

**Nebraska 2024 Highway Safety Summit**  
**February 27-28, 2024**  
**Conference Outline**

Tues., February 27		
Registration	7:30 – 3:15 p.m.	
Opening General Session  Location: Crystal 1-2	8:00 – 10:00 a.m.	<p>Emcee: Bill Kovarik, Hwy Safety Administrator, NDOT Highway Safety Office</p> <p>Presentation of Colors– Kearney Police Department and Buffalo County Sheriff’s Office Honor Guard  National Anthem –Luis Arevalo, Kearney Police Department</p> <p>Conference Opening – Vicki Kramer, Director, Nebraska Dept. of Transportation</p> <p>Welcome – Susan DeCourcy, NHTSA Region 7</p> <p>Keynote Presenter: Melissa Wandall, M3 Motivational Concepts</p>
Break	10:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Time to visit with exhibitors
Workshop Block A  Location: Diamond 4	10:30 – 11:45 a.m.	<p>Workshop 1  Seal the Deal: Grant Writing for Grantees</p> <p>Want access to federal or state funding for your programs? Need tips for crafting a compelling grant application? Want to learn how to be a well-regarded, long-term funding partner? Hear from experts on how to up your grant writing game.</p> <p>Moderator/Speaker: Dustin Stewart, NDOT Highway Safety Office  Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simera Reynolds, Four Corners Health</li> <li>• Kevin Thompson, Kearney Police Department</li> <li>• Bruce Okamoto, Nebraska Dept. of Transportation</li> </ul>
Workshop Block A  Location: Crystal 1-2	10:30 – 11:45 a.m.	<p>Workshop 2  What’s New in Impaired Driving in Nebraska?</p> <p>Impaired driving remains a leading crash contributor but laws, court rulings, procedures and programs remain in constant flux. Learn about the latest in impaired driving and what you need to take home to your communities to address this pressing traffic safety challenge.</p> <p>Moderator: Chris Wagner, Project Extra Mile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Edward Vierk, Assistant Attorney General</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mitch Greenwall, Nebraska DMV</li> <li>• Ryan Decker, Lancaster County DUI Court</li> </ul>
Workshop Block A Location: Diamond 5	10:30 – 11:45 a.m.	<p>Workshop 3 Energizing Your Engagement: Reaching New Communities and Achieving More Equitable Outcomes</p> <p>Traffic crashes disproportionately impact many underserved and socioeconomically challenged communities. Learn how safety organizations are pioneering new approaches to deliver safety services to all that need it and ensuring all have a voice.</p> <p>Moderator: Jeanne Bietz, NE DHHS Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jon Nelson, Missouri Dept. of Transportation</li> <li>• Dulce Sherman, Sherman Executive Consulting, Inc.</li> <li>• Tom Everson, Keep Kids Alive Drive 25</li> </ul>
Opening Luncheon – <b>Roadway Safety Strategies in Nebraska</b> Location: Crystal 3-4	11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.	<p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bill Kovarik, Hwy Safety Administrator, NDOT Highway Safety Office</li> <li>• Kris Fornoff, Nebraska Dept. of Transportation</li> </ul>
Workshop Block B Location: Diamond 4	1:30 – 2:45 p.m.	<p>Workshop 4 High Times: The Value of Drug Recognition Training in Traffic Enforcement</p> <p>In an environment where the drug laws and culture are rapidly changing, the safety community is embracing new tools, training and technologies to better identify and halt drug-impaired driving. Learn how your agency can take advantage of specialized training and other valuable resources to tackle this challenge.</p> <p>Moderator: Dustin Stewart, NDOT Highway Safety Office Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lt. Joseph Milos, Bellevue Police Department</li> <li>• Andre O'Connor, Lincoln Police Department</li> </ul>
Workshop Block B Location: Crystal 1-2	1:30 – 2:45 p.m.	<p>Workshop 5 Teen Driver Safety Success: Where Do We Go from Here?</p> <p>New research shows that graduated driver licensing, driver education, peer-to-peer training, and new technologies have been the key to making historical gains in teen driver safety. But what's next? A panel of experts will discuss how we can continue to engage teens and parents for a safer learning to drive process.</p>

		<p>Moderator: John Lefler Jr., Nebraska Safety Council</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pam Fischer, Governors Highway Safety Association</li> <li>• Jeanne Bietz, NE DHHS, Teens in the Driver Seat</li> <li>• Sgt. Adam Turnbull, Omaha Police Department, Project Night Life</li> <li>• Chelsey Greene, Nebraska FCCLA</li> </ul>
<p>Workshop Block B</p> <p>Location: Diamond 5</p>	1:30 – 2:45 p.m.	<p>Workshop 6</p> <p>Increasing Child Safety Seat and Seat Belt Use in Underserved Communities.</p> <p>Research shows that child passenger safety is an area of persistent need as many new parents still struggle to safety secure their most precious cargo and seat belt use is lower in rural areas. Learn how safety advocates are leading programs to protect children in overlooked communities and to bolster belt use among rural motorists.</p> <p>Moderator: Jason Kerkman, Nebraska Department of Health &amp; Human Services</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jennifer Booge, Buckle Up For Life</li> <li>• Sheila Cozzie, Montana Dept. of Transportation</li> </ul>
Break	2:45 – 3:15 p.m.	
<p>Workshop Block C</p> <p>Location: Diamond 4</p>	3:15 – 4:30 p.m.	<p>Workshop 1 (Repeated)</p> <p>Seal the Deal: Grant Writing for Grantees</p> <p>Want access to federal or state funding for your programs? Need tips for crafting a compelling grant application? Want to learn how to be a well-regarded, long-term funding partner? Hear from experts on how to up your grant writing game.</p> <p>Moderator/Speaker: Dustin Stewart, NDOT Highway Safety Office</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simera Reynolds, Four Corners Health</li> <li>• Kevin Thompson, Kearney Police Department</li> <li>• Bruce Okamoto, Nebraska Dept. of Transportation</li> </ul>
<p>Workshop Block C</p> <p>Location: Crystal 1-2</p>	3:15 – 4:30 p.m.	<p>Workshop 2 (repeated)</p> <p>What's New in Impaired Driving in Nebraska?</p> <p>Impaired driving remains a leading crash contributor but laws, court rulings, procedures and programs remain in constant flux.</p>

		<p>Learn about the latest in impaired driving and what you need to take home to your communities to address this pressing traffic safety challenge.</p> <p>Moderator: Chris Wagner, Project Extra Mile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Edward Vierk, Assistant Attorney General</li> <li>• Mitch Greenwall, Nebraska DMV</li> <li>• Ryan Decker, Lancaster County DUI Court</li> </ul>
<p>Workshop Block C</p> <p>Location: Diamond 5</p>	3:15 – 4:30 p.m.	<p>Workshop 3 (repeated)</p> <p>Energizing Your Engagement: Reaching New Communities and Achieving More Equitable Outcomes</p> <p>Traffic crashes disproportionately impact many underserved and socioeconomically challenged communities. Learn how safety organizations are pioneering new approaches to deliver safety services to all that need it and ensuring all have a voice.</p> <p>Moderator: Jeanne Bietz, NE DHHS</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jon Nelson, Missouri Dept. of Transportation</li> <li>• Dulce Sherman, Sherman Executive Consulting, Inc.</li> <li>• Tom Everson, Keep Kids Alive Drive 25</li> </ul>
<p>Tuesday Adjourn</p> <p>Location: Diamond 1-2</p>	4:30 p.m.	Vendor Fair – Light Hors D’oeuvres & Networking
Wed., February 28		
Registration	7:30 – 11:45am	
<p>Workshop Block D</p> <p>Location: Crystal 1</p>	8:30 – 9:45 a.m.	<p>Workshop 7</p> <p>Leveraging Social Media to Convey Your Safety Message</p> <p>Today, one of the most cost-effective ways to reach the most people with traffic safety communications is to craft compelling social media messages and campaigns. Learn how to maximize this dynamic communications tool to effectively engage with your audience.</p> <p>Moderator: Bill Kovarik, NDOT Highway Safety Office</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeff Halloran, NHTSA</li> <li>• Colleen Powell, Iowa Dept. of Transportation</li> <li>• Cody Thomas, Nebraska State Patrol</li> <li>• Walker Ruh, Nebraska Dept. of Transportation</li> <li>• Susan Booth, National Safety Council</li> </ul>

<p>Workshop Block D</p> <p>Location: Diamond 4</p>	<p>8:30 – 9:45 a.m.</p>	<p>Workshop 8</p> <p>Red and Blue Lights: Ensuring Safe Post-Crash Care and Procedures</p> <p>Emergency response is frequently delayed or unavailable in rural areas resulting in lives lost that could have been saved if care had been readily available. First responders also continue to face risk when working at the roadside. Learn about the needs in Nebraska and what more we can do to bolster this often-overlooked aspect of roadway safety.</p> <p>Moderator: T.J. Kripal, Nebraska Dept. of Transportation</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tara Kramer, HDR Inc.</li> <li>• Brad Starling, Hastings Fire-Rescue</li> <li>• Nicholas Chiamonte, HAAS Alert</li> </ul>
<p>Workshop Block D</p> <p>Location: Diamond 5</p>	<p>8:30 – 9:45 a.m.</p>	<p>Workshop 9</p> <p>Making the Most of Mission Moments: Working with Survivor Advocates</p> <p>The victims of traffic violence and their survivors can be among the most valuable assets of any traffic safety program. But these stakeholders are often under-utilized, lack adequate training and misunderstood. Learn how to respectfully work with survivor advocates and leverage the power of unimaginable loss to achieve positive change.</p> <p>Moderator: Sara Draper, MADD Nebraska</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sara Draper, MADD Nebraska</li> <li>• Jackie Rowan, Rowan Insurance Agency, Inc.</li> <li>• Todd Calfee, MADD survivor advocate.</li> </ul>
<p>Break</p>	<p>9:45 – 10:15 a.m.</p>	
<p>Workshop Block E</p> <p>Location: Crystal 1</p>	<p>10:15 – 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Workshop 7</p> <p>Leveraging Social Media to Convey Your Safety Message</p> <p>Today, one of the most cost-effective ways to reach the most people with traffic safety communications is to craft compelling social media messages and campaigns. Learn how to maximize this dynamic communications tool to effectively engage with your audience.</p> <p>Moderator: Bill Kovarik, NDOT Highway Safety Office</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeff Halloran, NHTSA</li> </ul>

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Workshop Block E Location: Diamond 5	10:15 – 11:30 a.m.	<p>Workshop 10 New Community and Technological Approaches to Preventing Distracted Driving</p> <p>For decades, safety advocates have tried to leverage education, enforcement and technology to control the pervasive but preventable problem of distracted driving. Learn how experts are re-invigorating distracted driving programs and embracing cutting edge enforcement technology.</p> <p>Moderator: Ashley Pick, NDOT Highway Safety Office Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pam Fischer, Governors Highway Safety Association</li> <li>• Jon Nelson, Missouri Dept. of Transportation</li> <li>• David Kelly, Government Solutions, Acusensus</li> </ul>
Workshop Block E Location: Diamond 4	10:15 – 11:30 a.m.	<p>Workshop 11 Votes for Safety: A State Legislative Panel Discussion</p> <p>Like all states, the Nebraska Legislature has taken disparate actions to both strengthen and weaken several of the state's traffic safety laws. Find out what's happening on the state capitol and how Nebraska's safety community is working to ensure public policy prioritizes safety on our roads.</p> <p>Moderator: Dave Griek Speakers (Panelists):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brian Ortner, AAA Nebraska</li> <li>• Eric Koepp, National Safety Council Nebraska Chapter</li> <li>• Sara Draper, MADD Nebraska</li> <li>• John Lefler Jr., Nebraska Safety Council</li> <li>• Peggy Reisher, Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska</li> </ul>
Break	11:30 – 11:45 a.m.	
Wednesday Closing Luncheon Location: Crystal 3-4	11:45 a.m. – 1:30p.m.	<p>Emcee: Bill Kovarik, Hwy Safety Administrator, NDOT Highway Safety Office</p> <p>Speaker: Colonel Matthew Packard, Chief, Colorado State Patrol</p> <p>Closing (Bill Kovarik)</p>

Wednesday Adjourn	1:30 p.m.	
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