

## What is CHIP?

The **CH**ild **I**dentification **P**rogram (**CHIP**) addresses the alarming fact that over 1,000,000 children are reported missing in the United States each year. In 2005, over 2,000 children were reported missing in Nebraska. While most are found, many are not. Also, the abduction of children is both under-reported and rapidly increasing in our society.

The Masonic CHIP Kit is the most comprehensive service of its kind anywhere. CHIP is provided at no charge to the public and all of the identifying items generated during CHIP are given to the child's family.

### The CHIP Kit includes the following:

**Video Interview:** A brief interview is worth a thousand still photos. The CHIP interview captures the appearance, speech, mannerisms, and other important personal characteristics of a child. The interview, downloaded to a CD, can be quickly distributed via the media to reach a huge audience. It is the cornerstone of CHIP.

**Fingerprints:** Fingerprinting is a well-known means of identification. Everyone's prints are unique. Resourceful parents keep fingerprints available should the need arise.

**Toothprints® bite impression** is quick and easy. Teeth, like fingerprints, are unique. Even in a child who is losing and gaining teeth, a dental imprint gives both accurate and important information for identification purposes. Saliva on the Toothprint® also serves as a DNA sample for at least 3 years, but more importantly, serves as a scent tracer for recovery bloodhound dogs that can easily track saliva scent.

**DNA Cheek Swab:** The cheek swab provides DNA material for both mitochondrial and nuclear DNA matching for more than 20 years when properly frozen in a home freezer.

**Still Photograph:** If needed, a current photograph is an invaluable tool for an Amber Alert or for use by the proper authorities.

**The Masonic CHIP Kit is provided at no charge to the children. Only the permission slip is retained by the Freemasons. No copies of any ID materials are kept on file by any of the organizers; the parents receive all ID materials and health information produced.**

Contributions for CHIP can be made to the Nebraska Freemasons CHIP Foundation by mailing them to the address shown below. The Foundation is a qualified 501(c)3 organization.

**For more information about CHIP, contact:**

### NEBRASKA FREEMASONS CHIP FOUNDATION and THE GRAND LODGE OF MASONS IN NEBRASKA

1240 N. 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lincoln, NE 68508-1125

**TELEPHONE:** 800-558-8029

or

402-475-4640

**WEBSITE:** [www.gln.org](http://www.gln.org)

# NEBRASKA FREEMASONS

present



In cooperation with the



**State Troopers Assoc.  
of Nebraska**



**Nebraska Sheriffs'  
Association**



**Nebraska Dental  
Association**



**Nebraska Dental  
Hygienists' Association**



**Nebraska Dental  
Assistants' Association**

**On average in the United States, a child is reported missing every**

**43**

**seconds!\***

**Most parents don't have the proper items ready at a moment's notice that may help save their child's life.**

**The Nebraska Freemasons CHIP Kit provides those items to parents at no cost.**

\*Reported by the National Crime Information Center and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

## **History of CHIP**

CHIP is being offered by Masons in 20 states. The program began in New York in 1994. It provided a videotaped interview giving far more information than other identification programs utilizing a single photo. Fingerprinting was also included.

In 1998, Dr. David Harte, a Massachusetts Mason, brought Toothprints®, a technique developed by Dr. David Tesini, a Massachusetts children's dentist, to CHIP. Its addition made CHIP the most thorough child identification program available. Accordingly, to provide the licensed personnel needed to administer Toothprints® and the DNA cheek swabs, the Freemasons in states offering the program joined with their statewide dental associations.

Fingerprinting, likewise, is best done by trained personnel. State law enforcement agencies have also

been brought in as partners in CHIP. These dedicated officers provide expertise in fingerprinting and practical experience so important in making CHIP more effective.

## **Nebraska Freemasons**

The Nebraska Freemasons are committed to building CHIP so that ANY parent wanting their children to receive this comprehensive service at no charge will find CHIP regularly offered in their communities. Working together, we can provide an additional measure of security for our families and our beloved children.

Freemasonry is the oldest and largest fraternity in the world. Freemasonry came to Nebraska in 1857. Founded upon timeless principles of charity and brotherhood, Masons continue the honored traditions of self-improvement and charity for all mankind.

Freemasonry spends over \$2 million a day in over 300 charities, such as the Shriner's Burn and Orthopedic hospitals, sponsorship of DeMolay Chapters, Rainbow Girls Assemblies and Job's Daughters Bethels, the Scottish Rite Learning Center, the Masonic All-Star Marching Band Clinic, and many other scholarship and charitable programs, many directed toward youth. We are proud to add CHIP as a cornerstone to that group for Nebraska Freemasons.

## **State Troopers Association of Nebraska**

The State Troopers Association of Nebraska (S.T.A.N.) is a non-profit organization that has been representing the personnel of the Nebraska State Patrol since it began in the 1970's. The Association was formed out of a desire by troopers to create a group that unified the idea of socialization, camaraderie and brotherhood.

Since the inception of the State Troopers Association of Nebraska, it has strived to provide its members with benefits to better themselves and their families. The Association also supports several charitable causes throughout the state of Nebraska, primarily focusing on causes involving children.

## **Nebraska Sheriffs' Association**

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association is a non-profit, membership-driven organization comprised of law

enforcement officers, associates of law enforcement, and concerned citizens across the state. Our primary goal is training and providing programs to promote public relations and involvement. We work together with all law enforcement agencies to enhance technology, information, and provide the highest quality of protection to the citizens of Nebraska. We support the CHIP program as an excellent tool in the protection of our state's youth.

## **Nebraska Dental Association**

The object of the Nebraska Dental Association is to encourage improvement of the health of the public and to promote the art and science of dentistry. The Nebraska Dental Association recognizes the value of the Toothprints® and DNA cheek swabs provided by CHIP and is proud to be a part of the program.

## **Nebraska Dental Hygienists' Association**

As dental hygienists, we are a community of professionals devoted to the prevention of disease and the promotion and improvement of the public's health. We are preventive oral health professionals who provide educational, clinical, and therapeutic services to the public. Our actions, behaviors, and attitudes are consistent with our commitment to public service. We endorse and incorporate the Code into our daily lives. We are very proud to be a supporter of CHIP and embrace the goals of child safety to which they are striving.

## **Nebraska Dental Assistants' Association**

The Nebraska Dental Assistants' Association is dedicated to promoting the improvement of oral health in all Nebraska communities. As part of the dental team, it is our commitment to join both the Nebraska Dental Association and the Nebraska Dental Hygienists' Association in the support of the Child Identification Program and its goals to improve child safety. As dental professionals, we offer our support to assist with the Toothprints® and cheek swabs during CHIP community events.