



2021 ANNUAL APPEAL LETTER

November, 2021

We are grateful

Dear Friends,

November marks so many things in my life—all of which bring quiet joy and comfort: slipper socks, a fire in the fireplace, afghans, my mom’s pumpkin dessert, a houseful of children and grandchildren. It’s my absolute favorite time of the year.

At this time of year, most of us pause and count our blessings. We have so much for which we are grateful. I am grateful to be a part of an agency which strives every day to embody our mission: Value, Respect, Choice, Growth—I see these core values present in every hour of service we provide.

I’m grateful for the individuals and their families who have chosen to partner with ACN in developing the supports necessary to live lives at the greatest level of independence. I’m grateful for our successes, for our opportunities, and for our bright future.

ACN could not continue to create meaningful opportunities for those we support without the continuing support of the members of the ACN family. Whether you joined our family as the family/guardian of someone receiving ACN supports, as an employee, as a business partner, as a collaborative agency—you are a part of our table this fall. And we continue to be grateful for your presence, your service, and your gifts.

I’m thankful for the courage of ACN and the influence and impact we are making on others. I’m thankful for the impact of the life stories of each of the individuals supported by ACN.

And most of all, I’m thankful for each of you.

As we close out 2021—a year that didn’t quite deliver us from a pandemic, but which, nevertheless, brought joy and wonder, lessons and adventures—won’t you join me in making a gift to the Autism Center of Nebraska?

Together, our family can continue to support each other, bringing Value, Respect, Choice, and Growth to each of those we support.

All best,

Leslie Bishop Hartung
President and Chief Executive Officer



YES, I wish to donate to the Autism Center of Nebraska’s mission of providing services and support for individuals with developmental disabilities in our community.

(To ensure your gift is received by Dec. 31, 2021, please GIVE ONLINE at www.acnomaha.org)

ENCLOSED IS MY GIFT OF: \$2,500 \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other amount: \$_____

GIFT METHOD:

Check for Autism Center of Nebraska enclosed I’m giving online at www.acnomaha.org

Credit card donation: AmEx MasterCard Visa

Card number: _____ Exp Date: ___/___ CCID/CCV#: _____

Name on card: _____ Signature: _____

My phone #: _ _ - _ - _ - _ - _

My gift is in memory of: _____ My gift is in honor of: _____

More information on back

Value • Respect • Choice • Growth

Mission/Core Values:

To support and enhance the quality of life for persons with autism and other developmental disabilities and their families.

Every person is a valuable member of the community.

Every person is entitled to choice.

Every person deserves respect.

Every person can grow and learn.

Serving: **More than 150 children and adults in Omaha, Lincoln, and Fremont** (*unduplicated*)

- 26 extended family homes in Omaha, Lincoln, Fremont, and Wahoo serving 29 individuals
- 25+ individuals who live with their families or on their own
- 12 group homes serving 23 individuals in Omaha, Lincoln, and Fremont
- Numerous individuals in competitive employment
- 58 individuals in day services/community inclusion in Omaha, Lincoln, Fremont, Blair, and Waterloo
- Several students in individualized transition programs
- 100 + individuals in ACN Connections employment services in Omaha, Lincoln, and Fremont

Providing: **Residential Services:** small group homes, shared living homes, supported family living, independent living, respite care
Day Services: day service program, *The Art Garden* retail outlets, job placement, community inclusion, school transition

Employing: 180 employees, 26 EFH contractors

Properties: 33,000 square foot building on six acres housing administrative offices and day program
Adjoining 0.8 acre for future expansion
10 group homes in residential neighborhoods
Leased office/service space and leased/owned group homes in Lincoln and Fremont

Leadership: **Leslie Bishop Hartung**
President and CEO
Richard Lowery
Chief Financial Officer
Diane Pacal
Residential Services Program Director
Michael Blackstone
Day Services Program Director

Board of Directors: **Joan Marcus**, chair *
Ken Keith, Ph.D., vice chair
Laurie Ackermann*
Cheri Albin*
Ann Bird
Bill Bishop*
Travis Buck (self-advocate)
Cindy Ellis, M.D.
Leah Janke*
Thomas Lee
Megan Misegadis*
Nate Parks
Chuck Sederstrom
Leslie Bishop Hartung (ex officio)*
**family members of persons with disabilities*

Autism Center of Nebraska Upcoming Events

November 30:

#GivingTuesday Facebook Live

Conversation with ACN staff member and manager of The Art Garden, Melissa Paul

Where and When: www.facebook.com/autism-center-of-nebraska-inc

Tuesday, November 30, 2021, 5:00p.m.

December 2:

The Art Garden Holiday Boutique Event: Come enjoy wine and snacks while shopping for the perfect holiday gift!

Where and When: The Art Garden, 9747 Q Street, Omaha, NE 68127 (96th & Q)

December 3:

Grand Opening of the First-Ever Digital Autism Center of Nebraska Merchandise Store

www.acnomaha.org | www.facebook.com/autism-center-of-nebraska-inc

Stay tuned for more events and happenings in 2022!



MY CONTACT INFORMATION:

Preferred name for donor acknowledgment: _____

Street address: _____ City, State, ZIP: _____ Email: _____

Phone(s): _____ [] I would like my gift to remain anonymous

Autism Center of Nebraska is a 501c3 non-profit organization. Gifts are tax-deductible as allowable. Consult your tax preparer for details.

Send donations to: AUTISM CENTER OF NEBRASKA 9012 Q STREET OMAHA, NE 68127

www.acnomaha.org | 402.315.1000

Thank you for considering a gift to the Autism Center of Nebraska!