



IDEA Part C Fall-Winter Family Newsletter

November-December 2012 Volume 2 No 6

Message from Part C's State Family Resource Coordinator, Information & Referral..... *Happy Holidays*

Dear Parents/Families,

I learned about **IDEA** or the **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act**, the federal law ensuring services to children with disabilities, years ago when our son was born with his multiple disabilities, and have found the information useful at various times in his life.

IDEA governs how states and public agencies must provide early intervention, special education and related services to eligible infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities.

Infants and toddlers with disabilities (birth to 2) and their families receive early intervention services under **IDEA Part C**. Children and

youth (ages 3 to 21) receive special education and related services under IDEA Part B.

The U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) has a website with information regarding IDEA.

The "**Part C**" section was created to provide a "one-stop shop" for resources related to Part C of the IDEA and its implementing regulations. It is a "living" website and will change and grow as resources and information become available. When fully implemented, the site will provide searchable versions of IDEA and the regulations, access to cross-referenced content

from other laws, webinars on selected topics, non-regulatory guidance, links to OSEP's Technical Assistance and Dissemination (TA&D) Network, a Q&A Corner where you can submit questions, and a variety of other information sources. Please visit at:

<http://idea.ed.gov>

If you would like more information, please feel free to contact me at: ddinnell@adsd.nv.gov

Sincerely,
Dan Dinnell

PS. A Memoriam to Wendy Whipple is on the last page.



Cheryl, Eric and Dan

NEVADA's EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

IDEA Part C Office

3416 Goni Road,
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Carson City, NV 89706
Office: (775) 687-4210
Fax: (775) 687-0574

LIBRARY—There are a great many things to learn... check them out!!!

Library catalogue for other titles at — http://health.nv.gov/BEIS_SpecialEdLibrary.htm

***New DVD—"Parenting Children with Special Medical Needs"**

Discover highly effective yet easy-to-learn parenting techniques to help you raise happy, healthier children. You'll meet internationally-known parenting experts Foster W. Cline, M.D. and Charles Fay, Ph.D. as well as other professionals, parents, and children who share their experiences and insights about living with medical issues and chronic illness. Whether your child has allergies, asthma, a bleeding disorder, cystic fibrosis, diabetes, epilepsy, cancer, an injury, or any other health issue, you'll find essential parenting skills to help children of all ages cope well with challenges, adhere to medical requirements, and live a hope-filled life.

***New DVD—"Welcome to Holland: Resiliency in Families Raising Children with Special Needs"**

Welcome to Holland's title refers to an essay by Emily Pearl Kingsley who describes what it's like to raise a child with special needs. The title is based on the notion that parents are often caught off-guard and unprepared when their baby is born with a special need, not unlike a couple planning a trip to one country, say Italy, whose plane lands in another, in this case, Holland... they prepared for the wrong situation. The film follows the journeys of three families with special needs children as they share their stories and experiences. See how they became fierce advocates for their children in order to obtain the services needed for their children to flourish. Through parents' insight and shared experiences, viewers gain an understanding of how families nurture and care for children with special needs.

If you have questions or recommendations for the Library, please contact me at ddinnell@adsd.nv.gov

NORTHEASTERN NEVADA EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

* contact your Developmental Specialist/Service Coordinator for more information

⇒ ***Nevada Early Intervention Services—Elko:***

⇒ ***Nevada Early Intervention Services—Ely:***

NORTHWESTERN NEVADA EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

* contact your Developmental Specialist/Service Coordinator for more information

⇒ ***Advanced Pediatric Therapies—Reno:***

⇒ ***Easter Seals Nevada—Carson City:***

⇒ ***Nevada Early Intervention Services—Reno:***

Down Syndrome Network "Family Support Group" - Every 1st Tuesday of the month from 5:45 pm at NEIS. Call 775-682-9071 or e-mail dsnninfo@gmail.com to R.S.V.P.

Family TIES Family Support in filling out Medicaid/SSI and other Social Services applications every 2nd Monday from 10am-12noon at NEIS, by RSVP only! Please call Andrea at 775-323-2205 to RSVP.

Friends of Special Children is looking for new board members to join their non-profit organization that supports families in Early Intervention. This non-profit has supported families at NEIS in so many ways both financially and physically. If you are interested in being a part of this great cause, please contact Lori Schoen at 688-0379.

Hands and Voices meets at NEIS, Enterprise Rd., Sept 27th and the 4th Thursday of every other month at 6:00 pm.

Weekly Sign Language Classes by Nevada ASL, every 1st and 3rd Monday at 10:00 am, and every 2nd and 4th Monday at 11:15 am.

⇒ ***Nevada Early Intervention Services—Carson City:***

⇒ ***The Continuum—Reno:***

⇒ ***Therapy Management Group—Reno:***

SOUTHERN NEVADA EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

* contact your Developmental Specialist/Service Coordinator for more information

⇒ ***Easter Seals Nevada—Las Vegas:***

⇒ ***ISS "BABY STEPS"—Las Vegas:***

⇒ ***Kideology—Las Vegas:***

⇒ ***Nevada Early Intervention Services—Las Vegas:***

Milagros Escondidos, Spanish speaking family support group - Milagros Escondidos grupo de apoyo para familias o individuales con habilidades especiales. Reuniones cada cuarto Jueves de mes 6 pm - 8 pm 1161 S. Valley View-NEIS.

⇒ ***Positively Kids—Las Vegas:***

Positively Kids' **Annual Toy Drive**, date and location to be determined. Check with your Service Coordinator.

⇒ ***Therapy Management Group—Las Vegas:***



Abilities + Knowledge = Empowerment

Awareness day at the Nevada state legislators in Carson City. Our goal is to offer scholarships for people who live in rural communities or others who do not have the means to pay registration and travel costs. Family TIES will provide scholarship opportunity details later this year.

Please contact Mary Kay Altenburg, Family TIES Program Director and Conference Chair, at 775-823-9500 ext. 228 or email NDC2013@familytiesnv.org for additional conference information.

Or visit their website at: www.familytiesnv.org/

Family TIES of Nevada is collaborating with the Nevada State Health Division, the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, the University Center for Excellence in Disabilities, and People First of Nevada to present the **Nevada Disabilities Conference 2013** (NDC). This first-time event will provide an educational forum on topics like healthcare, transitions, independence, self-determination, and advocacy for individuals with developmental disabilities, special healthcare needs, or other disabilities; their families, caregivers, professionals, and self-advocates.

The conference will be held **March 19-22, 2013 at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno.** Conference highlights include an expanded Resource Fair and an

Nevada PEP, as the statewide Parent Training and Information Center, offers classes such as **"Families are Important"** for families to better understand Early Intervention, their Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) and the Transition process from Early Intervention into the community or school districts. In **"Skills for Effective Parent Advocacy"** participants will learn the importance of advocacy and effective strategies to help children with disabilities. Communication techniques will help you feel confident advocating for children. For more information on these and other classes, contact PEP statewide at 1-800-216-5188 or visit their website at: www.nvpep.org/

The National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities (NICHCY) - Aug-Sep 2012
THE LITTLE ONES: EARLY INTERVENTION/EARLY CHILDHOOD

"A goal without a plan is just a wish".
 - Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Enhancing Recognition of High-Quality, Functional IFSP Outcomes and IEP Goals

Here's a helpful resource from our friends at the National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center that includes useful examples and worksheets.

<http://tinyurl.com/cdgubcj>

Foundations of Transition for Young Children

This 8-minute video provides an overview of the desirable outcomes of transition, research identifying effective transition practices, as well as the legal requirements of early childhood transition.

<http://tinyurl.com/bnuwcv6>

Assistive Technology 101

This fact sheet from the Family Center on Technology and Disability introduces AT, gives examples of how different types of AT can help people with different kinds of disabilities, looks at how to choose the right AT device(s) for your child, and connects you to sources of more info on AT.

<http://www.fctd.info/factsheet/at101>

AT Solutions

Lots of info in this 11-pager: (1) Basic questions to consider when identifying AT devices well-suited for your child. (2) Illustrated examples of selected AT options. (3) Icons to indicate whether a device is high-tech, mid-tech, or low-tech. (4) A product list with vendor information.

http://www.fctd.info/assets/assets/21/AT_solutions-may2012.pdf

About brothers and sisters

This series of articles looks at the challenges and triumphs of siblings of kids with special needs, with book excerpts and reviews that focus on their sibling issues.

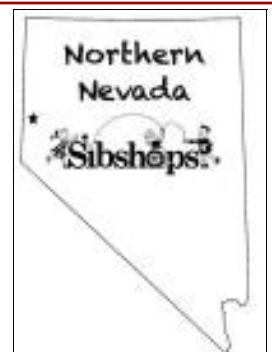
<http://specials.about.com/service/newsletters/specialchildren/1342188000.htm>

(*new) **Nevada Sibling Network**

Dedicated to the needs of all brothers and sisters of kids with disabilities in Nevada.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Nevada-Sibling-Network/236451163069535>

Most siblings of children with disability experience a wide range of emotional reactions, both positive and negative. Acknowledging and discussing their feelings, and just giving them space to be themselves, can often help.



FREE... Enrollment in the national **EARLY INTERVENTION FAMILY ALLIANCE (EIFA)** to *all families* who have a child in early intervention! **Keep informed! Obtain Answers! Impact Policies!**

The Early Intervention Family Alliance is a national group of family leaders dedicated to improving outcomes for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families, open to all.

Members receive email alerts and updates on key early intervention topics and can join the EIFA *list serve* to participate in active discussions and share experiences. Web: www.eifamilyalliance.org

The Part C Family Newsletter has opportunities to suggest and share... You are invited to submit articles, share your story, or include your child in a Family Spotlight, with a photo. (All items are subject to editing and review.)

IMPORTANT! From the **National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities (NICHCY)**

Parent's Record-Keeping Worksheet [<http://nichcy.org/babies/overview>]

The sample record-keeping worksheet can help you start a file of information about your child. As you contact different people and places, it's a good idea to keep records of people you've talked with and what was said. As time goes by, you will want to add other information to your file, such as: Letters and notes (from doctors, therapists, etc.); medical records and reports; results of tests and evaluations; notes from meetings about your child; therapist reports; IFSP and IEP records; your child's developmental history, including personal notes or diaries on your child's development; records of shots and vaccinations; and family medical histories.

The Parent's Record-Keeping Worksheet is available online at:

<http://www.nichcy.org/wp-content/uploads/docs/recordkeeping.pdf>

Make sure you get copies of all written information about your child (records, reports, etc.). This will help you become an important coordinator of services and a better advocate for your child. Remember, as time goes on, you'll probably have more information to keep track of, so it's a good idea to keep it together in one place.

Project ASSIST is Nevada's Central Directory and computer database of Nevada agencies, organizations, and programs that serve children or young adults with disabilities up to age 21, and their families.

Information available on: parent support groups, education, health, and social services, training, advocacy organizations, financial and legal assistance, and many other services.

For more information call toll free at **1-800-522-0066** or email **ddinnell@adsd.nv.gov**

In Memoriam — Many of you may already know that the Part C Early Intervention program recently lost one of its most respected leaders and champions. Wendy Whipple suffered a stroke and passed away August 22nd, 2012. Wendy worked tirelessly for 20+ years in early intervention in Nevada, and served as the State's Part C Coordinator for most of those years, until December 2011. Since January 2012, Wendy had been employed at the Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center as a technical assistance consultant for improving programs and services to infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities in several states.

We will always be grateful for her many years of dedicated service to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families, as well as her vast knowledge and support to staff. A friend to families, children with disabilities, and always a supportive colleague with all who worked in that arena, Wendy will be deeply missed.

Wendy was an avid gardener and a tree is being planted in her honor at Nevada Early Intervention Services NW in Reno.



www.health.nv.gov/BEIS.htm

Nevada's Early Intervention website is filled with information and resources, including a "Links" page of all kinds of useful websites with information, and a Frequently Asked Questions page.

To receive the newsletter electronically and to make sure you don't miss out on useful information, please send your e-mail address to Dan Dinnell at ddinnell@adsd.nv.gov

