Our Mission
The Nebraska Civic Engagement Table works with nonprofits to increase voting and build an engaged Nebraska.

Our Vision
We will build a more just, inclusive, and engaged Nebraska by increasing the year-round civic participation of our nonprofit members’ supporters and underrepresented communities, including: African-Americans, Latinos, Native Americans, Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI), new citizens, low-income families, women, LGBT Nebraskans, and young voters.

Our goal is to increase their share of voter turnout, ensure their voices are represented in the policy decisions that affect their lives, and build leadership among community members and our nonprofit partners.

Our Gratitude
The Nebraska Civic Engagement Table (Nebraska Table) grew from an idea into a reality with the vision and trust of local and national donors and foundations. Their support has helped historically underrepresented communities build collective power through voting, public policy advocacy, and leadership development. The Nebraska Table extends its gratitude to the following charitable foundations and donors, along with many other supporters who have contributed to this movement:

Holland Foundation
Lincoln Community Foundation
Lozier Foundation
NEO Philanthropy State Leadership Project
Sherwood Foundation
Fred and Eve Simon Foundation
State Voices
Weitz Family Foundation
Woods Charitable Fund
WRAPS Project/Movement Voter Project
John and Dianne Scott
Todd and Betiana Simon
Katie Weitz
In 2019, the Nebraska Table and its members embarked on a 5-year strategic planning process. Together they identified three strategic directions: Building Equitable Institutions, Cultivating People Power, and Seizing “Of the Moment” Opportunities. Below are highlights from 2021 that reflect progress on the strategic directions.

**Impact Highlights**

- **309,773** Contacts to voters around GOTV, policy advocacy, voter registration, minimum wage, and other campaigns
- **$85,000** Amount regranted to 10 member organizations for lobbying, community connectedness, GOTV, and voter registration programs
- **$40,000** Amount regranted for grassroots advocacy around fair redistricting maps
- **10** Participants admitted into inaugural Lobby School cohort
- **22.9%** Increase in Lancaster County voter turnout for municipal elections
- **2** Community organizers from our 2020 Organizer School program who received extended contracts into 2021, to continue their work through the pandemic
- **$15/hour** The minimum wage Raise the Wage coalition members are petitioning to get on the ballot, in an effort led by Nebraska Appleseed and the Nebraska Table

**2022 Nebraska Civic Engagement Table Goals**

- **Redefining and Strengthening the Network**
  - Define our advocacy role
  - Expand scope of civic engagement work
- **Expanding Internal Capacity**
  - Reinvigorate member relationships
  - Amplify community voices
- **Living Our Values**
  - Expand network capacity
  - Exhibit equitable practices

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[View Our Full Member List]
Nebraska Table staff, as part of the Decline to Sign coalition, say no to Voter IDs.
Lincoln City Elections: Harnessing Creativity for Community Action

Local elections are our chance to make big changes right in our communities. For community organizers Kat Wiese and Chueqa Yang, the question of how to engage voters can be tricky – but creativity led to solutions.

Omaha City Elections: “We cannot let a single person have their voice unheard.”

In the middle of a pandemic, organizers at Heartland Workers Center found innovative ways to safely engage with voters, build leadership, and strengthen community.
Redistricting: A Bedrock for Fair and Free Elections

Every 10 years, redistricting lays the groundwork for political representation. Because of strong coalition work by members like Common Cause, communities showed up for fair maps.

Fighting Voter Restrictions: “It’s personal.”

Our votes have real power to create change. Preston Love shares how education and mobilization are key to fighting voting restrictions that aim to silence communities of color.
Fighting for Voting Reform: “You have a voice and your voice is your vote.”

Volunteers with the League of Women Voters of Greater Omaha know that expanding voting access is central to a healthy democracy.

Internship Experience: Putting Organizing Skills into Practice

The Nebraska Table invests in the next generation of leaders, like Sofia Gavia, who are committed to building a just future. The internship program is one such priority.

The Stories of 2021
Who We Are
The Nebraska Civic Engagement Table’s Board of Directors is dedicated to empowering the rising electorate in Nebraska. Thank you to the current board members for their inspiring leadership and vision.

Additional gratitude to Sarah Ann Kotchian of Nebraska Early Childhood Collaborative; Odochi Akwani of Rabble Mill; and Meg Mikolajczyk, JD, formerly of Planned Parenthood North Central States, for their board service in 2021.

President Rachel Fox, You Go Girl
Treasurer Kathy Steinauer Smith, Woods Charitable Fund
Secretary Valeria Rodriguez, Empowering Families
Immediate Past President Katie Weitz, PhD, Weitz Family Foundation
Karen Bell-Dancy, YWCA of Lincoln
Yolanda Chavez Nuncio, Retired Administrator
Shannon Gilroy, Brownell Talbot College Preparatory School
Claudia Granillo, The Wellbeing Partners
Inonge Kasaji, League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County
Robia Qasimyar, Weitz Family Foundation
Nic Swiercek, Nebraska Appleseed
Staff

Updates

The Nebraska Table named Meg Mikolajczyk, JD, its new executive director in 2021, following the departure of former executive director Zack Burgin. Meg is a former Nebraska Table Board Member and was a Nebraska Table member through her previous organization, Planned Parenthood North Central States. Angie Remington served as interim executive director and returned to her deputy director position upon Meg’s hiring.

Our Members and Partners

Members of the Nebraska Table are nonprofit, nonpartisan organizations committed to engaging with voters and members of their communities; growing grassroots mobilization efforts; and collaborating with nonprofits doing similar work in other communities throughout the state. The Nebraska Table comprised 76 member organizations in 2021, including four new members: East African Development Association of Nebraska, March of Dimes – Nebraska Chapter, Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition, and Stand for Schools.

Partners of the Nebraska Table are nonprofit, nonpartisan organizations that don’t conduct direct voter engagement activities but wish to be part of the network.

SEE OUR FULL STAFF LIST

SEE OUR FULL MEMBER LIST

SEE OUR FULL PARTNER LIST
### Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Donations</td>
<td>$50,518</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member Dues</td>
<td>$17,725</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$1,797,074</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
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### Expenditures

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<th>Expenditure Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>General Operating Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Civic Engagement Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member Core Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising Expenses</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,213,995</strong></td>
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2021 Revenues and Expenditures

- Individual Donations: 2.7%
- Member Dues: 1.0%
- Grants: 96.3%
- Civic Engagement Fund: 7.0%
- Member Core Support: 39.4%
- Fundraising Expenses: 1.5%
- General Operating Expenses: 52.1%
What we’re working on in 2022

- Voter registration and Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV)
- Voter education town halls
- Lobby School
- Rural Organizer School program
- Rural Fellows program
- Storytelling program and podcast launch
- Ballot initiative petition collection and decline-to-sign coalition work
- Grassroots legislative activities

Reach out to learn more about our work!

Contact Information

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Thank You