



IDEA Part C Spring-Summer Family Newsletter

May-June 2013 Volume 3 No 3

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

Dear Parents/Families,
Have you thought of getting more involved in your early intervention program? Would you like to "give back" to the program? Would you like to help another parent or child? Would you like to have input in local and state planning and policy decisions that affect young children with disabilities? There are lots of opportunities for you!

Your early intervention program may have a family support group or work with an organization that does. This is a wonderful way to "give back" to the program.

Nevada's Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) was set up to advise and assist Nevada in the

development and implementation of a statewide system of early intervention services for young children with developmental delays or disabilities and their families. If you would like more information about meetings or how to submit public comments to the Council please contact me.

Nevada's ICC also has a Family Support Resource Subcommittee. 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.

The IDEA Part C Family Newsletter provides opportunities for families to share by submitting articles, sharing their story, or including their child in a Family Spotlight, with a photo. (All items are subject to editing and review.)

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,
Bldg. D, Ste 132
Carson City, NV 89706
Office: (775) 687-4210
Fax: (775) 687-0574

Mothers Day is May 12

From the on-line blog "Children With Special Needs" - <http://specialchildren.about.com>
[Love Notes for Special Parents](#)

Print out one or a bunch of these messages of appreciation for everything you do and all the ways you've grown as a parent. They're good to tack up next to your computer to make sure you never forget how awesome you are.



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

Toilet Training for Children with Special Needs, (DVD)

Curriculum developed by Dr. Susan Hepburn, Clinical Psychologist and Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Colorado Denver, JFK Partners is presented, as well as vignettes taking viewers through the toilet training process. Provides an overview of practical toilet training techniques and core principles for success. Concludes with a parent's perspective on the techniques presented and words of wisdom for other parents going through the toilet training process.

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—Reno:***

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

Down Syndrome Network "Family Support Group" - Usually every 1st Tuesday of the month from 5:45 pm at NEIS-Enterprise. 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-Enterprise, by RSVP only! Please call Kati or Shauna at 775-823-9500 to RSVP.

RAVE will also have Respite Applications available every 2nd Monday from 10am-12noon at NEIS-Enterprise.

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, contact Lori Schoen at 688-0379.

Also, Scholarship Applications for the Terry Lee Wells Nevada Discovery Museum are available by calling Lori Schoen, NEIS Supervisor, at 775-688-0379 or email address: lschoen@health.nv.gov

Hands and Voices meets at NEIS, Enterprise Rd., May 16th 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, NEIS-Enterprise

"Writing Our Journey" is a group designed to encourage family caregivers to express themselves through writing. Learn to tell your story in the written language with the Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities. April 25 & June 27, at 6:00 PM., NEIS-Enterprise. For more information contact Diana Rovetti at 682-9063 or email at rovetti@unr.edu

⇒ ***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

⇒ ***ISS "BABY STEPS"—Las Vegas:***

⇒ ***Kideology—Las Vegas:***

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

⇒ ***Positively Kids—Las Vegas:***

We are happy to announce Child Neurologist Dr. Ahad has joined Positively Kids. If you would like your child to be evaluated for Autism or have other neurological concerns please call Sally Cannon at 702-577-3104 to schedule an appointment.

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)** [<http://nichcy.org/>] is pleased to connect you with their educational module ***Building the Legacy for Our Youngest Children with Disabilities*** [<http://nichcy.org/laws/idea/legacy/partc>]. This module is part of a training package on the Part C regulations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, as amended in 2004. This training curriculum provides a detailed discussion of the Part C regulations as published in the Federal Register on September 28, 2011. The information in these modules is not a substitute for the requirements reflected in the IDEA statute and Part C regulations.

How Early Intervention Changed Our Family

"When our son, Jack, was born with Down syndrome, we had very little knowledge of the alphabet soup of services that would be available to our new baby: PT, OT, SLP, SCC, IFSP, IEP, IDEA, NEIS, ICC. After being experienced parents to three daughters age 7, 8 and 10, we knew raising a son with Down syndrome would be challenging and most likely an overwhelming experience.

When Jack was six-weeks-old, he began receiving services from Nevada Early Intervention Services, NEIS, then called the Special Children's Clinic. We were thankful for the much-needed support, but we still did not understand the early intervention system. We were unsure how to navigate it to get the most out of it for our new baby boy.

We started attending support group meetings for parents of babies with Down syndrome. Our three daughters attended Sibshops for siblings of kids with special needs. Attending functions gave us some of the information and support that we needed to be effective parents of a baby with special needs--but we knew there was more out there.

We requested to be, and were appointed by the governor to serve on the Nevada Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC). The Council is made up of department heads and leaders of government agencies that serve babies, age birth to three, with special needs. This was the Mother Lode of who's-who of people we needed to know. Being on this Council, we could get information and help directly from department heads--and we frequently did. When someone couldn't help us, they would give us the name and phone number of someone who could.

We became trained members of the Volunteering Visiting Parents at Family TIES of Nevada and the Down Syndrome Network of Northern Nevada. Diana also went through and graduated from an eight-month training course called Partners in Policymaking.

We don't volunteer for everything and we don't accept every opportunity that comes our way. We do things we find interesting or challenging, or things that we believe will help Jack in the long run. We're happy, and Jack is doing very well.



We believe there are those who make things happen, those who watch things happen, and those who wonder what happened. Our advice to parents with children with special needs--get involved! Make things happen for your child. There are plenty of opportunities. Getting involved can change your family too for the better!"

Top five reasons to volunteer your time to programs:

1. Get to know the system
2. Develop relationships with people who work in or are in charge of the system
3. Get to know what services are available and how to get those services
4. Meet other parents
5. Provide valuable input to improve services for other families

~ David and Diana Rovetti

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 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.)



FREE – National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Access Pass

This is a **lifetime** pass for **U.S. citizens/permanent residents with permanent disabilities**. Documentation is required to obtain the pass. The pass in most cases provides free access to, and use of, Federal recreation sites that charge an Entrance fee. The pass admits the pass holder and passengers in a non-commercial vehicle at per vehicle fee areas, and pass holder + 3 adults, not to exceed 4 adults, at per person fee areas (children under 16 are admitted free). **The pass can only be obtained in person at the park or from a participating Federal recreation site or office.**

For more information, visit... <http://store.usgs.gov/pass/access.html>

What is Respite?

Respite is an occasional break that is given to a person who provides care to someone they love. These breaks can be short or long. It might just be a few hours so the caregiver can go shopping, visit friends, or see a movie. It might be a day or two, so the caregiver can tend to personal business or get away for a weekend. Or, it might be a week or two, so that the caregiver can take a vacation and "recharge their batteries."

Nevada Lifespan Respite Care Program

3416 Goni Road, Bldg. D #132
Carson City, NV 89706
Phone: 775-687-0561 / Fax: 775-687-0574

This ADRC website may help you to find respite resources.

<http://www.nevadaadrc.com/services-and-programs/lifespan-respite>



What is [Benefits.gov](http://www.benefits.gov)?

- The official benefits website of the U.S. government
- Informs citizens of benefits they may be eligible for
- Provides information on how to apply for assistance

Family TIES directs Nevada's Family-to-Family Healthcare Information and Education Center and provides statewide support to families of children and youth with special health care needs by:

- Assisting families as they navigate public and private systems, including health systems and insurance plans,
- Assisting families in accessing services and resources for their children and in partnering with providers and caregivers,
- Listening to families as they describe their encounters with systems and helping guide them to possible solutions,
- Working with families, health care providers, public and private agencies, and advocacy or support groups to promote family-centered care and medical homes for children with special health care needs,
- Promoting discussion and linkages among families, providers, managed care programs, and government to better serve the health care and related needs of children and families in Nevada.

For information call **1-866-326-8437** or visit their web site: <http://www.familytiesnv.org/>

Fathers Day is June 16

A **Guide for Dads** is available from your service coordinator or on the NEIS web site at:

<http://health.nv.gov/PDFs/BEIS/Publications/AGUIDEforNVDADS.pdf>

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

