

2024/2025 SHARE THE PLATE Nominations
(in the order in which they were received)

1. *Baby and Me*
2. *Mourning Hope Grief Center*
3. *Hope Village*
4. *Planned Parenthood*
5. *Malone Center*
6. *ACLU of Nebraska*
7. *ARC of Lincoln*
8. *BraveBe Child Advocacy Center*
9. *Bridges to Hope*
10. *Center for Legal Immigration Assistance (CLIA)*
11. *ECHO Collective*
12. *Lincoln Literacy*
13. *Willie's Underwear Project*
14. *Some of Us For All of Us*
15. *Center for People*
16. *Community Crops*
17. *Food Bank of Lincoln*
18. *Indian Center*
19. *Nebraska for Alternatives to Justice*
20. *Asian Community and Cultural Center*
21. *League of Women Voters*
22. *The Bay*
23. *Little Free Pantry at the Unitarian Church of Lincoln*
24. *OutNebraska*
25. *NAACP - Lincoln Branch*

1. Baby & Me

Nominator(s): Chelsea Krafka

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

Baby & me is a local non-profit which serves working parents who are on leave. There is a gap in the community where there are working parents trying to work to get by but make too much for assistance. A lot of parents do not have access to any paid leave and return back to work sooner than they want due to finances. Baby & Me will help parents by providing them with diapers, wipes, grocery gift cards, and a postpartum wellness gift basket for the first 4-6 weeks of being home with their newborn.

2. Mourning Hope Grief Center

Nominator(s): Linda Ager and Alan Worth

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

Mourning Hope offers bereaved children, adults and families the comfort, understanding and companionship they need to find a way forward. Mourning Hope's services are available at absolutely no costs and no one is ever turned away. They rely solely on private donations from individuals, businesses, service clubs and foundations. Mourning Hope offers peer-based grief support groups that help participants find hope and connection. This includes family groups for children, teens and caregivers, young adult groups (ages 19 - 30ish), Adult groups for ages 30+, survivors of suicide groups and school based groups.

3. HOPE VILLAGE

Nominator(s): Linda Ager

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

Hope Village will be 250 to 500 square feet homes primarily for people who have been justice involved, but can be for homeless vets and other homeless people. The rent will be \$1.00 per square foot, so truly affordable. There is no time limit to how long a person can live there, as long as they can pay rent and their utilities. It will be built right across 27th Street from the Matt Talbot Kitchen.

4. PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Nominator(s): Linda Brown

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

Planned Parenthood of Lincoln offers a full range of high-quality sexual health care services without judgment.

5. MALONE CENTER

Nominator(s): Linda Brown, Social Justice Committee

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

The vision of the Malone Center is to create unity and prosperity throughout Lincoln while honoring our African American heritage. The Malone Center has a staff of 50 providing services in support and outreach, education, youth leadership and youth athletics. Serves neighboring families, youth, and the Lincoln community with inclusive, social, cultural, educational, employment, and welfare services. Works to eliminate multi-generational poverty in Lincoln while honoring our African American heritage.

6. ACLU NEBRASKA

Nominator(s): Harry Heafer

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

The ACLU of Nebraska works in courts, legislatures, and communities to protect the constitutional and individual rights of all people.

7. ARC OF LINCOLN

Nominator(s): Harry Heafer

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

The Arc of Lincoln is a non-profit advocacy organization that serves people of all ages with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

8. BRAVE BE CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

Nominator(s): Harry Heafer, Social Justice Committee

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

BraveBe Child Advocacy Center is a non-profit organization providing a safe, child friendly location for conducting forensic interviews and medical evaluations for abused children in Southeast Nebraska.

9. BRIDGES TO HOPE

Nominator(s): Harry Heafer, Jackie Kehl

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

Serves and encourages men and women transitioning back into the community after incarceration as they become successful contributors to society. Provides basic household furnishings, clothing, personal hygiene products. Works with organizations to provide job training and mentoring.

10. CENTER FOR LEGAL IMMIGRATION ASSISTANCE (CLIA)

Nominator(s): Harry Heafer

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

Helping immigrants and refugees achieve their dream by providing high quality legal immigration assistance and mental health services.

11. ECHO COLLECTIVE

Nominator(s): Harry Heafer, Social Justice Committee

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

ECHO Collective connects and empowers refugee and immigrant women by providing opportunities for personal growth and building cross-cultural relationships in a nurturing environment. ECHO Collective helps refugee and immigrant women overcome the barriers that they face in rebuilding their lives in the United States. Our entrepreneurship and creative programs focus on sparking connections that surpass language, and our desire is to see every refugee and immigrant confidently call Lincoln "home."

12. LINCOLN LITERACY

Nominator(s): Harry Heafer

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

Help people in our community learn English language and job skills.

13. WILLIE'S UNDERWEAR PROJECT

Nominator(s): Harry Heafer

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

Providing underwear and sweatpants and t-shirts and socks to school nurses and counselors for when a student is ill at school or has an accident and needs a change of clothes to be able to return to class.

14. SOME OF US FOR ALL OF US

Nominator(s): Julie Enersen

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

Screamers Restaurant, because "talent is distributed equally but opportunity is not." SomeAll pays for lessons, instruments and dance gear for underprivileged children ages 5-17 in Lincoln so that finances are not a barrier to their participation in performing arts training.

15. CENTER FOR PEOPLE

Nominator(s): Social Justice Committee

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

Our mission is to provide services and programs to our low-income community here in Lincoln that address basic needs and provide opportunities to achieve economic independence. We've witnessed a lot of change in our 20+ years. It started with our founder's vision of fighting food insecurity and grew from there – to bigger quarters, game-changing partnerships. Today we enter our second 20 years with the mission and the means to help all our neighbors reach their long-term goals for economic independence.

16. COMMUNITY CROPS

Nominator(s): Social Justice Committee

Purpose/Mission of the Nominee

Community Crops provides education, advocacy and experiences to grow local food. As a program of Family Service Lincoln, Community Crops empowers people to grow food through education, experiences and resources.

17. FOOD BANK OF LINCOLN

Nominator(s): Social Justice Committee

Purpose/Mission of Nominee

Strives to alleviate hunger in Southeast Nebraska. Serves 16 counties where an estimated 48,100 people are food insecure.

18. INDIAN CENTER

Nominator(s): Social Justice Committee

Purpose/Mission of Nominee

To provide value to the American Indian community by creating and obtaining programs that empower self-sufficiency and positive quality of life standards in individuals and families.

19. NEBRASKANS FOR ALTERNATIVES TO JUSTICE

Nominator(s): Social Justice Committee

Purpose/Mission of Nominee

An association of community groups and prison-based groups offering experiential workshops in personal growth and creative conflict management.

20. ASIAN COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL CENTER

Nominator(s): Jackie Kehl

Purpose/Mission of Nominee

Supports and empowers all refugees and immigrants through programs and services and advances the sharing of Asian cultures and the other cultural heritages of our clients with the community at large.

21. LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Nominator(s): Judy Kelly

Purpose/Mission of Nominee

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League has merged its Education Fund with the organization and the combined is a 501(c)3.

22. THE BAY

Nominator(s): Laura Lee Woodruff

Purpose/Mission of Nominee

In addition to being a skate and skateboard park, coffee shop and art house, The Bay engages youth through peer support and mentorship via experiential STEAM and physical education; sponsors Bay High, a focus program partnership with Lincoln Public Schools; and provides 8 month Gap Year programming designed to help youth plan for their futures with industry knowledge, skills and paid internships.

23. LITTLE FREE PANTRY (at the Unitarian Church of Lincoln)

Nominator(s): Jean Helms, Carol Kendrick

Purpose/Mission of Nominee

The money raised through Share the Plate would be used to purchase non-perishable foods and other household items in bulk to be distributed through our pantry at the Unitarian Church of Lincoln (UCL). The beauty of the Little Free Pantries are that they are open 24/7/365 throughout neighborhoods in Lincoln.

24. OUTNEBRASKA

Nominator(s): Jake Lozier, Jean Helms

Purpose/Mission of Nominee

From the website:

“We believe in a Nebraska that embraces and celebrates the full spectrum of LGBTQIA2S+ people. Often, LGBTQIA2S+ Nebraskans experience discrimination, disparities, and isolation – particularly transgender people and people of color. OutNebraska is dedicated to empowering, celebrating, and growing LGBTQIA2S+ communities in Nebraska.

For more than 10 years we’ve been making an impact by advocating, celebrating and educating to improve the lives of LGBTQ+ people.

- We’re advocating for reform, connecting with local and state representatives, encouraging civic engagement and making investments for the betterment of our communities.
- We’re growing connections, lifting up our allies and celebrating LGBTQ+ people through fun events like the Prairie Pride Film Festival.
- We’re providing inclusivity training and engaging in community conversations to help ensure a welcoming and thriving environment for all.”

25. NAACP LINCOLN BRANCH

Nominator(s): Jackie Egan, Judy Kelly, Frank Edler

Purpose/Mission of Nominee

Every spring, the NAACP, Lincoln Branch grants Community Service Scholarships of varying amounts to Lincoln high school graduating seniors who will attend a post-secondary accredited institution. To be eligible, you must have a grade point average of 2.5 or above and be a current member of the NAACP Youth Council. Applicants must demonstrate a record of service to members of their local community documented by letters of recommendations. There is no restriction as to the field of study and the scholarship is open to all regardless of race, gender, ethnic origin, or sexual orientation.

Since the founding of the Lincoln chapter of the NAACP, the Unitarian Church of Lincoln has been a strong supporter of the organization and its good work in our community. In fact, our past minister, Arthur Weatherly, was instrumental in the foundation of the group’s local chapter.

The Church continues to share NAACP goals to ensure the social, economic, educational, and political equality of all people through the democratic process and to eliminate discrimination and prejudice wherever it is found.