



## Nevada Early Intervention Fall – Winter Family Newsletter

November - December 2016 Volume 6 No 6

### Message from Part C's State Family Resource Coordinator, Information & Referral... **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!**

Dear Parents/Families,

children's needs.

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 all of their rights under early intervention.
2. Effectively communicate their

3. Help their children develop and learn.

**Once again you will be receiving, or have already received the annual family survey.** 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, please contact us at Project ASSIST: 1-800-522-0066 or [ProjectASSIST@dhhs.nv.gov](mailto:ProjectASSIST@dhhs.nv.gov)

Sincerely,  
Dan Dinnell



Cheryl, Eric, and Dan

NEVADA'S EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

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**Project ASSIST  
1-800-522-0066**

Email: [ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov](mailto:ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov)  
To receive the newsletter electronically and to make sure you don't miss out on useful information, contact us!

Please check the *Library* out!" — See page 2

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

Nevada's Early Intervention **Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC)** advises and assists 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.

### MEETING NOTICE

Date and Time of Meeting: **Thursday, January 13, at 9:00 a.m.**

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

- **Elko:** Nevada Early Intervention Services  
1020 Ruby Vista Drive, Conference Room
- **Las Vegas:** Desert Regional Center  
1391 S. Jones Blvd. [ask for directions at the desk]
- **Reno:** Nevada Early Intervention Services  
2667 Enterprise, Conference Room

Check for updates. Meeting agendas and minutes are 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 meetings or how to submit public comments, please contact us at [ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov](mailto:ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov) or call \*Project ASSIST at 1-800-522-0066

The ICC membership can be viewed at <http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ICC/Home/>, under **"Who is on the ICC?"** and then click on **Current Membership**.

— For Families & Professionals —

**EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION LIBRARY**

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



**A few NEW additions to the Library!!!**

**Feeding Challenges in Young Children: Strategies and Specialized Interventions for Success (CD-ROM included)** — Provides specific, practical, research-based guidance on resolving a wide range of feeding issues. Ideal for working with young children birth-5 years, this book-and-CD set gives readers in-depth background information, how-to strategies, and helpful tools for addressing feeding challenges.

**FATHER'S DAY: A Journey into the Mind and Heart of My Extraordinary Son** — Buzz Bissinger's twins were born three minutes—and a world—apart. Gerry, the older one, is now a graduate student at Penn, preparing to become a teacher. His brother Zach has spent his life attending special schools. He'll never drive a car, or kiss a girl, or live by himself. This is the journey of a father and son.

**Sleep Better! A Guide to Improving Sleep for Children with Special Needs** — This down-to-earth, nonjudgmental guide, packed with widely tested, easy-to-use techniques that work for all children, with and without disabilities. Provides practical information on a variety of topics--from the basics of sleep and assessing sleep problems to strategies for change.

**Families, Professionals, and Exceptionality: Positive Outcomes Through Partnerships and Trust** — A practical look at how teachers and families can empower, collaborate, and advocate for children with special needs.

**A Different Kind of Perfect: Writings by Parents on Raising a Child with Special Needs** — Every parent dreams of having a happy, healthy child. What happens when these dreams are shattered by a physical or cognitive disability? The writings collected here are grouped into chapters reflecting the progressive stages of many parents' emotional journeys, starting with grief, denial, and anger and moving towards acceptance, empowerment, laughter, and even joy.

**Successfully Parenting Your Baby with Special Needs (DVD)** — Early Intervention is critical in helping your child develop to their fullest potential! However the system can be overwhelming so this program is designed to educate parents so they can advocate for their children. The 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. Winner of the Parents' Choice Award.



**Exceptional Parents (DVD)** — It's hard enough to be a parent...but the demands are even greater when your child has a disability... Two truly exceptional parents share their stories on this episode of *American Family*.

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, 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/>

**APPS FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

<<http://a4cwsn.com/>>

This is by far the most comprehensive list of Quality Apps available today to help children with special needs. We have compiled a list of 1000 Apps used by Teachers, Therapists and Parents. This list is a result of endless hours of collaboration by professionals from all over the world. The Apps are considered to be among the very best apps to help children and adults with special needs as well as teachers and therapists. Some apps cost and some are FREE!

<http://a4cwsn.com/recent-videos/fb-community-favorite-apps/free-educational-apps/>

The **American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)** has added two new articles to their online parent resource website: [www.HealthyChildren.org](http://www.HealthyChildren.org).

Both of the new articles feature milestone checklists from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) "Learn the Signs. Act Early" program.

1. [Milestones Matter: 10 to Watch for by Age 5](#) (July 2016)
1. [It Takes a Village: Monitoring Your Child's Development](#) (July 2016)

**Data Resources for Families**

The DaSy Center provides resources to help families understand why data are important. We want to help families ask good questions about data. We want to help families partner with program staff to set directions based on data. <http://dasycenter.org/families/>

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.

⇒ ***Easter Seals Nevada—Reno:***

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

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

• **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:***

• **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

⇒ ***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:***

• **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)

The Early Intervention 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. (Subject to review & editing.)



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>



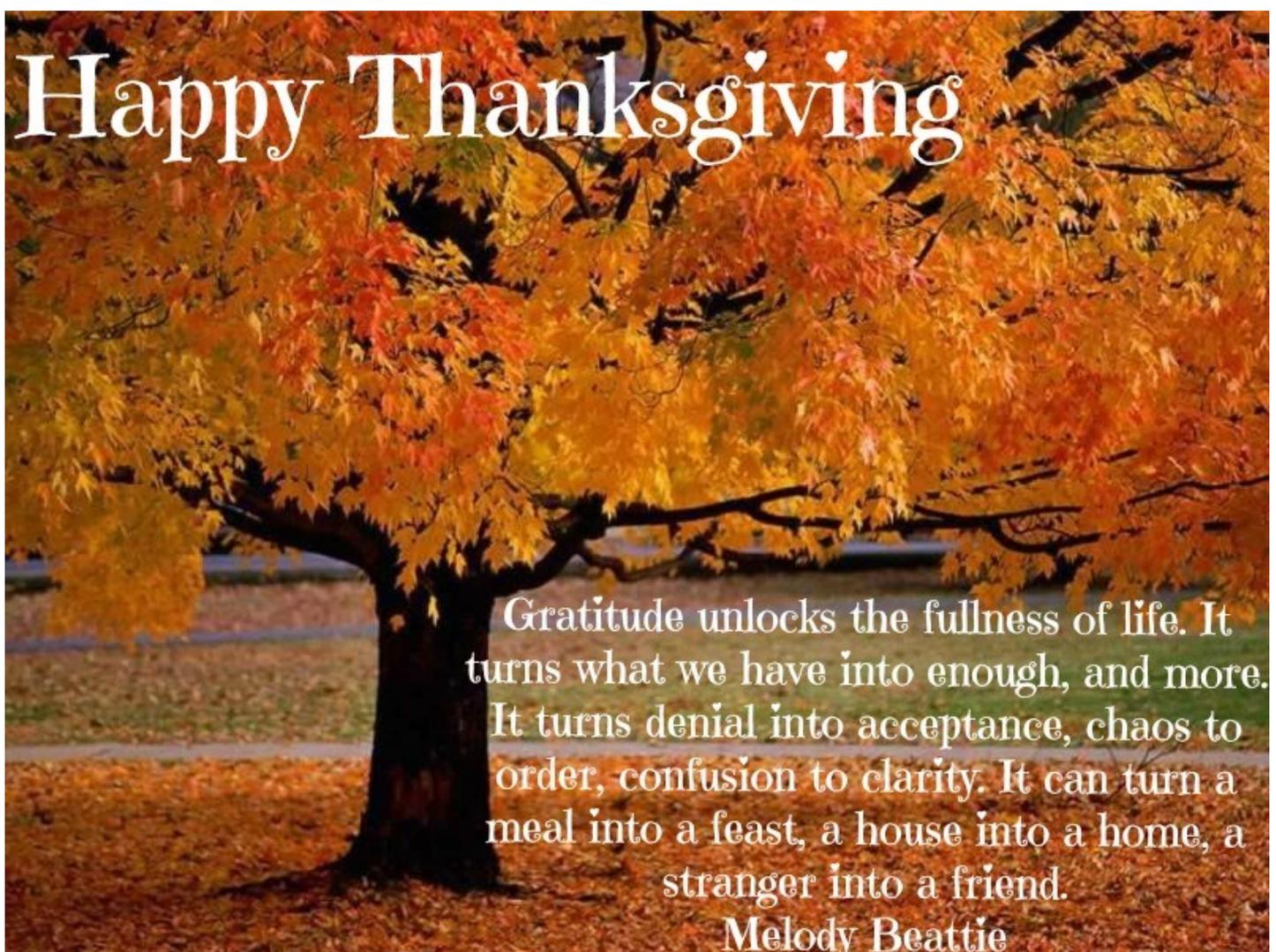
*In a 2011 Science article in the NY Times, John Tierney wrote about evidence that "an 'attitude of gratitude' has been linked to better health, sounder sleep, less anxiety and depression, higher long-term satisfaction with life and kinder behavior toward others". . .*

*In the spirit of the Holidays—Many families have a tradition where each guest at the table shares what he or she is thankful for.*

*IDEA Part C is thankful for:*

- Families impacted by disabilities and special healthcare needs who never give up.*
- For our dedicated EI Programs, and staff located throughout the state who help provide supports and services to our families.*
- For our dedicated family support organizations, trainers and volunteers located throughout the state who help provide resources to parents and professionals.*
- And for all who give whatever they can because they believe in our families.*

*What are you thankful for?*



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@dhs.nv.gov](mailto:ProjectAssist@dhs.nv.gov) or call 1-800-522-0066