

Nevada 2019

Our Children



“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)***

Lucas

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

Lisa Cridland, (ICC Co-Chair) ICC Parent

Representative — Southern Nevada

Candace Emerson, ICC Parent Representative

— Southern Nevada

Heaven Wright, ICC Parent Representative

— Southern Nevada

Janina Easley, ICC Parent Representative

— Rural Nevada

Christine Riggi, 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., UNR Nevada Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Rep.

Keana Sullivan, Private Provider Representative

Nevada Early Intervention-Nellis Child Development

Yvonne Moore, Private Provider Representative

Nevada Early Intervention-Positively Kids

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

Megan Wickland, Provision of, or Payment for, Early

Intervention Services—Rep., Aging & Disability

Services Division

Jack Zenteno, State Medicaid Representative

Division of Health Care Financing and Policy

Reesha Powell, 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

Karen Gordon, 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



"When a family enrolls their child in early intervention services they enter a whole new realm of possibilities and learning opportunities. Throughout this process it is essential to give parents a voice in order to improve services and make them even more specific for their child. Not only do parents know their child best, they are their number one advocate from the time of birth. State boards like the Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) are the perfect place for parents to share their experiences, gain knowledge and help their family, as well as many others throughout their community.

As a mother of two children who have received and greatly benefited from Nevada Early Intervention Services, I am very excited to participate on the ICC.

Throughout my over six years of parenting I have learned so much by joining various groups and finding appropriate support to help meet both of my sons' needs. By becoming a proactive and involved parent, we can improve the services and opportunities for all of the children in our state!" ~ Candace Emerson, Nevada ICC Parent Representative

<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.

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.**



Project ASSIST is Nevada's Central Directory for families of young children with disabilities or special health care needs, as well as agencies, organizations and programs that serve them.

In SFY 2018, 820 calls for information or resources were received by Project ASSIST, 72 from out of state and 352 referrals to Early Intervention were made.

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*

December 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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					

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/>

February 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
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		

January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>www.rarediseases.org National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) has a searchable database on rare disorders, foundations, support groups, agencies, and more.</p>		1 New Year's Day	2	3	4 World Braille Day	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	<p>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.</p>	

Building the Next Generation of Leaders. . .

NEVADA PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING, a very intense and innovative national model of leadership training, is 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.

NGCDD

For more information contact:

(775) 684-8619

www.nevadaddcouncil.org



"The two things I have gained most from serving on the ICC are a sense of community, and the capacity to make change in my children's lives and at a local level.

When I was first appointed to the ICC I felt as though I was going through the motions of Early Intervention Services: being present at therapy sessions, carting my troop of kiddos (3 at the time) to doctor's appointments, and complying with all the recommendations given to me.

As I became more involved as a board member, I learned a lot more about NEIS, the services I could request, and how to make the most of our time there. I learned to ask questions and make requests. However, it quickly became more than just ensuring my own kids had the best opportunities, and more about effecting change in the system itself. The ICC also supports parent representatives in attending disability-related conferences. This experience is what really fostered my passion for advocacy. I met parents from other states and learned what was working for their children and how Early Intervention functioned elsewhere. I brought the information I gathered at these conferences back to influence the program locally.

Most importantly, my children have watched me become a powerful advocate and, consequently, are becoming strong advocates for themselves. I am so thankful to be part of such a great committee that is always open to listening to parents and supporting them." ~ Aimee Hadleigh, Nevada ICC Parent Representative

<http://www.parentcenterhub.org/resources/>

The Center for Parent Information and Resources has fact sheets on disabilities, links to resources related to infants and toddlers and another for school age children. It offers tips for parents and educators. It also has links to other organizations that support individuals with intellectual disabilities.

"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)

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

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

January 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		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		

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/>

March 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					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						

February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15 Angelman Syndrome Day	16
17	18 President's Day	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		



"It so important for you as a parent to be involved with your State's Early Intervention Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC). When you attend an ICC meeting you get to see people working hard to be sure to provide you and your family with quality supports and services for your little one who has challenges.

If you want to understand your services and how they work please come to an ICC meeting. There are parents and other reps who are waiting to hear from you." ~ Christine Riggi, Nevada ICC Parent Representative

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**

186,876 young children in Nevada (0-4 years) — U.S. Census Bureau, July 1, 2016.

Nevada Early Intervention Services serves 0-3 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



NGCDD 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

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*

February 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					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		

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/>

April 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	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				

March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<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>					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Daylight Saving Time begins	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 First Day of Spring	21 World Down Syndrome Day	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	<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>					

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**



"Ethan was born November 9, 2017. He was born with T21 and duodenal atresia. He quit growing at 34 weeks gestation and the doctors thought he would need help breathing when he was born, but he was perfect. He went through surgery at 3-days old and came through with shining colors, only needing Tylenol, breathing the room air on his own.

This little boy is the best thing to ever happen to me! He is amazing! He has surprised doctors every chance he gets. He was out of the NICU 6 weeks before expected. He is a social little boy that loves people! He talks, laughs, and plays with his family, but I think his favorite thing to do... is flirt with the ladies!

Ethan began Early intervention Services not long after he was home from the hospital. He receives Occupational therapy, Nutrition services, and Special Instruction from great therapists and an awesome developmental specialist! I have said this before and I will say it again, 'Early Intervention is critical in helping a child to overcome delays or disabilities.' They really make a difference!" ~ Mom

CONGRATULATIONS to the Early Intervention Services System in Nevada! For the third 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 2018 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/>

<http://www.dcnv.org/>

Deaf Centers of Nevada is a non-profit organization located in Las Vegas, Nevada whose mission is to empower the deaf and hard of hearing community by providing advocacy services, coordinating equal access to communication, preparing job placement and coaching, teaching independent living skills, hosting community building events and creating civil rights advocacy programs.

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.**

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/>

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

March 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					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						

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 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			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	

April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 World Autism Awareness Day	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						
28	29	30	<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. ACON is focused in uniting all people affected by Autism, Autism Advocacy organizations, local and national political affiliates/Legislators, and the service providers in Nevada.</p>			

"Having our daughter, Katerini, who was diagnosed with Down Syndrome early in our pregnancy, and meet her team with Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) as early as 1.5 months old, has made all the difference in the world for her. We believe her delays are few, so far, because of the intervention through Physical and Occupational Therapies.

We know she will continue to show us how amazing and capable she is with the guidance from her wonderful team! We feel so blessed to be a part of NEIS and Advanced Pediatric Therapies (APT)." ~ 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**

The ECTA Center ***Practice Guides for Families*** are intended for families to increase their understanding and explain the importance of recommended practices. The Practice Guides are formatted for print as well as for viewing on mobile devices.

<http://ectacenter.org/decrp/type-pgfamily.asp>

"Families at the Center of Early Childhood Intervention"

Chances are you will be working with professionals who say they are family-centered or use family-centered practices. When this is the case, you and your family should expect to be treated in certain ways and be actively involved in decision-making and actions to achieve family-identified outcomes and goals. This practice guide includes things that are helpful to know about family-centered practices.

http://ectacenter.org/~pdfs/decrp/PG_Fam_FamiliesattheCenter_family_print_2017.pdf

"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

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.dcms.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

April 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	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/>

June 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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						

May 2019

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 for children from birth through age eight.</p>			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Provider Appreciation Day	11
National Children's Mental Health Awareness Week						
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15 International Day of Families	16	17	18 Armed Forces Day
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	

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**



"Annabela is an identical twin (baby A) who has a strong bond with her twin. Annabela's parents are very supportive and never miss a beat in their loving care for Annabela.

She has been diagnosed with three rare conditions: Lissencephaly, Bi-lateral Schizencephaly and Microcephaly, but she is strong and will let you know if she is happy or if she is uncomfortable.

Annabela enjoys traveling and going on long car rides. She was granted her wish to visit Disney World and really enjoyed the roller coasters!" ~ Mom and Developmental Specialist

<http://www.pacer.org/stc/tikes/exploring-at.asp>

The **TIKES (TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE KIDS' EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS)** Project aims to provide direction and support to families and professionals as they explore and implement assistive technology. We know that being able to try AT helps parents and educators make wise purchasing decisions and write appropriate technology into an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Education Program (IEP). You will find handouts that provide guidance for many frequently asked questions as families and professionals explore AT for young children.

"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

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.

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

May 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			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	

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/>

June 2019

July 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	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			

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<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>						<p>1 Stand for Children Day</p>
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Flag Day	15
16 Father's Day	17	18	19	20	21 First Day of Summer	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Deaf-Blind Awareness Week						
30	<p>http://dpbh.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>					

"When Ethan was born, everything appeared to be fine, but then things began to pop up that suggested he might need some extra help. First, we discovered he had a heart murmur (caused by a small hole in his heart, a VSD). Then, his pediatrician noticed that he looked a bit floppy (hypotonic) and suggested we contact Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS). When Ethan began having seizures at 2 months old, we knew something was wrong. After a hospital stay, tons of tests, including an MRI, CT, spinal tap, etc., we finally discovered through genetic testing, that he is missing a tiny portion of his first chromosome. He was diagnosed with 1P36 Deletion Syndrome, a rare disorder; no one was able to give us very much information on what to expect. Any information I was able to find online painted a grim picture.

We were unsure whether our little boy would ever be able to sit-up, crawl, walk, talk; feed himself, milestones that are often taken for granted. My greatest fear was that he would not even recognize us, his own parents. I was determined to access whatever services were available to help my baby. I called the NEIS number printed on a pamphlet provided by Ethan's pediatrician. Soon after, Therapy Management Group (TMG) visited our home to evaluate Ethan, and the services began. Ethan was about 3 months old when we started with physical therapy to get him moving (he couldn't hold his head up very well) and vision therapy (he wasn't tracking and it was unclear how much he could see). As he grew, we added speech therapy and occupational therapy. Throughout the process, Ethan has had a team of professionals looking out for him, assessing him, tracking his progress, and, most importantly, teaching us, his family, how to work with him.

As a parent we often ask ourselves, "Am I doing enough to help my child develop?" As a parent of a child with special needs, it feels like that question has even more weight and is constantly present. Knowing that we are working with our early intervention team, and that we were able to get Ethan into early intervention so early on, I am confident that we are doing everything we can to help Ethan thrive. We are active in our child's treatment, and we have a group of professionals available for guidance and support. We are not alone. We are not powerless.

Today Ethan is almost two. He is a happy, sweet toddler who loves cars, animals, and playing outside. He's close to walking independently, is beginning to use sign language to communicate, and continues to learn, grow and have fun. Time will tell to what extent the syndrome will affect him; for now, we take each day as it comes, setting the best foundation with the help of early intervention services and celebrating each new milestone, at Ethan's own pace. Early Intervention has been amazing for Ethan and our family, and I would advise other parents to access services as early as possible." ~ 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.

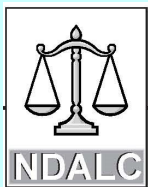
**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**

<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**

"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



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

<https://dwss.nv.gov>

Nevada Division of Welfare & Supportive Services, provides public assistance benefits to all who qualify.

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

June 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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/>

August 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				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

July 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act or ADA	27
28 National Parents' Day	29	30	31	<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>		



"Our son Isaac failed his newborn hearing screening in both ears at birth and we were referred to NEIS for audiological testing when Isaac was 6 weeks old. At this time, we received the news that he had bilateral profound sensorineural hearing loss which is permanent and severe. The news of his hearing loss was initially very devastating to our family.

NEIS provided us with resources to navigate the upcoming months which allowed us to become connected with Hands and Voices and Deaf Centers of Nevada. This gave us comfort to meet other families who have children that are deaf or hard of hearing and spend time with deaf adults who have helped us develop our sign language skills.

Isaac received hearing aids when he was 2.5 months old and was not expected to show reactions to speech or even loud sounds due to the severity of his hearing loss. Isaac had surgery for bilateral cochlear implants at the age of 7 months old at Stanford and was activated at 8 months of age, which is very early considering the FDA approval for cochlear implants is currently 1 year of age and up. Since activation of his implants, Isaac is babbling so much more, imitating speech sounds, starting to localize to sounds, and even dancing to music. We are learning ASL and Isaac has begun using signs in his daily routines. Isaac receives Speech Therapy each week and instruction with his Developmental Specialist twice per month as well as ongoing monitoring from Audiology through NEIS.

We have been so impressed with the professionalism and dedication of our service providers, and how they do everything in their power to help Isaac succeed! We are so appreciative how our team focuses on our goals for Isaac and how they actively work together to make therapy sessions fun and engaging. NEIS has been with us every step of the way, and we could not be more excited about what the future holds for Isaac". ~ Mom

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**

<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]



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 or without disabilities. 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/>

www.beachcenter.org

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

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

July 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	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			

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/>

August 2019

September 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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					

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<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>				1	2	3
4 National Friendship Day, Kid's Day, and American Family Day	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

Kideology is a local provider of Early Intervention services in the Las Vegas area.

Early Intervention services are provided to Nevada families with young children (from the time of birth up to a child's 3rd birthday) who have developmental difficulties (children who seem to need extra help with things other kids their age are able to do without help). The purpose of Early Intervention is to empower families with the tools and resources they need to support their child's development so that he/she is set up for success in school and in life!

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**



"When our son was a year and a half, we started to notice that his vocabulary and cognitive skills were not where they should be. Come the birth of his sister around the same time we observed what little speech he did acquire was fading away. At the time I was struggling with several severe perinatal mood and anxiety disorders.

At our daughters 3-month checkup our family pediatrician also addressed our sons possible developmental delay and encouraged us to contact Nevada Early Intervention Services. We chose Kideology for our program as they were the closest facility to us. Mikey didn't qualify at first, but they suggested we try again if his conditions further deteriorated or worsened. A few months later he was accepted into their program! Our service coordinator has been an absolute dream. She has helped us learn the necessary ways to teach our sweet boy that we just never would have thought of. She encouraged and lifted us up through the entire process and would go out of the way to help provide additional resources and help while sorting out his condition. Mikey was diagnosed with Autism.

I will never forget the day after a session with our service coordinator, I continued to work and play with Mikey and all of a sudden he began to sing the alphabet (we had been working on letter recognition and drawing!). It was such a huge milestone, and I was able to catch it on video to show her how all our hard work was coming to fruition!

Mikey was also provided speech therapy. He fell in love with his Therapist the second they met! Their relationship is truly special! I also have a special connection and relationship with her as she is a fellow special needs mother! She has been so influential in my life and has been one of my biggest cheerleaders!

It truly takes a village to raise a child, and I am deeply honored and thankful to have them in our village. They have been our teacher, therapist, advocate, friend, and are so deeply special to us! I know we would not be in the amazing place we are today without their help and guidance!

We are so proud to be able to say that Mikey just completed his first week of school, in the ESY program with Clark County School District. He has received excellent marks from his teacher and support staff! None of this would have been possible without Kideology, our Service Coordinator, and our Speech Therapist. Mikey has a bright exciting future ahead of him!" ~ Mom

<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.

"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)



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

www.cms.gov

Federal government site for information on Medicare, Medicaid, and Child Health Insurance.

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

August 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				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

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/>

October 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		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		

September 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7
8 Grandparents Day	9	10	11 Patriot Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 National POW/ MIA Recognition Day
22 First Day of Fall	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	<p>http://dphh.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 and those identified with hearing loss receive timely and appropriate audiological, educational and medical intervention. Left undetected, hearing loss in infants can negatively impact speech and language acquisition, academic achievement, and social and emotional development. When diagnosed early however, these negative impacts can be diminished and even eliminated through early intervention.</p>				

"This is Theo, or our Theosaures-Rex. He loves dinosaurs and just turned ONE!

His super power is Mosaic Down Syndrome. Which means he has less cells affected with the extra chromosomes (T21).

He is everything his Dad and I ever imagined. He is the light of our eyes. We are young parents and didn't expect it but we wouldn't change anything! Nothing is different and he will accomplish anything he puts his mind to!

Positively Kids have been so amazing to us, helping him reach his milestones! He is doing great and he will be great! We love you baby!"
~ 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**

<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.

www.ssa.gov/disability
Social Security's on-line Disability Benefits Programs information. The Social Security and Supplemental Security Income disability programs are the largest of several Federal programs that provide assistance to people with disabilities.

"...consistent evidence has been found indicating that comprehensive early intervention programs are able to prevent much of the decline in intellectual development for children with Down's syndrome that typically occurs during the first few years of life." — Guralnick, M. J. (2005). Journal Of Applied Research In Intellectual Disabilities



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

- [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](#)

September 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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/>

November 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					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

October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Nevada's Month for Children with Special Needs</i>		1 National Child Health Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Anniversary of PL 99.457 establishing Part C of IDEA (Early Intervention for Infants and Toddlers)	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 National Disability Mentoring Day	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Nevada Day	26
27 Make a Difference Day	28	29	30	31 Halloween	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.	

"Lucas has Achondroplasia, which is one of the most common forms of dwarfism. He is a little person with a huge personality.

Lucas has made excellent progress since starting with Early Intervention. His fine motor skills have increased. He is now more sociable. Early Intervention has given him the ability to be around and play with other children. Since starting to attend daycare part-time, his speech has improved and his word base has grown.

*I am incredibly appreciative for my son to have this opportunity to help his development. Everyone at Early Intervention has been supportive and helpful. Thank you."
~ Mom*



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**

<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.

"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]



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.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.

Adoption Awareness Month

American Diabetes Month

Child Safety Protection Month

National Epilepsy Awareness Month

National Family Caregivers Month

Prematurity Awareness Month

October 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		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		

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/>

December 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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				

November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<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>					1	2
3 Daylight Saving Time ends	4	5 Election Day	6	7	8	9
10	11 Veteran's Day	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 National Adoption Day	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving Day	29 Family Day Anniversary of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)	30

**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**

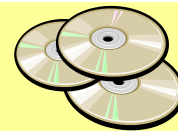
"Early intervention from Easterseals has helped Yaquelin and our Family grow closer together.

Yaquelin started with having many behaviors and was developmentally delayed as well as having almost no speech. With the help of Yaquelin's coordinator and therapists, she has achieved milestones that we didn't think she would meet in such a short time.

We are confident that without early intervention, none of this would have happened so soon. We are now able to go out as a family and understand her more than before. Of course all is not perfect, we have good days and bad, but we manage as best we can. Yaquelin is still improving every day and has made amazing growth. We appreciate everything that Easterseals has done to help our family. Thank you!" ~ Mom



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. 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

<http://parentingspecialneeds.org/>
Parenting Special Needs Magazine
is 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.

"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



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/

<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.

Safe Toys and Gifts Month

November 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					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 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			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 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities	4	5	6	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
Inclusive Schools Week						
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 First Day of Winter
22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28
29	30	31 New Year's Eve	<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 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/>

— **Agging and Disability Services Division - Early intervention**

http://adsd.nv.gov/Programs/InfantsToddlers/Infants_Toddlers/

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.



Brian Sandoval
Governor

Richard Whitley
Director, DHHS

