



IDEA Part C Winter-Spring Family Newsletter

March-April 2013 Volume 3 No 2

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

Dear Parents/Families,

"We are proud parents of five children. Our only son was born in 1999 with Down Syndrome. This experience has opened the door for many opportunities to learn and to help others with disabilities." - a Nevada parent

Through participation and involvement, you can become an advocate for your child's needs as they grow up and become a part of the community. Years ago I was taught that there was a "bigger picture" out there and that as a parent of a child who received early intervention

services I had real power in my voice and actions.

There are many ways that you and your family can get involved with Early Intervention Services beyond the services and support activities specifically designed for you. There are councils, commissions, committees, and subcommittees where you can: 1) Provide valuable input from a parent's perspective, 2) Assist in the development of program policies, and 3) Help shape and create a better system for children receiving Early Intervention Services!

When you are involved, you gain experience in

communication as well as leadership and it helps you to get useful information and answers to questions you may have.

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 dramatic difference!

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

Sincerely,
Dan Dinnell



Cheryl, Eric and Dan

NEVADA'S EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES
IDEA Part C Office
3416 Goni Road,
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Office: (775) 687-4210
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Along with about 40 informational sessions/workshops and a resource fair, see page 2 for more information!



One of the KEYNOTE Speakers for the NEVADA DISABILITIES CONFERENCE 2013. . .

Angela N. Amado, Ph.D.

- **Research Associate**, Institute on Community Integration, University of Minnesota
- **Executive Director**, Human Services Research & Development Center
- **Staff**, Research and Training Center on Community Living

Angela Novak Amado works to support communities to be fully inclusive of all people. She has worked in the field of disability and community services for over 30 years in a variety of capacities, including national research, international consulting, and state government. She knows how inclusion, participation and involvement for people with disabilities can lead to better functional skills, reduced depression, and reduced challenging behaviors. She has conducted training about friendships between people with developmental disabilities and ordinary community members in more than 30 states, Canada, the Netherlands, and Israel. She has written key books on inclusion of people with disabilities into the community, and conducted trainings across the country concerning inclusion, person-centered planning, self-determination, and system design.

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, NEIS—IDEA Part C Office**

**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

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—2667 Enterprise Road, Reno. Call (775) 682-9071 or e-mail dsnnninfo@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.

RAVE - will be joining Family TIES every 2nd Monday at NEIS, to help families in completing the respite care application.

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 (775) 688-0379.

Hands and Voices is meeting on March 21st at the DHHARC building at 1150 Corporate Blvd., Suite 1, Reno from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. (Childcare is provided!) If you require an ASL or Spanish interpreter, please call 48-hours in advance to (775) 351-1959. This group will return to NEIS, on May 16th same time and details.

The Journey is a new writing group for families with children with disabilities. They are meeting at NEIS, on February 28th and then again on April 25th from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Contact Mary Bryant at (775) 784-4921, for more information.

DHHARC (Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advocacy Center) is providing sign classes. All classes started on January 28th and end on May 13th. You can attend at anytime and do not need to be at the first class to come. The first class is “BEGINNER’S CLASS” and is held at NEIS. It is from 5:30 – 6:30 pm and childcare is available. If you have any questions regarding any of these classes, please contact Kitty Edwards at (775) 355-8994.

- ⇒ [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:](#)

The Early Intervention Program at Easter Seals Nevada is hosting **playgroups** on Fridays. Come Join the Fun! For more information call or email Ella Philander, 702.428-4335 or ella.philander@eastersealsnevada.org

Form your teams now for **Walk With Me 2013** at www.walkwithme.org/lasvegas! Help make a difference in the life a child or adult with a disability when you walk with us on March 23.

- ⇒ [ISS “BABY STEPS”—Las Vegas:](#)
- ⇒ [Kideology—Las Vegas:](#)
- ⇒ [Nevada Early Intervention Services—Las Vegas:](#)
- ⇒ [Positively Kids—Las Vegas:](#)

We are happy to announce that child neurologist, Dr. Ahad, will be seeing children at our Cunningham Clinic starting in March. For more information please call (702) 262-0037 and ask for Sally

- ⇒ [Therapy Management Group—Las Vegas:](#)

***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 EIFA is a national leadership organization 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.)

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/

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

"Chicken Soup for the Soul: Children with Special Needs", by Jack Canfield, et al. Raising a child with special needs is a lifelong commitment that is as unique as each person who embarks on it. Written by a variety of authors who share in this distinctive relationship, *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Children with Special Needs* offers a glimpse into the lives of others who are on a similar path. These stories provide insight, comfort, and connection with others who have walked this powerful and transformational journey.

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

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Zach Anner, 26, is a comedian and cultural satirist, who has cerebral palsy.

After graduating from high school with honors and a GED, Zach attended college at the University of Texas at Austin. There he worked on the sketch comedy show *That's Awesome*, the documentary show *The Wingmen*, and the documentary *Forgotten Lives*. Zach has released several witty on-line videos causing him to become an Internet phenomenon.



Anner has been featured in *Time*, *Newsweek*, and various magazines, and has been interviewed by dozens of national news organizations including ABC and Fox News.

Anner gained worldwide attention with his submission of a video to *Oprah's Search for the Next TV Star* competition. After participating in the competition Zach won his own Travel show on OWN. On *Rollin' With Zach*, Anner travels the country, pushing his limits as he tries everything from surfing to rock climbing. And when things don't go as planned, Zach embraces the problem with his sharp sense of humor and a positive attitude, because he believes life is an adventure and sometimes you just have to "roll with it"! Singer-musician John Mayer endorsed Zach from the beginning and wrote an original theme song for Zach's new show.



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

