

LEAGUE OF HUMAN DIGNITY

ON THE LEVEL

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2005

(DESCRIPTIVE TEXT VERSION)

[WWW.LEAGUEOFHUMANDIGNITY.COM](http://WWW.LEAGUEOFHUMANDIGNITY.COM) & [WWW.MOBILITY-OPTIONS.COM](http://WWW.MOBILITY-OPTIONS.COM)

(The League of Human Dignity logo features the capital letter “H” (royal blue) with a larger size capital “D” (white) behind it. A thick white arrow pointing upward forms the center of the “H.” The words “League of Human Dignity” (black) appear to the left of the symbol.)

ON THE LEVEL is the bimonthly newsletter of the League of Human Dignity, Inc.

The League of Human Dignity is a consumer based nonprofit organization, whose purpose is to promote the full integration of persons with disabilities into society. To this end, we will advocate their needs and rights, while providing quality service to assist them in becoming and remaining independent citizens.

Established in 1971, the League now serves consumers in 62 counties throughout Nebraska and Southwest Iowa through our Centers for Independent Living in Lincoln, Norfolk, Omaha, and Council Bluffs; our Panhandle Medicaid Waiver Office in Scottsbluff; and our Mobility Options shop in Lincoln.

ON THE LEVEL is available in Braille and on audio cassette. To request these formats, contact the Public Information Office in Lincoln, or the League of Human Dignity in your area. For information on display advertising, please contact Public Information. Classified ads are also available.

To provide support group listings, news releases, or other information contact: Editor, ON THE LEVEL, League of Human Dignity, 1701 P Street, Lincoln, NE 68508; (402) 441-7871 Voice/TDD; FAX: (402) 441-7650; or [info@leagueofhumandignity.com](mailto:info@leagueofhumandignity.com).

ON THE LEVEL STAFF

Mike Schafer, CEO

Michelle Martin, Editor

LEAGUE OF HUMAN DIGNITY

WHERE TO FIND US...

LINCOLN

Center for Independent Living  
and Mobility Options

1701 P Street

Lincoln, NE 68508

(402) 441-7871

NORFOLK

Center for Independent Living

400 Elm Avenue

Norfolk, NE 68701

(402) 371-4475

## OMAHA

Center for Independent Living  
5513 Center Street  
Omaha, NE 68106  
(402) 595-1256

## SOUTHWEST IOWA

Center for Independent Living  
1520 Avenue M  
Council Bluffs, IA 51501  
(712) 323-6863

## PANHANDLE

Medicaid Waiver Office  
17 E 21 ST #2  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361  
(308) 632-0470

(pictured in the upper middle of the page is a speaker standing at a podium while a group of people are sitting and watching him speak)

Many community members attended the press conference to learn about the new program's benefits.

(pictured in the bottom middle of the page is Mayor Coleen Seng speaking at a podium)

Mayor Coleen Seng spoke in support of this venture at the August 9<sup>th</sup> event.

### HUMAN SERVICES COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM LAUNCHES

On Tuesday, August 9th, various Lincoln human services agencies announced the formation of the Human Services Coordinated Transportation Project. This new venture will change the face of transportation in Lincoln and Lancaster County, and will greatly affect those who need special transportation services.

“The main objective of this project is to join Lincoln and Lancaster county agencies that can provide transportation together to form a coalition which will increase transit options,” Mike Schafer, League of Human Dignity CEO, stated. “The target population for this project are people with disabilities and the aged who cannot use conventional transportation.”

The eventual plan is for these providers to share vehicles, attain combined contracting for major vehicle repairs, do bulk purchasing of fuel, etc. Another part of this plan is for there to be one main office that dispatches the vehicles so that a greater number of people can be served.

The Human Services Coordinated Transportation Project has been in the planning stages for many years, getting its start in the mid 1980's in community agency efforts to assist coordination of transportation services.

Although the idea of coordinating transportation services was touched on each year, successful implementation of a plan did not start to take shape until mid-2004. Then, private funding from Woods Charitable Fund, the Cooper Foundation, and the Lincoln Community Foundation was secured to initiate “year one” of the three-year pilot project.

After the Project Coordinator was hired, the plan went into high gear.  
continued on page 8

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The League of Human Dignity ended our fiscal year on August 31st, 2005, and then began our new year on September 1st. We have had a tremendous year full of growth and success.

We feel like everyday we live our mission statement. We do promote the full integration of persons with disabilities into society. We do advocate for their needs and rights, and we provide quality services to assist them in becoming and remaining independent citizens.

But we couldn't accomplish all of this without you.

Thank you to our Board of Directors who volunteer their time to help guide and support us. They assist us with challenging issues each month.

Thank you to all of our volunteers who generously give of their time to help us complete projects and give us that extra helping hand. In October we will host four volunteer appreciation luncheons at various CILs so be looking for your invitation in the mail. We so want to thank you for all you do for us.

Thank you to our consumers - you are why we are here and we appreciate you letting us into your everyday lives.

Thank you to the various local foundations that contribute to our worthy cause and allow us to keep pursuing our vision. We appreciate all of the assistance and financial support we receive. We appreciate all of you.

Please continue to journey with us in this new fiscal year.

Mike Schafer  
Chief Executive Officer  
League Of Human Dignity

(pictured in the upper right corner of the page is a portrait of Mike Leavit)

SECRETARY OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES MIKE LEAVIT VISITS NEBRASKA TO  
INTRODUCE MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE

You know something exciting is happening when the Secret Service come to town. While it wasn't the President here in our Capitol city, Cabinet member Mike Leavit made quite an impression when he made a visit to the F Street Recreation Center in August.

Mike Leavit visited Omaha and Lincoln in August to talk about Medicare's new coverage for Prescription Drugs. The meeting in Lincoln was an opportunity for local agency representatives, including the League's CEO Mike Schafer, to get a chance to hear about the new plan from the Secretary himself. Local dignitaries including Nebraska First Lady Sally Ganem and former Mayor Helen Boosalis were also in attendance to support the new plan.

Detailed information should be arriving in your mailbox soon. Please read it carefully, share it with other people you know and trust. Talk about it.

Once you feel comfortable that you have all the information you need to make a decision, it is time to act. You must sign up for coverage to begin. You can do it as early as November 15th. Please call the phone numbers to the right if you have any questions or if you just need someone to walk you through the process.

Important Dates to Remember

October 2005

Watch the mail for the Medicare and You handbook.

Look for community events throughout the fall.

October 15:

Approved Drug Plans are announced.

Drug plan carriers begin marketing.

November 2005

November 15:

Open enrollment for Medicare prescription drug coverage begins. This is the first day you can join a plan.

January 2006

January 1:

Prescription drug coverage begins for those who joined by December 31st.

May 2006

May 15:

Open enrollment ends. Last day to join a plan without paying a penalty.

For more information, please call 1-800-MEDICARE or 1-800-234-7119 (SHIIP) or you can also visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

## A CHRONOLOGY OF THE DISABILITY RIGHTS MOVEMENT

The Disability Rights Movement started in 1817 when the first school for children with disabilities, the American School for the Deaf, was founded in Connecticut. Take a look at what happened from 1943 through 1950.

1943 - Congress passes the Vocational Rehabilitation Amendments, known as the LaFollette-Barden Act, adding physical rehabilitation to the goals of federally funded vocational rehabilitation programs and providing funding for certain health care services.

1944 - Howard Rusk is assigned to the U.S. Army Air Force Convalescent Center in Pawling, New York, where he begins a rehabilitation program for airmen with disabilities. First dubbed "Rusks folly" by the medical establishment rehabilitation medicine becomes a new medical specialty.

1945 - The Blinded Veterans Association (BVA) is formed in Avon, Connecticut.

President Harry Truman signs Public Law 176, a joint congressional resolution calling for the creation of an annual National Employ the Handicapped Week.

Boyce R. Williams is hired by the federal Office of Vocational Rehabilitation as Consultant for the Deaf, the Hard of Hearing, and the Speech Impaired. He begins close to four decades of work at OVR, designing and implementing educational and vocational programs for deaf Americans.

1946 - Congress enacts the Hospital Survey and Construction Act, also known as the Hill-Burton Act, authorizing federal grants to the states for the construction of hospitals, public health centers, and health facilities for rehabilitation of people with disabilities.

The Cerebral Palsy Society of New York City is established by parents of children with cerebral palsy. This is the first chapter of what will become the United Cerebral Palsy Associations, Inc.

The National Mental Health Foundation is founded by conscientious objectors who served as attendants at state mental institutions during World War II. It works to expose the abusive conditions at these facilities and becomes an early impetus in the push for deinstitutionalization.

1947 - Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) is founded at the Birmingham Hospital in Van Nuys, California, by Fred Smead, Randall Updykes, and other delegates from Veterans Administration hospitals across the country.

The first meeting of the Presidents Committee on National Employ the Physically Handicapped

Week is held in Washington, D.C. Its publicity campaigns, coordinated by state and local committees, emphasize the competence of people with disabilities and use movie trailers, billboards, and radio and television ads to convince the public that its "good business to hire the handicapped."

Harold Russell wins two Academy Awards for his role in *The Best Year of Our Lives*.

1948 - The National Paraplegia Foundation is founded by members of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, as the civilian arm of their growing movement. Foundation chapters in many cities and states take a leading role in advocating for disability rights.

The students with disabilities program at the University of Illinois at Galesburg is officially established. Founded and directed by Timothy Nugent, the program moves to the campus at Urbana-Champaign, where it becomes a prototype for disabled student programs and then independent living centers across the country.

We Are Not Alone (WANA), a self-help group for patients with mental illness, is organized at the Rockland State Hospital in New York City.

1949 - The first Annual Wheelchair Basketball Tournament is held in Galesburg, Illinois. Wheelchair basketball, and other sports, becomes an important part of disability lifestyle and culture over the next several decades.

Timothy Nugent founds the National Wheelchair Basketball Association.

The National Foundation for Cerebral Palsy is chartered by representatives of various groups of parents of children with cerebral palsy. Renamed the United Cerebral Palsy Associations, Inc., in 1950, it becomes, together with the Association for Retarded Children, a major force in the parents' movement of the 1950s and thereafter.

1950 - The Social Security Amendments of 1950 establish a federal-state program to aid the permanently and totally disabled (APTD). This is a limited prototype for later federal disability assistance programs such as Social Security Disability Insurance.

The Association for Retarded Children of the United States (later renamed The Arc) is founded in Minneapolis by representatives of various state associations of parents with children with mental retardation.

Mary Switzer is appointed Director of the federal Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

IN MEMORY OF ALMA LINDHORST

Robert Lindhorst

IN MEMORY OF LINDA SOMR

Michael Kautz, Jerry Wineman, Stacy Carson, Gary Enlow, W. Keith Hampton, Milo Sandberg, Bill Wineman, Kay Dottie Sandberg, Kenneth Wineman

IN MEMORY OF LONG-TIME LEAGUE VOLUNTEER JAY MORSE

Norfolk CIL Staff

OTHER

Karen Bunik

Anonymous

FRIEND (\$25 - \$49)

Denise Weimer

Believer (\$50 - \$99)

Susan Toelle

WHO'S NEW...

Shelli Morgan, Secretary, Scottsbluff

Marcus Johnson, Sales Representative for Mobility Options

SAYING GOODBYE...

Diane Crystal, Medicaid Waiver Services Coordinator, Scottsbluff

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THE LEAGUE OF HUMAN DIGNITY RURAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Is now taking applications for two 1-bedroom apartments in York.

The units come with a Section 8 certificate, and rent is based on income.

Eligible persons must qualify under income guidelines as established by the U.S. Dept. of HUD.

Applicants must have a disability to qualify.

Contact Paula Shufeldt at 1 (888) 508-4758 voice/TDD [pshufeldt@leagueofhumandignity.com](mailto:pshufeldt@leagueofhumandignity.com)

MONDAY, JULY 25, 2005

JUSTICE DEPT. ANNOUNCES NEW INITIATIVES AT ADA 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Justice Department today announced the signing of 22 agreements with cities and counties across the country, as well as a new interactive web-based course, to promote greater accessibility in businesses and communities. Justice Department leadership announced these initiatives during a ceremony commemorating the fifteenth anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the landmark civil rights law enacted to ensure that persons with disabilities can participate fully in civic life.

“Today we come together to celebrate another milestone in Project Civic Access, a program that serves to further the President’s New Freedom Initiative by providing greater access to those in our society with disabilities,” said Robert D. McCallum, Jr., Associate Attorney General. “People with disabilities are found in every community and in every walk of life. We are committed to bringing programs, services, and activities into compliance with the ADA to ensure individuals with disabilities can have access to and participate fully in the life of our great nation.”

“Today we salute local governments for their commitment to improving their communities for all citizens, including citizens with disabilities,” said Bradley J. Schlozman, Acting Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division. “For fifteen years, the ADA has eliminated barriers to access, thereby allowing millions of people with disabilities to participate actively in the mainstream of American life. We will continue our efforts on accessibility issues

until the promise of the ADA becomes a reality.”

The Department also announced agreements with other local governments, including Sedona, Arizona; Crittenden County, Arkansas; Carpinteria and San Luis Obispo, California; Lafayette County, Florida; Hutchinson, Kansas; Washington County, Maine; St. Louis County, Minnesota; Missoula County, Montana; Omaha, Nebraska; Cheshire County, New Hampshire; Gallup, New Mexico; Monroe County, Pennsylvania; Bend, Oregon; Florence County and Laurens County, South Carolina; Madison, Tennessee; Amarillo, Texas; Washington County, Utah; and Suffolk, Virginia.

In addition, the Department also announced a new web-based interactive online course, “Reaching Out to Customers with Disabilities,” designed to educate small business owners about their obligations to, and the benefits of serving, customers with disabilities. More than 50 million Americans with disabilities are potential customers for businesses of all types across the United States. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, this group has \$175 billion in discretionary spending power. The course instructs business owners, managers, contractors, architects, and others about the ADA in an easy-to-understand format.

People interested in finding out more about the ADA or the new interactive course can access the ADA home page at [www.ada.gov](http://www.ada.gov) or call the toll-free ADA Information Line at (800) 514-0301 or (800) 514-0383 (TDD).

#### DEAR DISABILITY RIGHTS ADVOCATES:

As you may know, in August 2002, my office, the Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Aviation Enforcement and Proceedings (Enforcement Office), established a toll free number that consumers who experience disability-related air travel problems may use to obtain information and assistance. The office is staffed from 7 am to 11 pm local time in Washington, D.C., seven days a week and provides general information to consumers about the rights of air travelers with disabilities and assists air travelers in resolving time-sensitive disability-related issues that need to be addressed in real time. Unfortunately, many members of the public are still not aware of the existence of the hotline and as a result the hotline is not being sufficiently used.

At this time, the Enforcement Office asks that you advise members of your respective organizations about the existence of an aviation consumer Disability toll-free hotline and encourage them to call the hotline if they should experience disability-related air service problems.

The toll-free number for the hotline is 1-800-778-4838 (voice) or 1-800-455-9880 (TTY).

The Enforcement Office is committed to improving the quality of air transportation for People with disabilities and believes that with your help the toll-free hotline Can be a major step towards accomplishing this goal.

Sincerely,

Samuel Podberesky

Assistant General Counsel for Aviation Enforcement and Proceedings

#### GRANTS NOW AVAILABLE

Barrier Removal Grants are now available to qualified renters or homeowners who experience a mobility limitation (or have someone in their family who does). The program is offered in Lincoln/Lancaster County, Omaha and Council Bluffs, and is open to people who have low to moderate incomes and need funds to remove or modify barriers in their homes.

A few modifications that may be considered eligible under the program include: outside ramps and lifts, grab bars, handrails, wider doorways, accessible tubs and showers, and reachable sinks and counters.

Applications for the grants are available at the Lincoln, Omaha, and Council Bluffs Centers for Independent Living.

LINCOLN

Center for Independent Living

1701 P Street

Lincoln, NE 68508

(402) 441-7871

SOUTHWEST IOWA

Center for Independent Living

1520 Avenue M

Council Bluffs, IA 51501

(712) 323-6863

OMAHA

Center for Independent Living

5513 Center Street

Omaha, NE 68106

(402) 595-1256

(pictured in the upper right of the page is Bob Clark being interviewed by a reporter)

Bob Clark, Project Coordinator, speaks with a reporter from KFOR at the press announcement.

(pictured in the lower left of the page is Tim Koiser talking to members of the media)

Tim Koiser, Spokesperson for the Project Provider's Council, explains the new program's benefits to the media.

(pictured in the lower right of the page is Stan Dinkelman)

League of Human Dignity Chairperson Stan Dinkelman welcomes everyone to the press conference.

HUMAN SERVICES COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM LAUNCHES  
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

A Project Development Group, made up of Lincoln agencies who currently provide assistance in the areas of public transit, was established. This group consists of members from the Community Services Initiative, the League of Human Dignity and StarTran.

The Project Provider's Council, a select group of current transportation providers, was also brought on board. They will help determine the project's priorities. The Project Provider's Council consists of Region V Services, Lincoln Area Agency on Aging, Community Mental Health Center of Lancaster County, Vital Services, Developmental Services of Nebraska, and Transfiguration.

Stan Dinkelman, Chairperson for the League of Human Dignity, welcomed guests and shared the League's enthusiasm for this project.

"We are very excited to be a partner in the Human Services Coordinated Transportation Project," Dinkelman said. "We are proud to play a role in what we believe will emerge as a project that expands transportation for people who experience disability and older adults."

(pictured in the upper left of the page is a drawing of a person in a wheelchair stuck on the front

porch lift, covered in snow)

## **MAKE SURE YOUR VERTICAL PLATFORM LIFT IS IN GOOD WORKING ORDER!**

Harsh winter weather can put a strain on outdoor mobility equipment—especially vehicle and vertical platform lifts, according to the staff at Mobility Options.

“When the temperature is low,” said Service Manager Bryan “Kubie” Kubicek, “your lift has to work twice as hard.” Wind, rain and snow can also increase the wear and tear on equipment exposed to Midwestern weather conditions.

Mobility Options also emphasizes the importance of regular maintenance on van lifts and other vehicle equipment used outdoors.

“Whether you own a hydraulic or mechanical lift, it’s going to work harder during the winter.”

Indoor equipment—including stair lifts and elevators—should also be maintained regularly, said Kubicek, to make sure they are working properly.

Mobility Options technicians are skilled at installing, servicing and repairing all types of mobility equipment.

“No matter where you purchased your lift equipment,” said Kubicek, “we’ll be glad to take a look at it.”

“Regular service calls are almost always more economical than repairs,” he said, “and the best way to avoid the stress and inconvenience of equipment failure.”

Call 402-441-7871 to have your equipment checked out!

Mobility Options

Knowledge. Innovation. Independence.

[www.mobility-options.com](http://www.mobility-options.com)

## **AAFA JOINS PARTNERSHIP FOR PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE**

Millions of Americans with asthma and allergies have difficulty affording health care, including purchasing prescription medicines. Many lack health insurance and simply do not have the money to pay for the medicines they need. Patient assistance programs have helped many receive free or discounted medicines, but many more still need help.

To address this unmet need, a coalition of pharmaceutical research companies, doctors, other health care providers, patient advocacy organizations, and community groups have come together to form the Partnership for Prescription Assistance — the largest ever private sector program to help qualifying patients who lack prescription coverage get the medicines they need through the public or private program that is right for them. The program offers a single point of access—through a toll-free phone number and web site to more than 275 public and private patient assistance programs, including more than 150 programs offered by pharmaceutical companies.

AAFA is proud to be a part of this groundbreaking effort. The programs available through the Partnership for Prescription Assistance offer prescription medicine not only for asthma and allergies, but also for diabetes, hypertension, cancer, HIV/AIDS, depression, seizures, heart disease, arthritis, skin conditions, thyroid disease and high cholesterol, among others.

By calling 1-888-4PPA-NOW (1-888-477-2669), patients or their care givers can speak with a trained specialist who will ask a series of short questions to help determine eligibility and to identify the right patient assistance program. Patients can also visit the program’s user-friendly web site, [www.pparx.org](http://www.pparx.org), which will guide them through the application process.

AAFA encourages anyone who does not have prescription coverage and have trouble

affording their medicines to call 1-888-APPA-NOW or visit [www.pparx.org](http://www.pparx.org) to see if they may qualify for one or more programs. In addition to handling calls in English and Spanish, the call center will be able to take calls in more than 150 other languages.

## QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM

Approximately a year ago, the League of Human Dignity began to develop Quality Assurance standards and requirements for each of its programs. What is this, you ask?

Quality Assurance is about defining quality expectations throughout the entire process of service delivery within a program. Developing a set of standards and the requirements that need to be accomplished to meet that standard help us to assure that we are consistently providing quality service to our consumers.

The League of Human Dignity wants to assure they have the same level of quality delivered the same way to each and every consumer across their service area in Nebraska and Iowa.

Mike Schafer, League CEO, who has overseen the development of the standards said, "The bottom line is making sure that the consumers we serve are consistently receiving an excellent level of services in each of our programs."

For more information on the League's Quality Assurance Program, please contact Sandra Dresser at 402-441-7871.

(pictured in the upper left of the page is a photograph of Valerie Knaub and Nita Sipple)  
League employees Valerie Knaub and Nita Sipple create a plan to sell all those fun raffle tickets.  
(pictured in the bottom left of the page is a photograph of a group of people sitting at their table bidding on auction items)

A table of auction goers enjoy the fierce bidding for 'Pheasant Feathers' from Cliff Hollestelle. Auctioneer Shayne Fili went back and forth between two bidders at this table for quite some time before one eventually bowed out.

(pictured in the bottom middle of the page is a group of people sitting at their table and laughing)  
The Baylor, Evnen, Curtiss, Gruit & Witt Corporate Table share a laugh during the Live Auction.

(pictured in the bottom right of the page is Mike Schafer standing at a podium speaking)  
League of Human Dignity CEO Mike Schafer spends a moment at the beginning of the Lincoln Auction welcoming guests. Although this was the 14th Annual Benefit Auction, this was just the first year it was held at the Nebraska Champions Club.

## FIELD OF DREAMS AUCTION HITS A HOME RUN!

### 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BENEFIT AUCTION IS A SUCCESS!

The Nebraska Champions Club was the setting for the League of Human Dignity's Annual Benefit Auction on September 29th, 2005. The League hosts this annual event to raise funds for the Lincoln Center for Independent Living, which serves Lincoln and many surrounding counties.

Nearly 150 people gathered to bid on silent and live auction items and to compete in numerous raffle contests. Like every year, the Balloon Raffle was a big hit. Each balloon sold for \$10 and had a prize valued at at least \$10 with it. They were gone before you knew it.

A frame of \$2.00 bills with Warren Buffet's signature was auctioned off on the Live portion of the auction and drew quite a bit of bidding. This collector's item always brings out a myriad of bidders, as it isn't too often that financial mogul Buffet donates his signature.

Another draw on the live auction was a beautiful wood carving by artist Cliff Hollestelle. This 'Pheasant Feathers', which appears so much like real feathers that people have to be convinced it is actually wood, was a real battle between two bidders. Their competitive spirit added a lot of fun to the evening.

Plan ahead for next year .... with a delicious buffet, free Emyrean Ales beer and an exciting evening of prizes and auction items, you won't want to miss out!

#### ASSOCIATIONS AND SUPPORT GROUPS YOU CAN COUNT ON WHEN YOU NEED SOMEONE WHO UNDERSTANDS

The information listed here has been shared with the League of Human Dignity by individuals and organizations involved in local, regional and national associations and support groups.

Please let us know if you would like to add a listing.

PLEASE HELP KEEP US UPDATED: For corrections, additions or special announcements, contact Michelle in Public Information, League of Human Dignity, 1701 P St, Lincoln, NE 68508; 402- 441-7871 (V/TDD); FAX 441-7650; awenke@leagueofhumandignity.com

#### ADVOCACY

EAD-Equal Access for the Disabled, meets 1st Monday of the month at 1:30 p.m. at the Council Bluffs, IA, 6th St & 9th Ave. Contact Pat Butler, President (712-323-1894) pr Pat Lawson, Secretary (712-323-3438).

#### ALS

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)(Lou Gehrig's Disease) Support Group (MDA), Omaha, 7602 Pacific St, Suite 200, 68114 Jessi Thomsen,(402) 390-2914.

Nebraska Office, Shaker Place, 10730 Pacific, Ste 228, Omaha, NE 68114, 402-991-8788, 1-866-762-6361; FAX: 402-991-3691, Keith Worthington Chapter; 8340 Mission Rd, Ste B4, Prairie Village, Kansas 66206, 913-648-2062

#### ALZHEIMER'S

Cass Co. Iowa, 2nd Thursday, call Alan & Kathy Teel, 712-243-9835.

Alzheimers Association of Lincoln/Great Plains Chapter, regular meeting is the 1st Monday of each mo. at 7 pm, Karen (402) 420-2540, Toll-Free 1-800-487-2585.

Omaha/Eastern Nebraska/SW Iowa (402) 572-3010, 1-800-309-2112.

Fremont Co. in Sidney, IA, 4th Monday each mo. at 7pm, Sidney presbyterian Church, 1000 Illinois St, call Faye at 712-374-2433.

Harrison Co., Missouri Valley, last Tues of each mo. at 3 pm, Longview Home, call Evonne at 712-642-2264.

Page Co. in Clarinda, 3rd Thursday of each mo. at 2:30 pm, Goldenrod Facility, call Linda at 712-542-5621.

Scottsbluff 1st Thursday of each mo., Beverly Healthcare, 111 W. 36 St, Stacy Rotherham (308) 635-2019.

Council Bluffs, last Tuesday of each mo. at 6:30 pm at Bethany Lutheran Home, 712-572-3059.

Shelby Co. in Harlan, 3rd Wednesday each mo. at 6:30 pm at Harlan Senior Center, call Alice at 712-755-2757.

#### AMPUTEE

United Support for Amputees, Omaha Emmanuel Hospital Rehabilitation Center, 3rd Tuesday

of each month, Maxine, (712) 644-2955, after 7 pm.  
Beyond Limbloss, Lincoln, Kenny, (402) 466-0268, cell 540-0748

#### ARTHRITIS

Arthritis Foundation Nebraska Chapter, Omaha, meets monthly; 402-572-3040; FAX:  
402-572-3048; www.arthritis.org  
Columbus, Jolene 402-564-7571  
Grand Island, Connie 308-389-5565  
Lincoln, Kaye (402) 481-3399.  
North Platte, Doris 308-534-4228  
Omaha, Patti (402) 895-6263  
Ord, Don (308) 728-3306  
Arthritis Foundation Iowa Chapter, Des Moines, meets monthly, 515-278-0636; FAX:  
515-278-2636; Info.ia@arthritis.org; www.arthritis.org

#### ATHLETICS

Cornhusker Wheelchair Athletics Ass'n Lincoln Ian (402) 486-8449, www.cwaane.org  
Eastern Nebraska Wheelchair Athletic Association, Omaha, Greg (402) 289-3521.  
Junior Wheelchair Basketball Team, Omaha, Mike (402) 554-2539; Rita (402) 551-4598.

#### AUTISM

Autism Society of Nebraska, Jean McDermott (402) 431-0166  
Families for Early Autism Treatment (FEAT) of Nebraska, Mark Hirschfeld (402) 955-1780  
Unlocking Autism, Connie Shockley (402) 933-2565

#### BLIND/VISUALLY IMPAIRED

C-Big (Council Bluffs Blind Information Group) Chuck Dietz (712) 323-4817.  
United Blind of Omaha, Gary 402-455-4116, Sherry 556-4156.  
Support Groups for the Visually Impaired Albion, Center, Columbus, Norfolk, Tekamah,  
Westpoint, John/Glen 402- 370-3436.  
Support Groups for the Visually Impaired in Iowa, Iowa Department for the Blind  
1-800-362-2587  
VIPS Support Groups for visually impaired; over 1000 members throughout Nebraska; to find  
your group, contact: President Howard Simons, Isanders Group, 324 W 13 St, Grand Island, NE  
68801; 308-381-8003.

#### CANCER

American Cancer Society, Heartland Division (Omaha Office) 402-393-5800; 1-800-642-8116  
PLEASE CALL FOR SUPPORT GROUPS IN OMAHA AND SURROUNDING AREAS  
Lincoln, Thursdays, 6-7:30 pm Nebraska Union Rm 338. Call Yasmin (402) 472-7450.  
Lincoln; Corporate Building, 7441 O St., Suite 301. "Breast Cancer Support Group" and "Look  
Good Feel Good" meetings will be held on 1st or 2nd Wednesday of the month. Call Mary at  
402-486-7258.  
Montgomery Co. in Red Oak, Breast Cancer group, meet monthly at Montgomery County  
Memorial Hospital, 4th Monday of mo at 6:30 pm, call Carla at 712-623-7215.  
Shelby Co. in Harlan, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital, 4th Monday of the month at 6:30 pm, call  
Cheryl at 712-755-5161.

#### CHRONIC PAIN

Lincoln Chapter, American Chronic Pain Association, 1st & 3rd Tues each month, 7-8:30 pm, 1st Step Recovery & Wellness Center, 2231 Winthrop Rd. Call Chapter President Terrance Dukes (402) 423-9405.

#### DEAF

Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NCDHH) 4600 Valley Rd, Ste 420; 402-471-3593 or 1-800-545-6244.

Communication Service for Deaf of Iowa, employment services (712) 322-1489.

Deaf Services Commission of Iowa. 1-888-221-3724 V/TTY.

#### DEPRESSION

Manic Depressive and Depressive Association, Lincoln, (402) 483-8886.

Greater Omaha Depression & Manic Depression Association, Omaha, Kate (402) 551-3275.

Depression/Bipolar Support Alliance-Lincoln, 1st Tues each month, 7 p.m., call 402-481-5320.

#### DEVELOPMENT DISABILITIES

The ARC of Lincoln/Lancaster County; Individual & Family Support Services; Dads Groups; Sibshops; PeopleFirst of Lincoln; Women Investing in Now (WIN); Parent-to-Parent; Video Project; Family Gatherings; Vacation Program; Group Residences; 1101 Arapahoe, Suite 5, (402) 421-8866; [www.lincolnne.com/nonporofit/arc](http://www.lincolnne.com/nonporofit/arc)

Easter Seal Nebraska provides services to children and adults with disabilities and other special needs, as well as support to their families. Call 800-650-9880 or go to [www.ne.easterseals.com](http://www.ne.easterseals.com).

#### DIABETES

American Diabetes Association (800) 342-2383.

Cass Co, 2nd Wednesday every other mo. at 6:30 pm, call Marcia at 712-243-3250.

Lincoln Diabetes Center: (402) 481-3055.

Page Co., 4th Monday at 6:30 pm, call Elaine at 712-542-2176.

Pottawattamie Co., 3rd Tues. at 5:30 pm, call Cheryl 712-755-4316.

Shelby Co., 3rd Monday at 1:30 pm, March - Nov, call Jan at 712-755-4316.

#### DOWN SYNDROME

Omaha Nat'l Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) Neb. Affiliate; Contact Mary: 402-553-5335 or [nebuddywalk@cox.net](mailto:nebuddywalk@cox.net)

Lincoln, NE Parent and family group; meetings, holiday events, Buddy Walk, parent packets, Call: Deb Safarik: 402-466-7641

Lincoln Early Development Services Coordination 402-441-6710

Early Development Network in Lancaster County; ESU #6, 1-800-327-0091

National Down Syndrome Society 666 Broadway, New York, NY 10012, 1-800-221-4602, FAX 212-979-2873, [info@ndss.org](mailto:info@ndss.org)

#### DYSLEXIA

Nebraska Branch International Dyslexia Association, "Smart Kids: School Problems" Grand Island, Brenda (308) 381-8943.

Lincoln, Irene (402) 327-0751.

#### EPILEPSY

Epilepsy Association of Nebraska, Omaha (402) 553-6567.

Epilepsy Support Group, meets third Tuesday each month in Omaha, Wittson Hall on the UNMC campus, Room 3010.

## FIBROMYALGIA

Omaha, Arthritis Foundation (402) 572-3040.

Gordon area, meets in various pla

Humbolt, IA area, call Judy at 515-332-3376 (9 am-9 pm); [bjmerris@goldfieldaccess.net](mailto:bjmerris@goldfieldaccess.net)

Mercy Medical Center, New Hampton, IA area, meets monthly, call Judy 641-394-3106 ext 189.

Page Co., 2nd Monday at 5:00 p.m. Call Shelly at 712-542-2176.

Shenandoah, IA area, meets four times a year or when requested, call Della 712-246-3244;  
[delsta@netins.net](mailto:delsta@netins.net)

## FMS-CF SYNDROME

Support Group, Council Bluffs. Call (712) 323-9448.

## HARD OF HEARING

S.H.H.H. – Lincoln, 7 P.M. New Covenant Church, 3rd Thursday of each month, call (402) 471-3593.

## HEAD INJURY

Head Injury Support Group, Lincoln, Jan Lingren, 2nd Tuesday at 7 pm, First United Methodist Church (402) 488-1916.

Head Injury Survivors Group, 3rd Wednesday at 6:30 pm at Goodwill Industries, Lincoln (402) 231-1933.

Head Injury Support Group, Omaha, Gail Kerwin (402) 571-5651.

Head Injury Support Group, Norfolk, 1st Monday, Faith Regional Health Services.

## HYDRANENCEPHALY

Omaha Local contact: Lynne (402) 485-2229 or [rtrease@nntc.net](mailto:rtrease@nntc.net); Internet support also available (please call for more information)

## LEARNING DISABILITIES

Learning Disabilities Association of Nebraska, Sharon, Omaha (402) 571-7771.

## LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA

Lincoln Family Support Group for adult patients and family members with leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease, myeloma or myelodysplastic syndromes. Call The L & L Society, 402-344-2242 in Omaha, 402-438-2242 in Lincoln. Omaha-area group meets 2nd Tuesday of the month and Lincoln-area group meets 2nd Monday of the month. Call for more info.

Lincoln Telephone Support Group for adult Myeloma, Lymphoma and Leukemia patients and family members; Mondays 10-11am; talk with support group from home; free service of Nebraska Chapter, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Call Tonya: 402-344-2242 or 1-888-847-4974.

## MDA

MDA Duchene Parents Support Group, Omaha/Papillion, meets quarterly Sat., 1-3; Papillion/LaVista High School, 420 S Washington St; Jessi Thomsen 402-390-2914

## MENTAL ILLNESS

Page Co Serious & Persistent Mental Illness, 3rd Wed. at 1:30 p.m., call Jennifer 1-712-542-2388.

Nebraska Family Support Network for families of children & youth with mental illness, 1st & 3rd Thurs each month, Lincoln, 215 Centennial Mall, Rm 220, Linda (402) 477-2992.

(Arlington, Mary 800-245-6081, Omaha, Lori (402) 453-3154.)

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill(NAMI)<http://www.nami.org/sites/ne>. For questions, please call Dan Jackson at NAMI Nebraska, 1941 S. 42nd St., Suite 517, Omaha, NE 68105 Phone: 1-877-463-6264;

Mental Health Association of Nebraska 1-800-422-6691 or [www.MHA-NE.org](http://www.MHA-NE.org)

Council Bluffs, NAMI meets 1st Thurs of mo., call Laura at 1-712-242-0050.

Grand Island 877-463-6264; or Carole Denton (308) 382-8604; [jdenton@navix.net](mailto:jdenton@navix.net)

Hastings NAMI Hastings, Kevin Ehly (402) 462-8657;

Juniata/Hastings NAMI - FORSE, Cindy Scott (402) 751-2226, [hs35558@navix.net](mailto:hs35558@navix.net); Hastings

NAMI CARE (Consumers Advocating Recovery Through Empowerment) Linda Shaw (402) 463-6354.

Kearney NAMI Central Nebraska, Linda Jensen (308) 865-8729 or Cindy Mayer (308) 234-3212.

Lincoln NAMI Lincoln, Susan Krome (402) 484-8653; Tami Walden (402) 471-4515.

Mental Health Lincoln Support Group, Tuesdays 3-4 pm Bennet Martin Library Downtown 4th Floor

McCook NAMI Of SW Nebraska, Sandy Graves (308) 345-3013. [dlmeyer@ncfcomm.com](mailto:dlmeyer@ncfcomm.com)

Norfolk/Hartington NAMI Northeast Nebraska, Tom Barr (402) 371-7175.

North Platte NAMI Platte Valley, Margaret Baker (308) 535-7434.

Oakland NAMI Greater Burt County Nebraska, Wayne Jarvill, (402) 685-6857.

Scottsbluff NAMI Western Nebraska, Shirley McLaughlin (308) 635-2239, [shirley@prairie.web.com](mailto:shirley@prairie.web.com)

Sutherland NAMI Trails West Nebraska, Margaret Baker (308) 284-4078, [bakerm@gpcom.net](mailto:bakerm@gpcom.net)

#### MULTIPLE CHEMICAL SENSITIVITY

MCS Information Exchange, 2 Oakland St, Brunswick, ME 04011 [conceptmed.com](http://conceptmed.com)

#### MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

Omaha, (402) 572-3190 or 1-800-755-3959

Lincoln, contact Karen Olson (402) 486-1885

Norfolk, (402) 648-7906

Council Bluffs, meets 3rd Thursday every month, 7 pm, Bruce (712) 482-3412

#### MYOSITIS

Support Group, Lincoln, Contact Mac Warren, (402) 438-5183.

Online, [www.myositis.org](http://www.myositis.org)

#### PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Parent Training and Information (PTI) for Families of Children with Disabilities 3135 N 93 St, Omaha, phone & fax: (402) 346-0525; 1-800-284-8520; [kheinen@pti-nebraska.org](mailto:kheinen@pti-nebraska.org)

#### PARKINSON

Lincoln Support Group meets 4th Sunday each month (except December); 2:00 pm; Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital, 5401 South St (52nd St entrance); Contact: Jill 402-486-8164 or Lori, 402-486-9040. Call for schedule of topics.

Fremont (402) 478-4853

Panhandle Area meets 4th Wed each month; Northfield Villa-Bldg 6, Vista Dining Rm, 1:30 pm;  
Contact: Maurice Wheeler (308) 623-2508  
Clarinda, IHS, 600 Manor Dr., 2 pm, 3rd Thursday of each month. Connie (712) 542-5161

#### PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY

Lincoln Support Group meets at Bryan Medical Plaza, 1600 S. 48 St; 2nd Floor; Room 3; Call Sandy (402) 483-4908.

#### POLIO

Nebr Polio Survivors Assoc., Omaha 402-341-0710.  
Lincoln/Lancaster County, Vera (402) 467-5650.

#### RESPIRATORY

Better Breathers, 4th Monday at 4 pm, call Sharon at 712-328-5479.

#### SCHIZOPHRENICS ANONYMOUS

Lincoln Group meets Fridays 7-9pm; First Plymouth, 20th & D St.

#### SCLERODERMA

Lincoln meets at Roper & Son Resource Ctr, 4400 S 70 St; Leader: Terry Christensen (308) 384-4017; [terry058@webtv.net](mailto:terry058@webtv.net)  
Omaha meets 2nd Tues. every other month, 7-9 pm at Methodist Cancer Center; 8303 Dodge St; lower lobby; Leader: Barb Heenan (402) 291-7670; [omahassg@aol.com](mailto:omahassg@aol.com)  
Grand Island meets at St. Francis Hospital, 2620 Faidley Ave, Conf. Rm 3A; Support Leader: Terry Christensen (308) 384-4017; [terry058@webtv.net](mailto:terry058@webtv.net)  
South Sioux City meets at S. Sioux City Library Annex every other month, 6:30 p.m. Call Jane (402) 494-4532 for more information.

#### SPINA BIFIDA

Spina Bifida Ass'n of the Star City, Lincoln, Jerry (402) 434-3000.  
Spina Bifida Support Group, Omaha, meets 1st Wednesday each month 7 pm, Quality Living East Campus, Cabana Room; Call Jolene (402) 894-2070.

#### SPINAL CORD INJURY/DISEASE

E. Nebr./W. Iowa Spinal Cord Injury Assoc. meets bimonthly various Omaha locations. Call Brian at (402) 573-6904, [enwiscia@cox.net](mailto:enwiscia@cox.net) or [www.nebraskascia.org](http://www.nebraskascia.org)  
Spinal Cord Injury Peers (SCIP) (Nebraska Panhandle) meets monthly; Regional West Medical Ctr, Scottsbluff. Call (308) 635-7901; 630-1070; or Cheryl 436-1060.  
Central NE Spinal Cord Injury Group, Hastings. Call Darla McAllister H: 402-463-5926 or W: 461-5161, [bamadarla@alltel.net](mailto:bamadarla@alltel.net)

#### STROKE

SE Nebr. Stroke Club, Lincoln (402) 483-9594  
"Come Back Club", Lincoln 1-888-808-5678.  
Cass Co., 3rd Wednesday at 3 pm at 1501 E 10th St, Atlantic, IA. Barb, 712-243-3250.

#### TOURETTE SYNDROME

Lincoln Nebr. Assoc. for Tourette Syndrome Group (402) 467-9077

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FOR SALE: Electric hospital bed with rails & new mattress, \$500. Hoyer lift with sling, \$300. Call Marvin at 402-470-0609. (Lincoln)

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FOR SALE: Electric hospital bed, \$100. Inflatable air mattress with alternating pressure to prevent bed sores, \$500. Feeding machine pump and stand, \$75 OBO. Suction machine, \$50 OBO. Please call Marie at 712-242-2132 or 712-784-3089. (Walnut, IA)

FOR SALE: A Queen Size Adjustable Bed. Less than 2 years old. Will deliver & set-up, \$500. Please call Donna at 402-438-1460. (Lincoln)

FOR SALE: Pride Jazzy 1120 power wheelchair, excellent condition, \$995. Please call Joe at 402-489-9127. (Lincoln)

FOR SALE: New 2004 Shoprider Medical Power Wheelchair, joystick controlled, useful for short distances outdoors, \$6,000 new; asking \$2,000. Call Andrea at 402-423-0663. (Lincoln)

FOR SALE: Pride Sundancer, black, has nice cushioned fabric seat that slides & swivels, luxurious chair, docking device, 2 years old, new recharger, make offer. Call Chris at 402-571-8688. (Omaha)

FOR SALE: Rascal 600F outdoor 4W, seat lift, up to 25 miles, all types of terrain, brand new, paid \$5,200; will take \$4,000. Call Charlene at 402-734-0861. (Bellevue)

FOR SALE: Action Storm Arrow Series powered wheelchair with 24 volt Invacare battery charger model 055-02x067; "Quickie2" manual wheelchair, both in good condition. Best offer. Please call Rod at 402-616-6976 or 402-393-5469. (Omaha)

FOR SALE: Pride Jet 7 Power Wheelchair, brand new, \$2,500 OBO. Please call Kelly at 402-306-4717. (LaVista)

FOR SALE: Hoveround power chair, top condition. Cost \$10,000 new. used only three years, must sell. Please make offer. Please call Gene at 402-443-1860. (Wahoo)

FOR SALE: Victory-Pride Three Wheel Scooter, Like new, \$1200. Remote-Control Recliner Chair, \$100 OBO. Please call Mac at 402-438-5183 or 402-430-8537. (Lincoln)

FOR SALE: 1999 Ford E-150 van, Braun swing lift, EZ-lock driver's wheelchair lock down, hand controls, 6" dropped floor. Dual air, custom paint and wheels, excellent condition inside & out, snows mounted on separate rims, 84k miles. Can e-mail pictures. Asking \$15,000, will consider offers. Please call Jim at 402-895-6664. (Omaha)

FOR SALE: Invacare Sport Arrow electric wheelchair with ventilator tray, adjustable seat, arm and foot rests, low miles, \$2,500 OBO. Please call Marie at 712-242-2132 or 712-784-3089. (Walnut, IA)

FOR SALE: Pride Wrangler PMV. Four years old but in great shape. Viper Blue & has 5 and 10 mph settings for getting around, owner's manual included. Asking \$3,000, trade of equal value or best reasonable offer. Call Sam at 402-261-4570 or saw1954@neb.rr.com.

FOR SALE: Used Chauffeur Littlest Viva, has new batteries, only \$350 OBO. Please call Tony at 402-563-2755. (Columbus)

FOR SALE: Chair Lift with battery charger, used 4-5 years, good shape. Please call Helen at 402-423-2093. (Lincoln)

FOR SALE: Chauffer Mobility motorized wheelchair, swivel seat, fair condition. New batteries, asking \$200 or make offer. Please call Willard at 402-450-2729 to see. (Lincoln)

FOR SALE: Invacare Pronto M51 Sure Step PowerChair, excellent condition, hardly used. (Valued at \$6800 but will sell for \$1500 OBO) Please call Linda at 402-434-5570. (Lincoln)

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(a picture of a scooter is shown in the upper left of the page)

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