

**NEBRASKA CRIME COMMISSION**  
**FY2024 Juvenile Services Commission Grant Program**

[JS] Application      **Agenda Item #** 17  
 Nebraska Revised Statute §43-2405 **Date** 3/22/23

**SECTION I: APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Lead County/Tribe:	Dodge County	Phone: (402) 727-2725
Address of Applicant:	Address: 435 N. Park Ave #302	
	City: Fremont	State: NE      Zip Code: 68025 – 4977
	List of Partnering Counties/Tribes: None	
Lead Project Contact:	Name: Meggie Studt	
	Title: Juvenile Diversion Director	
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Secondary Project Contact: (optional)	City: Fremont      State: NE      Zip Code: 68025 – 4977	
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	Title: Deputy County Attorney	
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Financial Contact:	Address: 435 N. Park Ave #302	
	City: Fremont      State: NE      Zip Code: 68025 – 4977	
	Name: Micki Gilfry	
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Authorized Official:	Email: clerk@dodgecountyne.gov	
	Address: 435 N. Park Ave	
	City: Fremont      State: NE      Zip Code: 68025 – 4977	
	Name: Bob Missel	
	Title: Chair-Dodge County Board of Supervisors	
Authorized Official:	Phone: (402) 727-2767	
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	Address: 435 N. Park Ave	
	City: Fremont      State: NE      Zip Code: 68025 – 4977	

## SECTION II: PROGRAM SUMMARY

PROGRAM TYPE TABLE					
Complete the table below for each program, service, or system improvement for which you are requesting funds. If a program has several funded components (e.g., staff salaries, curriculum, supplies, etc.), please combine these into a single row in the table. Round up or down to the nearest dollar. Program types and definitions are located on the Juvenile Justice Institute's <a href="#">website</a> .					
Program Title	Over-arching Type	Program Type	Sub-program Type (if applicable)	New OR Current CBA Program	Amount Requested Per Program
Aspire for Greatness- After School Program	Direct Intervention	School-based	After School Program	Currently funded by JS	\$48,600
Family Support	Direct Intervention	Family Support	Family Support Programs	New	\$13,670
<b>All programs listed in the table above must equal the total requested amount from the budget.</b>					Total: \$62,270
<b>*REFER TO PAGE 8 OF THE RFA FOR INSTRUCTIONS*</b>					

## PROGRAM NARRATIVE

**\*Fill out separately for each program or service listed in the Program Type Table\***

**PROGRAM TITLE:** After School Program – Aspire for Greatness

1. Is this program or service currently funded by any Crime Commission grant (state or federal):  Yes  No  
If yes, provide grant number(s): 23-JS-0406 and 23-EB-0619

2. If awarded, these funds will (check only one):

- Create a new service/activity
- Enhance an existing program funded by the grant
- Continue an existing program funded by the grant
- Expand, continue, or enhance an existing project not funded under the grant in the previous year

3. Would a partial funding award for this program or service be accepted?  Yes  No  
If yes, briefly describe what, if any, changes would be implemented due to a partial award: If partial funding were awarded, the program could still function, however would hinder capacity issues regarding paying staff and providing programming for youth. The goal is always to grow programs, and this requires paid staff and additional program costs.

4. What type of program from page 19 of the Request for Application does this program fall under: School-based - After School program

5. Describe the specific identified need in your community that will be addressed by this program. Include relevant data specific to the community being served to support your statement: This was listed as a gap in our community as there were no after school programs for over the age of 12.

Aspire Data:

- To date the program has served 52 youth since beginning programming June 2022
- Summer Program served 17 youth: 13 males, 4 females, 13 Caucasian, 1 American Indian/Caucasian, and 3 Hispanic
- Daily attendance average has increased from 8 participants per day on average in June to 18 participants per day on average in January.
- Daily average by month:
  - June - 8
  - July - 8
  - August (only two weeks) - 13
  - September - 11
  - October - 13
  - November - 14
  - December - 16
  - January - 18
- After School Program we have served 35 youth to date: 20 males and 15 females, 1 bi-racial, 1 American Indian/Caucasian, 2 multi-racial, 2 Hispanic, 29 Caucasian
- Regular participants in the after-school program:
  - 12 on Medicaid
  - 8 on food stamps
  - 2 on SSI
  - 1 on SSDI
  - 1 on WIC
  - 8 w/ IEP's
  - 4 live in single parent homes
  - 2 currently in foster care
  - 10 with system involvement either in juvenile justice or child welfare (crossover)
- Lowest combined income reported: \$19,200.
- Median income (of regular attendees who reported income): \$45,862

6. Is the issue above a stated issue in the comprehensive juvenile services plan?  Yes  No  
Provide page number in community plan where this issue is referenced? Page 4, 5, 6

7. Identify the service area designation(s) as rural, urban, and/or frontier. If more than one designation, explain and include the percentage of each designation within the service area. The City of Fremont, Nebraska; Urban cluster
8. Relative to the proposed project, how will <b>youth success</b> be <u>defined</u> and <u>measured</u> ? Youth success will be defined by the number of youths participating in the program and youth feedback demonstrating an increase in positive attitude regarding any aspect of their lives, as well as a sense of belonging and hope. This will be measured by monthly average attendance numbers, as well as survey results showing parental perspective and youth perspective to increase protective factors (social emotional competences, social connection).
9. Provide a description of the program or service by answering the following:
a. What agency(s) will implement this program: Aspire for Greatness
b. Areas served by this project (specific counties, cities, schools, etc.): The program is housed in Fremont, Nebraska, and serves the following Public School Districts: Dodge-Howells Unified Schools, Dodge; Fremont Public Schools, Fremont; Logan View Public Schools, Hooper, Nickerson, and Uehling; North Bend Central Public Schools, North Bend; Scribner-Snyder Community School, Scribner/Snyder, Archbishop Bergan Schools, Fremont; Trinity Lutheran Elementary Schools, Fremont; and St. Wenceslaus Elementary School, Dodge. All cities and schools within Dodge County.
c. What is the maximum capacity of youth this program can serve at one time: 50
d. How many youth do you anticipate serving during the project period: 80 served within the grant period.
e. What primary outcome(s) will this program address? (Keeping in mind programs will be required to demonstrate outcome accomplishment in the annual report.) <input type="checkbox"/> Reduction of illegal activities <input type="checkbox"/> Increase in school attendance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase in conflict-resolution skills <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase in pro-social attitudes and behaviors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase in development and maintenance of relationships with positive, caring adults <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase in decision-making skills <input type="checkbox"/> Increase in independent living skills
f. Describe how the program will accomplish each of the selected desired outcomes above, including the key activities or services, and the skills and knowledge to be gained by the youth: Aspire provides a safe environment after school with supportive adults, where a sense of community can be fostered between the youth and the caring adults. This includes interactions in games, homework help, and social emotional learning skills implementation through conversations. It is vital for our program to have quality staff to operate the program and provide those valuable relationships with consistent, caring adults. Relationships are at the core of these outcomes; being able to trust an adult and allow them influence will be shared through the qualitative and quantitative data.
g. Define the ways youth leave the program, i.e., what does termination look like? Completion? Successful completion? Youth are able to participate in the program through the age of 19. Completion of the program would be upon graduation from high school or no longer 19 years old and younger. Reasons that may lead to early termination could include documented incidents making it unsafe for the other participants or themselves, or by creating an environment that is not conducive to learning and growing. Youth may attend and take a break and are always welcome back.
h. How will this program build on the strengths, abilities, and assets of the youth: Our program highlights the abilities of each individual youth who attends and makes accommodations for those individual needs and abilities. We rely on the youth to offer their input on the program and have an open dialogue on what their expectations are of our program. We are applying for this grant to be able to expand our staff so we can accommodate more youth into the program and continue to provide that quality interaction to know the uniqueness of the youth and have the ability to build on their individual strengths. Goal setting through one-on-one mentorship, or through the after-school program provides participants with a strengths-based foundation that will carry through to all the programming youth have access to through Aspire; a very important focus as we know it alone can mitigate the risks of trauma. This program is very youth driven and always builds upon the strengths of the youth.
i. What practice-based, promising or research-based practices will be used? For example, don't just list 'mentoring' but list the mentoring best practices that you are using (at least 2 hours training of mentors, matches meet at least weekly for at least one year, etc.) All Aspire staff will be trained in Youth and Families Thrive, this guides the work to increase protective and promotive factors in all youth served. There will also be continued staff

development through opportunities with the Nebraska Department of Education and Beyond School Bells resources. Aspire is interested in learning and partnering with agencies discovering and implementing best practices in our community; we hope to be leaders in the community when it comes to programs that directly serve youth.

- j. Age, Gender, and Race/Ethnicity targeted by this program: This program is open to all races, genders and is prioritizing youth ages 13-18.

10. Explain the referral process by answering the following:

a. Explain what would prompt a referral to the program or service (including the referral process to the program, and a listing of agencies and/or individuals who refer youth to this program or service): Referral to the program can come from any community agency. To date youth have been referred to our after-school program from FPS, DHHS, and Dodge County Diversion, as an opportunity for those youth to be in a safe environment after school with structure and consistency. A youth can be referred by anyone in the community and can just show up and start attending. They will be able to complete intake paperwork on their first day of program.

b. Explain the process used to determine appropriateness of youth for the program, including eligibility criteria: All youth in 7th through 12th grade are eligible to participate in the program regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, involvement with juvenile justice, child welfare, or any other life experience or factor. All youth are under the same requirements of termination based on repeated incidents putting others at risk of harm or inability to create a positive valuable experience for participants. The program is free to all youth in Dodge County. If there are behavior issues, the youth may be split into separate groups or terminated depending on the level of severity. The eligibility criteria is pretty small and this program welcomes youth from all walks of life.

c. List the screening and/or assessment tools used to determine program eligibility, program appropriateness, and programming needs: Parent and participant surveys to evaluate the effectiveness of programming and identify the needs of the youth we are serving.

d. Do all referrals get accepted?  Yes A waitlist will be created if at max capacity.  No

11. Describe the sustainability efforts undertaken for your proposed program, including efforts being made toward cost savings, and the sustainability status of your proposed program (if the program is not funded in future years, will it continue to succeed?): Since its inception, Aspire has made every effort possible to decrease costs and secure sustainable funding. We have achieved this through the donation of time without pay by the Executive Director, the assistance of the Board of Directors, partnering with other organizations to provide office space free of charge, facility usage at a nominal cost, donation of food for meals, sourcing private monetary donations, and applying for community grants. The program will continue to move forward with the status quo, but the quality of the program will be greatly impacted by additional funding to provide for continued growth with quality staff and programming. Aspire will leverage private donations to be matched by community funds, continue to show the need and share the mission with those who are resourced.

12. FOR EXISTING PROGRAMS:

a. How long has this program been operating? A little over one year

b. How many years has this program received grant funding? 0 from Crime Commission

c. Describe how you know your program is working and why continued funding is necessary and justified. Our program has consistently increased the daily attendance numbers each month since first providing summer programming in June of 2022. We continue to receive interest in our program in terms of youth interested in participating as well as other companies and organizations interested in partnering with us. We will complete our first year of after-school programming in May and will survey the participants to gather their feedback on the program.

d. Is this program participating in an independent evaluation?  Yes  No

If yes, describe: Yes. The Fremont Area Community Foundation is our fiscal sponsor, and they oversee our program in addition to the Aspire Board of Directors.

**\*REFER TO PAGE 8 OF THE RFA FOR INSTRUCTIONS\***

## PROGRAM NARRATIVE

**\*Fill out separately for each program or service listed in the Program Type Table\***

**PROGRAM TITLE:** Family Support

1. Is this program or service currently funded by any Crime Commission grant (state or federal):  Yes  No  
If yes, provide grant number(s): n/a

2. If awarded, these funds will (check only one):  
 Create a new service/activity  
 Enhance an existing program funded by the grant  
 Continue an existing program funded by the grant  
 Expand, continue, or enhance an existing project not funded under the grant in the previous year

3. Would a partial funding award for this program or service be accepted?  Yes  No  
If yes, briefly describe what, if any, changes would be implemented due to a partial award: Yes, partial funding could be accepted. We would have to make adjustments on how many youth and families we serve and potentially only utilize for higher risk cases.

4. What type of program from page 19 of the Request for Application does this program fall under: Direct Intervention-Family Support

5. Describe the specific identified need in your community that will be addressed by this program. Include relevant data specific to the community being served to support your statement: Pathfinder Support Services (PSS) service delivery model for family support is founded in Evidenced Based Principles and application. PSS utilizes evidenced principles of motivational interviewing to engage clients and youth in the service goals, incorporates evidence-based targeted interventions based on the risk and need of the youth, evidenced based curriculums to teach and build new skill development, creating informal supports for youth and family while building on youth and family's strengths and motivations for change. PSS Family Support Services is flexible in providing youth and their families targeted interventions to mitigate risks and needs that is specific to each youth and family. PSS utilized evidenced based curriculums to teach or enhance new skills through Case Family Homes, Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART), Thinking for a Change, Common Sense Parenting and Reaching Teens Curriculum. The goal of family support is to positively impact family functioning, as well as the youth's individual functioning in the community, school, and family. PSS creates strength based, individualized plans with each youth and family to target goals for the service and family. According to Dodge County Comprehensive Juvenile Services Community Plan (2021-2025), gaps in our community included on-going support of recovery for juveniles identified with substance use risk, lack positive mentors outside of school and continued high referrals for truancy with 475 filings in 2019.

6. Is the issue above a stated issue in the comprehensive juvenile services plan?  Yes  
Provide page number in community plan where this issue is referenced? Page 5, 6

7. Identify the service area designation(s) as rural, urban, and/or frontier. If more than one designation, explain and include the percentage of each designation within the service area. Dodge County is considered a rural community with the mid-size urban community of the city of Fremont.

8. Relative to the proposed project, how will **youth success** be defined and measured? PSS will provide an intake process of the youth and family and referring party to identify intended goals of the service for the youth and family. Goals will be built on the strengths of the youth and family, will be SMART goals and strategies for each goal will be outcome driven. Post service analysis will be conducted at the conclusion of the service to assess the program for areas of strength and areas to improve. Post analysis will include the youth, family and referring agency.

9. Provide a description of the program or service by answering the following:

a. What agency(s) will implement this program: Pathfinder Support Services

b. Areas served by this project (specific counties, cities, schools, etc.): All schools within Dodge County. Cities include; Fremont, Hooper, Dodge, Uehling, Scribner, Snyder, and North Bend. Potentially youth who reside in Dodge County but attend school in a different county.

c. What is the maximum capacity of youth this program can serve at one time: PSS staff can accommodate up to 5 youth and family at any point of contact.

d. How many youth do you anticipate serving during the project period: Around 40-50 youth

e. What primary outcome(s) will this program address? (Keeping in mind programs will be required to demonstrate outcome accomplishment in the annual report.)

- Reduction of illegal activities
- Increase in school attendance
- Increase in conflict-resolution skills
- Increase in pro-social attitudes and behaviors
- Increase in development and maintenance of relationships with positive, caring adults
- Increase in decision-making skills
- Increase in independent living skills

PSS will demonstrate through post program evaluations, a reduction in illegal activities, increase school attachment and vocational exploration, increase skills in social skills, anger control, coping skills, decision making, independent living skills, and problem-solving skills. PSS incorporates principles of restorative justice and positive youth development in our service delivery model that supports youth voice, valuing their input and perspective, learning to respect other perspectives, understand how harm impacts their community and support restorative practices for community attachment and engagement.

f. Describe how the program will accomplish each of the selected desired outcomes above, including the key activities or services, and the skills and knowledge to be gained by the youth: Interventions/resources to be used:

**Reduction in illegal activities – Prosocial Attitude – Pro-social attitudes and behaviors**

1. Interventions to skill train help making decisions about lawful activities
2. Restorative Justice Principles through facilitated conversations and guided questions to explore youth attitude and beliefs and others perspective regarding attitudes and beliefs.
3. Skill train how to take responsibility for my choices and behavior
4. Skill train critical thinking skills
5. Role playing new skills, encourage practice outside of sessions, positive reinforcement, incentives. Engage family participation in encourage new skills.
6. Utilize Aggressive Replacement Training (ART) curriculum in teaching new skills
7. Healthy relationships and healthy boundaries skill training
8. Understanding triggers and learn new coping skills to avoid thinking traps
9. Build social connections and supports

**School Attachment and Vocational Options:**

1. Identifying barriers and develop plan for addressing barriers.
2. Assessing readiness for change – Motivational Interviewing
3. Goal setting activities
4. Identify strengths and sparks and build on those strengths.
5. Identify triggers and create a support plan.
6. Connect to positive adult advocate, building relationships with adults.
7. Teach social skills related to risk and needs:

a. Skills strategies will be from evidence-based curriculums: ART, Thinking for a Change, Reaching Teens, Ansel Casey to teach new skills, model, role play and incorporate family and school supports. Examples include:

- i. Asking for help
- ii. Appropriately disagreeing
- iii. Expressing feelings
- iv. Following instructions
- v. Starting a conversation
- vi. Responding to peer pressure
- vii. Building informal and formal supports
- viii. Explore vocational opportunities through strengths assessments.
- ix. Screen and implement Ansel Casey skills targeted for each youth.
- x. Teach problem-solving skills i.e., Cost/Benefit analysis.
- xi. Explore youth goals and values.
- xii. Decision balance for decision making.
- xiii. Independent living skills
- xiv. Skills for successful living
- xv. Healthy relationships

xvi. Utilize Your Money Your Goals for future financial education.

**Interpersonal skill building around coping skills, conflict-resolution and problem solving.**

- a. Skills strategies from evidence-based curriculums: ART, Thinking for a Change, Reaching Teens, Ansel Case through teaching modeling and on-going support for utilizing new skills. Examples include:
- i. How to Manage Conflicts and Disappointments
  - ii. Responding to disagreements
  - iii. Learning to express your feelings.
  - iv. Dealing with fear
  - v. Using self-control
  - vi. Avoiding trouble with others
  - vii. Dealing with embarrassment
  - viii. Dealing with being left out.
  - ix. Responding to failure and receiving feedback
  - x. Responding to persuasion, dealing with group pressure
  - xi. Teaching impulse control skills
  - xii. Connecting with others
  - xiii. Advocating for yourself

g. Define the ways youth leave the program, i.e., what does termination look like? Completion? Successful completion? Youth can leave the program once goals and outcomes are met. PSS will create a transition plan moving out of services from the beginning of services to ensure supports both informal and formal, are in place. Incentives implemented. Youth may be discharged at the direction of the referring agency.

h. How will this program build on the strengths, abilities, and assets of the youth: PSS will identify with the youth, family, and other important adults on youth strengths, sparks, and personality temperament. Strategies and interventions will be based on these strengths rather than deficits. Intentional goal setting will be developed based on youth and families' strengths and interests and goals. Connecting youth and family to on-going social connections in their community.

i. What practice-based, promising or research-based practices will be used? For example, don't just list 'mentoring' but list the mentoring best practices that you are using (at least 2 hours training of mentors, matches meet at least weekly for at least one year, etc.) Pathfinder Support Services staff are trained in evidence-based principles, motivational interviewing, criminogenic risk and needs, setting SMART goals, ART, Thinking for a Change, Reaching Teens, Your Money Your Goals, Ansel Casey curriculums. PSS staff are also trained in Youth Mental Health First Aid, Restorative Justice Principles and Positive Youth Development.

j. Age, Gender, and Race/Ethnicity targeted by this program: Dodge County youth, any race or gender. PSS Family Support program is targeted for any youth, ages 13 – 18 and can include both male and female participants.

**10. Explain the referral process by answering the following:**

- a. Explain what would prompt a referral to the program or service (including the referral process to the program, and a listing of agencies and/or individuals who refer youth to this program or service): Referring agency will determine appropriateness for referral to PSS Family Support program through evidence-based screening instruments. A referral will be completed and sent to PSS for case staffing on appropriateness and goals of the service.
- b. Explain the process used to determine appropriateness of youth for the program, including eligibility criteria: Youth referred to the Diversion office for interventions would be appropriate referrals for PSS Family Support program. If referred from DCA, typically they would score high on the NYS or NSAT and need services put in place.
- c. List the screening and/or assessment tools used to determine program eligibility, program appropriateness, and programming needs: Youth identified with needs targeting Prosocial attitude, School and Vocational support, Family Circumstances, Coping and Self-Control, Peer Relations, and Positive Peer/Companions.



d. Do all referrals get accepted?  Yes  No PSS does not exclude any youth from family support participation. PSS is based on individualized youth and family outcome-based case planning. All referrals would be accepted.

11. Describe the sustainability efforts undertaken for your proposed program, including efforts being made toward cost savings, and the sustainability status of your proposed program (if the program is not funded in future years, will it continue to succeed?): PSS has been in operation in Fremont Nebraska since 1978 and has held contracts with the Department of Health and Human Services since 1990's. PSS has four offices, Lincoln, Fremont, Grand Island and Hastings. PSS is an independent contractor for DHHS and Probation Administration, along with Community Collaboratives in each location. PSS does not operate on grant funding. Utilizing these dollars will aid in preventing youth behaviors from rising to the level of court intervention. Usually, youth who need these services have to be adjudicated to access them.

12. FOR EXISTING PROGRAMS:

a. How long has this program been operating? PSS has been around since the 1990's in Dodge County.

b. How many years has this program received grant funding? Years ago, Dodge County has FS listed in the CBA application, but it has not been included for the past 5-6 years.

c. Describe how you know your program is working and why continued funding is necessary and justified. PSS has utilized participant intake and post program surveys in the past. PSS will implement an evaluation process for Dodge County Diversion Family Support Program to assess if outcomes were met according to the youth, family and referring agency.

d. Is this program participating in an independent evaluation?  Yes  No

**\*REFER TO PAGE 8 OF THE RFA FOR INSTRUCTIONS\***

# SECTION III: BUDGET

## Budget Summary

Category	Requested Amount
Personnel	\$ 41,600
Travel	\$ 3750
Operating Expenses	\$ 7000
Contract Fee for Service	\$ 9920
Sub-Awards Total	\$62,270
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>	<b>\$62,270</b>

Budget Requirements	
<p>All budget requests must be <b>allowable, cost effective, and necessary for project activities.</b>                      All requests must comply with the following:</p>	
DIRECT	All costs must be direct expenses. No indirect organizational costs may be requested.
ALLOCABLE	Costs can be allocated to the grant to the extent they support grant funded activities. Grant funds cannot provide general support to the operations/programs of the organization receiving funding.
ACTUAL	Only actual expenses may be charged to the grant. Charges cannot be based upon budgeted or estimated amounts. EXAMPLE: The project budget anticipates the portion of the project coordinator's time spent on the grant funded activity will be 10% or 4 hours/week. The actual weekly time spent fluctuates between 0 hours and 2.5 hours/week. The actual time spent each week and not the budgeted cost is the amount that can be charged to the grant and time sheets must justify the hours.
REASONABLE	A cost is considered reasonable if the nature of and the price paid for the goods or services reflects the action that a practical person would have taken given the circumstances. In determining the reasonableness of a particular cost, the following criteria will be considered: • In accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and business practices • An "arm's length" transaction • Consistent with established practices of the grantee • Consistent with market prices for comparable goods or services in your area.
NECESSARY	All expenses must be necessary to achieve the outcomes of the program. Expenses must be directly related to the program, be necessary to carry out the function of the program or service and must be necessary to effectively meet the program goals and outcomes.

# Sub-Award Budget Summary

Agency Name	Personnel	Travel	Operating Expenses	Contracts	Requested Amount
Aspire for Greatness	41,600	0	7000	0	48,600
Pathfinder Support Services	0	3750	0	9920	13,670
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>					62,270

## SUB-AWARD NARRATIVE

**AGENCY NAME:** Pathfinder Support Services

1. Does the agency currently receive any Crime Commission grants (state or federal):  Yes  No  
If yes, provide grant number(s): n/a
2. Mission and Purpose Statement: (150 words) Pathfinder Support Services promotes the empowerment of families to improve protective capacities and overall quality of care to enrich the lives of children. At Pathfinder, we encourage stability, family preservation and build on each family's individual strengths and competencies.  
  
Pathfinder Support Services Vision: Pathfinder Support Services provides services to children and families identified by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services and/or the Nebraska State Probation Administration for Juvenile Justice. Pathfinder also offers preventive services through local community collaboratives, known as Community Response.  
  
Pathfinder Support Services offer a variety of services that include Parenting Skill Training, Family Support, Supervised Parenting Supervision, Supervised Parenting Visitation and Drug Screen Testing.  
  
Pathfinder works with children from birth to adulthood alongside their families and/or caretakers who are involved with the juvenile court system and placed in the custody of the state for reasons of abuse, neglect, status offense and/or delinquency (court involved).  
  
Identical services are provided for those who agree to participate in safety and change services without court involvement (non-court involved). Pathfinder Services focus on child/parental skill acquisition, improved family functioning, increase nurturing parent/child interactions, and community connections for ongoing support and sustainability. Pathfinder Support Services incorporates protective and promotive factors in our service delivery model and utilize evidence-based principles and curriculums.
3. Length of time agency has been in operations: (150 words) Pathfinder Support Services was established in Fremont, Nebraska, in 1978. Originally called Pathfinder Alcohol and Drug Clinic, the agency offered outpatient treatment and programming focusing on humanistic treatment for those who abuse drugs and alcohol. In 2000, the agency began to offer Intensive Outpatient services for youth, and Mental Health and Anger Management services. In addition, Family Support Work, Supervised Visitation, Intensive Family Preservation, In-Home Safety, and Drug Screening and Testing services began through the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Child Protective Services. Services were also made available to area businesses and private-pay clients.
4. Describe organization's structure: (250 words) Pathfinder Support Services is a for profit agency that is committed to community engagement and participation. Pathfinder Support Services is represented at Systems of Care, Region VI Board, local community coalitions, Through the Eyes of The Child Teams, Community Response, and Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiatives and Dodge County Juvenile Services committee. Pathfinder Support Services currently does not access crime commission funds.
5. Describe agency's current scope of services or operations: (250 words) The scope of services offered by Pathfinder Support Services was narrowed in 2009 to focus on issues related to Abuse and Neglect in children and families. Services currently offered include Family Support Work, Parenting Skills/Visitation Services, In-Home Safety and Drug Screening and Testing. Pathfinder's overall goal is to educate and train parents and wards of the state with the goals of child safety and family reunification. Pathfinder serves three Department of Health and Human Services Areas: Northern with an office in Fremont, Southeast with an office in Lincoln, and Central with offices in Hastings and Grand Island.

**\*REFER TO PAGE 14 OF THE RFA FOR INSTRUCTIONS\***

## SUB-AWARD NARRATIVE

**AGENCY NAME:** Aspire for Greatness

1. Does the agency currently receive any Crime Commission grants (state or federal): Yes No  
If yes, provide grant number(s): 23-JS-0406, 23-EB-0619
2. Mission and Purpose Statement: (150 words) Aspire for Greatness is dedicated to fostering a sense of community, self-worth, and value in local youth in 5th grade through age 19; empowering them through Biblical truth to overcome challenges they encounter and equipping them with the skills needed to reach their full potential. We accomplish this through structured programming that includes intentional mentoring, homework help, physical activity, games, field trips, skill building, job and career readiness, daily snacks/meals, speakers, social emotional wellbeing lessons, entrepreneurship lessons, character building, encouragement through faith-based lessons, exposure to creative outlets through clubs and activities, and other enrichment opportunities.
3. Length of time agency has been in operations: (150 words) Started in 2020, Aspire for Greatness was created to fill the void in youth services in Fremont and surrounding communities by providing a safe and encouraging environment for youth and young adults outside of school; whereas no other programs existed. After the pandemic and overcoming the challenge of transportation Aspire began serving youth in full capacity in June of 2022 through a summer program. In the fall of 2022 Aspire began offering an after-school program with transportation provided and has seen continued growth in that program. Additionally, in the fall of 2022 after receiving a mini grant from the Fremont Area Community Foundation Aspire was able to offer a High School Mock Trial team as an activity and the team competed in the regional competition. After receiving a Crime Commission grant in 2022 Aspire was able to create a yearlong mentoring program and began offering that as well; as Big Brothers Big Sisters no longer has a presence in the Fremont community.
4. Describe organization's structure: (250 words) Aspire for Greatness is operated by a full time Executive Director, a part time Mentor Program Coordinator, and a part time After-School and Summer Program Coordinator. Oversight for these positions are provided by the Aspire Board of Directors. We are requesting funding to expand our staff to provide a 30 hour/week coordinator to provide for the continued growth we are seeing in our programs.
5. Describe agency's current scope of services or operations: (250 words) Aspire's scope of services currently includes a yearlong one-to-one mentoring program available to youth in 5th-12th grade, up through age 19 to be matched with an individual mentor, meeting two to four times per month for a total of four hours per month of interaction. This program runs continually throughout the year and new mentor matches can be made at any time. Additionally, Aspire offers a structured after school and summer program for youth in 7th-12th grade, and up through age 19. The initial intent was to offer both of these

programs to 5th and 6th graders as well, however the Fremont Public School system does still offer after school and summer opportunities for K-6, so we currently have limited our after school and summer programs to 7th-12th grades due to our limited resources and the knowledge that the lower grades do have resources available currently. Aspire's after school program runs on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays during the school year on days that school is in session. We are requesting funding to provide for the 30 hour/week coordinator to enable us to expand to five days per week. Aspire's summer program runs Monday through Friday in conjunction with the community wide Summer Lunch Program for the months of June and July.

**\*REFER TO PAGE 14 OF THE RFA FOR INSTRUCTIONS\***

**SUB-AWARD PERSONNEL TABLE**

**AGENCY NAME:** Aspire for Greatness and Banisters Leadership Academy

Program Title	Position Title and Name	Agency Name	Full or Part Time (F or P)	New or Existing (N or E)	Current Annual Salary	Projected Annual Salary	Percent Time Devoted	Requested Wages	Requested Fringe	Requested Total
After School Program	Name unknown Program Director	Aspire for Greatness	F	N	\$0	\$41,600	100%	\$41,600	\$0	\$41,600
<b>SUB-AWARD PERSONNEL TOTAL</b>								<b>Requested Wages</b>	<b>Requested Fringe</b>	<b>Requested Total</b>
								\$41,600	\$0	\$41,600

## SUB-AWARD PERSONNEL TABLE BUDGET BREAKDOWN

\*Fill out for each position listed in the table above\*

**AGENCY NAME:** Aspire for Greatness

1. Program Title and Position Title: Program Director, Name unknown

2. Is this position new or existing:     New     Existing

3. Provide all funding sources and amounts currently contributing to this position. The percent of total column should equal 100%:

Funding Source	Percent of Total	Dollar Amount
JS-23-0406	20,000	100%

4. Are existing funds currently allocated to the support of this position that will be used for a different purpose if this request is awarded?    Yes    No

Briefly describe how this request complies with the non-supplanting requirement (*the replacing of existing funds that currently support this position with these grant funds*): This request is for a new position that is unfunded in any other way. The creation of this position will allow us to expand the amount of youth we are able to serve and ensure we are providing quality programs that enrich the lives of youth in our community. Building capacity is a high need for our program to be sustainable and this grant will help us achieve that.

Provide job description (If existing position, paste in the official job description. If new, type a brief summary of the anticipated duties.): The Program Director of Aspire for Greatness researches, plans, develops, and implements the organization's outreach program services and is responsible for the delivery and overall success of each program. Current programs include an after-school program, summer program, and a one-to-one mentoring program. The program director's goal is to ensure every program is completed successfully to add the highest possible value to the organization and program participants. This position requires running the day-to-day operations of the programs, coordinating other staff and volunteers to be most effective to the program, coordinating food for the after-school program, and having open communication with school administration and teachers concerning participants' grades and schoolwork when necessary. This role requires knowledge of program management principles, strategic thinking, a passion for working with youth, and strong leadership qualities. This staff person reports to the Aspire for Greatness Executive Director.

5. Was there an annual salary increase:    Yes    No  
If yes, what percent? n/a

6. Provide a personnel budget breakdown on the following:

- a. Breakdown of wages for this position (Hours x hourly rate = total): 20/hr x 40 hrs per week = \$41,600
- b. Breakdown of employers cost of basic fringe benefits for this position pro-rated based on the amount of grant dollars requested.
  - i. FICA: 0
  - ii. Retirement: 0
  - iii. Insurance: 0
  - iv. Other (such as LTD, LIFE, ADD, etc.) Please specify: 0

\*REFER TO PAGE 15 OF THE RFA FOR INSTRUCTIONS\*



## SUB-AWARD TRAVEL EXPENSES

This section is travel requested for sub-awarded agency employees.

Position Traveling <sup>1</sup>	Travel Purpose <sup>2</sup>	Mileage (# of Miles x 0.625)		Meals <sup>3</sup>	Lodging <sup>4</sup> (# of Nights x per diem amount)		Requested Total
Family Support workers	To and from visits to the youth's home, school, agency appointment, etc.	6000 x.625	\$3750	\$0	0 x \$0	\$0	\$3750
<b>SUB-AWARD TRAVEL REQUESTED TOTAL</b>							<b>\$3750</b>

1. Position Traveling: If the county/tribe has more than one funded program, also include program type.
2. Travel Purpose: examples include personal vehicle to serve youth, NJJA conference, etc.
3. Meals: Meal reimbursement must follow [NE DAS policy](#) and utilize the NE DAS [expense reimbursement form](#) to calculate total expense.
4. Lodging: [Per Diem Lookup](#)

## SUB-AWARD OPERATING EXPENSES

All operating expenses must be necessary for program function and directly related to effectively meeting the program goals and outcomes. Operating expenses cannot be overarching expenses of an office, but rather for the program or service only. Pro-rate operating expenses accordingly. All allowable operating expenses will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.  
 \*DO NOT CHANGE OR ADD CATEGORIES\*

**AGENCY NAME:** Aspire for Greatness

Program Title: After School Program	Detailed Budget Breakdown of Costs	Amount Requested
Educational & Program Materials	Materials needed to run the youth program including but not limited to; supplies for program, educational materials, paper, recreational supplies, etc. Roughly spending \$20/week (52 weeks)	\$1000
External Fees for Youth	Admission to field trip activities, enrichment opportunities, etc. Average \$20/youth x 50 = \$1000	\$1000
Food for Youth	Snacks, candy, drinks, etc. to have at programming \$3000/52 weeks around \$58/week for food/beverages for youth.	\$3000
Incentives for Youth	100 \$10 gift cards = \$1000 and 200 \$5 gift cards = \$1000	\$2000
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$7000</b>

### BUDGET NARRATIVE

1. For each operating expense requested above, explain the following:
  - a. How is each request necessary to meet the goals and outcomes of the program? Educational and program materials are needed in order to run the program effectively. The youth will need a few items for each day after school that they meet. If a youth forgets their school supplies Aspire will be able to provide supplies for them to continue to meet their educational needs.
  - b. How is each request reasonable and cost effective? This amount will not cover all of the expenses for educational materials and program materials but should help provide items to help keep the programming functioning and available to the youth for no cost.
  
2. For each operating expense requested above, explain the following:
  - a. How is each request necessary to meet the goals and outcomes of the program? Youth are driven by outside motivation including earning incentives, trips, passes, etc. This is a great way to reward youth for their positive behavior and meeting their goals.
  - b. How is each request reasonable and cost effective? This is a great way to motivate youth to earn a positive reward and be able to have social outings with the youth to work on leadership skills and responsibility. Some programs do not get to do enrichment activities outside of the regular programming due to lack of funds. This should encourage youth to earn the opportunity.
  
3. For each operating expense requested above, explain the following:
  - a. How is each request necessary to meet the goals and outcomes of the program? Youth are usually motivated with snacks and the program sometimes uses snacks as an incentive or has the youth be able to pick out their favorite snack if their goals and objectives are met for the week. Providing snacks for an after-school program is necessary for youth to maintain focus and meet their individual goals.
  - b. How is each request reasonable and cost effective? The youth meet 3 times per week and will need some type of snack at the programming. \$58/week is a reasonable amount for the program averaging 26 youth per day.

4. For each operating expense requested above, explain the following:
  - a. How is each request necessary to meet the goals and outcomes of the program? Incentives are used as motivation for youth to meet their goals. Usually, a great way to build a relationship and trust when an adult can follow through with promising the youth a reward. We have found that finding out what motivates youth is a great way to know what specific incentive will work best for them. Youth thrive on positive reinforcement, and it is more effective than negative reinforcement when working on meeting their goals.
  - b. How is each request reasonable and cost effective? Incentives may be used at many different times to evoke the changes we would like to see with the youth. Some weeks might not be many incentives whereas others might have an increase. We also find that individualizing the youth's incentive helps as not all youth are motivated by the same thing. This could be as simple as a \$5 or \$10 gift card to their favorite fast-food place or store. It is necessary to have a few options for incentives or rewards to run the program as it is proven to be motivating for most youth.

**\*REFER TO PAGE 15 OF THE RFA FOR INSTRUCTIONS\***

## SUB-AWARD CONTRACTS

All rates requested must be reasonable and consistent with those paid for similar services in the marketplace and in alignment with the work proposed. A market analysis may be required for any rate that is not verifiable as consistent with the rates in the market. Rates shall not exceed reimbursement rates from Medicaid and/or Probation Administration for the same or similar service.

**AGENCY NAME:** Pathfinder Support Services

Program Title From Program Type Table	Service Type <i>Example: Family Support, Community Youth Coaching, EM, Mediation, Counselor, etc.</i>	Provider Name	Rate	Number of Occurrences	Amount Requested
Family Support	Family Support	Pathfinder Support Services	\$62	160 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Days	\$9920
<b>CONTRACT FEES TOTAL</b>					<b>\$9920</b>

**SUB-AWARD CONTRACTS NARRATIVE**

**\*Fill out for each contract listed in the table above\***

**SERVICE TYPE AND PROVIDER NAME:** Family Support-Pathfinder Support Services

1. Describe the service being contracted, including the referral process for youth to participate in the contracted service: Family support services will be provided to youth in Dodge County to prevent further system involvement. The referral would come from the Diversion Director and be sent to the agency. Family Support services include in home meetings with the youth and family working on goal setting and utilizing evidenced principles of motivational interviewing to engage clients. Diversion office will send referrals to PSS for juveniles that are needing the service based on their risk level after initial assessment.
2. Did the county use an application process to determine the provider for this service? Yes No
3. Does the County/Tribe currently have a contract in place with the provider? Yes No But will when funding is approved.
4. Describe how the contracted service is **allowable, cost effective, and necessary for project activities**: Family support is allowable as it is a preventative service. Inevitably saving the county money by preventing these youth from further system involvement, attorney fees, detention rates, EM costs, etc. Family support allows youth to remain in their home and is the least restrictive option for the family. Family support rates do not exceed probation rates and usually youth who are adjudicated are the only ones who have access to this service unless otherwise system involved. This is a preventative effort to educate youth and their families on skills they will need for their future without sending them further through the juvenile justice system.

**\*REFER TO PAGE 15 OF THE RFA FOR INSTRUCTIONS\***

<b>SUB-AWARD TOTAL</b>	
<b>AGENCY:</b> Aspire, Pathfinder	
<b>PERSONNEL FEES</b>	\$41,600
<b>TRAVEL FEES</b>	\$3750
<b>OPERATING FEES</b>	\$7000
<b>CONTRACT FEES</b>	\$9920
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>	<b>\$62,270</b>

## Section IV: Comprehensive Juvenile Services Community Plan

Pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute §43-2405(1), the application shall include a comprehensive juvenile services plan. **Applications must include a current copy of the Comprehensive Juvenile Services Community Plan** for the community in which the program operates. If the program(s) requested in the application is not included in the community plan or serve the purpose of the meeting the needs identified in the community plan, the program will not be eligible to receive grant funding.

## Section V: Memorandums of Understanding

Agencies, counties or tribes applying as a group must submit a current copy of the MOU signed by each participating county board chair, tribal council chair, or other agency authorized official confirming their commitment to the proposed joint project(s) in this application. It is preferred that MOU's include the electronic signature of each county or tribe's respective signature. If not possible, a scanned copy will be accepted with the application.

## Section VI: Electronic Submission

As Lead Project Contact of this grant application, I assure that this electronic PDF submitted to the Nebraska Crime Commission is the final document which will be signed by the Authorized Official. I acknowledge I am required to submit an electronic copy to the Nebraska Crime Commission. I acknowledge that a scanned version of the electronic copy will not be accepted. The electronic copy must be submitted as a PDF version of the original Microsoft Word document.

Meggie Studt

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed Name of Lead Project Contact

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Section VI: Signature

### **CERTIFICATION**

I certify the information in this application is accurate and as the Authorized Official for this project, hereby agree to comply with all provisions of the grant program, requirements outlined in the Request for Application, requirements of the Nebraska Crime Commission, and all other applicable federal and state laws.

I authorize the lead project contact, secondary project contact and financial contact to act on behalf of the Authorized Official for grant management purposes and fulfillment of the grant program.

**Note: The Authorized Official signature must be that of an authorized official as defined in the RFA. If more than one agency, county or tribe is participating in the grant application then the signature of the Lead Agency, County, or Tribe Official is required.**

Name of Authorized Official: Bob Missel

Signature of Authorized Official:

Date: