



The Cutting EDGE

Our Busiest School Year Yet!

Whew! EDGE Nebraska City follows the rhythm of the school year and May always brings a time of reflection. Here's a glimpse into our very busy school year:

- First full year of 4th Grade Citizens EDGE: 100 4th graders became library card holders, donors and community volunteers. Civic Engagement was high!
- The return of our annual cooking challenge fundraiser, Sampling in the City, was a huge success. We celebrated community, cooking and raised money to keep it all going.
- We welcomed Lourdes Central Catholic to the Book Bestie Family! We now give out 475 books 7 months a year across the community!
- Continued prepping for the launch of Early EDGE: a book program for newborns and their parents.
- AND the public launch of Pledge to EDGE! Read more below about our progress

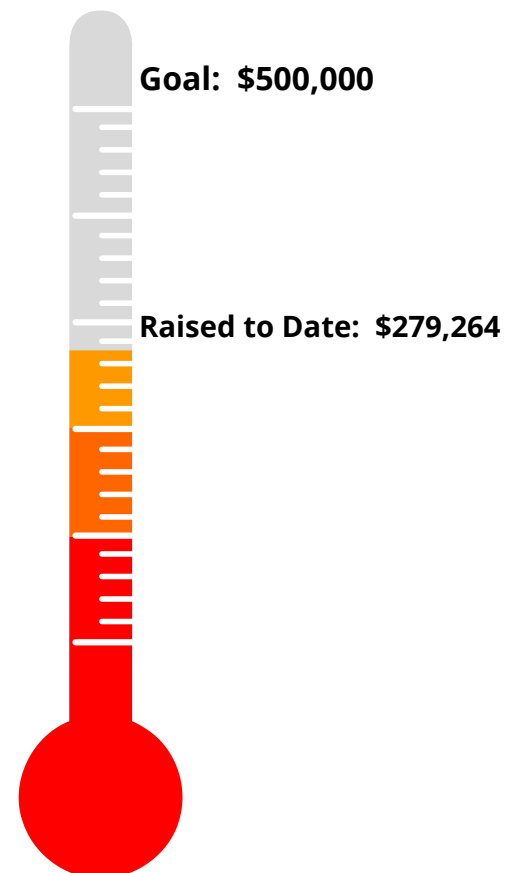
Pledge to EDGE

EDGE Endowment enters public phase! EDGE Nebraska City is focused on seeing declining poverty rates in our community by the year 2036 and we know it will take a strong infrastructure to reach that goal. To make sure our work is sustainable we have launched the **Pledge to EDGE Campaign** and are excited to announce we are over 1/2 way to our goal of \$500,000 by December 2023.

Now is the time to become part of this important work. Pledge to EDGE Committee Members are available to meet with individuals and small groups to talk about EDGE and the endowment. Please email us at edgenebcity@gmail.com and one of our committee members will be in touch.

Committee members include:

Kiel VanderVeen, Denise Davis, Colin and Teresa Albers, Michelle Shanholtz, Sydney Bebout and Doug Friedli.





Celebrating Our Community

Sampling in the City brought together chefs, live music, amazing tastings and generous donors that helped raise over \$10,000 for the general operations of EDGE Nebraska City. Click [HERE](#) to watch a recap video:



Special Thanks to

Corporate Sponsor: Pathfinder Wealth Advisors
Our Chefs: Laurence DuBois, Whispering Pines Bed and Breakfast, Relax and Unwind, Diana Hincapie, Lied Lodge, Central Avenue Market, Claire Wollenburg, Canyon Joe's BBQ, Alma Hervec

Winning Chefs: The Hoovers

Event Organizers:

Abbee James and Michelle Shanholtz

Spend 10



The EDGE Advisory Board is always trying to learn more about our community. Our meetings are spent brainstorming and dreaming. Recently we developed the **Spend 10** idea that we will be taking "on the road" this summer.

Spend 10 will be available at community events this summer and open to anyone that wants to vote. Each participant will be given 10 tokens to "spend" in the four jars while answering the question "**What do you need most from your community?**". The jars focus on four main areas"

- **Income:** steady work, ability to put money in savings, adequately provide for my family.
- **Security:** safe place to live, quality and dependable childcare, access to healthcare
- **Relationships:** Connections to my community, strong support systems
- **Enrichment:** entertainment and recreation opportunities, feeling included in my community

Throughout the summer we will gather information and data about what community members need from their community. Stay tuned for a final report in the fall of 2022. If you would like us to bring Spend 10 to your church, business or gathering just email us at edgenecity@gmail.com

EDGE Nebraska City

Our Vision is to see declining poverty rates in our community by 2036.

Our mission is to give kids and families an EDGE by engaging with our community, helping kids and families discover the power of literacy, grow the hopes and dreams of the community and create opportunities for all kids and families to embark on a path to success.

And it all starts with a book.

Facebook: EDGE Nebraska City
Website: edgenecity.com

Instagram: [edgenecity](https://www.instagram.com/edgenecity)
Email: edgenecity@gmail.com