Mission Statement
The Nebraska Center for Justice Research’s (NCJR) mission is “to develop and sustain research capacity internal to the State of Nebraska, assist the Legislature in research, evaluation, and policymaking to reduce recidivism, promote the use of evidence-based practices in corrections, and improve public safety.” Our research focus is to use data, research, and evaluation to reduce recidivism, promote the use of evidence-based practices, and improve public safety in Nebraska with an emphasis on reducing prison overcrowding.

Facilities
NCJR currently occupies approximately 1,000 square feet in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice (SCCJ), located in the College of Public Affairs and Community Service (CPACS) building on the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) campus.

Statement of Goals
NCJR is a non-partisan non-profit research entity housed in UNO CPACS. The team is comprised of social science researchers who strive to serve the residents of Nebraska with honor and integrity by producing scientific studies held to the highest ethical standards. In pursuit of this overarching goal, we:

1. Conduct non-partisan examinations of justice-related issues for the state of Nebraska.
2. Continue our national reputation as a top-tier research and evaluation center by ensuring our deliverables are produced with the utmost methodological rigor.
3. Propose and conduct scientific evaluations of policies and activities of Nebraska state agencies in order to assist them to serve Nebraskans efficiently and effectively.
4. Provide the public and legislature with regular reports regarding our activities.
5. Contribute to the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice’s graduate program by funding students via applied research projects.
6. Promote sustainability of statewide justice reinvestment activities.
7. Increase research credibility by producing useable technical reports and meaningful academic publications.

For more information visit: justiceresearch.unomaha.edu
Each fall I look fondly upon this opportunity to reflect upon the work and impact of NCJR over the previous fiscal year. Each year I realize the importance of this reflection, reasons why I should not reserve reflective practice solely for the purposes of this letter, and how I should more fully integrate reflection into our daily work. This confession serves as evidence that I have adopted this resolution for future years and I encourage you all to hold me to it.
The 2021-2022 year was intended to be a sort of rebirth. We all looked forward with great anticipation to the end of the pandemic and a return to normalcy: in-person work and unfettered engagement with our community stakeholders. And just like so many things in our lives, that did not go completely according to plan. NCJR’s work now is predicated upon a whole bunch of “hybrids.” Many of us have adopted a hybrid work arrangements... some days each week in the office and some days working from home. We attend hybrid conferences (you can attend in the comfort of your home or on-site in tropical Chicago!) and hybrid trainings. Hybrid meetings are a mainstay and the question, “In-person or Zoom?” is commonly heard.

And the truth is...most of this is working out just fine. Hybrid work means we lose less of our valuable time to commutes. Less commuting means less money on gas. And just ask my staff how many times I have complained about my daily “zipper-merges” in Omaha metro construction zones! Hybrid conferences and trainings allow for greater attendance and more democratic participation, as they mitigate many previous constraints resulting from costs, limitations due to disability, and dangers to persons who are immunocompromised. Hybrid meetings reduce travel time and costs, while also increasing opportunities for participation, although a downside might be that we still have days where “Zoom fatigue” rears its ugly head.

When it comes to community-engaged research in criminal justice, reentry, and corrections, however, we learned that at least a modicum of face-to-face interaction greatly increases collaboration and project implementation. In fact, Dr. Campagna and I even co-authored a research note for the American Society of Criminology Division of Corrections & Sentencing newsletter entitled, “The Continued Importance of Face-to-Face Meetings for Scholar-Practitioner Partnerships in the Digital Age.” If there was one thing the pandemic taught us, it was that an essential component of what NCJR faculty and staff find rewarding in our community-engaged work in Nebraska is our in-person collaborative moments with our practitioner-partners who are engaged in difficult, but essential work promoting public safety and justice across the state.

In short, nothing this year went entirely as planned...and some of that is just fine. We learned to be flexible. We learned what we value most in our work. We learned what we could let go. And through this all, we flourished. Our dedication to local, state, and national research and evaluation projects never wavered. New contracts and grants were obtained. Our research was presented at regional and national conferences, published in reports, and published in academic manuscripts. We engaged with our local communities via an unprecedented number of invited presentations. This success was reflected quantitatively in a 47% increase in the center’s budget compared to the previous year. In conclusion, I have complete faith that the challenges we faced over the last few years not only resulted in flexibility, useful adaptations, and resiliency, but will also ultimately fuel additional success next year and beyond. Ad astra per aspera (to the stars through difficulties)!

— Ryan E. Spohn
Ryan Spohn, Ph.D.

Director

Ryan is the director of NCJR. He received his B.S. in Sociology/Criminology from Kansas State University (1996), M.S. in Sociology from Texas A&M University (1998), and Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Iowa (2003). His areas of research include juvenile delinquency, crime, families, child maltreatment, and the evaluation of criminal justice agencies and programs.

Zachary Hamilton, Ph.D.

Associate Director

Zachary is the associate director of NCJR and is an Associate Professor in SCCJ at UNO. He received his Ph.D. from Rutgers University. His research areas include risk and needs assessments and corrections.

Michael F. Campagna, Ph.D.

Research Associate

Michael is a research associate for NCJR. He received his B.A. in both Crime, Law, & Justice and Sociology from the Pennsylvania State University (2006), M.A. in Criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania (2009), and Ph.D. in Criminal Justice & Criminology from Washington State University (2017). His areas of research include prisoner reentry, risk/needs assessment, case management, developmental theory, and desistance.

Katelynn Towne, Ph.D.

Research Coordinator

Katelynn is a research coordinator for NCJR. She received her B.A. in Sociology from University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2011), M.A. in Sociology from University of Missouri-Columbia (2014), and Ph.D. in Sociology from University of Missouri-Columbia (2019). Her areas of research include criminology, social inequality, reentry, policing, victimization, and social media.

Cheryl Christiansen

Staff Associate

Cheryl is a staff associate at NCJR. She tracks the Center’s budgets and supports the directors and coordinators with their various administrative needs. Cheryl has worked for UNO’s Biology department, as well as the dean’s office in the College of Information Sciences & Technology, starting there in 2008.

Report Prepared By Tara Grell, graphic designer, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research
Laura Brooks Dueland, M.A.
Graduate Assistant

Laura is a Ph.D. candidate through UNO’s Industrial/Organizational Psychology program. Her dissertation focuses on the effectiveness of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) management policies and practices on employee perceptions of inclusion. In her free time, she volunteers with Benson First Fridays, plays sports like sand volleyball and tennis, and hangs out with her nieces and nephews.

Amber Krushas, M.S.
Graduate Assistant

Amber is a Ph.D. candidate in SCCJ. Her research interests include pathways to offending and victimization, victimology, corrections, and program and policy evaluation. She enjoys spending time with her two cats and visiting her family in Wisconsin.

Addie Kobie, M.A.
Graduate Assistant

Addie is a current Ph.D. student and research assistant at UNO and studies Criminal Justice and Criminology. Her research interests include juvenile delinquency, corrections, and risk assessments. In her free time, she knits, sews, and watches comedy movies.

Baylee Allen, M.S.
Graduate Assistant

Baylee is a doctoral student interested in risk assessments and inmate behaviors. She enjoys knitting, painting, and playing with her Corgi, Boo.
Dr. Mark Foxall joined UNO faculty as the Community Service Associate in 2018, following his retirement as the Director of the Douglas County Department of Corrections. He started his law enforcement career as an Omaha police officer, after which he transitioned to the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a Special Agent. He also served as the Director of Project Impact with the United States Attorney’s Office in the District of Nebraska.
Spending his career in local and federal law enforcement, as well as within the Nebraska Department of Corrections, provided Dr. Foxall with a unique perspective, and this experience enriches his teaching and mentoring of UNO students. For example, he was working in Los Angeles during the Rodney King riots and is able to provide students with the history and setting to understand policing at the time and how it has evolved. Moreover, such a rich work history allows him to provide students with knowledge about regional differences in law enforcement and corrections throughout our country. Overall, he especially enjoys guiding students as they grow and evolve through the academic process and supporting them as they make career decisions.

In addition to teaching, Dr. Foxall leads the London study abroad trip, which hosts twenty-seven criminal justice students and eight global communications students, as well as nine non-student community members. The legacy trip, which started in 1972, gives students the opportunity to attend magistrate court sessions and tour Pentonville and Wormwood Scrubs Prisons. Students also have the opportunity to hear from court magistrates, solicitors, and a retired London metropolitan police officer. Associated lectures include knowledge about United Kingdom (U.K.) policing history, use of wrist restraints, portable radios, and the lack of firearm use. The experience provides students with an in-depth look at U.K. policing and courts systems, which the students use to complete a journal comparing the United States and U.K.’s criminal justice systems.

Outside of academia, Dr. Foxall has integrated his career and teaching experience to develop and lead law enforcement and corrections trainings. His trainings include implicit bias and bias intervention, behavioral health threat assessment, as well as use of force and restrictive housing training. Additionally, he provides guidance to correction facility leaders through transformational leadership training, management training, and overall administrative training (e.g., budgeting, recruitment).

As a prominent member of the community, Dr. Foxall serves on numerous boards and committees, including the American Jail Association’s Board of Directors; American Correctional Association’s Adult Local Detention Facility Committee, Professional Education Committee, and Certification Committee; Omaha Police Foundation; Metropolitan Chiefs Association (Past President); Omaha Crime Stoppers; RISE; Lutheran Family Services; Siena Francis House; You Turn (Board President); and 100 Black Men (Board President). He also has received several honors for his law enforcement career and work in the community.

When not working, Dr. Foxall enjoys spending time at home, tending to his yard and garden as well as golfing.
Amber Krushas is a Ph.D. candidate in SCCJ at UNO. Her research interests include pathways to offending and victimization, victimology, corrections, and program and policy evaluation. She has published in Journal of Interpersonal Violence, Race and Justice, Journal of Child & Adolescent Trauma, Victims & Offenders, and Child & Youth Services.

Amber’s primary work as a research assistant has focused on the National Institute of Justice Grant that collaborates with Project Harmony, a large Child Advocacy Center (CAC), to conduct a formative evaluation and evaluability assessment of five core CAC services. The project goal is to better understand Project Harmony’s program operations and lay the groundwork for a subsequent outcome evaluation. The project has provided Amber the opportunity to hone skills needed as a researcher to collaborate and communicate with practitioners for effective, evidence-based programing.

Amber is in the dissertation phase of the doctoral program. Her dissertation seeks to explore which of several victimological theories may differentiate victims of recurrent victimization from non-victims and those who experience single victimization. Using data obtained from a YouGov survey, Amber will examine various predictors of recurrent victimization, along with any differences across gender. Amber is planning to join the job market next semester. As a future faculty member, she hopes to continue research in the fields of corrections and victimology, ideally exploring pathways to offending and victimization in addition to conducting program and policy evaluations on response to victims and offenders.

When Amber has free-time she enjoys heading to the farmer’s market, attending concerts, running, and playing with her kittens, who often join zoom meetings as well.
Dr. Daniel Butler is a faculty affiliate for NCJR at Iowa State University, and a proud UNO alum. Throughout his career, he has studied many issues surrounding correctional issues, including restrictive housing, programming, and prison violence. In 2020, Dr. Butler received the Distinguished New Scholar Award from the American Society of Criminology’s (ASC) Division of Corrections and Sentencing.

Much of Dr. Butler’s work has focused on various aspects of correctional facilities. Most recently, he has been collaborating with Dr. Nacy Rodriguez on a grant funded project delving into prison violence and how it is defined. After compiling multiple policies related to violence in correctional facilities, they plan to analyze how the definitions impact response to prison violence which will have important policy implications to practitioners. He is also preparing a manuscript for publication looking at the intersection of reporting behaviors of individuals who have been sexually assaulted in prison, family engagement with those individuals in prison, and the immediate effects of restrictive housing.

Dr. Butler has also helped with various NCJR projects over the years. Most recently, Dr. Butler worked on a project evaluating program volunteerism in Nebraska’s correctional facilities, specifically looking at who participates in Vocational and Life Skills programs and what characteristics those individuals may have. In this way, Dr. Butler hopes to be able to inform how to reach an audience for the program that is not necessarily targeted now as well.

In addition to research, Dr. Butler has actively mentored the next generation of scholars. Specifically, this is his second year as a mentor for the Divisions of Corrections, where he helps graduate students publish articles. Further, in the classroom, he stresses the importance of the inherent connection between the classroom and the real-world implications.

When asked what an affiliate meant to him, Dr. Butler cited NCJR’s continued work with practitioners and the connections that the center forms between them and researchers. Specifically, he believes connecting research and bringing it to practitioners is necessary and that NCJR is a living example of that connection. However, the most important thing that Dr. Butler found in his connection to NCJR is that he gets to stay connected to UNO and specifically keep those relationships he formed here.

When asked about what he looked forward to in the next year, Dr. Butler stated that he was excited about the tenure that he is up for this year. When not researching, Dr. Butler loves to read science fiction books.
Practitioner-Researcher Collaboration: Evaluating a Child Advocacy Center Core Services
Ryan Spohn, Ph.D., Lynn Castrionno, Ph.D., Amber Krushas, M.S.

This presentation outlined the collaborations between UNO, NCJR, and Project Harmony, a large Child Advocacy Center (CAC), as part of a National Institute of Justice (NIJ) grant. Broadly, the purpose behind this NIJ grant was to conduct a formative evaluation and evaluability assessment of five core CAC services to better understand Project Harmony’s program operations and lay the groundwork for a subsequent outcome evaluation. Presented at the Annual San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment, this presentation reviewed these collaborations between practitioners at Project Harmony and researchers examining the implementation and evaluation readiness of five core service areas. Specifically, Drs. Spohn and Castrionno outlined the major considerations, benefits, and challenges of participating in a practitioner-researcher collaboration aimed at improving agency performance and outcomes. Beyond this, presenters highlighted the major goals, challenges, and benefits of assessing the evaluability of large child-serving agencies, along with some of the tools and methods used to prepare child-serving agencies for an outcome evaluation.

From NCA Standards to Practice: Lessons Learned from Stories in the Field

In addition to the International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment, the research team also presented at the National Children’s Alliance (NCA) Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. Following the formative evaluation stage of the grant, Drs. Ryan Spohn and Lynn Castrionno and Amber Krushas discussed the challenges and successes in implementing standards under the membership organization for CACs — the NCA. Specifically, Drs. Ryan Spohn and Lynn Castrionno and Amber Krushas provided an overview of the tools and methods used to examine adherence of NCA standards and provided specific recommendations on how to improve implementation of NCA standards within CACs. In addition, project deliverables (e.g., fidelity tools, logic model flow charts) were presented to aid audience members in successfully measuring NCA standard implementation within their own CACs.
This year, the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS) contracted with NCJR to help streamline their classification process. NDCS sought to move inmates more efficiently through the system to reduce overcrowding and prepare individuals for reentry. The project began with Dr. Hamilton and team interviewing relevant staff at all ten NDCS facilities. Staff included case management staff, security staff, and mental health staff. Groups discussed the processing and flow of NDCS inmates through the system and recommendations staff had for improvements.

This project sought to address three primary research questions:

1. **Are security level spaces meeting the demands of the classification system?**

   Given suggested issues of crowding and sources of bottlenecks, it was first necessary to assess if individuals were residing in locations that are higher or lower than their recommended security level. In so doing, NDCS can identify where there is a need to create more resources and at what custody level.

2. **How can NDCS reduce serious misconducts in mixed-custody facilities?**

   Mixed security level facilities exist, where inmates classified as maximum security are housed with medium-security inmates, while other housing facilities combine medium- and minimum-security inmates. These mixed-custody level facilities are typically the result of modifications to older facilities over the years, where remodeling efforts combined facility levels to meet department need. Given the described issues with serious misconducts, administration officials expressed a concern regarding difficulties in managing mixed custody facilities, where true (non-mixed) custody facilities may improve management and reduce misconduct.

3. **Should short-term inmates be a special case in the classification system?**

   One of the perceived causes of crowding within the NDCS system are those with short sentences. Those that are admitted with less than a year until release, or those returning on parole violations have less than a year to service in their sentence. As the classification system is the forecasting system, a better way to fit short timer’s into the system seems promising to decrease bottlenecks and system overcrowding.

   The team is currently analyzing NDCS administrative data and expects to report recommendations by the end of the calendar year.
NCJR Annual Report

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Project Harmony Collaboration with UNO
From January 2020 to September 2022, Project Harmony, UNO, and NCJR collaborated through a National Institute of Justice-funded project. Specifically, this project involved a formative evaluation and evaluability assessment of five core services of a large Child Advocacy Center (CAC) in Nebraska, Project Harmony. Broadly, the goal of this project was to better understand the CAC’s program operations and lay the groundwork for subsequent outcome evaluations. That is, while studies have assessed various outcomes of CACs (e.g., child and family satisfaction with services, prosecution outcomes), few have examined program operations, despite the importance of exploring the processes that lead to these outcomes. As no two CACs are alike, examination of each agency’s policies and procedures is essential. By first assessing the operations that are characteristic of each CAC, a more holistic understanding was gained regarding how these procedures lead to service outcomes.

Project Harmony Mission
To protect and support children, collaborate with professionals and engage the community to end child abuse and neglect. Boldly focused on ending this cycle, Project Harmony has reimagined how communities can come together — leveraging resources to respond to, treat and ultimately prevent child abuse. Project Harmony’s nationally recognized, collaborative, child-focused approach works to ensure children are not further victimized by the systems intended to protect them. They have brought multiple agencies working in these systems together into one place — where they can coordinate and communicate most effectively and tackle child abuse as a team. This powerful model means that Project Harmony is the resource for child abuse services and training in the Omaha metro area and surrounding communities. As a result, the agency is able to help community members protect and support the most vulnerable among us — restoring courage, facilitating healing and empowering community members to be someone in the life of a child.

Project Harmony History
Project Harmony opened its doors in 1996, with a vision to not only create an integrated response system, but also to develop a single child friendly location where all the professionals would come together to serve each child. They wanted the child to share their experience only once, envisioning a system with joint accountability where no child would fall through the cracks.

Children Served: In 2021, Project Harmony served 6,473 children from the Omaha metro and southwest Iowa areas through early intervention and response services.

Intakes by Type of Abuse
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Type of Abuse</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>52%</td>
<td>Sexual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Neglect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11%</td>
<td>Physical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8%</td>
<td>Child on Child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8%</td>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6%</td>
<td>Witness to Violence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Children’s Response Services
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5,270</td>
<td>Advocacy sessions provided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,959</td>
<td>Youth received mental health sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,841</td>
<td>Forensic interviews conducted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,191</td>
<td>Medical exams conducted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>138</td>
<td>Multidisciplinary meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>105</td>
<td>Missing youth clients served</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Demographics of Children Served

#### Race of Children Served

- **40%** White
- **18%** Black or African American
- **16%** Hispanic
- **15%** Not Reported
- **4%** Biracial
- **3%** Multiracial
- **2%** Native American
- **1%** Asian
- **<1%** Hawaiian or Pacific Islander or Other

#### Gender of Children Served

- **55%** Female
- **36%** Male
- **8%** Not Reported
- **<1%** Nonbinary or Transgender

#### Age of Children Served

- **22%** 0-6 years
- **39%** 7-12 years
- **37%** 13+ years
- **2%** Age Not Recorded

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### Geographic Distribution of Children Served

The map shows the distribution of children served across various counties in Nebraska. The percentages indicate the proportion of children served in each county. For example, Douglas county serves 59.6% of the children, while Harrison county serves 1.0%.

### Race of Children Served

- **Douglas**: 59.6%
- **Sarpy**: 12.5%
- **Pottawattamie**: 7.3%
- **Dodge**: 7.0%
- **Saunders**: 2.0%
- **Cass (NE)**: 1.3%
- **Crawford**: 1.1%
- **Lancaster**: 1.1%
- **Harrison**: 1.0%
- **Washington**: 1.0%
- **Cass (IA)**: 0.6%
- **Fremont**: 0.6%
- **Mills**: 0.6%
- **Taylor**: 0.5%
- **Page**: 0.5%
- **Shelby**: 0.4%
- **Burt**: 0.3%
- **Adams (IA)**: 0.3%
- **Adams (NE)**: 0.2%
- **Buena Vista**: 0.2%
- **Montgomery**: 0.2%
- **Scotts Bluff**: 0.2%
- **Buffalo**: 0.1%
- **Madison**: 0.1%
NCJR’s In-person Research and Engagement 2019-2022

At NCJR, the only thing we enjoy doing more than our research evaluation is talking about projects with all who are willing to listen. For the most part, we are talking about our work with other academics and learning from each other’s projects at national conferences in the fields of criminology, criminal justice, sociology, psychology, and evaluation methods. We frequently also have the privilege of being invited to share our expertise and experiences of conducting research in Nebraska. One of the most rewarding opportunities, however, is speaking to community members about what we are discovering in our work and sharing best practices that help make our communities safe for Nebraskans. In recent years, we have had the opportunity to present our work in a variety of locations across the nation. As such, we have decided to map them out to get a sense of our geographic reach. Details on individual presentations may be found later in this report.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Academic Presentations</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences</td>
<td>Baltimore, Maryland</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Psychology-Law and Society</td>
<td>Portland, Oregon</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology</td>
<td>Chicago, Illinois</td>
<td>2021</td>
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<td>Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology</td>
<td>Chicago, Illinois</td>
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<td>Chicago, Illinois</td>
<td>2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting</td>
<td>Las Vegas, Nevada</td>
<td>2022</td>
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<td>Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Meetings</td>
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<td>Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences</td>
<td>Las Vegas, Nevada</td>
<td>2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research and Creative Activity Fair</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Correctional Association, Annual Convention</td>
<td>Phoenix, Arizona</td>
<td>2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Meeting of the International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment</td>
<td>San Diego, California</td>
<td>2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Children’s Alliance Leadership Conference</td>
<td>Washington D.C.</td>
<td>2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Community Engagement</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2019 meeting of the Omaha Evaluators Group</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Douglas County, Nebraska, Race and Ethnic Disparities Coordinator, A’Jamal Byndon</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership Omaha Class 43</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement in Omaha for Racial Equity (MORE)</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Life Presbyterian and First Presbyterian West Hills congregitions</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>2022</td>
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### Conference Title

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<tr>
<th>Invited Presentations</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Guest Lecture at Emporia State University</td>
<td>Emporia, Kansas</td>
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<td>Youth Impact Annual Meeting</td>
<td>Lincoln, Nebraska</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kansas State University</td>
<td>Manhattan, Kansas</td>
<td>2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Douglas County Detention Center executive board</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presented to the Omaha community at the Omaha Police Dept. NE Precinct</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges</td>
<td>Reno, Nevada</td>
<td>2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kansas State University SOCWK 350: Social Work with Offenders and Victims</td>
<td>Manhattan, Kansas</td>
<td>2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania Department of Corrections</td>
<td>Harrisburg, Pennsylvania</td>
<td>2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nebraska Legislature</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Douglas County, Nebraska, Board of Commissioners</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Harmony</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebraska</td>
<td>2022</td>
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NCJR was established by the Nebraska Legislature in October 2014 and receives an annual state appropriation to aid in research and evaluation efforts.
Contracts and Grants, Fiscal Years 2015-2022

Contracts and Grants

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<tr>
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NCJR Annual Report
Selected Academic Publications, 2019-2021


**Professional Publications, 2021-2022**


**Grants Awarded, 2019-2022**

2020-22 Expanding the Knowledge Base about Child Advocacy Centers (Ryan Spohn and Emily Wright with Megan Davidson and Teresa Kulig). National Institute of Justice.

2020-21 A Descriptive Analysis of Missing and Murdered Native Women and Children in Nebraska, Barriers to Reporting and Investigation, and Recommendations for Improving Access to Justice (Emily Wright with Tara Richards). National Institute of Justice, Tribal-Researcher Capacity Building Grant.


**Contracts and Projects, 2018-2022**

**NCJR Faculty Serve as Principal Investigators**

2022 Barriers to Collaborative Sex Offender Treatment: Perceptions of Community Providers. Michael Campagna.


2020  King County PRINS Revalidation. King County. Zachary Hamilton.


NCJR Faculty Serve as Evaluators


Selected Research Reports, 2019-2021

Campagna, Michael, and Taylor Claxton. 2022. A Classification of each NDCS Program by Client Needs identified by the STRONG-R Risk/Needs Assessment. Submitted to the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services.


Hamilton, Zachary, and Alex Kigerl. 2021. Development of the Nebraska Screening and Assessment Tool. Submitted to the Nebraska Division of Community Based Aid.


Butler, Leah, Ryan Spohn, and Josie Schafer. 2020. Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Criminal Justice System in Nebraska. Submitted to the Center for Public Affairs Research at UNO.


Policy and Research Briefs 2020-2021


**Academic Presentations, 2018-2022**


Brooks Dueland, Laura. 2022. “Create workplaces that work for all.” Presented at 1 Million Cups, Omaha, Nebraska.


Castrianno, Lynn, Ryan Spohn, Amber Krushas, Teresa Kulig, and Emily Wright. 2022. “From NCA Standards to Practice: Lessons Learned from Stories in the Field.” Presented at the National Children’s Alliance Leadership Conference, Washington, D.C.


Krushas, Amber. 2022. “Examining student-teacher relationships in the United States: A content analysis approach.” Presented at the Research and Creative Activity Fair, Omaha, Nebraska.

Krushas, Amber, Michael Campagna, and Ryan Spohn. 2022. “Responsivity or discrimination?: extralegal moderators of relationships between types of technical violations and revocation.” Presented at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Las Vegas, Nevada.


Epinger, Ebonie, Emily Wright, Ryan Spohn, and Michael Campagna. 2021. “Jails Use Data Too!” Presented at the American Jail Association Meetings, Columbus, Ohio.


**Invited Presentations, 2018-2022**


Kulig, Teresa, Amber Krushas, Ryan Spohn, Lynn Castrianno and Emily Wright. 2022. “Overview of Findings from Phase I.” Presented at Project Harmony, Omaha, Nebraska.


Epinger, Ebonie, Emily Wright, Ryan Spohn, and Joseph Schwartz. 2021. “Jails Use Data Too!” Presentation to the Douglas County, Nebraska, Board of Commissioners, Omaha, Nebraska.


Campagna, Michael. 2019. “Jails Use Data too!” Presented to the Douglas County Detention Center executive board, Omaha, Nebraska.

Campagna, Michael, and Ryan Spohn. 2019. “Selection Bias is Ruining My Evaluation! A Comparison of Two Adjustment Models.” Presented at the meeting of the Omaha Evaluators Group, Omaha, Nebraska.


Spohn, Ryan, and Georgetown Capstone Team. 2019. “Douglas County RED Georgetown Capstone Presentation.” Presented to the Omaha community at the Omaha Police Dept. NE Precinct, Omaha, Nebraska.


Panels and Discussions, 2017-2020


Spohn, Ryan. 2018. “Beyond Police, Courts, and Corrections.” For UNO’s School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Omaha, Nebraska.
**Webinars 2021-2022**


Hamilton, Zachary, and Lindsey Wylie. 2021. *Developing a Statewide Diversion Assessment Tool*. Webinar with the Nebraska Center for Community-Based Aid.
University of Nebraska at Omaha – Faculty
Gaylene Armstrong, Ph.D.
Todd Armstrong, Ph.D.
Amy Anderson, Ph.D.
Jessiline Anderson, Ph.D.
Janelle Beadle, Ph.D.
Abby Bjornsen, Ph.D.
Leah Butler, Ph.D.
Juan Casas, Ph.D.
Samantha Clinkinbeard, Ph.D.
Abigail Folberg, Ph.D.
Mark Foxall, Ph.D.
Ann Fruhling, Ph.D.
Daniel Hawkins, Ph.D.
Anne Hobbs, Ph.D., J.D.
Robert Houston, M.S.
Nikitah Okembe-RA Imani, Ph.D.
Teresa Kulig, Ph.D.
Justin Nix, Ph.D.
Roni Reiter-Palmon, Ph.D.
Tara Richards, Ph.D.
Amanda Randall, LCSW, Ph.D.
Lisa Sample, Ph.D.
Rosemary Strasser, Ph.D.
Emily Wright, Ph.D.

University of Nebraska Lincoln – Faculty
Larry Barksdale, M.A.
Brian Bornstein, Ph.D.
Eve Brank, Ph.D., JD
Ari Kohen, Ph.D.
Lisa Kort-Butler, Ph.D.
Trisha Rhodes, Ph.D.
Scott Sasse, Ph.D.
Mario Scalora, Ph.D.
Richard Wiener, MLS, Ph.D.
Cynthia Willis-Esqueda, Ph.D.

University of Nebraska Medical Center – Faculty
Jane Meza, Ph.D.
Dejun Su, Ph.D.
Melissa Tibbits, Ph.D.

AFFILIATES

NCJR Annual Report
University of Nebraska at Kearney – Faculty

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Timbre Wulf-Ludden, Ph.D.  Criminal Justice

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Ashley Hall, Ph.D.         University of Illinois-Chicago
Don Kurtz, Ph.D.           Kansas State University
Sara Moore, Ph.D.          Nebraska Wesleyan University
Jukka Savolainen, Ph.D.    Wayne State University
Joseph Schwartz, Ph.D.     Florida State University
Sara Toto, Ph.D.           Central Washington University
Andrea Walker, Ph.D.       Clarkson College
Michael Walker, Ph.D.      University of Minnesota

Other Affiliates and Consultants

Lorena Baccaglini, DDS, Ph.D. Director, Clinical Research and Epidemiology Program National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, NIH
Alex Kigerl, Ph.D.         Research Associate, Criminology & Criminal Justice
Melissa Kowalski, Ph.D.    Wisconsin Department of Corrections
Jennifer Miller, Ph.D.     Nebraska Division of Parole Supervision
Debra O’Connell, Ph.D.     Post-Doctoral Fellow in Department of Neurological Sciences at UNMC
Krystal Roig-Palmer, Ph.D. Private Consultant
Lindsey Wylie, Ph.D., J.D. National Center for State Courts

Student Affiliates

Emily Adams                Industrial Organizational Psychology
Laura Brooks Dueland      Industrial Organizational Psychology
Kelsey Ciagala            Industrial Organizational Psychology
Taylor Claxton            Criminology & Criminal Justice
Nicky Dalbir              Criminology & Criminal Justice
Ebonie Epinger            Criminology & Criminal Justice
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