



Nevada Early Intervention Winter-Spring Family Newsletter

March-April 2016 Volume 6 No 2

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

Dear Parents/Families

Nevada's Early Intervention **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 and community partners are invited to all ICC meetings. Please consider attending.

MEETING NOTICE NEVADA EARLY INTERVENTION INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL (ICC)

Date and Time of Meeting: **Thursday, April 21, at 9:00 a.m.**

This meeting will be in **Las Vegas only**. No Videoconferencing will be offered!

Please check for the meeting agenda posted at:

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

It is especially important to hear from families and I encourage you to participate. If you would like more information about attending meetings or how to submit public comments to the Council, please contact me at: ddinnell@dhhs.nv.gov or ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov or call Project ASSIST at 1-800-522-0066

Sincerely,
Dan Dinnell

*Central Directory of Resources: <http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST>



Cheryl, Eric, and Dan

NEVADA'S EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

IDEA Part C Office
4126 Technology Way, Suite 100
Carson City, NV 89706
Office: (775) 687-0587
Fax: (775) 687-0599

Project ASSIST
1-800-522-0066

ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

Please enjoy the stories shared of families who have "been there and done that!"
— See page 2.

If you are interested in volunteer activities, where you can receive knowledge, share information, gain skills and experience in advocating for others and your family, the NEVADA EARLY INTERVENTION INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL (ICC) has a permanent **FAMILY SUPPORT RESOURCE SUBCOMMITTEE (FSRS)** that can always use parents and others who have a passion for supporting early intervention.

For more information email ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov or call 1-800-522-0066

Child Outcomes Step-by-Step | Video

As a parent of a young child who is in early intervention, you want to be sure the services are helping your child develop and learn. These services are designed to make the most of each child's potential, as well as to strengthen the family's ability to help their child. One way to learn more about your child's progress is through the three "child outcomes" that are measured for every child in the United States who participates in an early intervention or early childhood program.

This video describes and illustrates the three child outcomes reported on by all state early intervention (Part C) programs and can be used to provide an overview to the outcomes for orienting families new to early intervention services. The video explains **what your child can do in his or her everyday routines and activities** to be an active and successful participant at home, in the community, and in other places like a child care program or preschool. There's also a Spanish transcript of the video.

Located at <http://ectacenter.org/eco/pages/videos.asp>

Been there, done that!



Respite and Volunteer Experiences (RAVE): The mission of the Northern Nevada RAVE Family Foundation is to improve the well-being of Nevada families by providing **respite** to families caring for young children with special needs while training high school volunteers. For more information: <http://www.nrff.org/>

"RAVE extends beyond the gift of time to families. They have established themselves as a driving force in the disability community. They are also the only establishment in Nevada that includes and provides services for siblings of special needs

children under the age of 12. They truly recognize the role of family coherence and strive to maintain strong connections within the family dynamic. Siblings are not separated based on their disability, which allows the child with a disability to be included; and the child without a disability to get to participate in the special programs with their sibling. RAVE is about full inclusion, where siblings are typical peers and all the kids are part of one community. RAVE has reached out to the community through fundraising events, holiday events, and sharing/connecting parents to resources. These events bring community awareness about special needs families and celebrates our lives. Their enthusiasm is overwhelming and infectious. Lastly, but most importantly, RAVE employees and volunteers NEVER treat our children like they are "special." RAVE does not present themselves as "do-gooders" for disabled individuals. They do not distinguish the children with disabilities as different from each other or their siblings. They rise above the stereotype of "good Samaritans" and dive into the community themselves, and that is where RAVE stands apart from any other organization. Their notion of inclusion isn't just about individuals with disabilities, but about bridging this gap between providers and families so we are one unit. They are truly leading the way beyond all our perceptions of disabilities and embarking on a new radical way of approaching equality." — Aimee Hadleigh, ICC Parent Representative

The mission of the **Nevada Lifespan Respite Program** is to expand quality respite services throughout the age spectrum, statewide. The goal is to promote and assist in the development of respite services so caregivers can continue to provide long-term care of their loved one.

For more information on Respite Care in Nevada: **Nevada Lifespan Respite Program**

Aging & Disability Services Division
3416 Goni Road, Suite D-132, Carson City, NV 89706
Phone: 775-687-4210

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

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) 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, parenting questions, community resources and events, etc. at www.nvparents.com.

For Families & Professionals

EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION LIBRARY—

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



Little Bear Sees: How Children with Cortical Visual Impairment Can Learn to See – LITTLE BEAR SEES is the first book about CVI written by parents for parents and you meet other families facing the many challenges that come with a diagnosis of CVI. You will learn: • Exactly what CVI is • What common characteristics to look for to determine if your child has CVI • How the eyes and brain work together to facilitate vision • Strategies and ideas for helping your child learn to see from the leading experts in cortical visual impairment.

The Early Intervention Guidebook for Families and Professionals: Partnering for Success - The Early Intervention Guidebook shows what early intervention looks like when it is based on current research, policies, and best practices. It focuses on how families and professionals can collaborate effectively so that young children learn, grow, and thrive. Specific components of early intervention evaluation and assessment, program planning, intervention implementation, service coordination, and transition are discussed in every chapter.

With hundreds of books and DVDs available for use statewide, contact your service provider or coordinator. If you have questions or recommendations for the Library, contact **Project ASSIST** toll free at **1-800-522-0066** or send an email to ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov.

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

Possibilities: A Financial Resource For Parents of Children with Disabilities

When your child is diagnosed with a disability, it can be overwhelming—emotionally and financially—on you, and perhaps your child and family as well. You realize, maybe suddenly, that you must change or modify plans for your child's future. Even the most stable of families face financial challenges. Yet, in caring for your child with special needs, those challenges can make for urgent situations.

Considering the reality of this can be very difficult. This publication was created for parents of children under the age of 18 who have disabilities. It is a simple, straightforward resource to help you get organized, manage money, and plan for you and your child's financial future and overall well-being.

Located at <http://www.pacer.org/publications/possibilities/>



Vacation season is coming. . . **FREE** – **All National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Access Pass**

This is a lifetime pass for U.S. citizens (includes children)/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, as well as possible discounts on other fees. The pass admits the pass holder and passengers in a non-commercial vehicle at per vehicle fee areas, and pass holder + 3 others, not to exceed 4 adults, at per person fee areas.

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>

FREE.... Participation in the national **EARLY INTERVENTION FAMILY ALLIANCE (EIFA)** is open to *all interested* in supporting 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.

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

NORTHEASTERN NEVADA EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

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

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

- The **Family Support Group** is for **ALL** of those families with children with any type of special needs. Join us the first Thursday of each month from 5:45 to 7:30pm [except for Summer months activities or other special events] at Nevada's Early Intervention Services Office in Elko. To RSVP contact Janina Easley at jfal84@yahoo.com or call: 775-828-5153.

NORTHWESTERN NEVADA EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

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

⇒ **Advanced Pediatric Therapies—Reno:**

- **Community Play groups** at Pah Rah Park every 2nd & 4th Friday, each month at 10:30am. Lots of fun games and activities for the kids. Families should call for more information: 775-825-4744.

⇒ **Easter Seals Nevada—Reno:**

⇒ **Nevada Early Intervention Services—Carson City:**

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

- **Family Support Group**, sponsored by Down Syndrome Network of Northern Nevada & NEIS - The 1st Thursday each month [except for Summer months activities or other special events] at 5:45 pm. Call: 775-828-5159 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, by RSVP only! Please call: 775-823-9500 to RSVP.
- **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.
- **NEVADA Hands and Voices** meets at NEIS, usually the 3rd Thursday of every other month on the "odd" months, at 6:00 pm. Contact: 775-351-1959, or email: 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:**

- **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.

SOUTHERN NEVADA EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

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

⇒ **Easter Seals Nevada—Las Vegas:**

- **Playgroups** on Fridays. Come Join the Fun! Call Jessica Hartley at: 702-329-0345

⇒ **ISS Baby Steps—Las Vegas:**

- **Inspired Discoveries Playgroup** welcomes children 0-3 years old in an inclusive setting. Please join in our fun adventure! Call: 702-586-3100

⇒ **Kideology—Las Vegas:**

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

- **Parent meeting** for families of children (any age) with Prader Willi Syndrome, at NEIS. Contact Erica Magana (Bilingual) at 702-486-9265 or emagana@adsd.nv.gov, or Shirley Farkas at: 702-486-9263 or sfarkas@adsd.nv.gov

⇒ **Positively Kids—Las Vegas:**

⇒ **Therapy Management Group (TMG)—Las Vegas:**

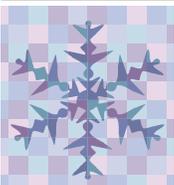
- **Milagros Escondidos** family support group, last Thursday of the month, 6-8pm, at 6600 W. Charleston Blvd., Ste. 111
- **Inclusive Developmental Playgroups**. Thursdays at Family to Family & UNLV Preschool. Contact Robbi Lucero at: 702-335-1666 or rlucero@tmgnv.com

EI program contact information at http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/Early_Intervention_Programs/

Nice to Know! Nevada Medicaid Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Program Services

Effective January 1, 2016 ABA is a covered service when rendered to Medicaid eligible individuals under age 21, including children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), based on individual determinations of medical necessity. For more information visit <http://dhcfc.nv.gov/Pgms/CPT/ABA/>

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's Central Directory website, filled with information and resources, includes a "Links" page with all kinds of useful websites and a Frequently Asked Questions page.
<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST>

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 ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

