

# Willard Community Center

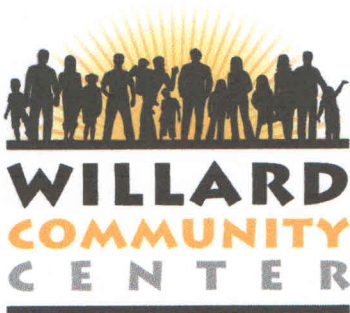


ANNUAL REPORT 2013

We help area residents grow, connect and contribute to our community.

Presented April 28, 2014

## Making an impact....



Willard Community Center is a vibrant hub of activities serving the West "A" Neighborhood of Lincoln, Nebraska. Originally built as a schoolhouse in 1918, Willard was converted to a community center in 1980. Today Willard has evolved into a valued neighborhood asset for everyone in our diverse, multigenerational community – a place where families, teens and sen-

iors feel welcome, comfortable and encouraged to grow.

Willard Community Center is dedicated to nurturing children and strengthening families. Our programs, supportive services, and positive role models help residents grow, connect and contribute to the Willard community and community at large. Relationships formed at the Center last a lifetime, helping to make the area a better place to live, raise a family and enjoy life's journey.

We serve an incredibly diverse group in the West "A" neighborhood of Lincoln and the majority of our services are unduplicated. The following statistics illustrate the scope of our services:

- 1,000 unduplicated people served monthly
- 3,000 people utilizing building

for activities

52 building rentals for church groups and family gatherings

324 scout group meetings

50 senior citizens served

206 health group activities

184 hobby group activities

96 bingo games

287 unduplicated children in licensed child care ages 3-13

32% of children in our licensed child care receive free/reduced lunches at school

15% of children in our licensed child care receive Title XX assistance.

71,230 snacks served

88 youth summer care pool excursions and field trips

## Board Members

Irene Williams, Chair  
Corrine Sturdy, Vice-Chair  
Angela Paolini, Secretary  
Ken Svoboda, Treasurer  
Jason Brownell  
Kassy Knudson  
Mollie Mertens  
Casey Pflanz  
Cole Pomeroy  
Cari Robinson  
Tyler Popp  
Mary Wenzl

## More about us.....

Willard is a 501(c)3 organization founded in 1980 with a fiscal year of January to December.

Our website is [www.willardcommunitycenter.org](http://www.willardcommunitycenter.org)  
You can find our building at 1245 Folsom Street, Lincoln, NE 68522.

We operate programs in our building and in two Lincoln Public Schools; Roper Element-

ary School at 2323 S. Coddington Avenue, and Lakeview Elementary School at 300 Capital Beach Blvd. We offer a Before and After School Program at Willard Community Center to Park Middle School students and provide transportation to and from that school located at 855 S. 8th St.

Our building was purchased from the City of Lincoln in

March 2013 for \$2,623.17 with the understanding that there were many repairs needed. At the time the City was not able to financially maintain the facility or fund the Willard programs.

We conducted a feasibility study and hope to start a capital campaign to aid in the renovations of the building during the summer of 2014.

## Special points of interest:

- AN AVERAGE OF 41 STAFF MEMBERS ARE NEEDED TO STAFF OUR 5 PROGRAMS; ROPER, LAKEVIEW, TEEN, PRESCHOOL AND ADULT
- A CONSISTENT AVERAGE OF 9 OF THOSE STAFF MEMBERS HAVE GROWN UP IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OR IN WILLARD PROGRAMS
- 116 VOLUNTEERS, AGES 12 TO ADULT, WORKED 1155 HOURS IN THE ABOVE PROGRAMS OR DOING IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AT WILLARD

# Willard Community Center

## Preschool



Preschoolers enjoy the music center so they can listen to their favorite songs through the head phones.

Willard Community Center offers a state licensed preschool program. Our preschool learning environment, for 3 to 5 year olds, focuses on age appropriate physical, emotional, social, and intellectual development and taught by two qualified teachers and a minimum of three support staff. Learning centers are incorporated into the daily schedule and include age appropriate Math, Science, Language, Library, Dramatic Play, Home Living Center, and Block Area activities. Daily activities and weekly

themes encourage multicultural awareness and parent involvement. Preschoolers learned social skills, gained intellectual growth and developed small and large motor skills needed for kindergarten.

### Preschool Statistics

33 unduplicated children (17 Full time & 16 Part time) were enrolled with a waiting list all year of 6-10 children.

16 children weren't old enough to start school and returned for preschool Fall of 2013

17 children, age 5, were prepared and advanced to kindergarten

9 children or 27% Free/reduced lunch

5 children or 15% Title XX Child Care Assistance

8 children or 24% were ethnically diverse

As of June 2013 we had all 30 spots filled for the Fall Session of Preschool.

## WHERE

NEIGHBORS  
BECOME  
FRIENDS,  
CHILDREN  
ACHIEVE  
SUCCESS AND  
OUR  
COMMUNITY IS  
STRENGTHENED.

## Roper Before and After School Program

Our state licensed child care program is available from 6:30a.m., until the beginning of the school day and resumes again right after school until 6:00p.m. The Roper school site offers a snack after school and a wide variety of activities, ranging from daily scheduled events to large group games and homework time.

### Roper Statistics

A minimum of 4 staff are needed Before School for an average

attendance of 55-60 and 11 staff are needed After School for the average daily attendance of 130 children.

135 unduplicated children enrolled in Before and After School Care

32 children or 23% Free/Reduced lunch

21 children or 15% Title XX

31 children or 23% were Ethnically diverse

Based on 49 parent surveys this shows the percentage of parents who, always or most of the time, believe that the Before and After School Program:

Is a benefit to their child—96%

Has excellent staff—100%

Is a safe place, physically and emotionally—98%

They are informed about their child's behavior—96%

## Lakeview Community Learning Center



The children from Roper and Lakeview Elementary Schools enjoy a school vacation day together at the Willard Community Center.

The purpose of our state licensed Community Learning Center is to create an extended learning time during non-school hours (before or after school) that provides students with hands on academic enrichment opportunities as well as additional activities designed to complement their regular academic program.

Our goals at Lakeview include increasing student achieve-

ment, supporting families and building stronger neighborhoods.

CLC Coordinator, Gina Benne, along with a minimum of 7 staff members are needed to serve an average daily attendance of 60 children.

87 unduplicated children in the core program, Before and After School

Out of 360 total attendance for Lakeview Elementary School 146 children attended the CLC

for 30 days or more.

43 children or 49% received Free/ Reduced Lunch

16 children or 18% received Title XX Child Care Assistance

31 children or 38% were ethnically diverse

High parent satisfaction was shown on parent surveys scoring a 3.73 out of a possible 4.0.

# We help area residents grow, connect and contribute to our community.

## Teen Program

The Teen Before and After School Program provides support and services that make a difference in the lives of the teens and their families, such as tutoring and homework assistance, a ride to and from Park Middle School, and a safe place to be with their friends before and after school and in the evenings.

Giving back to the community is instilled in the youth by participating in monthly community service events.

22 unduplicated teens in the

Before and After School Program

34 unduplicated for the Summer Program, 4th through 8th grade—June through August.

Our core program of 22 teens in the Before and After School Program are a very unique group of teens. 12 grew up at Willard and have been in our programs all through grade school. 12 are taking one or more differential learning courses. 2 of the teens don't receive grade reports as they are on Individual Education

Plans for behavior and a disability. Of the 20 teens that received grade reports the group as a whole had a GPA of 91.6 or an "A" average.

August 2012 to August 2013 eleven teenagers were granted a total of \$11,508 for scholarship. This means that they come to Willard for free. We use United Way money and funds from the Kenny Gardner Golf tournament to cover their expenses.



The teen group takes time out from homework to take a group shot after school.

## Summer Program

The children in this program get to enjoy the long summer days doing activities according to a weekly theme. The theme weeks encourage learning through science experiments, reading, math and writing skills and lots of creative art. There are endless innings of kickball and other outdoor games.

The children go on a field trip to an area point of interest

once a week and swimming twice a week.

The Lincoln Lancaster County Summer Food Program provides breakfast and lunch, M-F, to every child in our program.

Our program hours are from 6:30 am to 6:00 pm. This program requires 13 staff working full and part time hours for a daily average attendance of 85-90 children.

131 unduplicated children ages preschool through 8th grade.

16 children were on the waiting list throughout the summer.

33 children or 25% received free/reduced lunch

17 children or 13% received Title XX Child Care Assistance

19 children or 15% of the children were ethnicity diverse

## Adult Program

We are dedicated to serving our community members throughout their lives and many of our adults and senior citizens who have been engaged in our programs for many years, have helped shape the community into a blossoming neighborhood. They have raised their families here and have seen the need and importance of the community center. We want

to continue to be a center that serves their needs and to be a place to stay active, gather and socialize with friends and gain health benefits that lead to longer happier lives. Interacting with the children makes them feel good that they have helped to make this neighborhood a great place for families.

Low Impact Aerobics and Licensed Bingo are the two programs that are implemented by

Willard Staff. Both meet twice a week and have loyal participants. Aerobics averages 8-10 adults per class and bingo averages 12-14 players per day.

Other adult programs, community services, and social/hobby activities that are enjoyed by all ages are listed on page 4 under "Groups That Utilize Willard".



Licensed Bingo is played every Monday and Wednesday morning from 9:30 to 11:30. It is open to everyone over 18 and is \$1.00 per card for 13 games of bingo.

A PLACE WHERE  
FAMILIES, TEENS  
AND SENIORS  
FEEL WELCOME,  
COMFORTABLE  
AND  
ENCOURAGED  
TO GROW



We help area residents grow, connect and contribute to our community.

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Willard Community Center  
 1245 Folsom Street  
 Lincoln, NE 68522  
 402-475-0805  
 Email:  
 willard@willardcommunity  
 center.org

### Serving our community

The Willard Community Center strives to identify the unmet needs of the residents of Lincoln, Nebraska, specifically the West "A" Neighborhood, and evaluates and pursues appropriate services to fill those needs. According to the US Census the West "A" Neighborhood has grown 2.49% annually since 2000 with the current population at 8,222 with a per capita income of \$24,123 and 23% of the population under age 14. The elementary age children in this neighborhood attend either Roper or Lakeview Elementary schools and both schools serve a high percentage of free and reduced lunch participants at 44% and 67% respectively. As the neighborhood grows, so does our economic and social diversity which ultimately increases the need for more affordable and accessible services.

### **We are on the web!**

[www.willardcommunitycenter.org](http://www.willardcommunitycenter.org)

### Groups That Utilize Willard

- Bunco Club
- Church Groups
- Family Reunions & Celebrations
- Foster Care Review Board
- Licensed Bingo
- Lincoln Area Soaring Society
- Lincoln Intergroup AA
- Low Impact Aerobics
- Metal Detectors Club
- Nebraska Sword Fighters Guild
- Neighborhood Meetings
- Scout Groups—Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, & Girl Scouts
- Scrapbooking and Stamping Groups
- Senior Citizen Pot Lucks
- TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)
- Ukrainian School
- Lincoln Lancaster County Voting Station
- Zumba Classes

- The Willard Board purchased the building from the City of Lincoln for \$2,623.17 and took possession in March.

- Utilized the Re-energize Program to pay for the engineering design fee for a new HVAC system that was installed in October.

- A fund raising committee, led by Board Member Kassie Knudson, was formed to start work on a capital campaign.

- BVH Architect did a feasibility study and developed plans for renovations and an addition to Willard.

- Board Member Jason Brownell, Gendarme Lawn Service, sponsors Willard at a Giving Spirits Event and donates a fire pit with free installation for a raffle prize. It brings in \$5,000.00.

- The State Board of Education approved a 5 year con-

tinuation grant for the Lakeview Community Learning Center.

- Big Red Communications installed internet service for free and gave us a discounted monthly rate.

- We have a new web site designed and hosted by SOCS through Foundation for Educational Services. We were their first local non-profit website. The site is sponsored by a grant provided by Dan Kunzman.

- Give to Lincoln Day brings in \$2,580.

- A Special Permit was acquired to hold a preschool program for 20 at the Lakeview House at 1030 W. "Q" St. starting August 2014. The house is owned by LPS and was full of items no longer wanted by the LPS Excite Program. We were able to purchase the items. LPS will be

updating the interior and installing a fence to meet licensing requirements.

- Troop 55 Boy Scout, Mike Hoppe, completed his Eagle Scout Project by painting the stripes and handicap symbol on the parking lot, and also striped the stairs and basketball court.

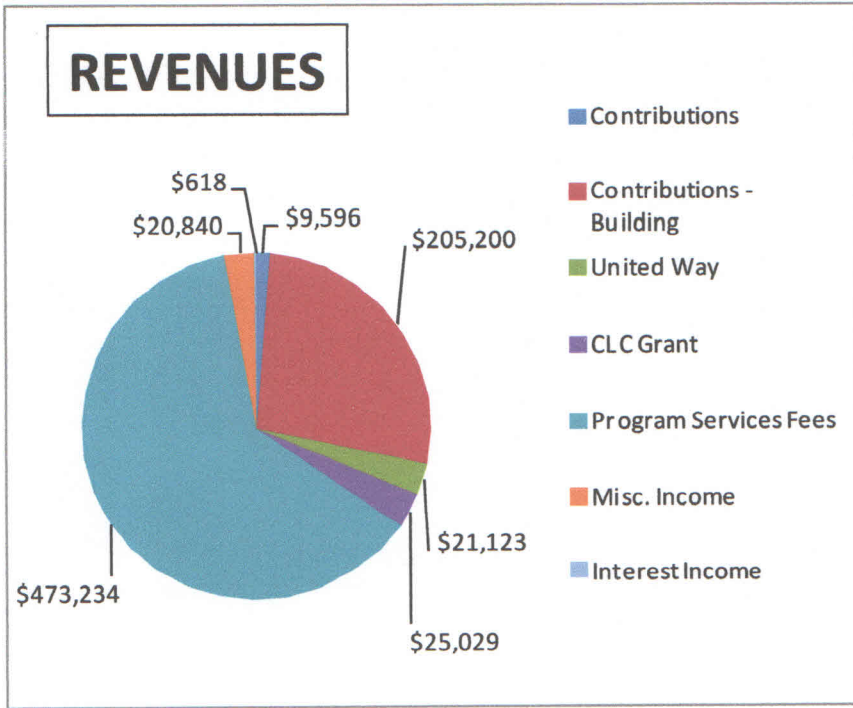
- A new Bingo machine was purchased with memorial money from Margaret Hogleman.

- Kenny Gardner 9th Annual Golf Tournament filled up with a waiting list and brings in \$18,184.

- Individual and Business donations continued to supplement program needs. Some of those items included a truckload of paper products, a computer, and even a round of golf for the teens.

# WILLARD COMMUNITY CENTER

## Financial Information - 2013



### Sources of Revenue

Our primary resources for revenue in 2013 were:

a. Program service fees from Preschool, Before and After School programs, Summer Programs, and Adult Aerobics = \$479,655

b. United Way helps support the teen program - \$10,000 + designations \$11,123 = \$21,123.

c. State Department of Education 21st Century Grant helps support the Lakeview Community Learning Center = \$21,524.

d. Kenny Gardner Golf Tournament provides scholarship money for the teen program = \$18,184

e. Private donations, special events, or one time grants = \$9,575 or by event as follows:

Giving Spirits and Raffle—\$5000

Give to Lincoln Day—\$2580

United Way One Time Grant—\$1933

Private donations—\$62

f. Miscellaneous revenue and investment income = \$2862

g. The Willard building is valued at \$205,200

