

**Letter of Invitation
From
Barbara Bartle
President**

We are pleased to inform you of a new grant received by the Lincoln Community Foundation. The purpose of the new award from the Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities is to increase capacity of the Lincoln community to respond to and recover from disaster.

We invite you to a series of three meetings to share information, to determine issue areas and to create a community framework that will advance the goal of developing a more resilient community. Building relationships in advance of a major disruption is the key to a full recovery. The three meetings are from 8 a.m. to 12 Noon, including a continental breakfast, at the Lincoln Community Foundation, 215 Centennial Mall South, 5th Floor Conference Room:

Thursday, January 25

Thursday, February 8

Thursday, February 22

The Lincoln Community Foundation is collaborating with colleagues from the Philanthropic Preparedness, Resilience and Emergency Partnership (PPREP), a collective of 20 community foundations from the Midwest who have been meeting together for three years to consider roles as leaders in building community capacity. Kim Maphis Early, one of the designers of the PPREP curriculum and a facilitator of the PPREP meetings, will lead our discussions. She is a senior associate with the Center for Disaster Philanthropy headquartered in Washington, DC.

It is critical to the planning process for the participation to represent a broad base of citizens in Lincoln whose roles in various sectors of our common life contribute to the strength of our city and county. The meetings are designed with the following goal and objectives:

Goal. To increase the capacity of Lincoln to respond to and recover from community crises

Objective 1 To share information on preparedness and resilience in the Lincoln community, highlighting vulnerable populations and identifying gaps in services

Objective 2 To determine issue areas needing focused attention and creating issue area working groups

Objective 3 To finalize the framework for a collaborative process that will advance our goal of building a more resilient region and creating a formal work calendar to implement our ideas

You are invited because of your knowledge and expertise in the community. We know many cities have faced serious natural disasters and other community crises. We have the opportunity to learn lessons and best practices from the experience of others while preparing and planning for our community. Please respond by January 16 to Allison Goering at allisong@lcf.org or 402-474-2345. We would be grateful for your participation.