



ClientUpdate

March 2022

OFFICE HOURS: MON - FRI 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM • DISTRIBUTIONS: MON - FRI 10 AM - 1 PM & TUES. 4 - 6 PM

Face masks required at the Center

To protect the health and safety of our staff, volunteers and clients, **we continue to require face masks for anyone who enters the Center**, regardless of vaccination status. We are encouraged to see the COVID-19 risk dial moving toward lower levels of community spread. However, we are not yet ready to remove mask mandates for the thousands of people who visit our distributions each week. We appreciate your cooperation!

Child Tax Credit: File for full credit

Under the American Rescue Plan, eligible families received **only half** (or less) of the 2021 Child Tax Credit to which they were entitled. **To receive the remainder of your tax credit, you must file a 2021 tax return.**

VITA Lincoln helps qualifying individuals prepare their tax returns. To request an appointment, visit vita.unl.edu/signup. For more information call 402.472.0857 or email vita@unl.edu.

Affordable Connectivity Program

The ACP replaced the Emergency Broadband Benefits program in December 2021. This new, long-term program aims to make broadband access affordable for all. Families struggling to pay for internet service may be eligible for a **\$30 per month discount on broadband** internet service. Qualifying households must meet specific criteria. **Visit fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit or acpbenefit.org for more information.**

Self-paced FREE English language classes

The Center offers three levels of **FREE English Language Learning classes** for anyone for whom English is not their primary language. New students are tested and placed in a class according to their abilities to progress through the program at their own pace. Our instructors are highly skilled and dedicated to teaching English and basic American culture with an emphasis on obtaining employment. For more information or to sign-up, contact 402.476.4357 or info@cfpin.org.

Caption calling for people with hearing loss

Do you have trouble hearing on the phone? Do you keep asking people to repeat themselves? If so, you may be eligible for no-cost telephone captioning. CaptionCall is part of a federally-funded program to benefit people with hearing loss. A phone and caption services are provided at no cost to qualifying individuals, with complementary delivery, installation, training and support. For more info about CaptionCall, call 877.557.2227 or visit captioncall.com.

cfpin.org

[facebook.com/centerforpeopleinneed](https://www.facebook.com/centerforpeopleinneed)

twitter.com/CFPIN

402.476.4357

For more information and updates, call or visit our website or social media.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday, May 30

Center Closed
Memorial Day
No distribution, offices closed.

Monday, July 4

Center Closed
Independence Day
No distribution, offices closed.

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PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY

If you are displaying symptoms of illness or were exposed to COVID-19, **please DO NOT ATTEND DISTRIBUTION.** We serve thousands of families each week. Attending while sick puts our staff, volunteers and all of those families at risk. Instead, call us at 402.476.4357 and we will attempt to connect you with services for people at home, in quarantine.

COVID-19 vaccine widely available

Booster shot also recommended, for max protection

All residents of Nebraska age 5 and up are eligible for COVID-19 vaccination. Vaccination is important in reducing the spread of infection and essential for reducing COVID-19 deaths. The COVID-19 vaccines have been extensively tested and deemed safe and effective in reducing spread and severe illness.

Booster shots administered at least 5 months after completion of the primary vaccine are also recommended and available for anyone 12 years old or older.

For more info about the vaccines and booster shots available, please visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov). **To register for your COVID-19 or seasonal flu shots, visit [vaccinate.ne.gov](https://www.vaccinate.ne.gov)** OR contact a local pharmacy for appointment options.

The COVID-19 vaccine and boosters are FREE to all, regardless of insurance status.

SNAP and WIC food assistance programs

If you're having trouble making ends meet, consider applying for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly known as food stamps). **Income eligibility for SNAP recently increased** from 130% Federal Poverty Level to 165% FPL. This means it's even more important to see if you qualify, call the Center at 402.476.4357 to check your eligibility.

Women Infants and Children nutrition assistance

WIC is a special nutrition program specifically for pregnant and breastfeeding women and families with children younger than 5 years old. For more information, visit [dhhs.ne.gov/pages/wic-about.aspx](https://www.dhhs.ne.gov/pages/wic-about.aspx) or call Family Service WIC at 402.441.8655 or Lincoln Lancaster County WIC at 402.441.8000.

Don't forget you can double your food dollars.

Get free fresh fruits and vegetables with your EBT card with Double Up Food Bucks. For details, visit doubleupnebraska.org!

Citizenship classes

El Centro de las Americas and the Asian Community and Cultural Center offer **online and in-person citizenship classes** regularly. The next session is set to begin in April.

To register, call or email Ashley Bartek at 402.802.7690 or ashley@elcentrone.org or Tiffany Bui at 402.205.7598 or tiffany@lincolnasiancenter.org.

Immigrant Legal Center in Lincoln

The Immigrant Legal Center is a local nonprofit that is dedicated to welcoming immigrants into our community. It's a safe and caring place for immigrants and their families to seek help. They have a diverse team of experts who can assist with all forms of family and humanitarian-based immigration, and they have a 93% success rate. ILC believes all individuals pursuing immigration relief should have access to high-quality legal services, regardless of their ability to pay.

Contact the Lincoln office at 402.898.1349 or info@immigrantlc.org.

COVID-19

FREE TESTING

Continued COVID-19 testing is integral to stopping the spread. Visit [walgreens.com](https://www.walgreens.com) or [cvs.com](https://www.cvs.com) for free appointments to access the most accurate and sensitive COVID-19 testing—full PCR tests.

If you haven't already, complete the form at [covidtests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov) to receive **four free rapid antigen at-home tests**. NOTE: If you already requested your four tests, a new round of tests will be available mid-March. Check back for another opportunity to request free at-home tests.

Remember, **private insurance companies are required to reimburse members for up to eight at-home rapid COVID tests per month**.

Save your receipt and check with your insurance company on specific procedures for reimbursement.

Medicare members: federal health officials say **Medicare will begin covering up to eight at-home COVID tests per enrollee per month this spring**. Look for updates about this from Medicare.