.

February: CFPIN Neighborhood FOOD coordinator Sara Hesselgesser announces that the agency's five distribution sites supply food to 1,100 low-income families per week.

March: CFPIN announces stopgap measures will be extended to those affected by the Senate's decision not to extend unemployment benefits. Services will include CFPIN's Neighborhood FOOD program, its Resource Handbook program, and use of CFPIN's computer lab for resume preparation and job searches.

The **Pathways Out of Poverty Program** begins accepting applications for its first 10-week energy-efficient construction training program at the CFPIN Conference and Job Training Center. The program is financed by federal stimulus funds.



April: Deb Daily, CFPIN Director of Operations is awarded the 2010 Debra Hartman award recognizing professional work in volunteerism. CFPIN Executive Director Beatty Brasch receives an individual award from Voice for Children in Nebraska for her dedication to children.

May: CFPIN's Mother's Day event gives gifts at no cost to low-income children to give to their mothers. In all, 822 children and 324 mothers are served.



June: Father's Day gift distribution serves 414 children and 153 fathers from low-income families.

CFPIN sponsors a 3-day day camp in Walton for elementary school students in partnership with the Cornhusker Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

July: CFPIN launches Health Hub, a new program designed to create a connected network of agencies providing services to the uninsured and underinsured. The program is funded by grants from the Community Health Endowment and the Saint Elizabeth Foundation.

2009 *Face of Poverty Today in Lincoln, Nebraska* report released. Sixty-two percent of respondents say they are worse off than in 2008, but expect to be better off in the future. The report is featured in front-page *Lincoln Journal Star* article.

CFPIN receives a grant from the ServeNebraska-Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission that will bring 35 AmeriCorps members to the Center. AmeriCorps members will each complete 1,700 hours of service in one year beginning Sept. 1.

August: CFPIN opens its computer lab to public use for 10 hours per week. The computers and software may be used for resume writing, job searches,

homework, and applying for assistance programs such as food stamps. The lab is also used for job training, GED, and ESL classes.

CFPIN's Tools for Education, a back-to-school event, gives free backpacks and school supplies to more than 2,000 school children from nearly 1,000 low-income households.



CFPIN's Teen for a Day gives clothing, jewelry, and other items to 1,000 low-income girls ages 11-18. The program bolsters self-esteem and helps girls fit in with peers.



Lincoln Journal Star photo

CFPIN offers free senior photos to low-income high school seniors. With the assistance of nine Lincoln

professional portrait photographers the new program organized by the Center makes photos and picture packets for 30 students.

September: Thirty-five AmeriCorps members begin work at the Center on September 1. They are housed in 5,000 square feet of cubicle and office space renovated during the summer.

CFPIN initiates its new Information and Referral program to help low-income people navigate the programs available from 100-plus human services agencies in Lincoln. AmeriCorps "advocates" can offer help in English, Spanish, Arabic, Farsi, French, Lingala, Swahili, Kikongo, Nuer, Kiswahilli, Dinka, Burmese, Thai, Karen, and American Sign Language.



November: CFPIN's Giving ThanksGiving Food distribution gives holiday food items and grocery store vouchers to nearly 3,000 low-income families. About 300 volunteers help with the distribution.



The Success of CFPIN's Health Hub, a program designed to create a connected network of agencies providing services to the uninsured and underinsured, is the subject of a lead article in the *Lincoln Journal Star*.

December: Health Hub is the subject of a complementary editorial titled "Hooray for the Health Hub" in the *Lincoln Journal Star*. The closing sentence reads, "It's efforts like this that make Lincoln a better place to live."

Results of a survey taken at CFPIN's Giving Thanksgiving food distribution are released showing a startling level of food insecurity in Lincoln. More than 50 percent of the 2,500 respondents say that without the distribution they will not have enough food for that day.

Toyland for Kids, CFPIN's yearly holiday toy distribution, gives holiday presents to 7,624 children. The giveaway is made possible through the Lincoln Police Union Charities' Santa Cop program, the Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots program, and donations from businesses and individuals.



Forty-one students participate in CFPIN's job training programs in 2010. Training areas include Forklift, Receptionist, Retail, and Janitorial. By year's end, 13 participants have graduated and 22 will be continuing their training into 2011.

AmeriCorps members multiply CFPIN's outreach, effectiveness, and efficiency

“We joined AmeriCorps to make a difference in our community...to help others and meet new and different people.”

– Crystal English and Ayad Al-Azawy
CFPIN AmeriCorps members

They do make a difference—a difference seen in thirty-some new cubicles in a former warehouse, and heard in the dozen languages buzzing through the building. They make a difference in Lincoln, where needy residents are served more effectively and efficiently than ever before.

Recruiting for the 35 positions financed by a grant from the ServeNebraska-Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission began in June 2010. They arrived in September—little time even for the paperwork, let alone remodeling 5,000 square feet, installing computers, and ordering supplies.

But somehow it all got done and the real work began. Possibly no innovation in the decade-long life of CFPIN has so quickly and decisively expanded the agency's reach. Their presence is directly responsible for the Center's ability to offer programs that otherwise might cost as much as a million dollars, according to estimates by Center officials.

AmeriCorps members are involved in every agency program—they assist the Neighborhood FOOD program, help with job training, and in the computer lab. They teach GED and ESL classes, work with the Truckloads of Help program, and contribute to the smooth operation of special events such as the Toyland for Kids holiday gift distribution.

AmeriCorps members work in the CFPIN's new Information and Referral program, which assists people in finding resources at the Center and from other community agencies.

The agency's Citizenship program, which offers help with citizenship and immigration paperwork and teaches civics

classes for the naturalization test, is also made possible by the talents and skills of AmeriCorps members.

Without AmeriCorps, Health Hub, which coordinates access to government programs for the un- and underinsured, might well be too complex and expensive to undertake.

Other new programs helping clients would be impossible for the Center to offer were it not for the language skills of AmeriCorps members, whose ethnic backgrounds include Caucasian, Latino, African American, Southeast Asian, Middle Eastern, and African. Their languages include English, Spanish, Arabic, German, American Sign Language, Farsi, Kurdish, Burmese, Kiswahilli, Thai, Karen, Nuer, and Dinka.

Three of the 35 AmeriCorps members serve with partner organizations in Lincoln and north-central Nebraska, providing education and services related to domestic violence, sexual assault, incest, and violence.

The team is called PROH AmeriCorps. PROH (“pro”) is an acronym for Providing Resources, Opportunity, and Hope.

Members will complete 1,700 hours of service. They get a living stipend and health insurance. After a year's service they will receive a \$5,350 higher education grant.



A rainbow of ethnic origins and native languages, the AmeriCorps PROH team has quickly become vital to the work of the CFPIN.



Health Hub helps uninsured and underinsured navigate the murky waters of public assistance

Possibly only a 21st century Rip Van Winkle, trudging into town after a twenty-year nap in the hills, could be unaware of the ongoing health care debate in the U.S. And probably most Americans believe that in many respects the debate is generating more heat than light.

But whatever the resolution of the national debate, at least one fact is certain to remain true: Health care actually happens on the local level.

Health Hub, one of the newest and most innovative of CFPIN's programs, is determinedly local, and determined to shed light, not heat, on the local health care situation. It is a program whose goal is to bring local health care consumers—uninsured or underinsured consumers in particular—together with local programs and providers that offer the help they need.

Lincoln and the surrounding area are fairly well supplied with resources for needy people seeking health care and other services—even enviably supplied compared to some other cities of its size. Often, however, difficulty arises when individuals, as often as not lacking other basic necessities, try to navigate the murky waters of “the system” all on their own.

When clients in need of help contact Health Hub, they are assigned an “advocate” who can help them understand the programs available and find the help they need.

Health Hub advocates help clients:

- Find a doctor and a medical home
- Access free or discounted medications
- See a medical specialist
- Apply for government programs such as SNAP (food stamps), General Assistance, Supplemental Security Income, Social Security Disability Insurance, Medicare, and Medicaid
- Find other area agencies designed to address basic needs.

Besides easing access to immediately needed services, Health Hub's goal is to help clients return to self-sufficiency.

The need was defined by a blue ribbon task force appointed by Lincoln Mayor Chris Beutler in 2009. Less than a year later Health Hub was up and running.

The Health Hub program is funded for three years by grants from the Community Health Endowment and the Saint Elizabeth Foundation through a grant from Catholic Health Initiatives.

Community partners include the Lancaster County Medical Society, People's Health Center, the Lincoln-Lancaster County Medical Society, Clinic with a Heart, People's City Mission, ED Connection, and Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach.



Elizabeth Garcia provides information about Health Hub at a CFPIN Health Resource Fair.

Pathways Out of Poverty— It's all about Jobs!

"The stimulus bill is all about jobs," said Nebraska Senator Ben Nelson, announcing a \$2.3 million grant to Southeast Community College and CFPIN from the Federal Recovery Act-Pathways Out of Poverty program in January 2010.

And preparing people for jobs is the point of the Pathways Out of Poverty program financed by the grant.

A partnership of the two institutions, with the help of nine community partners, the Pathways Program capitalizes on the current surge of interest in energy-efficient building methods to offer job-skills training and

life-skills tutoring that will make students competitive in an improving, but still tight job market.

As required by the terms of the grant, the program is designed to serve qualifying disadvantaged students from a targeted high-poverty area of Lincoln.

In its first year the Pathways program served 172 individuals. Forty-one of them completed the education and job-training activities, and 31 received certification through the National Center for Construction Education and Research, assuring employers that they are qualified in basic energy-efficient construction methods.

Participants represent a cross-section of Lincoln's diverse population. The majority of the 2010 students were men, but more than a third (60 of 172) were women. Ethnic backgrounds included White, African American, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, and Asian.

Most were high school graduates or the equivalent, but 53 participants had less than a 12th grade education. Ages ranged from 18 to over 55 years old. In addition to the job-skills training, students have the opportunity to



Pathways students learn power tool fundamentals at the CFPIN construction lab.

improve their employability by taking basic classes in computer skills, reading and writing, vocational English as a second language, and other basic adult education subjects.

Applicants accepted for the program can enroll in GED classes while waiting for Pathways classroom space to open.

They also receive "wrap-around support services" according to Pathways program manager Diane Vesely-Robb. Those services include a variety of resources that help them to stay in the program in spite of challenges, such as housing, child care, and transportation. They

also can receive tutoring in budgeting, cover letters, and other life skills often unavailable to disadvantaged people.

The nationally recognized curriculum used in the 10-week course of study is taught by Southeast Community College instructors. CFPIN supplies case managers, classroom/lab space, and administrative functions.

Pathways applicants must live north of O Street in Lincoln, be at least 18 years old, and fall into one of these categories:

- Currently unemployed
- Past criminal record
- High school dropout
- Low income
- Veteran or veteran's spouse and otherwise qualified

The program is free. Tuition, books, and tool expenses are paid for by the grant. For information call 476-4357. Web: www.centerforpeopleinneed.org

Pathways is a Lincoln Green Jobs Partnership of the Center for People in Need and Southeast Community College, funded 100% by the Workforce Investment Act and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Community partners: Associated Builders and Contractors, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, ResCare Education and Training, Community Action Program of Lancaster and Saunders Counties, Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation, Greater Lincoln Workforce Investment Board, El Centro de las Americas, Lincoln Central Labor Union, Nebraska Building Products.

"Some things that this program has done for me... Self-respect, determination, a chance to get my GED, job skills, and I got to meet people who really do care. This program is allowing me to better myself in all areas of my life. I truly need Pathways." —from a graduate's thank-you letter



The 27th Street Conference & Training Center

It might come as a surprise to most daytime users of the Center for People in Need, but drive past almost any evening, and you're as likely to see the parking lot alive with people in tuxedos and evening gowns as in jeans and t-shirts.

The CFPIN's 27th Street Conference and Job Training Center is a complex of offices, classrooms and meeting rooms, a commercial kitchen, and support facilities. It is home to an amazing variety of Center functions, Lincoln community events, corporate training meetings, and private gatherings

including parties and wedding receptions.

At 11,589 square feet (excluding hallways and mechanical rooms) the Conference Center, officially opened in January 2010, has become a vital part of Lincoln's infrastructure in its first year.

It is in daily use by the Center for its scheduled classes and events. It has been the location of joint meetings and events sponsored by virtually all of the city's not-for-profit and government human services agencies. The facilities also are available for rent to corporate and private users.

The Conference Center's 24-station computer lab is another feature of the complex that plays a role in the well-being of the community. It is a focal point for training in the Pathways Out of Poverty program and for the Center's



The Conference Center's computer lab is in nearly constant use.

job-skills training classes. The lab is open 10 hours per week for use by the general public.

The Conference Center's six meeting rooms have seen a variety of uses. Various configurations as classrooms, outfitted with tables, or simply set up with rows of chairs for "theatre" seating, the rooms can accommodate groups as small as six or as large as 84.

Perhaps an analogy provides context for understanding the value it has added to the Center and the community: The more than eleven thousand hours the Conference Center was in use in 2010 is more time than an average full-time worker would spend at a job in five-and-a-half years.

For rental information contact Conference Center manager Paul Ramirez at 402-476-4357 ext. 141 or e-mail pramirez@cfpin.org.

Conference Center Use & Projected Use 2010 - 2012

2010

Events.....	3,562
Hours in use	11,338
Hours used free by the community	90%
Attendance	141,463

2011

Events now scheduled..	6,090
Projected hours of use..	14,935
Hours to be used free by the community	85%
Projected attendance....	178,051

2012

Events now scheduled..	502
Projected hours of use..	979
Hours to be used free by the community	98%
Projected attendance....	7,248



Set up for seated dining, the Conference Center's 7,100 square foot banquet room can accommodate 564 people.

Neighborhood FOOD ▶

Weekly free distribution of food at the Center and three neighborhood locations.

<i>Pounds of food distributed</i>	2,223,539
<i>Families served (duplicated)</i>	48,428
<i>(unduplicated)</i>	15,543
<i>Individuals served (duplicated)</i>	133,617
<i>(unduplicated)</i>	40,879



Mother's Day & Father's Day ▶

Children choose and wrap free gifts for their parents.

<i>Number of gifts distributed</i>	1,233
<i>Number of families served</i>	481



◀ TRUCKLOADS OF HELP

New goods donated by national retailers are distributed to not-for-profit agencies throughout Nebraska.

<i>Agencies served</i>	216
<i>Individual agency shopping trips</i>	964
<i>Retail value of goods distributed</i>	\$9,7266,810



◀ Tools for Education

Free backpacks and school supplies for school children.

<i>School children receiving backpacks</i>	2,074
<i>Households served</i>	926



Giving Thanks Giving Food ▶

Special food and grocery vouchers for low-income families.

<i>Households served</i>	2,876
<i>Individuals served</i>	7,958



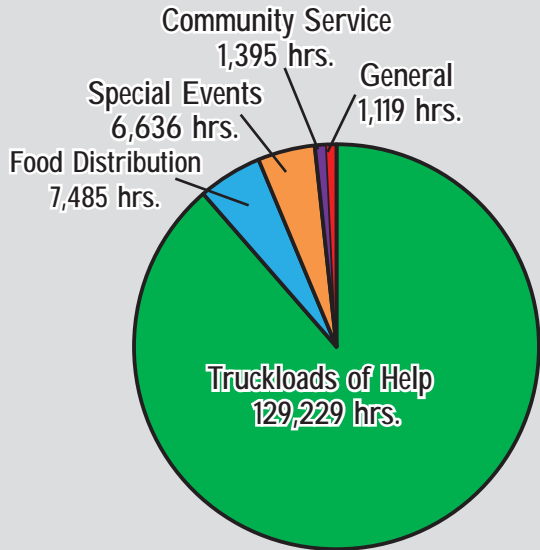
Toyland for Kids

Free holiday gifts for low-income children.

<i>Households served</i>	2,973
<i>Children served</i>	7,624

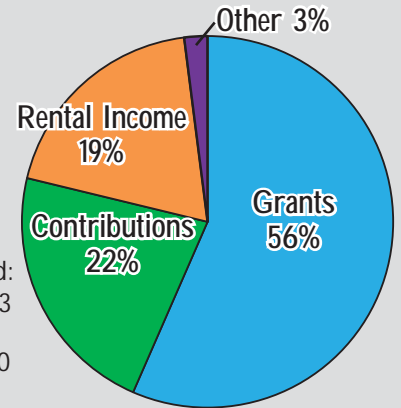
Volunteers

In 2010 Volunteers contributed 145,864 hours of work. At a rate of \$15 per hours its value to the Center would be \$2,187,960.



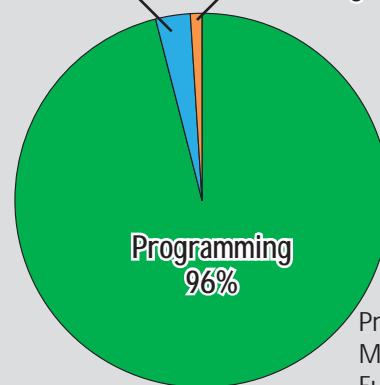
Financial Summary

Revenue
 Grants 56%
 Contributions.. 22%
 Rental income 19%
 Other 2%



The Center also received:
 In-Kind\$10,094,593
 Volunteer labor
 valued at...\$ 2,187,960

Management/
 General 3% Fund Raising 1%



Expenses

Programming 96%
 Management/General... 3%
 Fund Raising 1%

Community Partners



ResCare Workforce Services assists welfare-to-work clients in learning new skills and preparing to search for sustainable employment. ResCare trainees at the

Center for People in Need gain much of their work experience performing the varied tasks available in the day-to-day operation of CFPIN. As trainees learn skills such as front-office work, inventory control, and janitorial procedures, they are also performing vital tasks for the Center. ResCare labor is a massive contribution to the CFPIN effort, and is a principle reason the Center can operate effectively with a small paid staff.



The Food Bank of Lincoln is vital to the CFPIN Neighborhood FOOD program, providing most of the food the Center distributes. The Food Bank delivers to the Center and three neighborhood sites and assists CFPIN staff with distribution. The Center pays co-op fees of about 2.2 cents per pound of food.



Clinic with a Heart provides free, walk-in medical services at the Center. The Tuesday evening clinics provide medical, dental, chiropractic, vision, mental health, and physical therapy. Clinic with a Heart is staffed

by more than 300 medical and non-medical volunteers.



Southeast Community College provides instructors for the Pathways Out of Poverty program including energy efficient construction techniques, GED (General Equivalency Diploma), and ESL (English as a Second Language) classes at the Center.



FoodNet is an all-volunteer agency that distributes perishable food items to families in Lincoln. The Center is a FoodNet weekly distribution site.



The Lincoln Children's Museum contributes annual memberships and passes to low-income clients of the Center for People in Need.



The Lincoln Children's Zoo provides discount zoo passes for free distribution by the Center to low-income families.



Lancaster County Medical Society members distribute health-related supplies to low-income patients and agencies. Items are from the Center's Truckloads of Help program.

2010 Annual Report The Center for People in Need Last Year the Center for People in Need

- Distributed more than 2 MILLION POUNDS OF FOOD to low-income families in Lincoln and Lancaster County through our Neighborhood FOOD program.
- Through our Truckloads of Help program, supplied NEW MERCHANDISE valued at \$9.3 MILLION to 216 agencies statewide for distribution to their needy clients.
- Provided THANKSGIVING FOOD ITEMS AND GROCERY VOUCHERS to 8,000 low-income individuals.
- Distributed HOLIDAY GIFTS to children from 3,000 needy families.
- Gave BACKPACKS FILLED WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES to 2,000 children from low-income families.
- Provided MOTHER'S and FATHER'S DAY PRESENTS for 1,200 low-income children to give to their parents.
- Gave NEW SCHOOL CLOTHES, SHOES, & PERSONAL ITEMS to 1,000 6th-through-12th-grade girls.
- Provided 129,000 HOURS OF JOB SKILLS TRAINING & WORK EXPERIENCE to welfare-to-work clients in the ResCare Education and Training program of the State of Nebraska.



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 as they address socioeconomic barriers limiting pathways to success**