



IDEA Part C Summer to Fall Family Newsletter

September-October 2013 Volume 3 No 5

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

Dear Parents/Families. . . An opportunity to attend and participate

MEETING NOTICE

STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL (ICC)

Date and Time of Meeting: **Thursday, October 10, at 9:00 a.m.**

Meeting will be held via Video-Conference at the Following Locations:

- **Elko:** Nevada Early Intervention Services
1020 Ruby Vista Drive, Conference Room
- **Las Vegas:** Nevada Early Intervention Services
1161 South Valley View Blvd., Conference Room
- **Reno:** Nevada Early Intervention Services
2667 Enterprise, Conference Room

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. Families are encouraged to participate.

If you would like more information about attending meetings or how to submit public comments to the Council please contact Dan Dinnell at: ddinnell@dhhs.nv.gov or at Project ASSIST 1-800-522-0066

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

www.health.nv.gov/BEIS.htm

More Resources... More Information... More Opportunities...

The **Early Childhood Center Technical Assistance Center** is the national center for Improving Systems, Practices and Outcomes (ECTA Center)

Welcome, families!

We have 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 — <http://ectacenter.org/families.asp>

The **NATIONAL DISSEMINATION CENTER FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (NICHCY)** — <http://nichcy.org/>

THE LITTLE ONES: EARLY INTERVENTION/EARLY CHILDHOOD—

Overview of early intervention.

This page covers **what** it is, **who** is eligible, **how** to access services in your state, **who pays** for the services, and more — <http://nichcy.org/babies/overview>

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.]

Changes In Early Intervention

On July 1st the 2013 Legislative Session closed. Many changes occurred during this session, including the integration of key Division sections:

- The Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services (MHDS) was separated so that Mental Health Services have been integrated into the Health Division, creating the Division of Public and Behavioral Health
- Developmental Services, which was within (MHDS) and Early Intervention Services (EIS), which was within the Health Division, have been integrated into the Aging and Disability Services Division

Early Intervention Services is budgeted an additional \$1.9 million in FY14 and \$4.0 million in FY15 for caseload growth. The number of children served is projected to increase from 2,838 on June 30, 2012, to 3,163 as of June 30, 2014, and 3,484 as of June 30, 2015. Thirty-Eight (38) positions were added to allow the agency to serve 50% of the caseload. Community Providers will continue to serve 50% of the cases.

This additional funding comes at a critical time as the federal government cut federal dollars allocated to states based on sequestration. Across ADSD there was a total of \$2.1 million in cuts based on sequestration, with \$397,211 effecting EIS and the Part C office. Based on other factors, the Part C office had to decrease its grant application by approximately another \$140,000.

With funding challenges, as well as other factors, Nevada has struggled to meet the continued need for disability services and provide appropriate oversight of communities providers. With this integration, ADSD is planning the following improvements over the biennium to meet the needs of people who are served as well as create service efficiencies:

- Standardize caseload projections
- Consistent provider deliverables
- Integrated case management system
- Consolidated policy, including prioritization
- Strategic plan with stakeholder input

As part of the integration efforts approved by legislators the IDEA Part C office has moved into the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) under the Director's Office. Additional information about the integration of service entities/divisions can be found at: <http://www.dhhs.nv.gov>.

Over the next several months, changes will be made to applicable websites across DHHS. As changes are made, information will be placed on the DHHS website in the Integration Information section. If you cannot locate information, please check on updates as to where information has been moved. Although email addresses may change, you can currently contact Dan Dinnell at ddinnell@dhhs.nv.gov or Laura Valentine at lavalentine@dhhs.nv.gov.

Laura A. Valentine, Part C Coordinator
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3416 Goni Road, Bldg D Suite 132
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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!**

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

EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM ACTIVITIES OR EVENTS FOR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

NORTHEASTERN NEVADA EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

* contact your Developmental Specialist/Service Coordinator for more information

⇒ **Nevada Early Intervention Services—Elko:** (775) 753-1214

⇒ **Nevada Early Intervention Services—Ely:** (775) 289-1622

NORTHWESTERN NEVADA EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

* contact your Developmental Specialist/Service Coordinator for more information

⇒ **Advanced Pediatric Therapies—Reno:** (775) 825-4744

⇒ **Easter Seals Nevada—Reno:** (775) 434-0488

Easter Seals has **Play Groups under construction...** We are excited to announce playgroups for our families, three times a week starting in September, at 5250 Neil Road, Suite 200. If you are interested in more information, please feel free to contact our office or Tami Nichols, Developmental Specialist, at 775-354-9493. See you all soon!

⇒ **Nevada Early Intervention Services—Reno:** (775) 688-1341

Annual **"Trick or Treat Event & Community Fair"** at NEIS on October 29th, from 3:00 – 5:00 pm.

Down Syndrome Network "Family Support Group" - Usually every 1st Tuesday of the month [except for Summer months activities] from 5:45 pm at NEIS-Enterprise. Call 775-682-9071 or e-mail dsnninfo@gmail.com to R.S.V.P.

Family TIES provides 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.

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

⇒ **Nevada Early Intervention Services—Carson City:** (775) 687-0101

⇒ **The Continuum—Reno:** (775) 829-4700

⇒ **Therapy Management Group—Reno:** Toll Free (877) 360-7045

SOUTHERN NEVADA EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

* contact your Developmental Specialist/Service Coordinator for more information

⇒ **Easter Seals Nevada—Las Vegas:** (702) 870-7050

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:** (702) 741-7440

⇒ **Kideology—Las Vegas:** (702) 508-0908

⇒ **Nevada Early Intervention Services—Las Vegas:** (702) 486-9200

⇒ **Positively Kids—Las Vegas:** (702) 262-0037

Come and join us for our annual fundraiser, **Duck Derby!!!** October 12th at Town Square. Lots of fun for the entire family! Contact Positively Kids for more information at (702) 262-0037

⇒ **Therapy Management Group—Las Vegas:** (702) 595-5437

Has **moved** their office to 6600 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 111, Las Vegas, NV 89146

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/

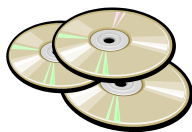
EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION LIBRARY—

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

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

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 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.

Great Video!!!



"A Child with Special Needs" – Hosted by Sylvester Stallone, 30 minutes. This DVD features numerous families with special needs children who share their personal stories in order to help other families understand the experiences, emotions and challenges they will encounter. Doctors, legal advisors, educators, and special needs workers also offer guidance and encouragement to help parents cope and become the best possible advocate for their child. This video provides information on: What to do when you find out that your child has a special need / Moving from confusion and grief to acceptance and empowerment / Finding answers and getting help / Speaking up as your child's best advocate / The importance of looking beyond the diagnosis / Focusing on your child's unique strengths .

These library materials are available for use statewide. For more information, contact your service provider or coordinator. If you have questions or recommendations for the Library, please contact me at Project ASSIST **1-800-522-0066** or ddinnell@adsd.nv.gov



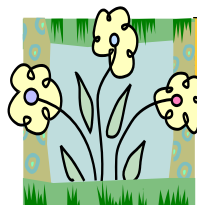
Save the Date! Fathers & Families Coalition of America—15th National Fatherhood & Families Conference in Las Vegas, NV. February 10-14, 2014. Westin Lake Las Vegas Spa & Resort Hotel. More information will follow in the next edition. . .

Web: <http://fathersandfamiliescoalition.org/national-conference-2014>

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 more information call **1-866-326-8437** or visit their web site at: <http://www.familytiesnv.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@dhhs.nv.gov

