

# **Connecting the Dots**

### **Expanding Your Reach with Asset Mapping**







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- Brief overview of the Nebraska Statewide Family Engagement Center (NE SFEC)
- NE SFEC Key Initiatives
- Asset Mapping

## Nebraska Statewide Family Engagement Center (NE SFEC)

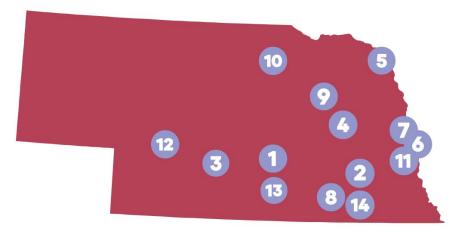
- U.S. Department of Education five-year grant (2018 - 2023)
- One of 12 current SFECs; serving students (preK - 5th grade) and families who are furthest from opportunity
- **Purpose:** Establish system of evidence-based family engagement practices



Family Learning

Nebraska

### **NE SFEC:** Partners



- 1. Grand Island Public Schools
  - 2. Lincoln Public Schools
  - 3. Lexington Public Schools
  - 4. Schuyler Public Schools
  - 5. South Sioux City Public Schools
  - 6. Omaha Archdiocese School
  - 7. Omaha Public Schools

- 8. Crete Public Schools
- 9. Madison Public Schools
- 10. O'Neill Public Schools
- 11. Bellevue Public Schools
- Is 12. North Platte Public Schools
  - 13. Hastings Public Schools
  - 14. Beatrice Public Schools









Family Learning COMMUNITY Nebraska

## **NE SFEC: Key Initiatives**

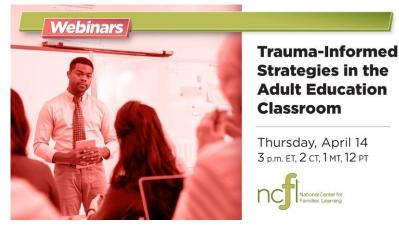


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- Family Literacy
- **Professional development** •
- Monthly PLC's
- **Book distribution**
- Quarterly Nebraska Cafe
- Quarterly advisory board meetings









## What asset mapping looks like in Family Literacy

FAMILY

LITERACY

- Identifying community partners for adult ed instruction
- Finding a meeting space for the classroom outside of the school
  - Finding outside expertise on subjects requested by participants
    - Parents share their expertise and skills with the class

- Families learn about the programs and resources available to their children
  - Engage families in actively choosing what their child will participate in
  - Share resources for family activities outside the classroom
  - Parent's acquire knowledge to plan and facilitate their families involvement with community resources



# What is Asset Mapping?

"Asset mapping is a systematic process of cataloging

- key services
- benefits, and
- resources within the community, such as
  - o individuals' skill sets,
  - o organizational resources,
  - o physical space,
  - o institutions,
  - o associations, and
  - o elements of the local economy."





# Why?

#### Asset Mapping helps to identify:

- community strengths
- resources
- Underutilized programs or facilities
- Overlooked skills

That can lead to:

- Increased pride & ownership in the community & program
- Strategies to build on existing resources
- Utilize existing resources in new places and ways



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An asset mapping team could include a cross section of your community partners, like:

- School employees
- Business leaders
- Parents
- Young professionals
- Retirees in the neighborhood
- Members of the population you serve!







#### Early...

Asset Mapping should be done as soon as you are able or aware as it can inform much of what you do and how you collaborate with other community programs.

#### and often!

Resources and programs come and go with the passage of time and the availability of funding. It is a good idea to review your asset map yearly to ensure it is up to date.



## **How?** Or I have an asset mapping team. Now what?

- Each person create a list of their personal assets that would help grow & sustain programming
- Each person list the assets they think are available in their community
- Take turns answering the following questions aloud. Have someone record the answers.
  - What do you value most in your community?
  - What are the strengths/assets of your community?
  - What groups/organizations/faith-based communities are you a member of?
  - Does anyone in your family or friend group work at or own any business that can help with the growth or sustainability of the program?
  - What special skills/talents do you possess that would benefit the program?
- Look at the answers and discuss ways they can aid in growth & sustainability.
- Put the resources listed into a usable format, like the template provided.
- Review the lists and answer the following questions:
  - What surprises you?
  - Are all assets materials or goods?
  - Is there anything missing?
- Create an action plan utilizing the resources you have identified.



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## The "How" in Action

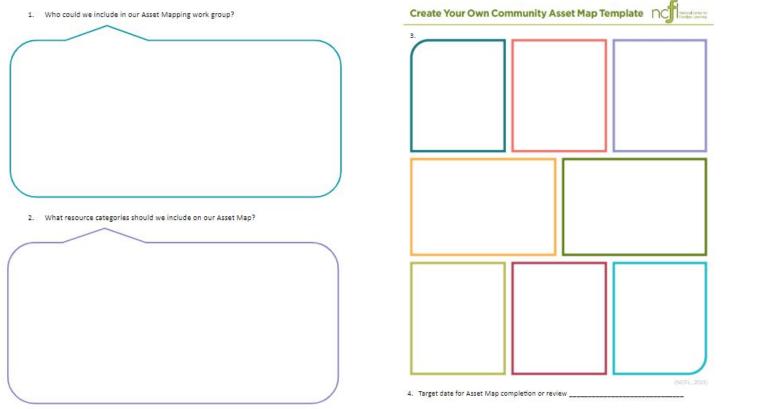


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