



# CONNECTING YOUNG NEBRASKANS

## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

### OUR MISSION

We *connect* young Nebraskans and *empower* them to *lead* and *shape the future* of our communities and state.

#### Kearney to Host 2023 CYN Summit

Connecting Young Nebraskans selected Kearney as the host community for the 2023 CYN Summit. Of the numerous community proposals to host the biennial event, Kearney rose to the top. The Summit is scheduled for October 18–19, 2023, and will be held at the Younes Conference Center North and Crowne Plaza Kearney.

“We are thrilled to be hosting the 2023 CYN Summit in Kearney,” said Amanda Polacek, member of Kearney’s Summit proposal team and Marketing Manager at Kearney Regional Medical Center. “If the last two-plus years have taught us anything, it’s that you should love what you do and where you live. We believe ‘The Good Life’ is an extremely special place and we are excited to gather young Nebraskans together to dream up new ways to make our state better for our generation and the ones to come.”



#### CYN Hires New Executive Coordinator



In February 2022, the Connecting Young Nebraskans (CYN) Fund Advisory Committee announced Kelcey Wetzel as the new Executive Coordinator. Kelcey stepped into the role following the departure of outgoing Executive Coordinator, Rhonda Veleba. Kelcey provides administrative and logistical support to the CYN Fund Advisory Committee

as well as membership engagement; marketing management; and planning, programming, and facilitating the CYN Summit.

#### “Now What?” Program Series

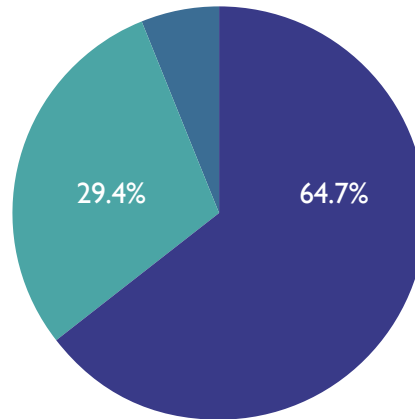
Connecting Young Nebraskans debuted its *Now What?* online webinar series, with programs being held in August and October. The first installment, *I Joined CYN, Now What?*, offered members a chance to learn more about CYN from a panel of past, present, and future CYN leaders. The panel shared their individual CYN experiences and how CYN’s values have impacted their personal and professional journeys. The second program, *We Need to Find Common Ground, Now What?*, discussed strategies and skills to help attendees engage in difficult conversations. Being a growth-oriented community, organization, or company can be difficult, and you must engage in the work even when it involves difficult conversations.

The *Now What?* online series will continue throughout 2023.

## CYN Summit Inspires Attendees to Make a Difference

Ninety-three percent of attendees who gathered in Ord for the 2021 CYN Summit agreed or strongly agreed that attending the Summit has inspired them to make a difference in their community. Just over one year later, a follow up survey showed that 94% respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the CYN Summit still inspires them to make a difference in their community. Check out more of our survey results to the right.

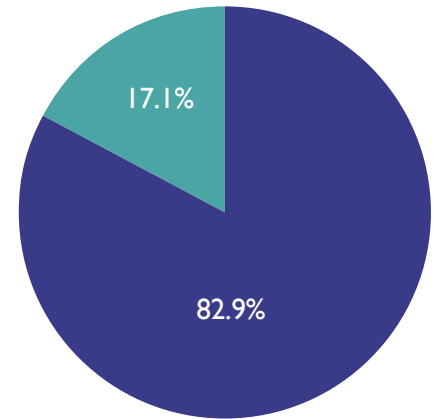
One year later, the CYN Summit still inspires me to make a difference in my community.



- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

*“I continue to spread the message that the entrepreneur spirit is thriving in Nebraska. That is something that I saw first-hand and the CYN Summit.”*

Are you planning to attend the 2023 CYN Summit in Kearney?



- YES
- NO

*“I had no expectations when attending in 2021 and as blown away—so I know 2023 will be the same!”*



Connecting Young  
Nebraskans (CYN)

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*Connecting Young Nebraskans is an affiliated fund of Nebraska Community Foundation.*