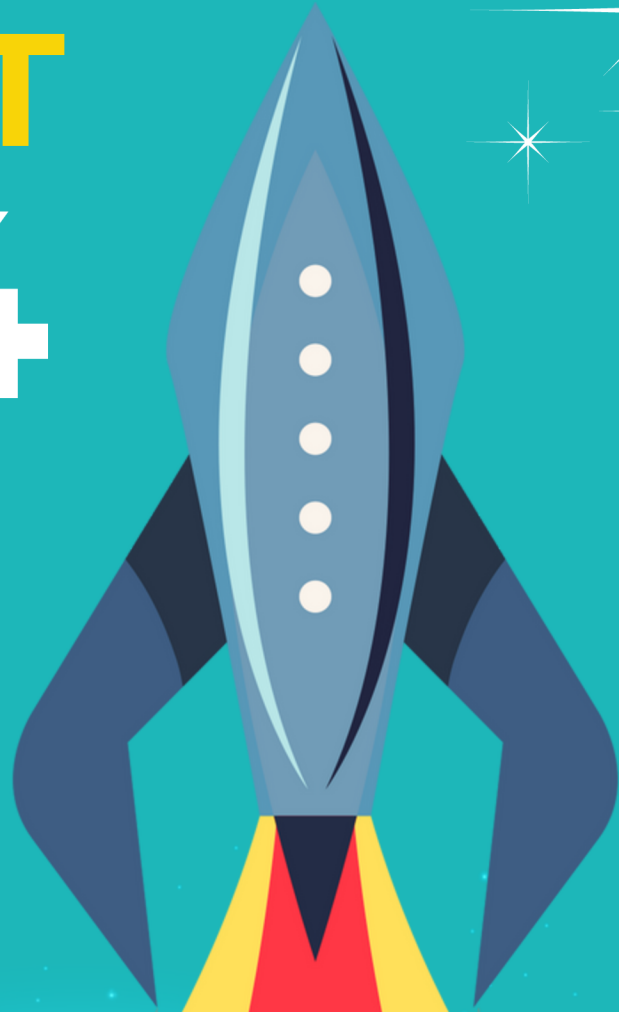


FOUNDRY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

IMPACT REPORT 2024

All systems go!



FOUNDRY

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Foundry Friends and Supporters,

It is with great pleasure, on the cusp of the launch of the new Foundry Community Foundation 2025-27 Strategic Plan, that I share with you the 2024 Impact Report! Last year was the year of fully cementing the Foundry organizational model, providing a solid foundation and plan to move forward into the next three years and beyond. In this report I am excited to share highlights from 2024 and give you a high-level roadmap of all that is ahead. As one of one of the summer interns, Alexis, said after her Intern Foundry tenure, *"this experience has changed me."* We feel changed by this last year at the Foundry too, and are ready to fully lean into the trail we have blazed to meet the needs of our community with a powerful platform of support. Here are a few highlights you will see in this report:

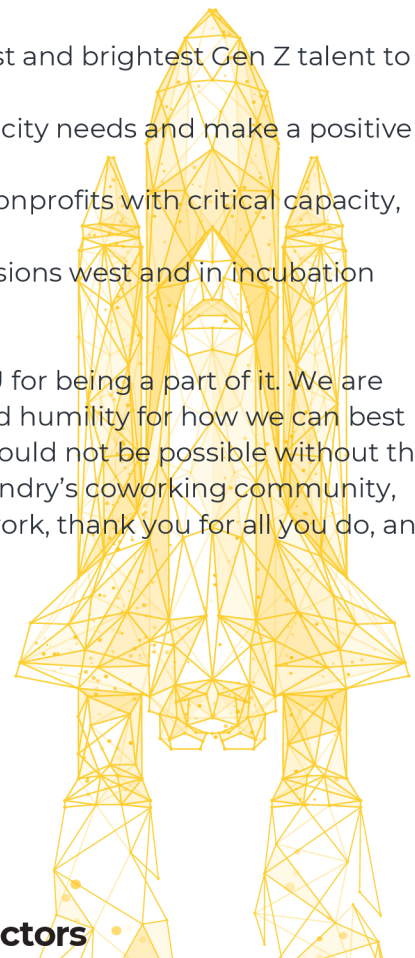
- First Nebraska Trailblazers Breakfast held to connect our best and brightest Gen Z talent to business leaders in Lincoln and Nebraska
- Intern Foundry continued to grow to meet community capacity needs and make a positive dent in Nebraska's Brain Drain
- Base Camp Foundry, in year one, served over 20 Nebraska nonprofits with critical capacity, including grant writing and website optimization projects
- New 3-year Foundry Strategic Plan written, including expansions west and in incubation services, now ready to fully launch in 2025

Something special is happening at the Foundry, and thank YOU for being a part of it. We are forging ahead with confidence and a deep sense of purpose and humility for how we can best use the platform we have to serve Lincoln and Nebraska. This would not be possible without the support of our community and you. Whether you enjoy the Foundry's coworking community, capacity support, educational programming, or development work, thank you for all you do, and your belief in our deep commitment to serve. We are grateful!

Warmly,



Dr. Julie Murray-Jensen
Executive Director



Foundry Community Foundation Board of Directors



Jay Wilkinson,
Board Chair



Anthony Goins



Randy Hawthorne



Tawnya Starr



Wendy Van



Impact By the Numbers

The Foundry Community continues to grow in service to Lincoln and Nebraska nonprofits, public sector organizations, and purpose-driven businesses! With 41 more new organizations impacted in 2024 (a 17% increase from 2023 data) and 47 more members in action (a 30% increase from 2023 data), the Foundry can better meet its mission to support, educate, and develop organizations doing great community impact work in service to Nebraska.

158

Members

249

Organizations Impacted

65%

Participating Nonprofits

1700+

Meetings Hosted

“We carefully design our programs and services to meet our partners' unique needs, ensuring we support them in the most meaningful way possible. Building these deep, impactful relationships is at the heart of our work and vital to making a difference in the community. It's incredibly exciting to see the growth—not just of the Foundry, but also of the organizations we serve.”



Alesha Skoda
Operations Manager

Staff Spotlight

Mission

The Foundry Community exists to support, educate, and develop the purpose-driven community of Lincoln and Nebraska.

Vision

To expand the reach of the Foundry Community in visibility, geography, and services for strengthened impact in Lincoln and Nebraska.

Values

- Purpose focused
- Nurturing presence
- Trailblazing spirit
- Conscientious service



*Foundry Community Headquarters in Lincoln, NE



Timeline of Impact

2022

- Intern Foundry spring pilot
- First Foundry annual satisfaction survey
- First annual cleanup day held
- Major facilities improvements; new carpeting throughout building, mini-splits installed in several offices



2023



- Base Camp Foundry founded; first AmeriCorps team members welcomed
- Intern Foundry grows; second spring cohort
- Major facilities improvements: new roof, electrical lighting improvements, new conference room screens
- Corporate sponsorship program launched
- Annual cleanup day attracts over 30 volunteers

2024



- Intern Foundry grows; third spring cohort + summer pilot focused on Health projects
- Base Camp Foundry completes Year 1 with five projects in Central NE + 20 nonprofits served
- Major facilities improvements: new HVAC controls and systems
- First Trailblazers event held

2025 & BEYOND

- Westward Expansion!



Intern Foundry

“The most impactful thing that Intern Foundry taught me is that I can be confident as a software engineering major despite being from rural Nebraska and beginning college with no coding experience. IF set me up for a lot of success... between learning how to communicate with non-technical stakeholders and understanding the business priorities of a nonprofit organization.”

-Drake Hermansen, 2024 Intern

About

Intern Foundry, in partnership with The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Honors program, included 35 interns in 2024, and 6 student Coordinators, in service to over 30 purpose-driven organizations in Lincoln.

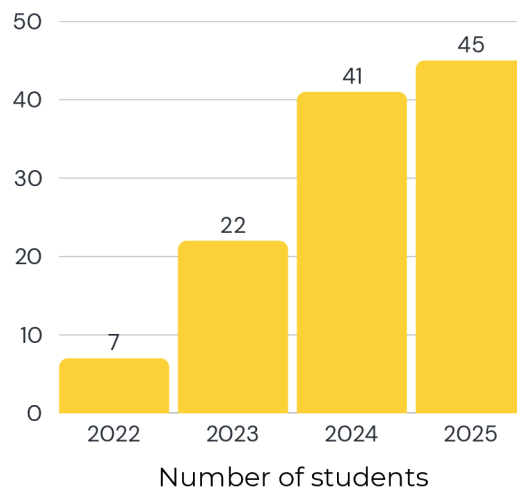


Interns of Summer 2024 focused specifically on jobs in health

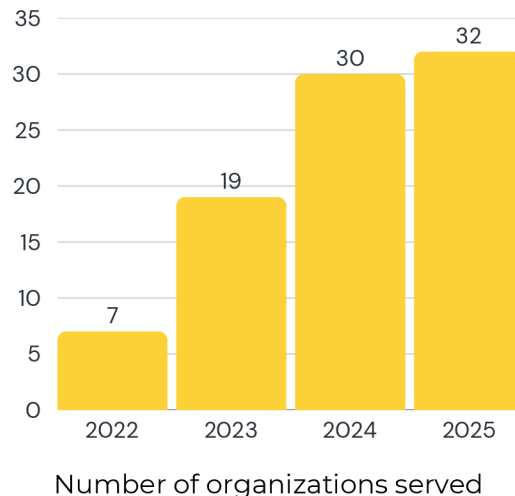


Attendees of the 2024 Intern Foundry Advisory Board Meeting at The Foundry

Program Growth



Social Impact



Intern Foundry Advisory Board



John Albin



Barbara Bartle



Dr. Randy Bretz



Dr. Tamy Burnett



Carol Ernst



Dr. Kathy Farrell



Topher Hansen



Cathy Lang



Dr. Patrice McMahon



Dr. Marilyn Moore



Dr. Fred Ohles



Michelle Paulk



Chad Thies

"I currently work in an acute behavioral clinic in Omaha. I can definitely draw connections between my time in Intern Foundry and my work now. My time as an Intern and Coordinator helped equip me with the interpersonal skills needed to handle patients."



Jill Smith



Dr. Jamie Williams

Intern Spotlight

Zuha Qadeer
Spring 2022 Cohort &
Spring 2023 Coordinator



Base Camp Foundry

“They asked really important questions that took us back to WHY we were doing this mission in the first place. I felt their leadership and experience from our very first meeting before we even joined the Base Camp Project.”

- White Cane Foundation

About

Base Camp Foundry, in partnership with ServeNE/AmeriCorps, in its inaugural year alone, served over 20 nonprofits. The program created critical capacity, including grant writing and strategy, survey design, and marketing and website support. Base Camp not only met its goals but, more impressively, built a robust platform to help small nonprofits in substantial ways.

Partners



Our Team



2024 ServeNebraska Step Forward Awards



1st Birthday event for Base Camp

Results in the First Year

“Base Camp is a wealth of knowledge and made me feel instantly at ease — being brand new to non profit and grant writing is terrifying. As soon as we met the first time to work on a grant I knew they knew what they were doing!” - Clinic With A Heart

700+

Project Hours Served

20

Nonprofits Served

21

Projects Accomplished

**Year one data is from October 2023 to October 2024.*



Nebraska Trailblazers Event

07

“At the 2024 Nebraska Trailblazers Breakfast, we learned what young professionals want: professional development, a sense of purpose in their work, an intentional organizational culture, and reasonable flexibility. Business leaders engaged with these core ideas through a keynote speech, a young professional panel, and networking with students.”

- Ethan Clinchard, Event Organizer and Student

About

September’s Nebraska Trailblazers Breakfast elevated the powerful voices of Gen Z as we work to connect our best and brightest talent to business leaders in Lincoln and Nebraska. Thanks to sponsors UBT, Firespring, Ameritas, Aksarben, Nelnet, the College of Business, Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, and Sandhills Global for your support.

“The Trailblazers event created a collaborative environment that encouraged dialogue and drove progress: dialogue that helps us see a future where young talent feels valued and strengthens our communities.”



Drew Baldrige
Emcee and recent graduate

Event Insight

The Big Event



Every ticket purchased provided an additional student ticket



The event was emceed by Drew Baldrige (left) and planned by Ethan Clinchard (right)

Thank You, Sponsors

CORE

Firespring, UBT

PRESENTING

Ameritas

TABLE

Sandhills Global, Aksarben Foundation, UNL College of Business, Lincoln Chamber of Commerce (Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development), Nelnet



2025 - 2027 Strategic Plan Initiatives

1

Embrace

- Strengthen The Foundry’s Lincoln Headquarters
- Increase visibility through events
- Grow and retain memberships: Strengthen partnerships
- Develop Intern Foundry Advisory Board
- Embrace organizational values - strong culture/relationships

2

Build

- Incubation & Partner Service Wing of Mission
- Create, develop, and launch “Spark Works”
- Evaluate and refine, define, and implement partnership support and evaluate “Extended IF” opportunities

3

Go West

- Expand Impact of The Foundry to Central Nebraska
- Build and implement Intern Foundry Cohort
- Develop and nurture relationships with key partners to expand the impact of Base Camp Foundry

4

Solidify

- Refine sustainable Business Plan for the Foundry
- Increase clarity on mission, vision, and values; pricing and fundraising strategy
- Avoid “mission creep”
- Remain agile, and adapt to expected and unexpected change
- Improve Employee Benefits

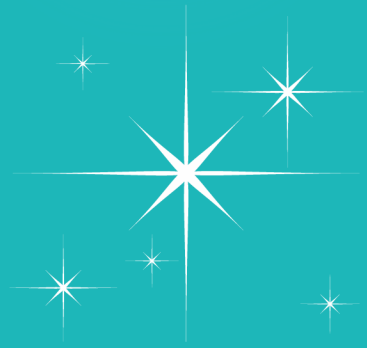
Strategic Plan Vetting

The Foundry created a 3-year strategic plan in 2024, vetted by members of every stakeholder group, which will launch in 2025.



"The Foundry team ensures that we are equipped with the tools and space to bring our mission to life and make an impact within our community."

— Tiffani Childress, Linked2Literacy



EST. 2015

FOUNDRY

SUPPORT EDUCATE DEVELOP