



STUDENT LIFE

STUDENT LIFE **IMPACT REPORT**

2024-2025





Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Husker Student POWER	4
Purpose	5
Ownership	6
Well-being	7
Engagement	8
Relationships	9
We Give Blood Grants	10
2024-25 By the Numbers.....	11

Colleagues,

I am proud to share the 2024–25 Division of Student Life Impact Report, a reflection of the ways Student Life continues to evolve to meet the needs of our students. This year marks the first full cycle under our new mission and vision, along with the introduction of our guiding principles: Be Present, Care Deeply, Act Responsibly, and Build Tomorrow. Together, these commitments shape how we serve students and how we collaborate across campus to create meaningful experiences.



At the center of this work is Husker Student POWER—Purpose, Ownership, Well-being, Engagement, and Relationships. These five elements provide a foundation for the Husker experience, and throughout this report you will see how programs, initiatives, and data connect back to them. From the launch of the Well-being Collective to the awarding of \$1 million in We Give Blood Grants, the impact of Student Life is evident in both numbers and stories.

Each example demonstrates our collective commitment to helping students thrive and building a campus where every Husker can co-create their path to success. Thank you for your continued partnership in this important work.

Thank you for reading,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dee Dee Anderson".

Dr. Dee Dee Anderson

Vice Chancellor for Student Life

Mission

Foster POWERful experiences and communities fundamental to student success.

Vision

A campus where all Huskers can co-create the path to achieve their goals.

Guiding Principles

Be Present

We show up fully—attentive, engaged, and responsive—to create meaningful, authentic connections. Being present fosters a supportive culture where students can thrive.

Care Deeply

We champion the well-being, growth, and success of every student, staff member, and community member. Caring deeply means going beyond duty to lead with empathy, respect, and compassion.

Act Responsibly

We lead with integrity, fairness, and accountability in every interaction and decision. Acting responsibly means making decisions that reflect our mission and uphold the trust placed in us by our community.

Build Tomorrow

We put students first, anticipating needs and embracing innovation to meet tomorrow's challenges. Building for the future means being strategic stewards of our mission—today and for generations to come.

Student Life Departments & Functional Areas

Assessment & Learning Outcomes

Association of Students of the
University of Nebraska (ASUN)

Campus Recreation

Center for Advocacy, Response &
Education (CARE)

Counseling & Psychological
Services (CAPS)

Fraternity & Sorority Life

Gender & Sexuality Center

Housing & Dining

Nebraska Unions

Services for Students with
Disabilities

Strategic Events

Student Advocacy & Support

Student Conduct and Community
Standards

Student Culture & Community

Student Leadership, Involvement
& Community Engagement
(SLICE)

Student Legal Services

Student Life Business Services

Student Life Marketing &
Communications

Student Life Staff Development

TRIO Programs

University Children's Center

University Health Center



HUSKER STUDENT POWER

A foundation for the Husker experience

Husker Student POWER is the guiding framework for the student experience at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. POWER represents five core elements—Purpose, Ownership, Well-being, Engagement, and Relationships—that collectively shape how students learn, grow, and connect during their time at NEBRASKA.

Developed and championed by Student Life and Undergraduate Education, Husker Student POWER serves as a unifying foundation that links programs, services, and opportunities across campus. It provides students with a holistic approach to success that extends beyond academics and into every part of university life.



Purpose helps students reflect on their goals, values, and aspirations, connecting their education with future careers and communities.



Ownership emphasizes student responsibility, encouraging them to take initiative, use resources, and make decisions that shape their personal and academic journey.



Well-being highlights the importance of supporting the whole student so they can thrive during and after college.



Engagement connects students with opportunities inside and outside the classroom, building involvement, leadership, and a sense of belonging.



Relationships focus on the people who make NEBRASKA special, ensuring students graduate with meaningful networks of peers, mentors, and community members.

Husker Student POWER not only grounds students in their time on campus but also provides a framework for lasting success after graduation. It helps align the work of Student Life and campus partners, demonstrates the university's commitment to student-centered experiences, and offers a common language to describe how NEBRASKA prepares students to lead and contribute in their careers and communities.



PURPOSE

Discover Your Why

Staff across Student Life help students discover and develop their Purpose every day. Whether a student is volunteering, being mentored, or working in one of more than 2,900 Student Life positions across our departments, these experiences provide meaningful opportunities to grow.

Student employees connect their work to their Purpose by gaining valuable skills that prepare them for life after graduation. Some roles align directly with future career goals, while others build transferable skills that strengthen adaptability and confidence. Through employment in Student Life, students leave better equipped for graduate or professional school, or full-time careers.

This impact is further strengthened through Husker GROW, which helps students reflect on how their work connects to their learning, supporting their ability to carry forward the skills, confidence, and Purpose they've developed at NEBRASKA.

1,900+

students employed across Student Life in 2024-25

\$7.2 million

paid directly to student employees in wages during the 2024-25 academic year

Top Student Employers

Dining Services (500+), Campus Recreation (400+), Residence Life (300+), and University Children's Center (180+)



“

Working in Injury Prevention and Care provided me lots of hands-on experience from responding to athletic injuries done at the recreational center or during intramural games. This position gave me foundational skills in injury care and risk management that I will use and adapt in my training and practice as a future physician.”

– Alyssa Nielsen, Spring 2025 Graduate,
Biological Sciences & Spanish



OWNERSHIP

Own Your Experience

Student Life empowers students to take Ownership of their experience at UNL.

Services for Students with Disabilities introduced AIM (Accessible Information Management), a platform that allows students to directly share their accommodation plans with selected faculty. Faculty can now access this information in a single system, removing barriers and making support more seamless.

Students also influence processes across Student Life. For example, students in ENVR 319 collaborated with Dining Services to identify ways to increase sustainability. Dining will begin implementing their recommendations in the 2025–26 academic year, showing how student voices drive meaningful change on campus.

13,995

text messages sent to students promoting safer behaviors and supporting informed decision-making

22,000+

single-use containers diverted from the landfill through Dining's ReusePass program

1,561

students registered with Services for Students with Disabilities in Spring 2025, up from 1,235 in Fall 2023

“

My experience with the dining staff has been absolutely stellar. They worked with me on separate meal prep and always checked in to make sure the food was safe and high quality. Food allergies have shaped much of my daily life, and the support of NEBRASKA Dining was a deciding factor in my college experience.”

– Darwin Suever, Senior, Physics





WELL-BEING

Balance Your Whole Self

In Fall 2024, the Well-being Collective officially launched to build a comprehensive, coordinated, and cohesive approach to supporting student well-being across campus.

The Well-being Collective has adopted the eight dimensions of well-being—emotional, environmental, financial, intellectual, occupational, physical, social, and spiritual—as a framework for helping students better understand how they can thrive at UNL while also supporting their peers.

After a year of planning and coordination, the Well-being Collective will begin implementing its first campus-wide initiatives during the 2025–26 academic year. This year’s priorities include hiring a full-time well-being coordinator focused on financial literacy, launching the Abbott Access Fund to remove small financial barriers for students, and funding student-led programs that address physical and emotional wellness. These initiatives advance efforts to embed well-being into every part of the student experience.

872

participants in Counseling & Psychological Services’ Prevent Suicide in-person workshop series for faculty, staff, and students

942

students served by Student Advocacy & Support in 2024–25, a 107% increase from 2022–23

174,082

visits to Campus Recreation facilities in 2024–25, including **12,148 visits** to the new POWER Room, which opened in January 2025



“

Oh my goodness... I don’t even know what to say. Thank you so much for your help. This support is more than I ever dreamed of, and I am beyond grateful to you, my instructor, and UNL. It’s incredible news that lifts a huge weight off my shoulders and allows me to focus on the major tasks ahead. I am truly thankful to be a student at this amazing university.”

–Anonymous non-traditional undergraduate student, single mother pursuing a teaching degree; recently left an unsafe living situation and connected with Student Advocacy & Support for housing, childcare, and financial assistance.



ENGAGEMENT

Get Involved

Student Life stepped into a new role in 2024, leading large, campus-wide events designed to foster student engagement. These events begin with Big Red Welcome, continue with Homecoming, and conclude with the new Big Red Finale.

Each of these signature experiences provides students with opportunities to build friendships, discover organizations and resources, and strengthen their pride as Huskers. Together, they mark key milestones in the academic year that bring students together in celebration and connection.

Beyond these large-scale events, engagement also takes shape through targeted outreach to students who may not participate in traditional programming. Staff connect with these students to help them explore additional opportunities, whether through student organizations, leadership roles, or smaller community events, so every Husker has a pathway to feel included and involved.

3,700+

students attended the Chancellor's BBQ

5,831

unique students participated in SLICE programming

3,381

events hosted by Nebraska Unions across all three facilities

“

Working at the Union has opened up so many professional growth opportunities for me! My supervisors have always been supportive of me, and I've been able to foster a close community with the rest of my coworkers.”

– Lucy Kohtz, Senior, Psychology major





RELATIONSHIPS

Grow Your Communities

Building meaningful connections is a critical part of the student experience at UNL, and Student Life creates spaces where those relationships can thrive.

Through Intramurals, students connect in a relaxed setting where groups of friends compete against others across campus. The focus is often less on winning or losing and more on

spending time together outside of classrooms and residence halls.

For students seeking a higher level of competition, Sport Clubs provide opportunities to practice regularly and compete regionally against other universities. Some students join clubs through their own interest, while others, such as members of the hockey club, are recruited by peers to represent NEBRASKA.

Whether casual or competitive, these experiences offered through Campus Recreation help students form and strengthen relationships that extend beyond the game and contribute to their sense of belonging on campus.

17,500+

intentional interactions completed by Residence Life in 2024–25

91%

year-over-year retention rate among students who participated in a Sport Club or Intramurals

3,800

intramural games hosted for 2,086 teams, connecting 5,000+ unique students in 2024–25



“

When I first encountered Life in Lincoln, I thought, ‘Oh, my gosh—these events are actually good!’ They created a space where I could meet new people and connect with students from different cultures. At one of the events, I even met other students from Zambia, my own country.”

– Oddine Kyavuma, Senior, Biochemistry



WE GIVE BLOOD GRANTS

UNL earned a \$1 million award by winning the inaugural We Give Blood Drive competition, sponsored by Abbott and the Big Ten. This recognition highlights the Husker community's life-saving impact and spirit of service.

Two of the awards, the Healthy Nebraska Grants and the UNL Student Health and Well-being Grants, will be awarded by the Division of Student Life in collaboration with the Office of Research and Innovation.

The remaining funds will support awards for the university's Recognized Student Organizations and the Well-being Collective, both initiatives led by Student Life.

Healthy Nebraska Grants:

\$200,000 available to support research, programs, and projects that improve health outcomes across Nebraska.

UNL Student Health & Well-being Grants:

\$150,000 dedicated to initiatives that promote student wellness.

Recognized Student Organization (RSO) Awards:

\$150,000 reserved for student-led projects that support emotional, physical, or social well-being on campus.

Well-being Collective:

A portion of the award directly supports the Well-being Collective as it implements its campus-wide initiatives beginning in the 2025–26 academic year.



Together, these investments strengthen partnerships, programs, and student leadership to advance health, resilience, and well-being for both Huskers and the broader Nebraska community.



2024-2025 BY THE NUMBERS

1,873,597 meals served by Dining, including 1,117,769 meals ordered via mobile apps at Abel and Selleck	3,492 students attended a Sexual Assault and Relationship Violence (SARV) training	\$500,000 in billable hours provided to students at no cost by Student Legal Services
2,168 clients served by Counseling & Psychological Services through 8,440 appointments	\$111,502 raised through Dance Marathon for Children's Nebraska (a 33% increase over the previous year)	10,500 guests hosted by Conference Services over the summer, generating approximately \$3.2 million in revenue
892,477 visitors to the Nebraska Union, East Union, and Jackie Gaughan Multicultural Center	727 new Panhellenic and 610 new Interfraternity Council members in Fall 2024	5,433 students living in University Housing
4,334 students in the Fraternity & Sorority Life community, 1,589 living in chapter facilities	450+ Recognized Student Organizations (RSOs) active on campus	305,483 opens of Next@Nebraska, the weekly newsletter received by all students

Interested in supporting our students?

go.unl.edu/support-our-students



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