



## Nevada Early Intervention Winter Family Newsletter

January – February 2019 Volume 9 No 1

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

Dear Parents/Families,

We know from research that the first three years of a child's life are important in forming the foundation for later growth and development.

We also know from research that parent participation in early intervention is very important, because the largest amount of a child's time is spent with the parent, rather than the therapist.

"Some simple calculations indicate that a twice-a-week hourly intervention or therapy, in the absence of parent involvement, accounts for only 2% of the total waking hours of a 1-year-old child (Roffwarg, Muzio & Dement, 1966), hardly enough time for any kind of intervention to make a meaningful difference in a child's life." (C. Dunst CASEinPoint, 2006 Vol. 2, Nbr. 2)

An early intervention professional who shows a parent the importance of everyday learning opportunities within their community or home will be able to increase a child's abilities and skills much more than one who depends entirely on an hour or two of therapy each week.

And when parents learn those strategies that will also help encourage the development of their children during daily routines, they are able to "teach" their children when the therapists are not around.

Read your Parent Handbook, and if you have questions contact us at: [ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov](mailto:ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov) or 1-800-522-0066

Sincerely,  
Dan Dinnell



Cheryl, Eric, and Dan

NEVADA'S EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

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To receive the newsletter electronically contact us!

[ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov](mailto:ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov)

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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.)

Dear Parents/Families,

**An invitation to attend...**

### NEVADA'S EARLY INTERVENTION INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL (ICC)

Nevada's **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. It is especially important to hear from families and we encourage you to participate. Selected dates for the next few meetings:

**Thursday—January 17, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.** (video conference)

Where: usually via video conference in Carson, Elko, Las Vegas and Reno.

**Thursday—April 19, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.** (annual face-to-face meeting in Reno)

Always check the meeting agendas for locations, times and changes—posted at:

<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ICC/Meetings/>

The ICC bylaws and membership can be viewed at

<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ICC/Home/>

under "Who is on the ICC?", click on **Current Membership**.

For information contact us at [ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov](mailto:ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov) or 1-800-522-0066

# Been there, done that!



*"When a family enrolls their child in early intervention services they enter a whole new realm of possibilities and learning opportunities. Throughout this process it is essential to give parents a voice in order to improve services and make them even more specific for their child. Not only do parents know their child best, they are their number one advocate from the time of birth. State boards like the Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) are the perfect place for parents to share their experiences, gain knowledge and help their family, as well as many others throughout their community.*

*As a mother of two children who have received and greatly benefited from Nevada Early Intervention Services, I am very excited to participate on the ICC.*

*Throughout my over six years of parenting I have learned so much by joining various groups and finding appropriate support to help meet*

*both of my sons' needs. By becoming a proactive and involved parent, we can improve the services and opportunities for all of the children in our state!" ~ Candace Emerson, Nevada ICC Parent Representative*

## **Center on Technology and Disability (CTD)**

The CTD website: [www.ctdinstitute.org](http://www.ctdinstitute.org) has a resource library with over 1,000 assistive technology related materials, a webinar center, and a learning center with interactive modules.

Practical advice from **Exceptional Parent online magazine** <<http://www.eparent.com/>>

Parents of children with disabilities and special healthcare needs face both the reality of raising any child and the reality of the additional responsibilities that come from raising children with special needs. This article from e-Parent discusses why it's so important for caregivers to take care of *themselves* and gives valuable suggestions and tips.

<http://www.eparent.com/healthcare-2/the-resilient-caregiver/>

**Nevada Parent Advocacy Initiative:** By Parents, for Parents—It's all the insider information about Nevada's Early Intervention Services System in one common place. This project consists of a parent **Facebook** ([www.nvparents.com/fb](http://www.nvparents.com/fb)) support page for families with children in Early Intervention Services, information to give parents the basic knowledge they need to access and utilize services effectively, and a website that shares with everyone. **Early Intervention Parents Nevada** is a place for all parents of children with disabilities to connect. Please post your personal stories, questions about your child's development and/or disability, questions about Early Intervention programs, great parenting articles you've come across, community resources and events at

[www.nvparents.com](http://www.nvparents.com)

Child Care Centers and ADA, or what is known as the **Americans with Disabilities Act** . . .

Almost all child care providers, regardless of size or number of employees, must comply with Title III of the ADA. Even small, home-based centers that may not have to follow some State laws are covered by Title III.

The ADA requires that child care providers not discriminate against persons with disabilities on the basis of disability, that is, that they provide children with disabilities with an equal opportunity to participate in the child care center's programs and services.

Specifically:

- ◇ Centers cannot exclude children with disabilities from their programs unless their presence would pose a direct threat to the health or safety of others or require a fundamental alteration of the program.
- ◇ Centers have to make reasonable modifications to their policies and practices to integrate children, parents, and guardians with disabilities into their programs unless doing so would constitute a fundamental alteration.
- ◇ Centers must provide appropriate auxiliary aids and services needed for effective communication with children or adults with disabilities, when doing so would not constitute an undue burden.
- ◇ Centers must generally make their facilities accessible to persons with disabilities. Existing facilities are subject to the readily achievable standard for barrier removal, while newly constructed facilities and any altered portions of existing facilities must be fully accessible.

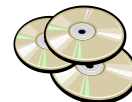
For more information – <https://www.ada.gov/> or <https://www.ada.gov/childqanda.htm>



— For Families & Professionals —

## **FREE LENDING LIBRARY**

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



**"Laying Community Foundations for Your Child with a Disability"** This practical guide shows families how to establish a network of people who can provide lasting relationships for their children, and the importance of beginning the process as early as possible in the life of their child. It emphasizes the need to begin now to build a caring community of people who will provide emotional support and guidance for your child throughout their life. Chapters discuss: • how to assess your child's needs & interests • how to navigate the human side of estate planning • how to foster long-term relationships for your child • where to look for potential relationships • how to ask people for a commitment • independent living arrangements.

**"The Special Needs Planning Guide: How to Prepare for Every Stage of Your Child's Life"** (includes **CD-ROM**) The authors (who also have family members with special needs) give parents a chronological guide for each stage of financial planning from birth to adulthood. Parents will get comprehensive advice and strategies on how to address: *financial factors—legal factors—government factors—family and support factors—emotional factors.*

**"Successfully Parenting Your Baby with Special Needs" (DVD)** This video explains: Early Intervention; The Process of Diagnosis and Referral; How a Child is Evaluated; Creating an Individualized Family Service Plan; How to Access Available Resources and Services; Preparing for Transitions. This program was a winner of the Parents' Choice Award.

**"Parenting Children with Special Medical Needs" (2 DVDs)** 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.

**"Toilet Training for Children with Special Needs" (DVD)** Provides an overview of practical toilet training techniques and core principles for success.

Hundreds of books and DVDs are available for use statewide—contact your service provider or coordinator.

If you have questions or recommendations for the Library, send an email to

[ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov](mailto:ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov)

Catalog at: <http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST/Special-Ed-Library/>

EI program information > [http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/Early\\_Intervention\\_Programs/](http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/Early_Intervention_Programs/)

**NORTHEASTERN NEVADA EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES**

\* contact your Developmental Specialist/Service Coordinator for more information

⇒ [Nevada Early Intervention Services—Elko:](#)

**NORTHWESTERN NEVADA EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES**

\* contact your Developmental Specialist/Service Coordinator for more information

⇒ [Advanced Pediatric Therapies—Reno:](#)

- **Community Play groups** every 2nd & 4th Friday, of each month. Lots of fun games and activities for the kids. For more information: 775-825-4744.

⇒ [Easterseals Nevada—Reno:](#)

- **Please join us at our next Discover Your Way**—The Discover Your Way program is specifically designed to meet the needs of children on the Autism Spectrum and with sensory and/or perception disorders. Admission is free for members, and remains the same for each Discover Your Way event at \$10 per child (1-17) or senior (65+), and \$12 per adult (18+).

⇒ [Nevada Early Intervention Services—Carson City:](#)

⇒ [Nevada Early Intervention Services—Reno:](#)

- **Breastfeeding Circle** at NEIS — Every Wednesday from 5:30—6:30 pm. Contact Emily Chappell, 775-223-2127
- **Family TIES** provides family support in filling out **Medicaid/SSI and other Social Services applications** every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday from 10am-12noon at NEIS, by RSVP only! Call to RSVP: 775-823-9500
- **Friends of Special Children** - This non-profit has supported families at NEIS in so many ways both financially and physically. If you are interested, contact Gretchen Canepa at 688-0303 or [GCanepa@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:GCanepa@adsd.nv.gov).
- **NEVADA Hands and Voices** meets at NEIS, usually the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every other month on the “odd” months, at 6:00 pm. Contact: 775-351-1959, or email: [info@nvhandsandvoices.org](mailto:info@nvhandsandvoices.org)

⇒ [Therapy Management Group \(TMG\)—Reno:](#)

- **Inclusive Developmental Play Group** at Early Head Start. Call Melissa McGovern at: 775-525-4072.

⇒ [The Continuum—Reno:](#)

- **Baby Fair & Diaper Derby** – free event sponsored by Reno Media Group, Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, Reno Sparks Convention Center: Join the Continuum as we celebrate with new and expectant parents! Contact Sarah for more information (775) 737-8753.
- **Carousel Kids** is an inclusive childcare program. We also offer an intergenerational experience with elders from our onsite adult day program. For more information or to schedule a tour, phone: 775-829-4700.
- **Literacy Land**—FREE! Gently used books for children birth-5 years. Or donate to our lending library. Meet, mingle, borrow, share, read, enjoy with your friends at the Continuum! Also, look for our collection bins around town! For further information, please call the Continuum’s Early Intervention department at (775) 221-8054 or email at [info@continuumreno.com](mailto:info@continuumreno.com). Visit us at [continuumreno.com](http://continuumreno.com)

**SOUTHERN NEVADA EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES**

\* contact your Developmental Specialist/Service Coordinator for more information

⇒ [Easterseals Nevada—Las Vegas:](#)

- **Playgroups** on Fridays. Come Join the Fun! Call Jodie Sipes at: 702-860-4914

⇒ [Kideology—Las Vegas:](#)

⇒ [Nevada Early Intervention Services—Las Vegas:](#)

- **Yoga & Literacy Group** at Family to Family Connection, Cambridge Community Center: This biweekly class combines exercise and early literacy for young children. Interested families may contact their Developmental Specialist.
- **Explore & Learn Developmental Playgroups in Las Vegas, North Las Vegas and Henderson**—Weekly, inclusive community playgroups include engaging, age-appropriate peer activities for families of infants and toddlers with diverse abilities to support child development. Interested NEIS families may contact their Developmental Specialist.
- **Sign Language class at University Medical Center (UMC)**—NEIS staff provide this bi-weekly parent education class on communication skills using sign language to promote understanding between toddlers and their families. All members of the family are welcome to attend. Interested NEIS families may contact their Developmental Specialist.

⇒ [Positively Kids—Las Vegas:](#)

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

- **Milagros Escondidos** family support group, last Thursday of the month, starts at 6:30pm, at East Las Vegas Community Center located at 250 N. Eastern Ave.
- **Inclusive Developmental Playgroups**. Thursdays at Family to Family & UNLV Preschool. Contact Robbi Lucero at: 702-335-1666 or [rlucero@tmgnv.com](mailto:rlucero@tmgnv.com)

# Family Survey!

Dear Parents/Families,

**For families with over 6 months of service, you will be soon receiving, or already have, the annual family survey.**

Every year the U.S. Department of Education requires all states to submit an Annual Performance Report (APR) in order to receive federal funding. As part of this APR states must provide information about families receiving early intervention services and family outcomes.

Nevada collects and reports information on three family outcomes related to receiving early intervention services. This report, following the perspective of family-centered services, covers families who are currently receiving early intervention services for at least 6 months and determines if families feel their providers have helped them:

1. Know their rights under early intervention.
2. Effectively communicate their children's needs.
3. Help their children develop and learn

**Please take the time to fill it out and turn it in.** We want the best information possible about the ways in which early intervention services may or may not have helped your family.

The results of this survey will help guide efforts to improve services and outcomes for children and families across Nevada receiving early intervention services.

If you have questions talk to your Service Coordinator or call us at Project Assist, Toll Free: **1-800-522-0066**  
or email: [ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov](mailto:ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov)



**Nevada's Central Directory** website, filled with information and resources, includes a "Links" page with all kinds of useful local, state, and national websites.

<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST>

