



PRESS RELEASE
July 19, 2023

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**Nebraska Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights
Announces Open Call for In-Person Community Forum for Study on the Effects of the Covid-19
Pandemic on Education**

The Nebraska Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will be hosting an in-person Community Forum in Lincoln, NE regarding the civil rights implications of the Covid-19 pandemic on education in the state, with a focus on the digital divide and increasing mental health challenges. This comes after the Committee hosted two virtual briefings on the subject in July 2023. The Committee seeks to hear from students, teachers, and other stakeholders on their experiences and areas in which they still need support.

**Community Forum: Wednesday, August 9, 2023
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM Central Time
Embassy Suites Lincoln
Room Regents B
1040 P Street, Lincoln NE 68508**

Committee Chair Nikitah Imani said, “The Nebraska Advisory Committee has so far heard from subject matter experts on this topic and we invite community members to join us on August 9th to share their experiences about how the pandemic has affected their learning and mental health. We need to hear the stories of directly impacted individuals in order to ensure that the recommendations we develop are relevant to current needs.”

Committee Vice-Chair Edmund Hamann said, “This is an open call for individuals who have been impacted and/or are interested in this topic to share their experiences directly with the Committee. We encourage those interested in attending to share information about the event with their networks.”

This event is free and open to the public and will be recorded and transcribed for the public record. Members of the public are encouraged to register to speak in advance of the event at <https://tinyurl.com/ysk6rtcr> although same day registration is available. Members of the public are encouraged to share their experiences and perspectives of how the pandemic impacted education in the state. Individuals requiring additional accommodations should contact csanders@usccr.gov at least 5 business days prior to the meeting to make the request. The Committee will also accept written comments related to this study. Please send written statements on this topic to Victoria Moreno, at vmoreno@usccr.gov until September 11, 2023. Meeting materials will be available at the [Nebraska Advisory Committee Folder](#).

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, established by the Civil Rights Act of 1957, is the only independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement. Our 56 Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. For information about the Commission, please visit <http://www.usccr.gov> and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).