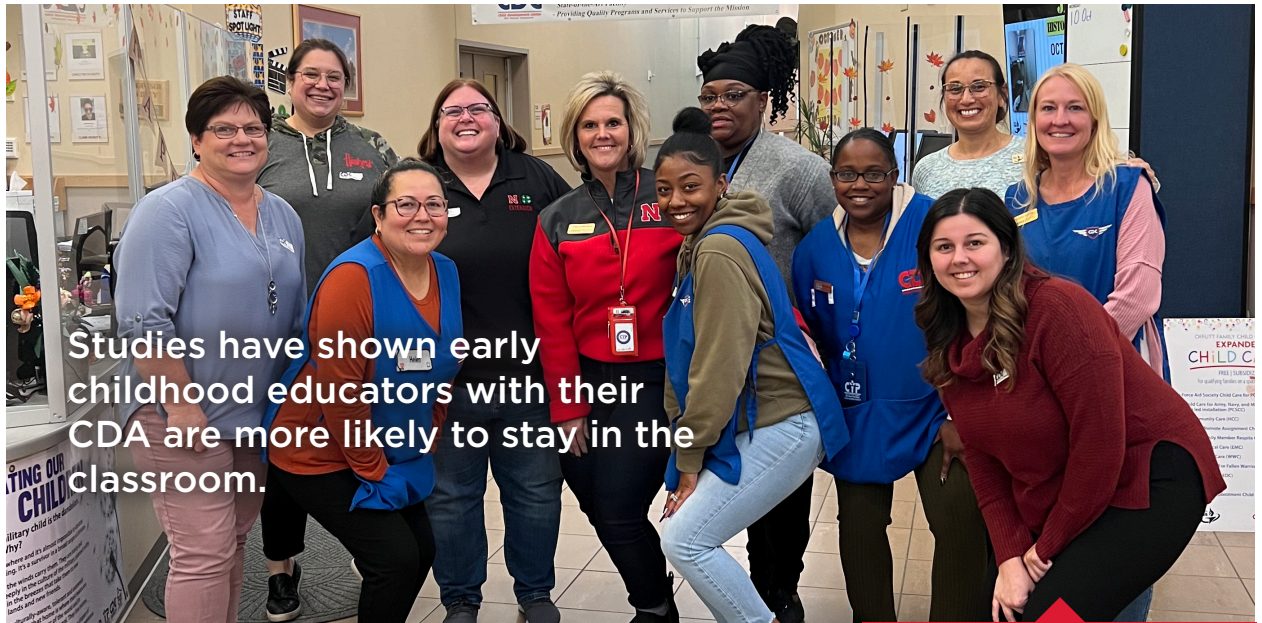


# Early Childhood Impact At-A-Glance



child.unl.edu



Studies have shown early childhood educators with their CDA are more likely to stay in the classroom.

Before the pandemic, the early childhood field was already underpaid, undervalued, and overworked. The field continues to face significant challenges in hiring, retention, and turnover. To help address this issue, the Early Childhood team supported early childhood professionals across the state in completing the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential. Nebraska Extension filled a gap by completing credentialing visits in both English and Spanish-speaking settings. As a result, 2,380 children are now receiving developmentally appropriate teaching practices and quality childcare. Before **Nebraska Extension's impact**, rural and Spanish-speaking childcare providers lacked necessary access to CDA credentialing Specialists.

**“What a year for CDA achievements! We had ten teachers complete the CDA process this year, which is the largest group in any year. For many of our teachers, completing their CDA is a tremendous achievement in their career. We are thankful to Nebraska Extension for providing support and guidance as our teachers completed this journey.”**

*Fatima Shirley, Offutt Child Development Center 2*

# 93%

reported they will use information they learned as a result of our trainings

# 68%

reported feeling less stressed as a result of our trainings

# 83%

reported an increase in knowledge after attending our trainings



**STRENGTHEN NEBRASKA  
AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS**

**INSPIRE NEBRASKANS &  
THEIR COMMUNITIES**

**ENHANCE THE HEALTH  
& WELLBEING OF ALL  
NEBRASKANS**

# Early Childhood



The Early Childhood Extension team partnered with *We Care for Kids* at State Fair to promote and provide resources to families about quality early childhood education for all Nebraska families.

Through programs like Read for Resilience, Math at Home, Circle of Security Parenting and Block Party, the Early Childhood Extension team was able to reach 381 families and 2,867 children.

**Enhance the Health & Wellbeing of All Nebraskans** There is no greater responsibility or reward than supporting the development of young children and promoting family wellbeing. Nebraska Extension leverages well-designed University research and resources to enhance high-quality learning experiences for children, families, and early childhood professionals. Fostering partnerships with state, national and global child-focused organizations, Nebraska Extension enriches the field of early childcare and education—helping children and families thrive in safe, healthy, and supportive relationships.

## **FIT AND HEALTHY KIDS**

Fit and Healthy Kids is a multi-state online program that has given 4,640 continuing education hours in 2022 to childcare providers and 122,408 children were indirectly touched by the knowledge gained. As a result of the Fit and Healthy Kids programming, 98% of our providers feel better about themselves and the work they do. Our providers stated a financial

benefit because of behavioral changes they would implement as a result of the program. The total average (saved/gained) per month \$159,810 was the average saved/gained per year was \$1,917,720. One provider stated, "The class changed how I think about children with behavior challenges. I now look more at why they're acting the way they are."



Our team continues to meet the needs of the early childhood workforce with knowledge and passion. In the words of a caregiver, "Wow! That was so much great information and you presented it all so well. Your passion and excitement for your work definitely comes through."



**15,172 CAREGIVERS  
& 202,922  
CHILDREN**

reached with  
interactive and  
meaningful training