

VIOLENCE PREVENTION

KEY PURPOSE

Prevent violence by meeting and responding to children's and families' immediate needs and creating supportive environments that help them grow and develop at every stage of family life.

COMMUNITY CHALLENGES:



77% Since 2009, a 77% increase in youth reporting having felt unsafe. ¹



6 of 10 youth report not having a caring adult, support of a trusted adult, or access to programs. ²



60% 60% of youth report feelings of not belonging to a community. ²


PARTNERS:

These organizations are working collaboratively throughout Buffalo County to analyze, understand, and prevent violence in communities.

The S.A.F.E. Center	Buffalo County Schools	Families CARE
CHI Good Samaritan Hospital	LiveWell Counseling Center	Nebraska State Patrol
The Friends Program	University of Nebraska at Kearney	Buffalo County Sheriff's Office
Family Advocacy Network	Compass	Kearney Police Department
Two Rivers Public Health Department	Domestic Abuse Death Review Team	+ Other Local Partners

"NO ONE HAS TO DO EVERYTHING, BUT EVERYONE HAS TO DO SOMETHING."


Educate



Volunteer



Donate



Buffalo County


Violence Prevention



PRIORITY WORK

To strengthen community capacity to prevent violence by identifying risk and protective factors to bring solutions that fit our local communities.

Engage




Bring awareness by engaging stakeholders to find solutions and responding collectively.

Expand



Increase opportunities to engage with trusted agencies to navigate available resources.

Establish



Align with local, state and federal partners working together to reduce violence.

HOW WE DO IT:

Engage: Mentoring & Coaching

Mentoring & coaching are trusted, consistent relationships that help young people build confidence, social skills, and healthy choices.

In programs like The Friends mentoring program, adult volunteers spend regular one-on-one time with elementary children, creating supportive connections that improve school engagement and reduce risk behaviors.

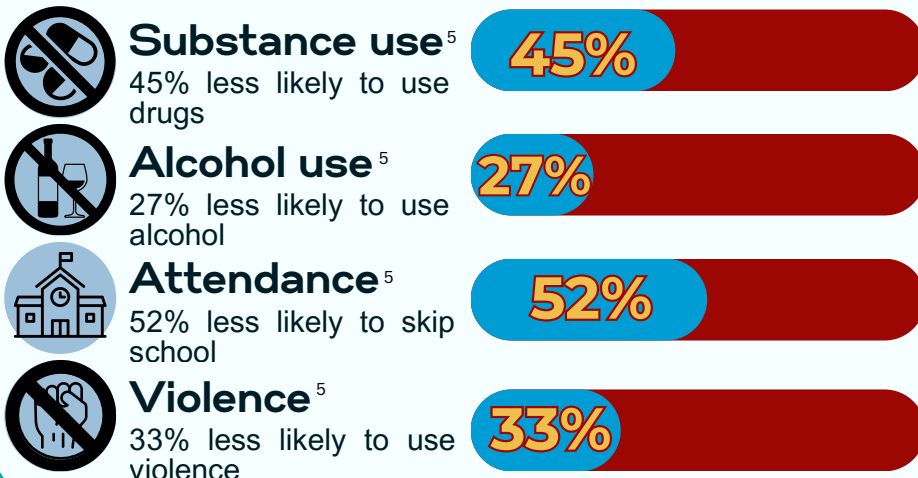
The Community Response Networks coaching extends this support to youth and families by focusing on practical goals, life skills, and stability—addressing challenges early to prevent crisis and violence.

139 Mentors trained through the Friends program.⁴

591 families have been served by coaching since 2021.⁴

36% of families served by partner coaching agencies were supported through CHI Violence Prevention funding—increasing capacity to support families experiencing poverty-related stressors.⁴

Youth who are involved in mentoring programs are:



Expand: Let's Connect

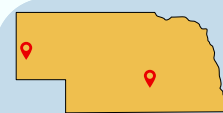
166 families referred to Community Response Network.⁴



Let's Connect is a Buffalo Co. initiative that helps people take action & start conversations about Violence Prevention, Substance Misuse, & Mental Health.

\$40K invested in Buffalo County schools to implement evidence based social emotional curriculum since 2021.³

Establish: Evidence-Based Practices



Kearney has been selected to serve as one of two pilot sites in Nebraska for the implementation of 'Lethality Assessment Protocol'.

36 individuals were trained in Circle Of Security Parenting.³

418 individuals trained in Green Dot in the last year.³