

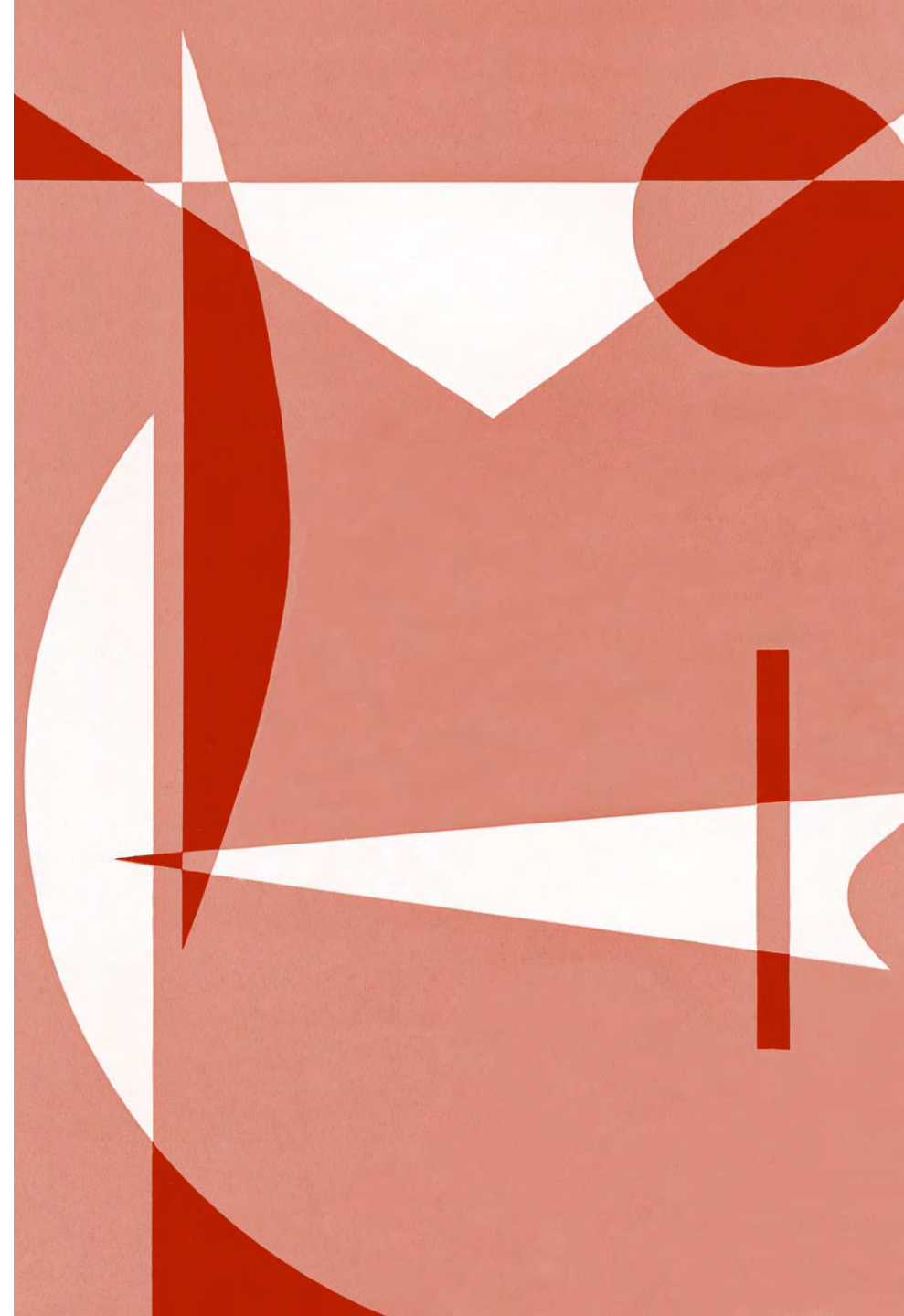


Grand Island Campus Report

Early Childhood Initiatives in Nebraska

Barb Beck

Early Childhood Education Instructor



The Effects of the Pandemic on Child Care in Nebraska

- 231 licensed childcare facilities were forced to close in the past year.
- 91% of counties are deemed to have a shortage of quality childcare.
- While wages have increased in almost every profession, the same is not true of childcare providers.



- Vision: We see a safe, healthy and thriving community for children and families. Collective impact brings people together in a structured way, to achieve social change.
- The H3C is a broad-based collaboration comprised of a wide cross-section of community and county agencies, organizations, business, public entities, and individuals working together to improve the continuum of services for children/youth and families.
- In addition to membership meetings, the collaborative also has 4 subcommittees: 11-24, Behavioral Health, **Birth-11**, and Community Response.
- Part of the cost for this organization comes from Nebraska Children and Families Foundation.

Work of the Birth – 11 Subcommittee, Hall County

- Facilitated funds from the CARES Act to purchase needed equipment, such as cleaning supplies and food items that have been limited (such as milk)
- Arranged for childcare providers to attend online counseling sessions to deal with the constant threat and stress from COVID
- Managed applications for the \$140 million Child Care Stabilization program, which can be used for year-end bonuses or materials for children and staff
- Seeking input from local businesses on how childcare is an essential part of finding qualified staff for positions
- Sponsored Provider Appreciation Day

Future Plans

CCC's Extended Learning Services, along with the Early Childhood program, will be hosting its second workshop entitled,

How to Open Your Own Family Home Child Care Business

This will be available online or in person at Grand Island, Hastings, Columbus, Kearney, Holdrege, Ord, and Lexington.

Child Development Associate ***CDA®***

- The Child Development Associate® Credential or CDA® is the most widely recognized credential in early childhood education.
- It is a key stepping-stone on the path to career advancement in early childhood education.

All Community Colleges in the state of Nebraska can now offer specific classes that will count toward the 120 hours of training. Those classes can be built upon so students can then earn a certificate, diploma, or AAS degree in Early Childhood Education.



A QRIS (Quality Rating and Improvement System) helps states assess, improve and communicate the level of quality in early childhood programs. Programs are awarded quality ratings for meeting a defined set of program standards.

Step Up to Quality focuses on the following five quality standards:

- Curriculum, learning environments and teacher-child interactions
- Child outcomes
- **Professional development and training**
- Family engagement and partnerships
- Program administration

QUALITY STANDARD 3: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING (11 Points)

Quality Indicator	Evidence	Points
1A. Center Director/Family Child Care Home II Primary Provider Select only the one option which describes your highest level of education.		
CDA or one-year certificate/ diploma related to ECE from community college or higher*	Official certificate/diploma, and/ or official transcripts as applicable, available for review	1
Has at least 20 semester credit hours in early childhood education	Official certificate/diploma, and/ or official transcripts as applicable, available for review	1
AA/AAS in ECE or related field*	Official certificate/diploma, and/ or official transcripts as applicable, available for review	2



First Five Nebraska is a team of professionals with combined experience in government relations, data analysis and strategic communications. They work to ensure that more of Nebraska's youngest, most vulnerable children begin life with the kinds of developmental experiences that set them on a path to becoming successful students and productive citizens.

Nebraska Early Childhood Policy Leadership Academy

This non-partisan initiative is designed to help citizen-leaders better understand the policymaking process and develop their skills as advocates for public policies that support development of young children.

Two CCC participants so far: Barbara Beck and Kimberly Milovac

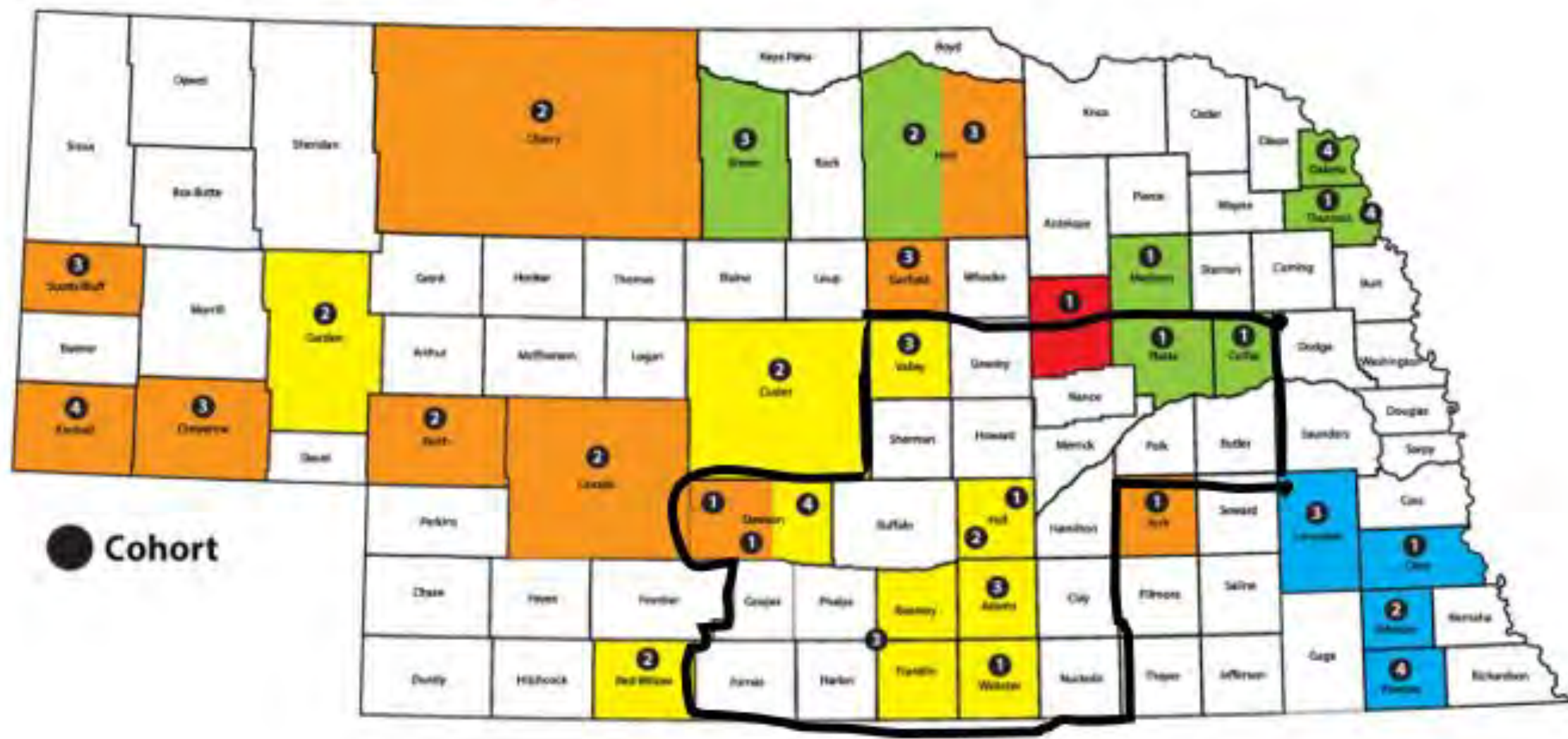


Communities for Kids

Communities for Kids
nebraskachildren

The Communities for Kids (C4K) initiative was created in response to community requests for assistance with shortages of high-quality early care and education programs — shortages that both impact children's optimal development and pose a challenge for communities hoping to attract and retain the viable workforce they need to thrive.

Communities for Kids Growth Map



My Nebraska Story: Gothenburg





Dia de los Muertos

Michelle Lubken
Catherine Bergin
Angel Gabriel

What is Dia de los Muertos?

- ◆ Mexican and Mexican American Holiday
- ◆ Focus is to honor the life and memory of those who have passed away
- ◆ Began thousands of years ago by Aztecs, Mayans & other Mesoamerican groups
- ◆ Contains elements of Mesoamerican beliefs and Catholicism, which came into contact during the Colonial Era
- ◆ Traditionally celebrated over two days:
 - ◆ November 1 – Dia de todos los santos (All Saints' Day)
 - ◆ November 2 – Dia de los fieles difuntos (All Souls' Day)

CCC History

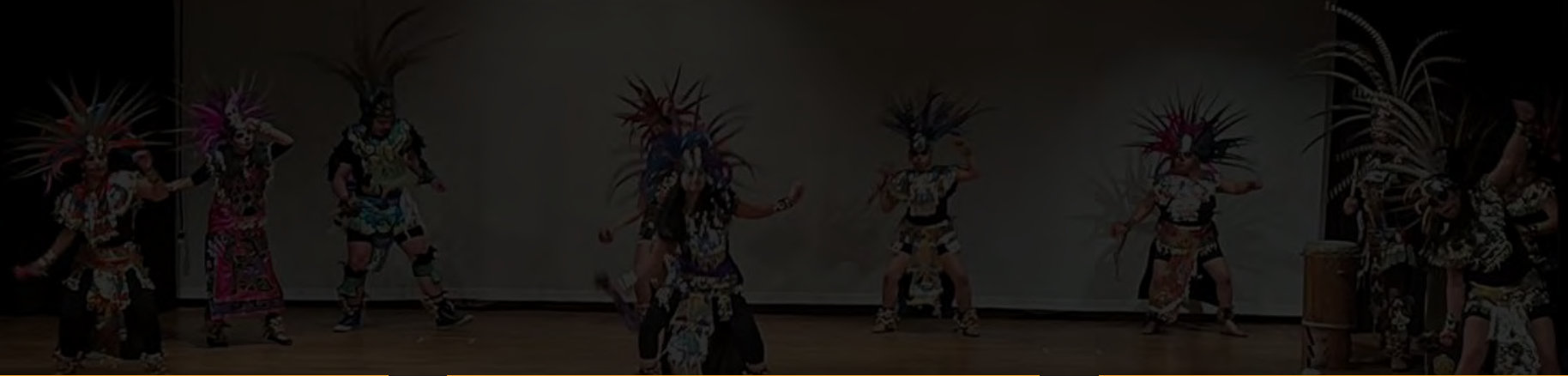
Former English Instructor Terry Schifferns

Mini Grant

Friday event – most who attended connected to CCC

Approximately 300 attendees in year one

What We Learned...



A Saturday could draw more community participation.

Community activities on campus make it easier to consider attending college.

A celebration with festivities common in Mexico and Latin American countries for Dia de los Muertos did not exist in the tri-cities.

- Closest option was Lincoln

Attendance Over Four Years

2018 – approx. 300 attendees

- Over half were CCC employees

2019 – approx. 275 attendees

- Majority were community members

2020 – virtual event on CCC website

- Options for High School Spanish classes to use

2021 – approx. 250 attendees

- Majority were community members



Dia de los Muertos at CCC

Ofrendas/Altars

- ◆ For souls of the deceased to enjoy earthly pleasures again
- ◆ Traditional Items:
 - ◆ Water – to quench thirst
 - ◆ Fire – represented by burning candles
 - ◆ Earth – represented by food
 - ◆ Pan de Muerto & Fruit
 - ◆ Wind - represented by papel picado





Dance Groups

◆ Aztec

◆ Folklore

◆ Omaha

◆ Hastings



HASTINGS
SERRANOS MEXICAN GRILL
MENU

TACOS	BURRITOS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ASADA (steak)• BARBACOA (braised beef)• CHICKEN• CHORIZO	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ASADA (steak)• BARBACOA (braised beef)• PASTOR (chicken)• SHRIMP
\$2.00	\$9.00

QUESADILLA
\$8.00

ASADA NACHOS
\$9.00

CHIPS
\$3.00

BURRITOS



TACOS

Cempasuchil/Marigold

- ❖ Bright Yellow & Orange Mexican Marigold
- ❖ Believed to attract spirits with their sweet smell
- ❖ Guide spirits from afterlife by creating a bed of marigolds near the ofrenda







Other Activities

- ◆ Face Painting
- ◆ Coloring Pages
- ◆ Tattoos
- ◆ Button Making
- ◆ Catrin/Catrina Contest
- ◆ Pan de Muerto



Sense of Community

- ◆ Living Cultural Traditions
 - ◆ Sense of identity through official Mexican holiday
- ◆ Connects people
 - ◆ Understand patterns – sacred shared pasts
- ◆ Inspire people of different cultures to participate and learn
 - ◆ Activities & Annual Event

SAVE THE DATE

CCC Dia de los
Muertos

NOVEMBER 5, 2022



Questions?

