



**NCSL**  
EARLY LEARNING  
FELLOWS

June 5-7, 2019 | Omaha, Neb.

### Early Childhood the Nebraska Way



**Amy Bornemeier, Vice President, Early Childhood Programs, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation**

Amy Bornemeier is the Vice President for Early Childhood Programs at Nebraska Children and Families Foundation and has been with the organization since August 2013. As Sixpence Administrator, Amy has been responsible for supporting the Sixpence Early Learning Fund Board of Trustees and administering the grants to 34 communities to offer, in partnership with school districts and other local entities, programs for at-risk infants and toddlers. These Sixpence public-private partnership programs operate through three models: center-based early care and education, home based family engagement, and school-child care partnerships.

In addition, Amy is the Project Lead on Nebraska Children's Communities for Kids, a new initiative supporting communities across Nebraska in developing sustainable plans to meet the need for more available, high-quality early care and education programs.

Previously she worked at the Nebraska Department of Education, Office of Early Childhood, on a school readiness initiative and has administered early care and education and child welfare programs in Lincoln. Amy holds a Bachelor's in Human Resources and Family Sciences with an emphasis in Child Development from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln and is working toward her Master's in Management and Leadership from Doane College. Email Amy: [abornemeier@nebraskachildren.org](mailto:abornemeier@nebraskachildren.org).



**Betty Medinger, Senior Vice President, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation**

Betty is a Certified Masters Level Social Worker and Licensed Mental Health Practitioner in Nebraska. She began her employment with NCFE in January 2013 after retiring from 27 years with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services where she gained valuable experience in child and adult protective services, child and adult social service block grant programs, resource development, foster care, youth development, and mentoring programs. She spent 8 years working as the State Administrator in Nebraska

for Child Care, Community Services Block Grant, Homeless Assistance Program, Refugee Resettlement and the Social Services Block Grant with a combined budget of \$95M. In 2009 she resigned this position to work as a Director of Services at CEDARS, a non-profit in Lincoln that shelters and supports children and families in the foster care system during the state's child welfare reform efforts. After 18 months with CEDARS Ms. Medinger began her own business, working as an independent consultant, providing facilitation, planning, grant proposal development, interagency agreement development, and project implementation for human service agencies in Nebraska and Colorado. Additionally, Betty sits on the advisory committee for the social work department and serves as an adjunct faculty at Nebraska Wesleyan University teaching an undergraduate macro social work practice course. She taught 5 years as adjunct faculty with Southeast Community College, and has served for several years on the board of advisors for Union College's Social Work program.

Betty's current work includes assisting NCFE on the following four initiatives: Nebraska Community Learning Centers Network, Child Well-Being, Positive Youth Development / Youth Aging Out of Foster Care, and Early Childhood Mental Health; work with state, regional, and community level stakeholder groups in assessing strengths, identifying gaps, researching practices, setting vision, mission, goals, objectives, activity, evaluation, communication and ongoing improvements when moving initiatives forward. Email Betty:

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