

Homelessness Among Youth and Young Adults

For Certified Peer Support Specialists, psychologists, behavioral health and licensed mental health professionals

This training session will provide a foundational understanding of youth homelessness in Nebraska. The training focuses on prevalence, common risk factors, treatment challenges, and evidence-based clinical approaches. The training will provide professionals with practical skills for identifying and responding to youth and young adults at risk of homelessness. The training session was developed in partnership with youth who have experienced homelessness.

OBJECTIVES

1. Define youth homelessness and identify risk factors that contribute to youth homelessness.
2. Describe at least two trauma-informed and youth centered engagement strategies to build safety and increase trust.
3. Identify evidence-based approaches for addressing youth homelessness.
4. Describe how to coordinate care and referrals with education, housing, and community-based systems.

LOCATION

Zoom Webinar

COST

No fee to attend this training.



**REGISTER FOR
TRAINING ONLINE**
go.unl.edu/reg-unhoused-youth

Tuesday, February 24, 2026
9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. noon (Central)

CONTINUING EDUCATION

INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL: Introductory

This training is approved for **2.75 CE credits for psychologists,* Nebraska LIMHP/LMHP, and Nebraska Certified Peer Support Specialists**. Credits will be awarded to participants who attend the entire training.

*Continuing education for psychologists may be used by other licensed behavioral health professionals. Please check with your licensing board. Continuing education credit is granted on a one credit per one instructional hour basis.

The University of Nebraska Public Policy Center (NUPPC) is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The NUPPC maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

SPONSORS

Sponsored by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Division of Behavioral Health and the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center.



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SPEAKERS

The speakers certify that they have no affiliations with or involvement in any organization or entity with any financial interest or non-financial interest in the subject matter or materials presented in this training.



BRITTANY BRAKENHOFF

PhD

Brittany Brakenhoff is a Research Assistant Professor at University of Nebraska–Lincoln (UNL) Center on Children, Families, and the Law (CCFL). She received her PhD in Couple and Family Therapy from Ohio State University in 2018. She has co-authored multiple peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters related to her research focused on young adults experiencing homelessness. Currently, at CCFL, a primary area of her focus is providing evaluation and research support to the homeless service systems in Lincoln and rural Nebraska.



ANGELA GEBHARDT

MFS, MSW

Angela Gebhardt works for CCFL as a Youth Lived Experience Coordinator on the Youth Homeless Systems Improvement (YHSI) project establishing Youth Action Boards across Nebraska. Angela is the Training Coordinator for the Safe and Healthy Families Initiative (SAHFI) grant to build the capacities of community professionals who work with the intersection of domestic violence and child welfare. Angela also trains Family Support Workers at Jenda and third year law students at the Children's Justice Clinic at UNL on domestic violence.



SARAH CRUZ

CSW

Sarah Cruz is the Youth Program and Prevention Coordinator at UNL's CCFL and a Certified Social Worker in the State of Nebraska. Sarah obtained her bachelor of science degree in social work from Nebraska Wesleyan University in 2020. Sarah joined CCFL in November 2023. Sarah's current work focuses on the youth Coordinated Entry System and Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) programming in both the Balance of State Continuum of Care and Lincoln Continuum of Care as well as management and implementation of the City of Lincoln's rental assistance program, Lincoln Prevention Assistance Common (LPAC) Fund.