



IDEA Part C Winter Family Newsletter

January-February 2013 Volume 3 No 1

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

Dear Parents/Families,

The **Nevada Disabilities Conference** is coming this March and I hope many of you will consider attending.

A few of the wonderful things about attending a conference is that you go to a place where there is excitement, learning, fun, making connections, and always having a new experience.

The two most important learning activities in attending a conference; 1) to listen to presentations, and 2) to converse with other attendees.

Listening to presentations will help you learn and

inform you of what others know or are doing. It will also expose you to different ideas, and may inspire ideas of your own. Feel free at sessions to introduce yourself and ask a thoughtful question about some issue that you would like to know more about or find interesting.

You'll learn that even though listening to presentations is valuable, hallway or mealtime conversations can also be very interesting and fruitful. You'll see lots of people doing this, standing in hallways or during meals talking to others who also

share the same goals and interests. Do everything you can to cultivate these small and yet often critical conversations—this can be a highlight to a wonderful conference experience.

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

Sincerely,
Dan Dinnell

PS. Check out the **Nevada Disabilities Conference 2013** on the next page.



Cheryl, Eric and Dan

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Often there are resources available to help cover the costs of transportation, hotels, meals, and registration for families to be able to attend conferences ...

2013 NEVADA DISABILITIES CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS!!!

Scholarships for NDC 2013 will be offered to ensure that people with developmental disabilities /self-advocates and family members in Nevada who may find it a financial hardship to attend are able to participate and learn from the experience*. These will be issued on a first come, first served basis upon eligibility determination. Go to: <http://nvdiseabilitiesconference.org/> and then the **Link** to the **Scholarship Page**

***Professionals and government personnel are not eligible for NDC 2013 scholarships.**

There are also **CONSUMER LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FUNDS** available for families or individuals to attend conferences provided by the Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities. Go to: <http://www.nevadaddcouncil.org/> and then the Link to **DOWNLOADS** where you can access the paperwork for the Consumer Leadership Development Fund Applications.

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/

NEVADA Disabilities

CONFERENCE 2013

Abilities + Knowledge = Empowerment

Current Sponsors

**Family TIES of Nevada, People First of Nevada,
Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities,
Nevada State Health Division, Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities
Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center
The Arc Nevada**

**March 19-22, 2013
Grand Sierra Resort
Reno, NV**

- Conference will open on Tuesday, March 19 with registration, a resource fair & reception
- The program will open Wednesday, March 20 with a keynote address
- Educational Sessions will continue all day Wednesday and Thursday
- NDC Awareness Day excursion to Carson City Legislature will be Friday morning, March 22
- Special hotel rates are available for those staying through the weekend

LOOK FOR THE WEBSITE ONLINE!

Nvdisabilitiesconference.org

This is a great learning opportunity for administrators, healthcare professionals, educators, students, caregivers, advocates, policymakers, service providers, families and individuals affected by disabilities or special health care needs. This event will provide an educational forum on topics like healthcare, education, building community, transitions, futures planning, independent living, recreation, Assistive Technology, self-determination, respite, and advocacy. Conference Highlights include an expanded Resource Fair and a visit to the Nevada State Legislature in Carson City.

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 Kati or Shauna 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:***

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:***

We are happy to announce that Henderson Child Neurologist Dr. Ahad will now be working with Positively Kids two days a month. If you would like your child to be evaluated for Autism please call 702-262-0037 and ask for Sally.

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

Nevada’s Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is proposing to consolidate disability services into one agency. DHHS will be transferring Developmental Services (DS) from the Mental Health Services Division (MHDS), and Early Intervention Services (NEIS) from the Health Division to the Aging and Disability Services Division.

These programs have a similar service delivery model for delivering high quality, community based services that are person/family directed and provide individualized choice.

It is hoped that this integration will provide a seamless transition between service areas and across the lifespan as well as focus on developing a system of care which utilizes all available resources to deliver effective supports in a timely manner.

The Divisions of Aging and Disability Services, Mental Health and Developmental Services and Health will continue to partner with consumers, staff, community providers and partners to assure input from all interested parties. Consumers, staff and community partners will have an opportunity to participate in facilitated focus groups, on-line surveys, and town hall style meetings throughout Nevada to assist in creating the vision for the integrated division and to develop a transition plan for implementation.

Keep looking for more information from your Early Intervention programs. . .

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.)

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) - Nov-Dec 2012
THE LITTLE ONES: EARLY INTERVENTION/EARLY CHILDHOOD

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

Basics of Early Intervention training module.

It's finally done—**Module 1** of the training curriculum on Part C of IDEA (early intervention), that is. This module will help you train staff **and families** on the 8 basic steps in the early intervention process, 7 acronyms to know, and 9 key definitions in Part C. Produced in a collaboration between OSEP and NICHCY, the module includes gorgeous 4-color slideshows, trainer guides, and handouts and activity sheets for participants. <http://nichcy.org/laws/idea/legacy/partc/module1>

Special Needs Parenting: 12 Tips for Managing Challenging Behavior

Managing behavior that is challenging can be very stressful for parents of children and adults with special needs. But it's important to see it as a form of communication. This blog offers 12 tips to help parents and families to handle challenging behavior. <http://tinyurl.com/cv6opul>

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

"The Elephant in the Playroom", by Denise Brodey. In *The Elephant in the Playroom*, moms and dads from across the country write intimately and honestly about the joyful highs and disordered lows of raising children who are "not quite normal." Laying bare the emotional, medical, and social challenges they face, their stories address issues ranging from if and when to medicate a child, to how to get a child who is overly sensitive to the texture of food to eat lunch. Eloquent and honest, the voices in this collection will provide solace and support for the millions of parents whose kids struggle with ADD, ADHD, sensory disorders, childhood depression, Asperger's syndrome, and autism—as well as the many kids who fall between diagnoses.

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

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



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

