

Our Children Nevada 2020



“We see how early childhood experiences are so important to lifelong outcomes, how the early environment literally becomes embedded in the brain and changes its architecture.” —

***Dr. Andrew S. Garner, MD, PhD,
University Hospitals of Cleveland
(2013)***

Twins — Kylie and Kenzie

Early Intervention Services in Nevada



WHAT IS EARLY INTERVENTION?

Early intervention is a system of coordinated services and supports for eligible children from birth to three years of age with developmental delays or disabilities and their families. Early intervention promotes the child's growth and development and supports families in meeting the developmental needs of their child. Early Intervention Services are mandated through Public Law 108-446, Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA).

Nevada's Early Intervention Services (NEIS) system encourages family participation, ensures parents are fully informed and provide consent for all evaluations and services. From the determination of eligibility until children transition at age three, Nevada programs strive to support families through family-centered and family-friendly practices.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF EARLY INTERVENTION?

Over the years, researchers have discovered a variety of ways children learn and develop, as well as the importance of early intervention. Scientific studies have documented what occurs in the brain during a child's first years of life, and can now predict what can give a child the best chance of success, thereby improving quality of life, including:

- A child's brain develops faster during the critical years from birth to three than at any other time and early intervention has a definite impact.
- Through early intervention, the long-term health of infants and toddlers with disabilities is improved, reducing the health costs of preventable secondary impairments and disabilities.
- Early intervention is known to decrease educational costs by minimizing the need for long-term special education and related services.
- Early intervention is cost-effective because it enables families to provide care for their children within their home, reducing the need for costly institutional care while maximizing the child's potential for independence.
- Research shows that children with developmental delays are healthier and learn better when they receive services as early in their lives as possible.

"Intervention is likely to be more effective and less costly when it is provided earlier in life rather than later." — Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University (2010), *The foundations of lifelong health are built in early childhood.*

Research has shown that at 9 months of age, only 9% of children who have delays that would make them eligible receive services; at 24 months of age only 12% of children who would be eligible receive services. — Journal of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, (2011) 32(4), 1-8.

EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES MAY INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- ◇ Assistive technology devices and services
- ◇ Audiology services
- ◇ Family training, counseling and home visits
- ◇ Health & Nutrition services
- ◇ Multi-disciplinary evaluations and assessments
- ◇ Occupational therapy
- ◇ Physical therapy
- ◇ Psychological services
- ◇ Service coordination
- ◇ Specialized Instruction
- ◇ Speech and language services
- ◇ Social work services
- ◇ Vision and mobility services
- ◇ Other Services, eg. Transportation, Respite Care, etc.

By law all early intervention services must be provided in natural settings for children including the family home, child day care settings and other places in the community where typically developing children spend time.

Read the [Parent Handbook](#) for more information at:

http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/Early_Intervention_Programs/

State Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC)

In accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Public Law 99-457, Nevada's Governor established the Nevada Early Intervention Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) in 1987. All members of the ICC are appointed by the Governor. The Council's primary mission is to advise and assist the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services in the development and implementation of a statewide system of early intervention services for young children with developmental delays or disabilities and their families.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF NEVADA'S ICC?

The ICC provides support to the State in the development and implementation of Nevada's State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP).

Nevada's SSIP is a five (5) year plan designed to ensure the system of early intervention services under Part C of the IDEA results in improved outcomes for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The primary focus of the SSIP plan is improved social and emotional outcomes.

"Services [early intervention] to young children who have or are at risk for developmental delays have been shown to positively impact outcomes across developmental domains, including health, language and communication, cognitive development and social/emotional development. . . Families benefit by being able to better meet their children's special needs from an early age and throughout their lives." — The National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center, April 2011 Fact Sheet

In 2007, the National Early Intervention Longitudinal Study (NEILS) found **increased motor, social, and cognitive abilities for young children who received Early Intervention services compared to those who did not.**

Nevada ICC Members

Vacant, Legislature
Nevada Legislature Representative
Sherry Waugh, (ICC Co-Chair) Head Start Agency Representative, Early Head Start, UNR
Vacant, (ICC Co-Chair) ICC Parent Representative — Southern Nevada
Candace Emerson, ICC Parent Representative — Southern Nevada
Heaven Wright, ICC Parent Representative — Southern Nevada
Vacant, ICC Parent Representative — Rural Nevada
Vacant, ICC Parent Representative — Northern Nevada
Aimee Hadleigh, ICC Parent Representative — Northern Nevada
Robin Kincaid, Advocacy Representative
Nevada P.E.P.
Kate Osti, Advocacy Representative
Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center
Kari Horn, Advocacy Representative
Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities
Karen Shaw, Native American Representative
Washoe County School District
Jenna Weglarz-Ward, Ph.D., Personnel Preparation Rep., College of Education, Special Education, UNLV

Ashley Greenwald, Ph.D., Rep. UNR Nevada Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities,
Keana Sullivan, Private Provider Representative
Nevada Early Intervention-Nellis Child Development
Sarah Horsman-Ploeger, Private Provider Representative
Nevada Early Intervention-The Continuum
Sandra LaPalm, Public Provider Representative
Nevada Early Intervention Services-Northeast Region
Claribel Zecena, Public Provider Representative
Nevada Early Intervention Services-Northwest Region
Dawn Brooks, Public Provider Representative
Nevada Early Intervention Services-Southern Region
Vacant, Provision of, or Payment for, Early Intervention Services—Rep., Aging & Disability Services Division
DuAne Young, State Medicaid Representative
Division of Health Care Financing and Policy
Vacant, State Foster Care Representative
Division of Child and Family Services
Christell Askew, Child Care Agency Representative
Division of Welfare and Supportive Services
Vacant, Health Insurance Agency Representative, State
Division of Insurance
Rhonda Lawrence, Early Childhood Mental Health Rep.,
Division of Child and Family Services
Daina Loeffler, 619 Coordinator/Preschool Services Representative, Nevada Department of Education
Vacant, Office of the Education of Homeless Children Representative, Nevada Department of Education

HOW DOES THE ICC ACCOMPLISH ITS DESIGNATED GOALS?

The ICC must meet at least quarterly and is supported by the IDEA Part C Office. Additionally, ICC members participate in various other activities to accomplish its tasks. Public input is welcome and families are always encouraged to participate. For more information, contact **Project ASSIST** at 1-800-522-0066 / Email: ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov or visit the web at <http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ICC/Home>

Why parents need to be involved...

When you are involved, you gain experience in communication and leadership and it helps you to get useful information and answers to questions you may have. By actively participating and interacting with others, you can choose to make a difference in the lives of many young children with special needs and their families. One voice can make a difference!

Below is just one of many opportunities in Nevada to...



- Provide valuable input from a parent's perspective,
- Assist in the development of program policies and
- Help shape and create a better system for all children receiving Early Intervention Services!

Nevada's Early Intervention Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) established a "**Family Support Resource Subcommittee**" (FSRS). This committee supports ICC activities and helps ensure the ICC responds to issues important to families, strengthens and broadens family involvement at all policy and service levels, increases ICC communication with families, provides public awareness support, and identifies and supports efforts to improve early intervention services and programs within communities. There are also other opportunities for participation on various subcommittees, ad hoc committees, task forces and work groups.

Information may be requested by contacting Project ASSIST.

1-800-522-0066

or email:

ProjectASSIST@dhhs.nv.gov



"Albert Einstein said, 'most people see what is, and never see what can be'. I feel like this really represents the journey of parents with children that have a disability or unique needs. In the beginning it is very hard to get past diagnoses, doctors' visits, therapy appointments, and all of the new aspects of our lives that we were probably not expecting. For me, I know that I simply saw what was and not what could be for the first three years of my journey as a parent of a child with differing abilities. It was not until I had a second child that needed early intervention services that I decided to see what could be and find my seat at the table.

I began my involvement with a family based, non-profit organization, **Nevada Hands & Voices**. There was something so truly powerful about the connection with other parents that were navigating journeys similar to mine. Furthermore, it really opened my eyes to all of the opportunities to engage and involve families. I received the chance to attend conferences, connect with professionals, learn so many new things, and the amazing honor to work directly with families new to their journeys. I finally saw all of the beautiful things that could be possible as a parent of two adorable and absolutely precious boys, who happen to have additional needs and unique abilities.

Looking to further my involvement at the systems level and within our state of Nevada, I heard about the chance to join Nevada's Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) as a parent representative. I was so eager to have a chance to represent fellow parents and work to advise and assist in supporting early intervention services and programs. In less than a year on the ICC, I have learned more than I could have ever anticipated. I have met other parents, new professionals, and received a very clear understanding of the various systems and how they all work together for our children." ~ Candace Emerson, Nevada ICC Parent Representative

<http://nvhandsandvoices.org/>

Nevada Hands & Voices is a parent/professional collaboration non-profit organization dedicated to providing information and support to families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing as well as the professionals who serve them.

In May 2011, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) published a study in *Pediatrics* on Trends in the Prevalence of Developmental Disabilities in US Children — **Key findings of the study were that approximately one in six American children have a developmental disability, an increase of 17.1% from 1997-2008.**

December 2019

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Project ASSIST

Nevada's Central Directory for Resources & Information

1-800-522-0066 or **ProjectASSIST@dhhs.nv.gov**

<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST/>

January 2020

February 2020

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Project ASSIST is Nevada's Central Directory for families of young children with disabilities or special health care needs, as

In SFY 2019, 916 calls for information or resources were received by Project ASSIST, 75 from out of state and 433 referrals to Early Intervention were made.

well as agencies, organizations and programs that serve them.

Information is available on a variety of resources, including:

- parent support groups,
- early intervention programs for infants and toddlers,
- preschool special education services,
- education, health and social services,
- therapy,
- advocacy organizations,
- financial and legal assistance,
- and many other services.

There is a growing body of evidence that early intervention services have a positive influence on the developmental outcome of children with established disabilities as well as those who are considered to be "at risk" of disabilities. — American Academy of Pediatrics (2007)

There is no cost for this service. For more information:

Project ASSIST

1-800-522-0066

ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

*Birth Defects Prevention Month
Eye Health Care Month
National Mentoring Month
Volunteer Blood Donor Month*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
www.rarediseases.org National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) has a searchable database on rare disorders, foundations, support groups, agencies, and more.		<i>New Years Eve</i>	<i>1 New Years Day</i>	2	3	<i>4 World Braille Day</i>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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19	20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	21	22	23	24	25
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Building the Next Generation of Leaders. . .

NEVADA PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING, a very intense and innovative national model of leadership training designed to teach parents and self-advocates the power of advocacy and to change the way people with disabilities are supported, viewed, taught, live and work. It is done in eight (8) sessions, one per month for eight months.

Participants gain:

- **Valuable working knowledge on disability issues** and information on resources available in the community.
- **Advocacy skills.**
- **New relationships** with people who have the same interests as you.

NEVADA PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING is all about...

- **Leadership skills** and developing positive partnerships with elected officials and other individuals who make policy decisions about services that you and/or your family use.
- **Systems change**—creating, working towards, and achieving a vision of shared values about people with disabilities.
- **Becoming confident** in oneself, competent in the knowledge and information received, and comfortable in sharing the life experiences and expertise one brings to the table.



The **Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities'**

For more information contact:

(775) 684-8619

www.nevadaddcouncil.org



"Jace began working with Easterseals just before his second birthday. His therapists were encouraging and thoughtful, working with our family to progress towards his goals. Before he graduated from the program, he caught up to his peers in speech, and began participating socially with other children. Our family is so grateful for everything Easterseals has done to help Jace grow over the past year." ~ Mom

185,837 young children in Nevada (0 to 4 years) — U.S. Census Bureau, July 1, 2017.

Nevada Early Intervention Services serves 0 until 3 years.

Soon you will be receiving or already have received, the annual family survey. Please take the time to fill it out and turn it in. We want the best information possible about the ways in which early intervention services may or may not have helped your family. The results of this survey will help guide efforts to improve services and outcomes for children and families across Nevada receiving early intervention services.

If you have questions call us at Project Assist

1-800-522-0066 or email ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

26.6% of children in Nevada age 4 months to 5 years are determined to be at moderate or high risk for developmental or behavioral problems. — National Survey of Children's Health, 2011-2012

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February 2020

March 2020

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Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>http://dphh.nv.gov/Programs/CYSHCN/CYSHCN-Home/ Nevada's Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) serves "...children who have or are at risk for chronic physical, developmental, behavioral or emotional conditions and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally", by working with families and across systems to develop strategies that promote quality well-being and support for those children and their families.</p>						1
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Feeding Tube Awareness Week						
9	10	11	12	13	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15 <i>International Angelman Day</i>
16	17 <i>President's Day</i>	18	19	20	21	22
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Public Awareness is designed to notify the public of the availability of early intervention services in the State system.

The **Nevada Child Find Project** is a statewide system that serves two primary functions. First, it is designed to identify unserved children who are eligible for early intervention services. The project's other focus is to provide information to the general public, physicians, childcare providers, hospitals and health care providers about early childhood development, and how to make referrals for early intervention services.

"Age of intake had a significant impact on the results of the behavioral program. The younger the child was at intake of the program, the greater the impact the early intervention behavioral program had on their abilities." — Makrygianni, M. K., & Reed, P. (2010), *Research In Autism Spectrum Disorders*.

If you know of a child who may be eligible for services, call
Project ASSIST
1-800-522-0066

<http://www.eparent.com>
Free online — Exceptional Parent Magazine provides practical advice and emotional support to families of children and adults with disabilities and special health care needs, as well as the physicians, allied health care and educational professionals who are involved in their care and development.

*American Heart Month
 Children's Dental Health Month
 Parent Leadership Month*



"Me llamo María y tengo 2 niños que son el amor de mi vida y mi motivación para levantarme día con día. Leonardo ahora tiene 3 años y medio y desde los 20 meses estuvo en terapia con *Grupo de Gestión de Terapia (TMG)*. Me encanto, el trato hacia él y hacia mí lo mejor, amables y accesibles siempre, mi niño mejoró mucho su comportamiento y le fue súper bien con TMG. Ahora Mateo está en terapia también desde los 7 meses y muy bien, él a mostrado mucha mejoría y seguimos Adelante. Me siento feliz y agradecida con TMG." ~ Mama

"My name is Maria. I have 2 children, they are the love of my life and my motivation to wake up daily. Leonardo is now 3 and a half years old, he received therapy from Therapy Management Group (TMG) since he was 20 months old. I enjoyed how kind TMG treated Leonardo and myself. TMG was always available to help and because of that my son made so much progress with his behavior. Now my youngest son Mateo is receiving therapy. Mateo started receiving services at 7 months, he has since made a lot of progress. We will continue to move forward with therapy. I feel so happy and so appreciative for TMG." ~ Mom

The Continuum, is a community based, early intervention program that provides family-centered early intervention services and supports to Northwest Nevada. The Continuum assists in healthy development of Children from Birth through Age 3 while encouraging families to promote growth at home. Individual programs are designed by Early Intervention professionals for infants and toddlers experiencing a developmental delay or who are diagnosed with a physical or mental condition likely to result in a delay.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**



<https://nevaeyc.org/>

The **Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children (NevAEYC)** is dedicated to improving the well-being of young children, with particular focus on the quality of educational and developmental services for all children from birth through age 8, by connecting practice, policy, and research. We advance a diverse, dynamic early childhood profession and support all who care for, educate, and work on behalf of young children.

"(1) Parents/caregivers are the major influence on their children's development even when their children participate in intervention; and that (2) the effectiveness of intervention is highly associated with parents becoming more responsive with their children during the course of intervention." — [Mahoney (2009), pp. 90]

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March 2020

April 2020

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<i>8 Daylight Saving Time begins</i>	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	<i>20 First Day of Spring</i>	<i>21 World Down Syndrome Day</i>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	<p>Nevada Parent Advocacy Initiative — By Parents, for Parents, this project consists of a parent Facebook (www.nvparents.com/fb) support page for all parents of children with disabilities to connect, a place that shares with everyone. And a website for Early Intervention parents to give them the basic information and knowledge they need to access and utilize services effectively at www.nvparents.com.</p>			



Family TIES of Nevada is dedicated to increasing the hope, confidence and independence of people with disabilities and chronic conditions of all ages and their circle of support.

As the statewide **Family-to-Family Health Information Center**, Family TIES provides Training, Information, Education, Outreach, Peer Support and Advocacy at no cost to families of *all* children with special health care needs and the professionals who serve them. As the Family Voices State Affiliate, Family TIES promotes family engagement to ensure Family-Centered Care.

Family TIES offers:

- 1-1 Assistance
- Peer Mentor Training & Matching Program
- Toll-Free Parent Support & Information/Referral Line
- Community Outreach & Education

Reno (775) 823-9500
Las Vegas (702) 740-4200
Statewide (866) 326-8437
Email: info@familytiesnv.org
www.familytiesnv.net

www.facebook.com/cppnreno
 It was so nice to meet other families who "just got it". No explaining what was "the matter" with our children or anyone saying, "I just don't know how you do it". — Cerebral Palsy Parent Network-Reno, NV

Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month
Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month
Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month
National Nutrition Month

"Our family has been with Positively Kids for over 5 years. We started with our son Cassidy who is now 7 years old. He was diagnosed with Angelman Syndrome at 22 months. Part of his 15th chromosome was deleted and caused a neuro genetic disorder. It affects the cerebellum and caused Cassidy to have poor balance and to be nonverbal. We started with Positively Kids when Cassidy was 15 months old with PT and Speech. Within the first month, he learned how to sit up on his own! But that was just the beginning! After the diagnosis, we added on OT and behavioral therapy where Cassidy learned fine motor skills and communication skills with PECS.

When our second son, Rylan, was born in 2017 with Sturge-Weber Syndrome, we knew exactly how to get help. Sturge-Weber is when a random mutation happens in the GNAQ gene and causes capillary malformations (port wine stain). These occurred on his skin, eye, and brain causing him to have glaucoma and seizures. When Rylan was 1 month old, we started with Positively Kids with PT. Every time Rylan had a seizure, the right side of his body became weaker. We worked on strengthening exercises to gain head control and hand strength. By the time he was 4 months old, his neurologist deemed his seizures uncontrollable. When he was 8 months old, he had a left functional hemispherectomy to try to stop his seizures. After surgery, he had less than $\frac{3}{4}$ of a brain and functioning on half a brain. He came home from the hospital with a g-tube and the entire right side of his body having little movement. We increased PT and OT to rebuild neurological connections and regain function of his right side.

Fast forward to today, Rylan is 2 years old and happy as a clam! He has learned to scoot around and is working on walking. He has been more purposeful movements in his right arm and hand.

We are fortunate to have worked with the dedicated therapist with Positively Kids. They have given us the knowledge and skills to help both of our children's needs and to be successful." ~ Mom



Foundation for Positively Kids' Early Intervention Program is committed to providing an environment that will have a positive effect on the growth and development of young children with disabilities or special health care needs.

Programs offered by Positively Kids strive to embrace each child's unique needs while providing the services essential to their well being and happiness. Vital to the success of every program we provide is its ability to achieve these goals:

- *Help children reach their full potential*
- *Create hope and foster inclusion*
- *Promote comfort and quality of life*

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**

"Children with delays or disabilities who received services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) showed greater than expected developmental progress. Most children exited the program functioning within age expectations." – Early Childhood Outcomes Center, 2013

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April 2020

May 2020

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<p>www.aconv.org The Autism Coalition of Nevada (ACON) is comprised of representatives from various autism advocacy organizations, agencies and professionals who serve Nevadans with Autism Spectrum Disorder and related Neurodevelopmental Disorders. Our main purpose is to ensure that services are available to all, and to keep you informed of progress in this area.</p>				<p>2 World Autism Awareness Day</p>	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10 National Siblings Day	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	National Infant Immunization Week			29	30	<p>https://dwss.nv.gov Nevada Division of Welfare & Supportive Services, provides public assistance benefits to all who qualify.</p>

Nevada's Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP) was created to assist parents and caregivers with the expensive cost of providing Autism-specific treatments to their child with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

ATAP is a statewide program that provides temporary assistance and funding to pay for evidenced-based treatment such as Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) for children on the Autism Spectrum, who are under the age of 20 and are diagnosed as a person with Autism Spectrum Disorder by a physician, psychologist, child/adolescent psychiatrist, pediatric neurologist or other qualified professional.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that all children be screened for autism at both 18 and 24 months of age.

For information call:
 (775) 687-4210
 or Email:
adsdatap@adsd.nv.gov
 Or visit their website at:
<http://adsd.nv.gov/Programs/Autism/ATAP/ATAP/>

www.beachcenter.org
 The **Beach Center on Disability** has information available on cutting edge research and a variety of resources especially for families.

*Autism Awareness Month
 Child Abuse Prevention Month
 Month of The Young Child
 Parkinson's Awareness Month*

**Las Vegas & Reno —
Easterseals Nevada Early
Intervention Services**

program is a community partner that provides many services to children with developmental delays, birth to three years old, and their families. The services include: service coordination, special instruction, therapy, inclusive playgroups, and other related services.

We understand that families provide the best insight into their children and we recognize the importance of a family driven Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). Together with the family and therapists, the child developmental specialists/service coordinators work in the child's natural environment to provide enriching and functional activities.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**



"Sophia is a happy, outgoing eighteen-month old. She initially qualified for early intervention because she was born pre-term and spent twenty-five days in the hospital after she was born. Sophia has overcome lung issues and other complications due to prematurity and has made huge strides in her progress. Sophia currently receives special instruction and feeding therapy from Easterseals Nevada.

Easterseals Nevada has been amazing since day one. They continue to evaluate my daughter and give me guidance and support to help with her daily care. They have made all the difference with Sophia and I feel reassured knowing I have a range of services available for my daughter when she needs them. I truly have enjoyed interacting with everyone at Easterseals and we are forever grateful. In addition, we would like to thank everyone who volunteered for the first annual Children's Fashion Show. It was an honor for Sophia to represent Easterseals Nevada. We enjoyed our time and she had a blast meeting the other kids. Thank you for your hard work, dedication, countless hours and selflessness giving up your Saturday for a great cause. It was a beautiful event and was truly enjoyable. We look forward to the many years to come." ~ Mom



"Our son Robert is our miracle boy. Towards the end of my pregnancy I had turned towards high-risk. At this point he had to be delivered in order to save his life. Once he was born things began going down hill. He developed Jaundice, stopped breathing, every test they ran always fluctuated and he was unable to drink from a bottle. After being in the NICU for two weeks we were able to bring him home.

There were many challenges after bringing him home. Around four months of age a Pediatrician suggested the Easterseals program. They turned out to be my savior in a time of need. Henry was difficult at first but soon gave in to it all. I'm pretty sure his Developmental Specialist is his favorite. He went from refusing to bend to rolling, to army crawling, to full on crawling. Not long after that he was super determined to walk. Now he's walking everywhere and babbling up a storm. He loves climbing stairs, bubble baths, learning sign language and swimming. He learns fast and is quick to catch on and loves to copycat people. Easterseals has been amazing to Robert and our family. I learned at each session as he has. Thank you, Easterseals for everything you've done for us. Henry is going to miss you guys when he ages out." ~ Mom

In May 2011, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) published a study in *Pediatrics* on Trends in the Prevalence of Developmental Disabilities in US Children — **Key findings of the study were that approximately one in six American children have a developmental disability, an increase of 17.1% from 1997-2008.**

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Project ASSIST

Nevada's Central Directory for Resources & Information

1-800-522-0066 or **ProjectASSIST@dhhs.nv.gov**

<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST/>

May 2020

June 2020

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<p>http://ectacenter.org/families.asp Early Childhood Technical Assistance (ECTA) Center designed this page to help families understand their rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), connect with other families, and find high-quality resources related to caring for infants, toddlers and young children with disabilities.</p>			1	2		
3	4	5	6	7 <i>Children's Mental Health Awareness Day</i>	8 <i>Provider Appreciation Day</i>	9
Children's Mental Health Awareness Week						
10 <i>Mother's Day</i>	11	12	13	14	15 <i>International Day of Families</i>	16 <i>Armed Forces Day</i>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 <i>Memorial Day</i>	26	27	28	29	30
31	<p>http://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/EHDI/EHDI-Home/ The purpose of the Nevada Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program is to ensure all children in Nevada are screened for hearing loss at birth. Left undetected, hearing loss in infants can negatively impact speech and language acquisition, academic achievement, and social and emotional development. When diagnosed early these negative impacts can be diminished and even eliminated through early intervention.</p>					

Nevada's Early Childhood Mental Health

provides mental health services for children ages birth to six years and their families when children have emotional, behavioral, social or other psychological problems and associated developmental delays. Parents may refer their children for these services. For children ages 3-6 years in need of a higher level of treatment, therapeutic preschool is available.

The goal of services is to strengthen the parent-child relationships, support the family's capacity to care for their children, and to enhance the child's social and emotional functioning. The following are provided:

- Behavioral and psychological assessments,
- Individual, family, and group therapies and behavioral management,
- Psychiatric services,
- Day treatment,
- In-home crisis intervention,
- Childcare and pre-school consultation, outreach, and training,
- Clinical case management.

For more information call:

Las Vegas **(702) 486- 6120**

Reno **(775) 688-1600**

http://www.dhhs.state.nv.us/DCFS_ChildMentalHealth.htm

- Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month*
- Better Hearing and Speech Month*
- Celiac Awareness month*
- Healthy Vision Month*
- Family Support Month*
- Foster Care Month*
- Mental Health Awareness Month*
- Prader-Willi Syndrome Awareness*



"My name is Sterling and I was born at 28 weeks gestation, weighing in at 2lbs 10oz. When I was born, my lungs weren't strong enough for me to breath on my own and I had a hard time learning the mechanism of the suck, swallow, and breath coordination when it came to drinking milk. After spending 78 days in the NICU, I was capable of eating on my own and left on my original due date. Since leaving the NICU, I've had multiple appointments from peditricians and head specialists, to pulmonologist and Early Intervention at Advanced Pediatric Therapies (APT).

My doctors were amazing, and my recovery couldn't have gone any better. With all my appointments and surgery, Early Intervention has been the best for my development. I see 3 different specialist a month. They have helped both me and my parents, by giving us advice from nutrition to motor skills. They never force anything upon us and, of course, always check to confirm with our peditrician. Our specialist have each given us different things to work on for each visit; from what kind of foods we should be trying to what exercises that will help with my development. They have been there for me through my whole life outside of the NICU and I know someday I will catch up." ~ Mom



Advanced Pediatric Therapies (APT) offers services to children from the ages of infancy through adolescence. Our therapists are skilled in the areas of communication, feeding, sensory integration, self-help, gross motor, play/social, and fine motor skills. All of the therapists are also certified and highly skilled to treat children with a varying range of developmental, genetic and neurodevelopmental disabilities.

Regardless of the diagnosis, we work with the child and the family based on his/her areas of strength and areas of need. Our vision is for each individual to build positive social connections within his or her home and community using effective communication, self-help and gross motor skills.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**

<https://medlineplus.gov/>

MedlinePlus.gov was created and is maintained by the National Library of Medicine, MedlinePlus is the National Institutes of Health's website providing trusted health information to the public.

Over a million people visit MedlinePlus daily and benefit from the health topic pages, a medical encyclopedia, health news, surgery videos, a medical dictionary and much more.

Includes a Spanish language version of the site, **MedlinePlus en español**

"The opportunity to diagnose and thus begin treatment for autism around a child's first birthday has enormous potential to change outcomes for children affected with the disorder." — Karen Pierce, PhD, Assistant Professor, UC San Diego Department of Neurosciences (2011)

May 2020

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Project ASSIST

Nevada's Central Directory for Resources & Information

1-800-522-0066 or **ProjectASSIST@dhhs.nv.gov**

<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST/>

July 2020

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June 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1 Stand for Children Day</i>	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>14 Flag Day</i>	15	16	17	18	19	20
<i>21 Father's Day & First Day of Summer</i>	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Deaf-Blind Awareness Week					
28	29	30	<p>http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST/Fathers/Resources For Fathers provides information and resources especially for fathers of children with special needs, and the professionals who serve them. Also has a "Guide for Dads" available from your early intervention program or online.</p>			



As the statewide Parent Training and Information (PTI) Center, **Nevada P.E.P.** provides services to parents of children with special needs, and to professionals.

Nevada P.E.P. offers the following services:

- Information, referral and technical assistance
- Individual assistance and support
- Specialized workshops on: Special Education Law, Due Process, Early Intervention Transition, and Parent/Professional Partnerships
- Newsletter and Resource Library
- Speakers

For additional information contact:

Las Vegas (702) 388-8899

Reno (775) 448-9950

Statewide (800) 216-5188

E-mail: pepinfo@nvpep.org

www.nvpep.org

*Children's Awareness Month
Child Vision Awareness Month
National Safety Month
Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month*



"The chances of having identical twins born with Down Syndrome are one in a million. Kylie & Kenzie are very special girls born two months early at just a little over 3 lbs each. Kylie & Kenzie were in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) almost five months and were finally able to come home after having G tubes (feeding tubes) inserted into their stomachs.

Once the girls were home we contacted Therapy Management group through Early Intervention. We are so pleased with the services they have been providing for the girls. Kylie and Kenzie are now rolling around, sitting up and starting to grab toys. Kenzie is starting to nibble from the bottle and we are hoping with the help of the feeding therapist, we can get Kylie to drink from the bottle as well. Thank you so much Therapy Management! You are such a blessing to us all!" ~ Mom

Las Vegas & Reno — The Therapy Management Group (TMG) provides early childhood therapy services that support and enhance children's potential for optimal developmental outcomes. Our early intervention program provides services for children birth to three in their home or other natural environment.

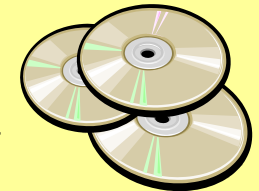
Each child and family is provided with service coordination to ensure collaboration and provision of all necessary services by other health professionals and community programs, as appropriate.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**



EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION LIBRARY

One of the resources available to families, service providers, students, and teachers working with young children with disabilities or special health care needs is the Central Directory's lending resource library, updated frequently with new books or videos. This large collection of books and videos is a tremendous source of information for parents and professionals in the care and education of a child with a disability.



These library materials are available for use statewide at no cost to our families.

For more information, please contact your service provider or coordinator.

Catalog at:

<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST/Special-Ed-Library/>

Call **Project ASSIST** at **1-800-522-0066**

or email ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

"Well-designed early childhood interventions have been found to generate a return to society ranging from \$1.80 to \$17.07 for each dollar spent on the program." — Rand Corporation Research Brief, 2005

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<p>http://www.thearc.org/ The Arc is committed to all people with developmental disabilities, and works to develop programs, funding and public policy that will assist them in realizing their goals of learning, living, working, worshipping and playing in the community.</p>			1	2	3	4 <i>Independence Day</i>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 <i>National Parents Day & Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act</i>	27	28	29	30	31	

Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center (NDALC) is Nevada's federally mandated protection and advocacy system for the human, legal and service rights of individuals with disabilities. NDALC will advocate to ensure that children with developmental disabilities obtain appropriate and timely early intervention services and transition services. NDALC will provide direct representation at Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) meetings in select cases that address serious systemic issues.



NDALC will provide direct representation and advocacy, as resources permit, to children with disabilities to improve access to needed early intervention services available under Part C of IDEA, and to improve timely transition services from Part C to Part B of IDEA.

For more information contact:

Main Office (Las Vegas)
1-888-349-3843 (Toll Free)

Northern Office (Reno/Sparks)
1-800-992-5715 (Toll Free)

Elko Office
1-800-992-5715 (Toll Free)

www.ndalc.org

Cleft & Craniofacial Awareness & Prevention Month
Family Reunion Month
Fragile X Awareness Month
Make a Difference to Children Month

Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) - Reno provides family-centered early intervention services and supports to northwest Nevada and its rural communities. NEIS provides most services in homes or community-based environments for children with developmental delays and their families. They recognize the important role of the family in a young child's development and assist parents in their natural role as teachers to help meet their child's special needs.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**



"I started working at Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) Elko, in 2016 as a Developmental Specialist. When I found out I was pregnant in September 2018, never would I have thought I would become a parent of an NEIS child. On March 22, 2019 at 32 weeks I was life flighted and underwent an emergency c-section due to severe preeclampsia. That day my beautiful Maliah Ann James was born weighing 2lbs 13 oz. From that day we spent 50 days in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) because she was not growing like she should have been. On our last day in the NICU they completed the newborn hearing screening and Maliah failed in her left ear. The doctors told us it is a permanent hearing loss. She is currently in the process of being fitted for a hearing aide.

In the NICU we had around the clock support from nurses, developmental therapists, and doctors. Since being home and a part of NEIS it has been an easier transition. Although I am working in the field being a parent is a totally different experience and I like having the options of having Maliah's developmental specialist to ask questions. I am very thankful for the

team we have available to help us with Maliah's hearing loss and the adjustments we must make to reach her milestones." ~ Mom



<http://parentingspecialneeds.org>
Parenting Special Needs Magazine, a **free**, online, bi-monthly publication that is dedicated to helping the special needs community. It covers all the ages and all of the stages and all of the different disabilities, as well as providing an invaluable resource for the parents and caregivers of those with special needs.

"An extensive body of research indicates that high quality early intervention for at-risk infants, toddlers and young children and their families is a sound economic investment. Studies have found a number of long-term cost savings in terms of decreased grade repetition, reduced special education spending, enhanced productivity, lower welfare costs, increased tax revenues, and lower juvenile justice costs." — The Long Term Economic Benefits Of High Quality Early Childhood Intervention Programs, December 2005

July 2020

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August 2020

September 2020

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Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/series/parent-favorites ZERO TO THREE's Parent Portal provides a variety of resources for parents and caregivers of young children in areas such as: Ages and Stages, Social-Emotional Development, School Readiness and Early Learning, Play, Challenging Behavior, Sleep, and Positive Parenting Approaches. Resources designed to help you tune in to what makes your child tick, and to guide you in thinking about the best way to meet your child's individual needs.</p>						1
2 American Family Day & National Kid's Day & National Friendship Day	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Be an Angel Day
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	<p>https://nv.medicalhomeportal.org/ Nevada Children's Medical Home Portal is a coalition of web-based sources of medical professional health information designed to be a "one-stop-shop" for families, physicians and other caregivers. With over 500 pages of content and 5,000 links on this website, families and physicians, and other professionals, will have access to invaluable information about evidenced based research and specific diagnoses.</p>				

Early Head Start offers comprehensive child development



and family support services for birth to three year olds in home-based and center-based programs with or without disabilities.

The individualized home-based program provides visits by certified parent educators trained in child development who help parents understand what to expect in their child's development. Parents also receive practical tips on ways to encourage learning, manage challenging behavior, and promote strong parent-child relationships.

Center-based programs provide full-day, and full-year services, including high quality child care for infants and toddlers with without disabilities or without. Early Head Start promotes infant and toddler health and development; fosters positive family relationships and supports parents as the primary decisions makers and nurturers of their children.

For more information about Early Head Start:
(702) 486-6626 (Las Vegas)

<http://www.doe.nv.gov/HeadStart/>

*Immunization Awareness Month
 Children's Eye Health and Safety Month*

Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) – Northeast Region provides family-centered early intervention services and supports to rural communities in Pershing, Humboldt, Upper Nye, Lander, Eureka, Elko, and White Pine counties.

NEIS provides most services in homes or community-based environments for children with developmental delays and their families. They recognize the important role of the family in a young child's development and assist parents in their natural role as teachers to help meet their child's special needs.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**



'My name is Heather and I'd like to introduce my "twincesses", Sirinutee and Trinutee. My identical twin girls were born 3 months early and weighing barely 2 pounds. My micro-preemies have amazed us all from their birth. With all the possible scenarios as to what 'could' go wrong or impact them due to prematurity, they are almost two now and both are strong, healthy, and happy little girls. I am so very grateful to have Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) in our lives. I consider them family and they continue to make an everlasting impact on our lives." ~ Mom

CONGRATULATIONS!!! For the fourth year in a row the U.S. Department of Education has determined that Nevada meets the requirements and purposes of Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The 2019 determination of meets requirements is the highest of four possible performance levels. It is a credit to everyone in Nevada who works to ensure supports are available to improve outcomes for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The letter of acknowledgment can be accessed at:

<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/Publications/>

A new study provides further evidence that earlier intervention for autism increases the likelihood that a child will make significant gains in social and communication skills. — Research in Developmental Disabilities, Volume 35, Issue 12, December 2014

- **Among the toddlers who entered the therapy program before their second birthday, 90 percent made significant gains.**
- **By contrast, only 30 percent of the children who entered therapy after 30 months of age made significant gains across the year.**

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September 2020

October 2020

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www.p2pusa.org Parent to Parent-USA is a national alliance of Parent to Parent (P2P) programs with the primary purpose of supporting emerging or established Parent to Parent programs.	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11 Patriot Day	12
13 Grandparent's Day	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 National POW/ MIA Recognition Day	22 First Day of Fall	23	24	25	26
Deaf Awareness Week						
27	28	29	30	http://www.dcnv.org/ Deaf Centers of Nevada is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower the deaf and hard of hearing community by providing advocacy services, coordinating equal access to communication, job placement and coaching, teaching independent living skills, hosting community building events and creating civil rights advocacy programs.		

Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities (NCED) creates a bridge between science and practice by sharing research-based, best practice evidence with communities.



The NCED's mission is to work cooperatively with consumers (people with disabilities, family members, etc.), agencies, and programs to assist Nevadans of all ages with disabilities to be independent and productive citizens, fully integrated into their communities. This mission is accomplished by honoring the diversity of people with disabilities, their families, and those who serve them.

The important principles of self-determination, family-centered care, and cultural competence are reflected in the ways the NCED provides service, training, and technical assistance; conducts research; and disseminates information.

The NCED projects are focused in Advocacy and Family Support, Assistive Technology and Accessibility, Education of Children with Disabilities, Employment and Transition, Positive Behavioral Supports, and Leadership Preparation and Disability Awareness.

For more information:
Office: (775)-784-4921
www.nced.info

- Childhood Cancer Awareness Month*
- FASD Awareness Month*
- Health Care Month*
- Hydrocephalus Awareness Month*
- Respite Awareness Month*
- Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness Month*

"Brody was diagnosed with Down Syndrome at birth. Admittedly, we were not prepared for anything that entails such a diagnosis.

He was 3 weeks in the NICU and during that time the social workers at Sunrise Hospital told us about Nevada Early intervention Services (NEIS). When Brody was 3 months old, he began seeing his service coordinator from a community early intervention program. They have helped him through each step of his development, from rolling to crawling to walking and running, and now one of his favorite things to do, jumping! They've offered tips, tricks and knowledge to help him; whether it was when he refused to hold his own bottle or climb the stairs. They've created laminated pictures to help him recognize everyday items and formulate the signs of words to express his needs.

Children with special needs, love, think, feel and play just like any 'typically developing child'. Specifically, with the diagnosis of Down Syndrome, we get to see each of these things just by taking the scenic route and with a little EXTRA love. It was a shock to our family to get a diagnosis such as Brody's, but life has been an amazing journey learning to live through him and appreciate each milestone that much more.

We are nearing transition out of early intervention services and looking back, Brody, our family and his daycare providers have gained so much from the help Kideology has provided." ~ Mom



"Meeting our early intervention team was the perfect start to Roberto's journey in early intervention. We couldn't have welcomed into our lives a more dedicated, loving team. Their guidance and support have made the experience of helping and understanding my son that much more adventurous and less scary. They are kind, caring, enthusiastic and very well prepared in their field.

It can be overwhelming going into a program looking for information to help a person so close to your heart, you want to make sure they're getting the help they need. Coming across early intervention exceeded all my expectations, the information and process is so well explained and implemented you just know you are in the right place.

My most sincere appreciation and eternal thanks to your staff and team members." ~ Mom

<http://dsnnn.org/>
Down Syndrome Network of Northern Nevada (DSNNN) is a network of individuals with Down syndrome, their parents, families and friends, offering support, direction, services and resources to individuals and families affected by Down syndrome.

<http://www.dsosn.org/>
Down Syndrome Organization of Southern Nevada (DSOSN) promotes a positive understanding of Down syndrome in the community and is a source of support, information and education for families and individuals affected by Down syndrome.

"The hope is that if we can improve intervention with infants and toddlers, many of them will be able to leave their disabilities behind by age 5". — Sally J. Rogers, PhD, Professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences, M.I.N.D. Institute, University of California Davis Medical Center (2012)

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October 2020

Nevada's Month for Children with Special Needs

November 2020

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The **Nevada Dual Sensory Impairment Project** works to enhance educational services provided to children and youth, birth through 21 years, with vision and hearing impairments.

The project provides statewide technical assistance to support parents, services providers, and other service agencies in meeting the educational needs of children who have dual sensory impairments.

Individuals who are eligible are those, birth through 21 years of age, diagnosed as having impairments in both vision and hearing or suspected of having such impairments.

For more information contact:
 Dual Sensory Impairment Project
 Department of Educational Specialties
 University of Nevada, Reno
 MS 299
 Reno, NV 89557

775-784-6471 (phone/tty)
1-877-621-5042 (toll free)

www.unr.edu/educ/ndsip/

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
http://www.geneticalliance.org/advocacy-leadership-skills The Genetic Alliance has created an Advocacy ATLAS in partnership with Parent to Parent USA and Family Voices with support from the Health Resources and Services Administration. It has a page with all kinds of resources on Advocacy & Leadership skills. Please take the time and look over what is available. You may find some information useful in a current situation.				1	2	3
4	5 <i>Child Health Day</i>	6	7	8 <i>Anniversary of PL 99.457 establishing Part C of IDEA (Early Intervention for Infants and Toddlers)</i>	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 <i>Disability Mentoring Day</i>	22	23	24 <i>Make a Difference Day</i>
25	26	27	28	29	30 <i>Nevada Day</i>	31 <i>Halloween</i>

- Audiology Awareness Month*
- Blindness Awareness Month*
- Campaign For Healthier Babies Month*
- Children with Special Health Care Needs Month*
- Dental Hygiene Awareness Month*
- Disability Awareness Month*
- Down Syndrome Awareness Month*
- Rett Syndrome Awareness Month*
- Spina Bifida Awareness Month*



"As older parents and after a polyhydramnios diagnosis, we had a full amniocentesis with a micro array and were told we were going to have a perfectly healthy baby girl. Ayah was definitely perfect, but far from healthy. We discovered an array of conditions quite quickly: blindness from cloudy corneas, both a muscular VSD and vascular ring, which required her first surgery when she was just five weeks old; kidney problems; and overall global delays. Ayah was eventually diagnosed with Baraitser-Winter Syndrome, an extremely rare condition.

During her first seven months of life, she underwent three major surgeries (two heart and one full colectomy), three life flights, and many close calls. One of the bright spots of Ayah's first few years was and continues to be the support of NEIS. Ayah has PT, OT, nutrition, vision and speech therapies with professionals providing unbelievable support. Ayah is well on her way to catching up with her peers and NEIS has played a monumental role in her success!" ~ Mom and Dad

Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) - Carson City and Reno from which they provide family-centered early intervention services and supports to northwest Nevada and its rural communities. NEIS provides most services in homes or community-based environments for children with developmental delays and their families. They recognize the important role of the family in a young child's development and assist parents in their natural role as teachers to help meet their child's special needs.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**

www.mychildwithoutlimits.org

The **MyChildWithoutLimits.org** is a site that provides parents of children with disabilities an online resource with critical information that also connects parents to a vital social network of parents of newly diagnosed children ages 0 to 5.



"Rian was diagnosed with a cleft lip palate at birth. Early Intervention came into our lives when he was just 6 weeks old! Our developmental specialist and therapists quickly became an invaluable part of our care and support team. Rian receives occupational therapy, physical therapy, audiology, speech and nutrition services which has enabled him to adapt, grow and learn all the things that make him the wonderfully amazing boy he is today." ~ Mom

"An early intervention program costing \$6,730 per child generated a return on investment of \$47,759 for each child. This means that for every \$1 invested, \$7.10 was returned to society in the form of decreased expenditures. (When similar services for 2nd & 3rd graders were analyzed, results showed a return of only \$1.66 for every \$1 invested.)" — [AMA, 5/8/01, vol. 285, no.18]

October 2020

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<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST/>

November 2020

December 2020

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Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<i>1 Daylight Saving Time ends</i>	2	<i>3 Election Day</i>	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	<i>11 Veterans' Day</i>	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	<i>20 National Adoption Day</i>	21
22	23	24	25	<i>26 Thanksgiving Day</i>	<i>27 Family Day</i>	28
<i>29 Anniversary of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)</i>	30	<p>http://idea.ed.gov The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a law ensuring services to children with disabilities throughout the nation. Infants and toddlers with disabilities (birth to age 3) and their families receive early intervention services under Part C of the IDEA. This site was created to provide a "one-stop shop" for resources and information.</p>				

Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities'



mission is to provide resources at the community level which promote equal opportunity and life choices for people with disabilities through which they may positively contribute to Nevada society. The Council utilizes strategies such as training, educating policy makers and communities, coalition development, barrier elimination, and demonstration of new approaches to service.

The Council encourages and supports advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities that contribute to a coordinated, consumer driven, family-centered and family-directed, comprehensive system that includes needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination for all individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, helping them to be productive, integrated and included in all facets of community life.

For more information contact:

(775) 684-8619

www.nevadaddcouncil.org

- Adoption Awareness Month*
- American Diabetes Month*
- Child Safety Protection Month*
- National Epilepsy Awareness Month*
- National Family Caregivers Month*
- Prematurity Awareness Month*

Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) - Southern Region provides services to all eligible children under three with developmental delays and their families living in Clark, Nye, Esmeralda and southern Lincoln counties.

Early Intervention Services are implemented by service providers who form a partnership with families to work on goals to enhance the child's participation in daily activities which occur within the family's routines in their home and community.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**



"When Olivia started with Nevada Early Intervention, she was shy and introverted. But since starting the program she has come out of her shell 100% and she now interacts with other children instead of being self-dependent and seems genuinely interested in what others are doing.

She also has started preschool recently and has shown an increased desire to learn which she did not have before! We tried everything from sign language to learning games and failed miserably, with the program she no longer seems withdrawn and her attitude across the board has improved significantly! She now can identify shapes, colors, animals, etc. and can tell us what sounds most animals make! She now asks for books at bed time or tells us the word that she wants to learn about (ie. dogs, numbers, etc.) We are so thankful for everyone that has helped our little girl become enthusiastic about learning!" ~ Mom

"Sebastian was diagnosed with Schizencephaly and Duane Syndrome at the age of one. Schizencephaly impairs Sebastian's right side of his body causing him limited mobility. Every day physical activities become a challenge for Sebastian since he compensates by walking on his tippy toe and maintaining a fist. Sebastian was admitted into Nevada Early Intervention Services and began to receive physical and occupational therapy. In result, Sebastian's mobility has improved greatly. He is able to accomplish tasks he previously couldn't do on his own." –
Developmental Specialist

<http://ctdinstitute.org>

The **Center on Technology and Disability** is a resource designed to support organizations and programs that work with families of children and youth with disabilities, offering a range of information and services on the subject of assistive technologies.



"The brain grows at an amazing rate during development. At times during brain development, 250,000 neurons are added every minute! At birth, almost all the neurons that the brain will ever have are present. However, the brain continues to grow for a few years after birth. By the age of 2 years, the brain is about 80% of it's adult size." – Neuroscience for Kids, University of Washington

November 2020

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Project ASSIST

Nevada's Central Directory for Resources & Information

1-800-522-0066 or **ProjectASSIST@dhhs.nv.gov**

<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST/>

January 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>www.circleofinclusion.org The Circle of Inclusion website is for early childhood service providers and families of young children. This site offers demonstrations of and information about effective practices of inclusive educational programs.</p>	1	2		3 <i>International Day of Persons with Disabilities</i>	4	5
6	7 <i>Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</i>	8	9	10	11	12
Inclusive Schools Week						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 <i>First Day of Winter</i>	22	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	26
27	28	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>	<p>New Year's Day</p> <p>www.cms.gov A Federal government site for information on Medicare, Medicaid, and Child Health Insurance.</p>	

Family Resource Centers (FRC) provide case management, information, and referrals for individuals and families in need of assistance in accessing services and programs that will strengthen and support the family.

FRCs collaborate with other private and public agencies, government agencies, schools, and faith-based organizations to assist families to obtain needed services.

FRCs emphasize community based, collaborative services that are culturally competent, accessible, and flexible.

For more information or to find an FRC close to you, call:

(702) 486-3527 (Las Vegas)

or

(775) 684-4000 (Carson City)

Or visit the state web site at:

http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/Grants/Programs/FRC/Family_Resource_Center/

www.our-kids.org/

Our-Kids is Devoted to Raising Special Kids with Special Needs, a "Family" of parents, caregivers and others who are working with children with physical and/or mental disabilities and delays.

Safe Toys and Gifts Month

Nevada Resources

EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

Children with Disabilities ages 0-3 years

Statewide referral: **1-800-522-0066** or ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

Southern Region: Referrals (702) 486-9200
– Nevada Early Intervention Services - South

Northwest Region: Referrals (775) 688-1341
– Nevada Early Intervention Services - Reno
– Nevada Early Intervention Services - Carson City

Northeast Region: Referrals (775) 753-1214
– Nevada Early Intervention Services - Elko
– Nevada Early Intervention Services - Ely
– Nevada Early Intervention Services - Winnemucca

Children with Disabilities ages 3 and up

Nevada Head Start Collaboration and Early Childhood Systems
<http://www.doe.nv.gov/HeadStart/>

Local School District Special Education Services
(refer to your local County School District phone numbers)

TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

IDEA Part C Office
(775) 687-0587 or 1-800-522-0066

Nevada Department of Education — Carson City
(775) 687-9171

Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities — UNR
(775) 784-4921

REFERRAL AND RESOURCES

Early Childhood Special Education Library —
1-800-522-0066 or ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

Project ASSIST, a Central Directory for Disability Information —
1-800-522-0066 or ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

United Way's Information & Referral line —
Dial 211 or online at: www.nevada211.org

STATEWIDE PARENT TRAINING, INFORMATION & SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

Nevada PEP —
Toll Free 1-800-216-5188

ADVOCACY and LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center —
South —Toll Free 1-888-349-3843
North —Toll Free 1-800-992-5715
Elko —Toll Free 1-800-992-5715

STATE WEBSITES

— **State of Nevada**
<http://nv.gov>

— **Nevada IDEA Part C - Early Intervention**
<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/PartC/>

— **Nevada Early Intervention Programs**
http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/Early_Intervention_Programs/

— **Nevada Central Directory for Early Intervention**
<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST/>

— **Ageing and Disability Services Division - Early intervention**
http://adsd.nv.gov/Programs/InfantsToddlers/Infants_Toddlers/

Each year, roughly 3 percent, or 388,000 American children receive Part C/Early Intervention (EI) Services (Office of Special Education Programs, 2018).

Nationally, less than a third of those ages 9 to 35 months received developmental screening, according to findings published in the July 9, 2018 online journal *JAMA Pediatrics*. The study looked at data collected through the 2016 National Survey of Children's Health, a government survey.



STEVE SISOLAK
Governor

Richard Whitley
Director, DHHS

