



“We see how early childhood experiences are so important to lifelong outcomes, how the early environment literally becomes embedded in the brain and changes its architecture.”

— Dr. Andrew S. Garner, MD, PhD, University Hospitals of Cleveland (2013)



Our Children



Nevada 2021

Early Intervention Services in Nevada

In 2007, the National Early Intervention Longitudinal Study (NEILS) found **increased motor, social, and cognitive abilities for young children who received Early Intervention services compared to those who did not.**



WHAT IS EARLY INTERVENTION?

Early intervention is a system of coordinated services and supports for eligible children from birth to three years of age with developmental delays or disabilities and their families. Early intervention promotes the child's growth and development and supports families in meeting the developmental needs of their child. Early Intervention Services are mandated through Public Law 108-446, Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA).

Nevada's Early Intervention Services (NEIS) system encourages family participation, ensures parents are fully informed and provide consent for all evaluations and services. From the determination of eligibility until children transition at age three, Nevada programs strive to support families through family-centered and family-friendly practices.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF EARLY INTERVENTION?

Over the years, researchers have discovered a variety of ways children learn and develop, as well as the importance of early intervention. Scientific studies have documented what occurs in the brain during a child's first years of life, and can now predict what can give a child the best chance of success, thereby improving quality of life, including:

- A child's brain develops faster during the critical years from birth to three than at any other time and early intervention has a definite impact.
- Through early intervention, the long-term health of infants and toddlers with disabilities is improved, reducing the health costs of preventable secondary impairments and disabilities.
- Early intervention is known to decrease educational costs by minimizing the need for long-term special education and related services.
- Early intervention is cost-effective because it enables families to provide care for their children within their home, reducing the need for costly institutional care while maximizing the child's potential for independence.
- Research shows that children with developmental delays are healthier and learn better when they receive services as early in their lives as possible.

"Intervention is likely to be more effective and less costly when it is provided earlier in life rather than later." — Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University (2010), *The foundations of lifelong health are built in early childhood.*

"Well-designed early childhood interventions have been found to generate a return to society ranging from \$1.80 to \$17.07 for each dollar spent on the program." — Rand Corporation Research Brief, 2005

EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES MAY INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- ◇ Assistive technology devices and services
- ◇ Audiology services
- ◇ Family training, counseling and home visits
- ◇ Health & Nutrition services
- ◇ Multi-disciplinary evaluations and assessments
- ◇ Occupational therapy
- ◇ Physical therapy
- ◇ Psychological services
- ◇ Service coordination
- ◇ Specialized Instruction
- ◇ Speech and language services
- ◇ Social work services
- ◇ Vision and mobility services
- ◇ Other Services, eg. Transportation, Respite Care, etc.

By law all early intervention services must be provided in natural settings for children including the family home, child day care settings and other places in the community where typically developing children spend time.

Read the [Parent Handbook](#) for more information at:

http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/Early_Intervention_Programs/

State Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC)

In accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Public Law 99-457, Nevada's Governor established the Nevada Early Intervention Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) in 1987. All members of the ICC are appointed by the Governor. The Council's primary mission is to advise and assist the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services in the development and implementation of a statewide system of early intervention services for young children with developmental delays or disabilities and their families.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF NEVADA'S ICC?

The ICC provides support to the State in the development and implementation of Nevada's State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP).

Nevada's SSIP is a five (5) year plan designed to ensure the system of early intervention services under Part C of the IDEA results in improved outcomes for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The primary focus of the SSIP plan is improved social and emotional outcomes.

"Services [early intervention] to young children who have or are at risk for developmental delays have been shown to positively impact outcomes across developmental domains, including health, language and communication, cognitive development and social/emotional development. . . Families benefit by being able to better meet their children's special needs from an early age and throughout their lives." — The National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center, April 2011 Fact Sheet

Research has shown that at 9 months of age, only 9% of children who have delays that would make them eligible receive services; at 24 months of age only 12% of children who would be eligible receive services. — Journal of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, (2011) 32(4), 1-8.

Nevada ICC Members

Vacant, Legislature

Nevada Legislature Representative

Sherry Waugh, (ICC Co-Chair) Head Start Agency

Representative, Early Head Start, UNR

Aimee Hadleigh, (ICC Co-Chair) Parent

Representative— Northern Nevada

Candace Emerson, (ICC Co-Chair) Parent

Representative— Southern Nevada

Heaven Wright, ICC Parent Representative

— Southern Nevada

Andre' Haynes, ICC Parent Representative

— Southern Nevada

Lisa Hunt, ICC Parent Representative

— Southern Nevada

Vacant, ICC Parent Representative

— Rural Nevada

Vacant, ICC Parent Representative

— Northern Nevada

Robin Kincaid, Advocacy Representative

Nevada P.E.P.

Kate Osti, Advocacy Representative

Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center

Kari Horn, Advocacy Representative

Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities

Karen Shaw, Native American Representative

Washoe County School District

Jenna Weglarz-Ward, Ph.D., Personnel Preparation

Rep., College of Education, Special Education, UNLV

Ashley Greenwald, Ph.D., Rep. UNR Nevada Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities,

Keana Sullivan, Private Provider Representative

Nevada Early Intervention-Nellis Child Development

Sarah Horsman-Ploeger, Private Provider Representative

Nevada Early Intervention-The Continuum

Sandra LaPalm, Public Provider Representative

Nevada Early Intervention Services-Northeast Region

Claribel Zecena, Public Provider Representative

Nevada Early Intervention Services-Northwest Region

Dawn Brooks, Public Provider Representative

Nevada Early Intervention Services-Southern Region

Vacant, Provision of, or Payment for, Early Intervention

Services—Rep., Aging & Disability Services Division

DuAne Young, State Medicaid Representative

Division of Health Care Financing and Policy

Vacant, State Foster Care Representative

Division of Child and Family Services

Christell Askew, Child Care Agency Representative

Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

Vacant, Health Insurance Agency Representative, State

Division of Insurance

Rhonda Lawrence, Early Childhood Mental Health Rep.,

Division of Child and Family Services

Daina Loeffler, 619 Coordinator/Preschool Services

Representative, Nevada Department of Education

Vacant, Office of the Education of Homeless Children

Representative, Nevada Department of Education

HOW DOES THE ICC ACCOMPLISH ITS DESIGNATED GOALS?

The ICC must meet at least quarterly and is supported by the IDEA Part C Office. Additionally, ICC members participate in various other activities to accomplish its tasks. Public input is welcome and families are always encouraged to participate. For more information, contact **Project ASSIST** at 1-800-522-0066 / Email: ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov or visit the web at <http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ICC/Home>

Why parents need to be involved...

When you are involved, you gain experience in communication and leadership and it helps you to get useful information and answers to questions you may have. By actively participating and interacting with others, you can choose to make a difference in the lives of many young children with special needs and their families. One voice can make a difference!

Below is just one of many opportunities in Nevada to...



- Provide valuable input from a parent's perspective,
- Assist in the development of program policies and
- Help shape and create a better system for all children receiving Early Intervention Services!

Nevada's Early Intervention Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) established 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. There are also other opportunities for participation on various subcommittees, ad hoc committees, task forces and work groups.

Information may be requested by contacting Project ASSIST at:

ProjectASSIST@dhhs.nv.gov



"As a mother, it would be quite the understatement to say my plate is full. In addition to the things that come along with raising typically developing children, I had the opportunity to raise two exceptional boys. My oldest son, Ethan, is seven years old and was born with a hearing difference. Along our journey, we learned that he also has Asperger's Syndrome. Despite his unique needs, he is a joy to raise and I am constantly in awe of his intelligence. My youngest little guy is four year old Jacob and even though he has an overall developmental delay, he is making huge strides and has the sweetest heart.

In my nearly eight years of being a mother, I have learned so very much about the world of special needs parenting. Both of my boys received and greatly benefited from Early Intervention services. Throughout their time in the program, our family learned a lot in regards to promoting their development and utilizing strategies to assist with their unique needs. However, it was not until I took the next step of taking my seat at the table and getting involved as a parent, that I realized all of the opportunities available to families and caregivers.

Right before Jacob exited the Early Intervention program, I learned of the opening to join our state's Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) as a Parent Representative. Joining this board afforded me the opportunity to advise and assist in the development of and implementation of a statewide system of early intervention services for young children with developmental delays or disabilities and their families. I was able to bring my firsthand parent perspective to the table and represent families with children in Early Intervention in Southern Nevada.

Throughout my time on the ICC, I have learned that it is essential to give parents a voice in order to improve services and make them even more specific for our children. Not only do we, as parents, know our children best, we 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. I highly recommend you speak with you service coordinator about ways to get involved and take your family's journey to the next level". ~ Candace Emmerson, ICC Parent Representative

"(1) Parents/caregivers are the major influence on their children's development even when their children participate in intervention; and that (2) the effectiveness of intervention is highly associated with parents becoming more responsive with their children during the course of intervention." — [Mahoney (2009), pp. 90]



Project ASSIST is Nevada's Central Directory for families of young children with disabilities or special health care needs, as well as agencies, organizations and programs that serve them.

In SFY 2020, 765 calls for information or resources were received by Project ASSIST, 47 from out of state and 311 referrals to Early Intervention were made.

Information may be found on a variety of resources, including:

- parent support groups,
- early intervention programs for infants and toddlers,
- preschool special education services,
- education, health and social services,
- therapy,
- advocacy organizations,
- financial and legal assistance,
- and many other services.

There is no cost for this service.

There is a growing body of evidence that early intervention services have a positive influence on the developmental outcome of children with established disabilities as well as those who are considered to be "at risk" of disabilities. — American Academy of Pediatrics (2007)

For more information:

Project ASSIST

1-800-522-0066

ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

*Birth Defects Prevention Month
Eye Health Care Month
National Mentoring Month
Volunteer Blood Donor Month*

December 2020

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Project ASSIST

Nevada's Central Directory for Resources & Information

1-800-522-0066 or **ProjectASSIST@dhhs.nv.gov**

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

January 2021

February 2021

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<p>Nevada Parent Advocacy Initiative — this project consists of a parent Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/groups/nvparentadvocacy/ for all parents of children with disabilities to connect, a place that shares with everyone. And a website for Early Intervention parents to give them the basic information and knowledge they need to access and utilize services effectively at www.nvparents.com.</p>					1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2
3	4 <i>World Braille Day</i>	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 <i>Martin Luther King Jr Day</i>	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	<p>https://nevaeyc.org/ The Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children (NevAEYC) is dedicated to improving the well-being of young children, with particular focus on the quality of educational and developmental services for all children from birth through age 8, by connecting practice, policy, and research. We support all who care for, educate, and work on behalf of young children.</p>					

Building the Next Generation of Leaders. . .

NEVADA PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING, a very intense and innovative national model of leadership training designed to teach parents and self-advocates the power of advocacy and to change the way people with disabilities are supported, viewed, taught, live and work. It is done in eight (8) sessions, one per month for eight months.

Participants gain:

- **Valuable working knowledge on disability issues** and information on resources available in the community.
- **Advocacy skills.**
- **New relationships** with people who have the same interests as you.

NEVADA PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING is all about...

- **Leadership skills** and developing positive partnerships with elected officials and other individuals who make policy decisions about services that you and/or your family use.
- **Systems change**—creating, working towards, and achieving a vision of shared values about people with disabilities.
- **Becoming confident** in oneself, competent in the knowledge and information received, and comfortable in sharing the life experiences and expertise one brings to the table.

NGCDD



The **Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities'**

For more information contact:

(775) 684-8619

www.nevadaddcouncil.org

My name is Isaac. I am the youngest! I was diagnosed with Club Feet when my mom had her 20 week ultrasound. My parents were told they wouldn't know how bad it was until I was born.

I arrived in September 2019. At two weeks I had my first appointment with Shriners in Salt Lake City and ended up leaving the hospital with casts on both legs. We started Early Intervention shortly after with Physical (PT) and Occupational Therapy (OT). After two months I was "promoted" to braces and we were told that I did not need any surgery, what a wonderful day!

I started crawling at eight and a half months, learning how to stand up and walk along furniture just like any other baby. I am currently wearing the braces at bedtime and will be for a long time to come. I recently graduated from OT because I was making great progress, though I am still doing PT monthly.

My progress has been amazing, but I still have a long road ahead of me and I will continue to do what helps me get to where I need to be. To all those who helped me on my journey, I cannot thank you enough for the love and support you have given me in these difficult but wonderful times." ~ Isaac/Mom, NEIS-Northeast Region



Soon you will be receiving or already have 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 call us at Project Assist

1-800-522-0066 or email ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

Public Awareness is designed to notify the public of the availability of early intervention services in the State system.

Nevada Child Find Project is a statewide system that serves two primary functions. First, it is designed to identify unserved children who are eligible for early intervention services. The project's other focus is to provide information to the general public, physicians, childcare providers, hospitals and health care providers about early childhood development, and how to make referrals for early intervention services.

"Age of intake had a significant impact on the results of the behavioral program. The younger the child was at intake of the program, the greater the impact the early intervention behavioral program had on their abilities." — Makrygianni, M. K., & Reed, P. (2010), Research In Autism Spectrum Disorders.

If you know of a child who may be eligible for services, call
Project ASSIST
1-800-522-0066
 or email
ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

<https://nevadaadrc.com/>
Nevada Care Connection provides families up-to-date resources and information that will support and assist caregivers as they care for family members that have disabilities.

*American Heart Month
 Children's Dental Health Month
 Parent Leadership Month*

January 2021

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March 2021

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February 2021

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	Feeding Tube Awareness Week					
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15 Presidents' Day <i>International Angelman Day</i>	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	http://www.geneticalliance.org/advocacy-leadership-skills The Genetic Alliance has created an Advocacy ATLAS in partnership with Parent to Parent USA and Family Voices with support from the Health Resources and Services Administration. It has a page with all kinds of resources on Advocacy & Leadership skills. Please take the time and look over what is available. You may find some information useful in a current situation.					

Aaron was my first kiddo when joining this amazing company, and I wanted to shine on him for how far he has come, in just three months of tele-health services. Aaron came into our program right after his first birthday, and the family was so concerned about his development. Aaron was not showing many signs of walking at this time, and was a very picky eater. Aaron was unable to pick up finger foods and was reluctant to try most of them.

We have an Occupational Therapist working with him on his fine motor, and he has been progressing beautifully! On our last home visit Aaron was not only walking, he was running! Aaron is able to pick up finger foods, place shapes in a shape sorter and he even says "dada" and "duck". Aaron is eating more textured foods and more willing to try them. The family is so excited about the progress that Aaron has made in such a short time, and under unusual circumstances. Tele-Therapy through Zoom has been the tool we have used to see our families. Aaron was very shy the first time I saw him, and continuously got less "camera shy". We now have interactive visits, and Aaron is all smiles and shows me his toys and we play through video.

Mom mentioned something to me on our last visit, and I couldn't have said it better myself, "I am a new mom, Aaron didn't come with a manual! I am his first teacher, so I educate myself and listen to my therapist's and what they tell me and I try everything! I am open-minded. If I am given an idea on how to help Aaron, I do it".

This was a great way of explaining the family of Early Intervention. We are a family based program and we work as a team! I am very excited about this team, and the children and families we will continue to serve in the days, weeks, months, and years ahead. — Developmental Specialist, MDDA



MD Developmental Agency (MDDA) is here to help children that are developmentally delayed within the early intervention program. Our overall goal is to assist with helping children birth to three learn and grow.

The Early Intervention program's mission is to assure that families who have infants and toddlers, birth to three, with diagnosed disabilities, developmental delays or substantial risk of significant delays receive the resources and supports that assist them in maximizing their child's development, while respecting the diversity of families and communities.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**

<http://dsnnn.org/>

Down Syndrome Network of Northern Nevada (DSNND) is a network of individuals with Down syndrome, their parents, families and friends, offering support, direction, services and resources to individuals and families affected by Down syndrome.

<http://www.dsosn.org/>

Down Syndrome Organization of Southern Nevada (DSOSN) promotes a positive understanding of Down syndrome in the community and is a source of support, information and education for families and individuals affected by Down syndrome.

26.6% of children in Nevada age 4 months to 5 years are determined to be at moderate or high risk for developmental or behavioral problems. — National Survey of Children's Health, 2011-2012

Nevada's **Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN)** serves "...children who have or are at risk for chronic physical, developmental, behavioral or emotional conditions and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally", by working with families and across systems to develop strategies that promote quality well-being and support for those children and their families.

In Nevada, the CYSHCN Program provides resources and support to community agencies serving children from birth to age 21. The CYSHCN Program funds a variety of community programs bridging service gaps by linking families to appropriate systems-level and enabling resources and providers.

<http://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/CYSHCN/CYSHCN-Home/>

<https://nv.medicalhomeportal.org>
Nevada Children's Medical Home Portal is a coalition of web-based sources of medical professional health information designed to be a "one-stop-shop" for families, physicians and other caregivers. With over 500 pages of content and 5,000 links on this website, families and physicians, and other professionals, will have access to invaluable information about evidenced based research and specific diagnoses.

[Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month](#)
[Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month](#)
[Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month](#)
[National Nutrition Month](#)

February 2021

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Project ASSIST
 Nevada's Central Directory for Resources & Information
1-800-522-0066 or **ProjectASSIST@dhhs.nv.gov**
<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST/>

April 2021

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March 2021

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<i>7 Day Saving Time begins</i>	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 <i>First Day of Spring</i>
<i>21 World Down Syndrome Day</i>	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	www.facebook.com/cppnreno It was so nice to meet other families who "just got it". No explaining what was "the matter" with our children or anyone saying, "I just don't know how you do it". — Cerebral Palsy Parent Network-Reno, NV		

Advanced Pediatric Therapies

(APT) offers services to children from the ages of infancy through adolescence. Our therapists are skilled in the areas of communication, feeding, sensory integration, self-help, gross motor, play/social, and fine motor skills. All of the therapists are also certified and highly skilled to treat children with a varying range of developmental, genetic and neurodevelopmental disabilities.

Regardless of the diagnosis, we work with the child and the family based on his/her areas of strength and areas of need. Our vision is for each individual to build positive social connections within his or her home and community using effective communication, self-help and gross motor skills.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**



My name is Charleigh, and according to doctors I shouldn't have survived through my mom's pregnancy. If I did survive, my parents were told that I would have a very low birth weight, be in the NICU, and have many health problems that I would have to face. My mom was hospitalized three times due to preterm labor starting at 30 weeks gestation. My mom was sent home from the hospital at 30 weeks being told that I would come any day. I was able to hold on and doctors had to induce my mom at 39 weeks! I ended up being born at 8lbs 12oz, and I was as healthy as could be. I overcame all odds during the high-risk pregnancy!

My parents were noticing that I wasn't responding to their faces as much as their voices. Due to my mom's vision problems I was taken to see an eye specialist, which is when I was diagnosed with Amblyopia. This means that my brain favors one of my eyes and develops pathways to only one eye. Because of this my brain only sees with my stronger eye, and then the vision in my weaker eye doesn't develop. I got glasses at 4 months old, and these have really helped me learn to see and hopefully will help bring back some of my vision in my weaker eye.

My diagnosis of Amblyopia also started affecting other areas of my development as I had a hard time learning where in space I was. Eating was hard for my parents as I couldn't always see the bottle or spoon coming to my mouth. My gross motor skills are behind as well. I always preferred to be looking in one direction as it was where I could get the best vision, but due to this I was diagnosed with Plagiocephaly. Unfortunately, this repeated pressure on my head in one area caused my head to become flat and that is why I wear a helmet.

Being in Early Intervention at Advanced Pediatric Therapies has helped me and my family so much. I can't say enough good things about the therapists and staff at APT. I receive Occupational Therapy as well as Physical Therapy, and my therapists have helped my family learn different ways to help me overcome the obstacles that I face. My team at APT not only gives my parents advice and supports them, but they also love and believe in me. They have helped my family through the struggles that come along with glasses, a helmet, and having both of these at the same time. My therapists have given my parents the knowledge and skills necessary to help me meet my milestones! I recently started rolling, and now I am working very hard on trying to sit. I know that it can be overwhelming at times for my parents, and I am so happy that they have the support from my team of professionals at APT. They are not only my therapists and my team, but they are my family!" ~ Charleigh/Mom

<http://ctdinstitute.org>

The **Center on Technology and Disability** is a resource designed to support organizations and programs that work with families of children and youth with disabilities, offering a range of information and services on the subject of assistive technologies.

"The opportunity to diagnose and thus begin treatment for autism around a child's first birthday has enormous potential to change outcomes for children affected with the disorder." — Karen Pierce, PhD, Assistant Professor, UC San Diego Department of Neurosciences (2011)

Nevada's Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP) was created to assist parents and caregivers with the expensive cost of providing Autism-specific treatments to their child with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

ATAP is a statewide program that provides temporary assistance and funding to pay for evidenced-based treatment such as Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) for children on the Autism Spectrum, who are under the age of 20 and are diagnosed as a person with Autism Spectrum Disorder by a physician, psychologist, child/adolescent psychiatrist, pediatric neurologist or other qualified professional.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that all children be screened for autism at both 18 and 24 months of age.

For information call:
(775) 687-4210

or Email:
adsdatap@adsd.nv.gov

Or visit their website at:
<http://adsd.nv.gov/Programs/Autism/ATAP/ATAP/>

www.beachcenter.org

The **Beach Center on Disability** has information available on cutting edge research and a variety of resources especially for families.

*Autism Awareness Month
Child Abuse Prevention Month
Month of The Young Child
Parkinson's Awareness Month*

March 2021

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Project ASSIST

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May 2021

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April 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
www.aconv.org The Autism Coalition of Nevada (ACON) is comprised of representatives from various autism advocacy organizations, agencies and professionals who serve Nevadans with Autism Spectrum Disorder and related Neurodevelopmental Disorders. Our main purpose is to ensure that services are available to all, and to keep you informed of progress in this area.				1	2 World Autism Awareness Day	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 National Siblings Day
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	
National Infant Immunization Week						



Cesar Jr. is a sweet little 25-month-old boy that has been enrolled in our Early Intervention program since May, 2019. When Cesar joined our EI family, his family was concerned with his speech and attending to activities. Mother reported that Cesar would not babble, provide eye contact, and had poor eating habits. The family needed support on encouraging joint attention, imitation, and him responding to his name. With the help of Early Intervention, the team set in place the services Cesar needed to begin to reach those missed milestones.

As of today, Cesar has the brightest smile when his therapists enter the home and will immediately grab their hand to sit with him on the floor. He anticipates interactions now and will give amazing eye contact to signal to his team that he wants more and is enjoying their interaction! He has really shown progress in how he is babbling more to his family, interacting with his parents and siblings, and giving joint attention to his therapists.

Alexandra, his mother, says, "Thank you to EI for providing their lovely team, Junior (Cesar) has improved so much in his time with them! He's communicating so much better and interacting with his brothers more!" – Developmental Specialist, CHHS

Las Vegas & Reno – Capability Health and Human Services' Early Intervention program is a community partner that provides many services to children with developmental delays, birth to three years old, and their families. The services include: service coordination, special instruction, therapy, inclusive playgroups, and other related services.

We understand that families provide the best insight into their children and we recognize the importance of a family driven Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). Together with the family and therapists, the child developmental specialists/service coordinators work in the child's natural environment to provide enriching and functional activities.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**

<https://www.verywellfamily.com/special-needs-4157329>

Parenting Special Needs Children - Raising and working with kids who have special needs requires daily patience and commitment. Learn about common challenges and concerns and find support.

"Children with delays or disabilities who received services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) showed greater than expected developmental progress. Most children exited the program functioning within age expectations." – Early Childhood Outcomes Center, 2013

Nevada's **Early Childhood Mental Health** provides mental health services for children ages birth to six years and their families when children have emotional, behavioral, social or other psychological problems and associated developmental delays. Parents may refer their children for these services. For children ages 3-6 years in need of a higher level of treatment, therapeutic preschool is available.

The goal of services is to strengthen the parent-child relationships, support the family's capacity to care for their children, and to enhance the child's social and emotional functioning. The following are provided:

- Behavioral and psychological assessments,
- Individual, family, and group therapies and behavioral management,
- Psychiatric services,
- Day treatment,
- In-home crisis intervention,
- Childcare and pre-school consultation, outreach, and training,
- Clinical case management.

For more information call:

Las Vegas **(702) 486- 6120**

Reno **(775) 688-1600**

http://www.dcfs.state.nv.us/DCFS_ChildMentalHealth.htm

Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month
Better Hearing and Speech Month
Celiac Awareness month
Healthy Vision Month
Family Support Month
Foster Care Month
Mental Health Awareness Month
Prader-Willi Syndrome Awareness

April 2021

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Project ASSIST

Nevada's Central Directory for Resources & Information

1-800-522-0066 or **ProjectASSIST@dhhs.nv.gov**

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

May 2021

June 2021

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
http://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/EHDI/EHDI-Home The purpose of the Nevada Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program is to ensure all children in Nevada are screened for hearing loss at birth. Left undetected, hearing loss in infants can negatively impact speech and language acquisition, academic achievement, and social and emotional development. When diagnosed early these negative impacts can be diminished and even eliminated through early intervention.						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 <i>Children's Mental Health Awareness Day</i>	8 <i>Provider Appreciation Day</i>
Children's Mental Health Awareness Week						
9 <i>Mother's Day</i>	10	11	12	13	14	15 <i>International Day of Families</i>
16 <i>Armed Forces Day</i>	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 <i>Memorial Day</i>	http://ectacenter.org/families.asp Early Childhood Technical Assistance (ECTA) Center 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.				

Las Vegas & Reno — The Therapy Management Group (TMG) provides early childhood therapy services that support and enhance children's potential for optimal developmental outcomes. Our early intervention program provides services for children birth to three in their home or other natural environment.

Each child and family is provided with service coordination to ensure collaboration and provision of all necessary services by other health professionals and community programs, as appropriate.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**

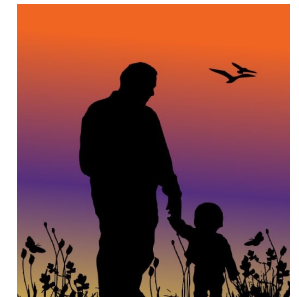
"TMG has been in our family for the last 6 years. Devontae is my 6th baby who has received services through TMG!

Not only do I feel TMG has provided each of my children with physical therapy, occupational therapy, feeding therapy, vision therapy, nutrition & speech—I can say each therapist that has come into our home has become part of our family! I can't thank you enough for all you've done for my family"! ~ Foster Mom



"Before TMG, Indiana pretty much let his older sister Emma do all the talking! Since then he has really found his own little voice, which he uses frequently to request "Baby Shark" and "The Car Wash Song" on the Alexa we don't have!

Thank you for inviting us to be a part of the TMG family & Special thanks to our amazing team!" ~ Mom



<http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/ProjectASSIST/FathersResourcesForFathers> provides information and resources especially for fathers of children with special needs, and the professionals who serve them. Also has a "**Guide for Dads**" available from your early intervention program or online.

World Health Organization's Commission on the Social Determinants of Health published a study in 2007 that cites **early identification and treatment of children who are at risk of developmental delay produces economic benefits up to \$17 for each \$1 spent on the programs. The earlier the intervention, the lower the overall cost.**



The **Nevada Dual Sensory Impairment Project** works to enhance educational services provided to children and youth, birth through 21 years, with vision and hearing impairments.

The project provides statewide technical assistance to support parents, services providers, and other service agencies in meeting the educational needs of children who have dual sensory impairments.

Individuals who are eligible are those, birth through 21 years of age, diagnosed as having impairments in both vision and hearing or suspected of having such impairments.

For more information contact:
 Dual Sensory Impairment Project
 Department of Educational Specialties
 University of Nevada, Reno
 MS 299
 Reno, NV 89557

775-784-6471 (phone/tty)
1-877-621-5042 (toll free)

www.unr.edu/educ/ndsip/

www.our-kids.org/

Our-Kids is Devoted to Raising Special Kids with Special Needs, a "Family" of parents, caregivers and others who are working with children with physical and/or mental disabilities and delays.

Children's Awareness Month
Child Vision Awareness Month
National Safety Month
Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month

May 2021

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Project ASSIST

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

June 2021

July 2021

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
www.nevadaactearly.org/ Nevada Act Early educates parents, healthcare professionals and educators across Nevada about the milestones and the early warning signs of neurodevelopmental disorders.		<i>1 Stand for Children Day</i>	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	<i>14 Flag Day</i>	15	16	17	18	19
<i>20 Father's Day</i> <i>First Day of Summer</i>	21	22	23	24	25	26
		Deaf-Blind Awareness Week				
27	28	29	30	www.circleofinclusion.org The Circle of Inclusion website is for early childhood service providers and families of young children. This site offers demonstrations of and information about effective practices of inclusive educational programs.		



"We've been with Early Intervention since July, 2019 and have had a great experience. We are so grateful that our Charlize is part of Capability Health and Human Services (CHHS).

We were referred by our pediatrician since our daughter was delayed in her gross motor skills and the therapists and developmental specialist that we were assigned have been awesome! They have helped us with our daughter's progress in making huge improvements. They help make the exercises and activities fun for her.

A huge thank you to our Developmental Specialists as they have been a wealth of resource and support when our daughter received a diagnosis of her delay.

Their assistance and expertise have been invaluable in directing us on the right track to get the best treatment for our daughter and the support they give through the program along

with their compassion and care helped make the process so much easier. We also want to thank our amazing team for their help in recognizing our Charlize's needs during evaluation and allowing us to be a part of the treatment process and for providing their awesome services. Thank you, Early Intervention, for providing this service to the community. Your organization and services have been a blessing to our family and our community. May God bless you all!" ~ Mom, CHHS

Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) - Southern Region provides services to all eligible children under three with developmental delays and their families living in Clark, Nye, Esmeralda and southern Lincoln counties.

Early Intervention Services are implemented by service providers who form a partnership with families to work on goals to enhance the child's participation in daily activities which occur within the family's routines in their home and community.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**

<https://medlineplus.gov/>
MedlinePlus.gov was created and is maintained by the National Library of Medicine, MedlinePlus is the National Institutes of Health's website providing trusted health information to the public. Over a million people daily benefit from the health topic pages, a medical encyclopedia, health news, surgery videos, a medical dictionary and much more.

Includes a Spanish language version of the site, **MedlinePlus en español**

A new study provides further evidence that earlier intervention for autism increases the likelihood that a child will make significant gains in social and communication skills. — Research in Developmental Disabilities, Volume 35, Issue 12, December 2014

- **Among the toddlers who entered the therapy program before their second birthday, 90 percent made significant gains.**
- **By contrast, only 30 percent of the children who entered therapy after 30 months of age made significant gains across the year.**

Nevada Family Resource Centers (FRC) provide case management, information, and referrals for individuals and families in need of assistance in accessing services and programs that will strengthen and support the family.

FRCs collaborate with other private and public agencies, government agencies, schools, and faith-based organizations to assist families to obtain needed services.

FRCs emphasize community based, collaborative services that are culturally competent, accessible, and flexible.

For more information or to find an FRC close to you, call:

(702) 486-3527 (Las Vegas)

or

(775) 684-4000 (Carson City)

Or visit the state web site at:

http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/Grants/Programs/FRC/Family_Resource_Center/

www.cms.gov

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. A Federal government site for information on Medicare, Medicaid, and Child Health Insurance.

*Cleft & Craniofacial Awareness & Prevention Month
Family Reunion Month
Fragile X Awareness Month
Make a Difference to Children Month*

June 2021

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

July 2021

August 2021

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 http://www.eparent.com/ FREE!!! Exceptional Parent online magazine, for parents of children with disabilities and special healthcare needs who face both the reality of raising any child and the reality of the additional responsibilities that come from raising children with special needs.				1	2	3
4 <i>Independence Day</i>	5 <i>Holiday Observed</i>	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 <i>National Parents Day & Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act</i>	27	28	29	30	31

Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) - Reno provides family-centered early intervention services and supports to northwest Nevada and its rural communities. NEIS provides most services in homes or community-based environments for children with developmental delays and their families. They recognize the important role of the family in a young child's development and assist parents in their natural role as teachers to help meet their child's special needs.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**

<http://www.thearc.org/>

The Arc is committed to all people with developmental disabilities, and works to develop programs, funding and public policy that will assist them in realizing their goals of learning, living, working, worshipping and playing in the community.

"Telehealth use has increased 8,336% nationally. . . That increase was almost entirely due to the effects of the pandemic lockdown..." — <https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/articles/2020-07-13/telehealth-continues-rapid-growth-amid-coronavirus-pandemic>



"My little one received his evaluation for Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) in late January. He qualified for the program based on his profound speech delay, only two words at 18 months old. I was so excited to have him start therapy with the hope that he would FINALLY be able to communicate.

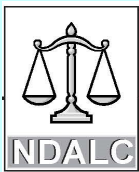
We had three in person sessions with the developmental specialist and speech therapist before "the lockdown" started. I learned so much in those in person sessions and Lincoln was becoming more receptive to attempting signs and sounds. Then, suddenly, the sessions were on "pause," much like everything else in our lives.

After a few weeks, we heard that our sessions would resume, but virtually. I was disappointed and skeptical. I remember telling my sister in law, "I just don't see how this is going to work."

Well, I was wrong! In fact, because the model of NEIS is to provide the caregiver with tools to facilitate your child's development, it was actually quite easy. I ran around following Lincoln with my phone, and the providers observed and gave feedback, tips, and encouragement. I went from feeling so hopeless to very empowered, and Lincoln has made so much improvement over the last few months thanks to the virtual care from our NEIS team." ~ Mom

"An extensive body of research indicates that high quality early intervention for at-risk infants, toddlers and young children and their families is a sound economic investment. Studies have found a number of long-term cost savings in terms of decreased grade repetition, reduced special education spending, enhanced productivity, lower welfare costs, increased tax revenues, and lower juvenile justice costs." — The Long Term Economic Benefits Of High Quality Early Childhood Intervention Programs, December 2005

Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center (NDALC)



Nevada's federally mandated protection and advocacy system for the human, legal and service rights of individuals with disabilities. NDALC will advocate to ensure that children with developmental disabilities obtain appropriate and timely early intervention services and transition services. NDALC will provide direct representation at Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) meetings in select cases that address serious systemic issues.

NDALC will provide direct representation and advocacy, as resources permit, to children with disabilities to improve access to needed early intervention services available under Part C of IDEA, and to improve timely transition services from Part C to Part B of IDEA.

For more information contact:

**Main Office (Las Vegas)
1-888-349-3843 (Toll Free)**

**Northern Office (Reno/Sparks)
1-800-992-5715 (Toll Free)**

**Elko Office
1-800-992-5715 (Toll Free)**

www.ndalc.org

<https://dwss.nv.gov>

Nevada Division of Welfare & Supportive Services provides public assistance benefits to all who qualify to help Nevadans achieve safe, stable, and healthy lives.

*Immunization Awareness Month
Children's Eye Health and Safety Month*

July 2021

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Project ASSIST

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

August 2021

September 2021

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>1 American Family Day & National Kid's Day & National Friendship Day</i>	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	<i>21 Be an Angel Day</i>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	 <p>http://parentingspecialneeds.org/ FREE!!! Parenting Special Needs Magazine online, dedicated to helping the special needs community. It covers all the ages, stages and different disabilities, as well as providing an invaluable resource for the parents and caregivers of those with special needs.</p>			



Brayden, (lovingly known as Brady) has been with Capability Health and Human Services for a little over a year. His parents enrolled in Early Intervention, concerned about his speech delay, trouble with attending to activities, and sensory processing. With the help of the IFSP team and his parents continuous support of implementing strategies given during sessions, parents were given the tools needed to help build Brady's speech development and to create learning activities and routines that benefit not only Brady, but the entire family.

Brady's parents report that he is attending to adult-directed activities, is now using some two-word phrases to express himself, and is doing much better with tactile processing and will play with a variety of textures. He was recently enrolled in a playgroup and enjoys working with his playgroup teacher and his peers!

His mother, Hannah, says that she "appreciates the support from his IFSP team and the services provided to help Brady grow and reach those milestones". — Developmental Specialist, CHHS

The Continuum, is a community based, early intervention program that provides family-centered early intervention services and supports to Northwest Nevada. The Continuum assists in healthy development of Children from Birth through Age 3 while encouraging families to promote growth at home. Individual programs are designed by Early Intervention professionals for infants and toddlers experiencing a developmental delay or who are diagnosed with a physical or mental condition likely to result in a delay.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**

<https://nevadadrugcard.com/index>

NevadaDrugCard-Prescription Assistance Program – As a resident of Nevada, you and your family have access to a statewide Prescription Assistance Program (PAP). Nevada residents can download a FREE card and locate participating pharmacies. This card will provide you with Rx medication savings of up to 75% at pharmacies across the country including Albertsons Sav-on, Kmart, VONS, CVS/pharmacy, Raley's, Longs, Safeway, Save Mart, Walgreens, Walmart, and many more.

"An early intervention program costing \$6,730 per child generated a return on investment of \$47,759 for each child. This means that for every \$1 invested, \$7.10 was returned to society in the form of decreased expenditures. (When similar services for 2nd & 3rd graders were analyzed, results showed a return of only \$1.66 for every \$1 invested.)" — [AMA, 5/8/01, vol. 285, no.18]



Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities' mission

is to provide resources at the community level which promote equal opportunity and life choices for people with disabilities through which they may positively contribute to Nevada society. The Council utilizes strategies such as training, educating policy makers and communities, coalition development, barrier elimination, and demonstration of new approaches to service.

The Council encourages and supports advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities that contribute to a coordinated, consumer driven, family-centered and family-directed, comprehensive system that includes needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination for all individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, helping them to be productive, integrated and included in all facets of community life.

For more information contact:
(775) 684-8619
www.nevadaddcouncil.org

www.nevadahealthlink.com
Nevada Health Link was created by the State of Nevada to help individuals and small businesses easily shop for, compare and buy health insurance.

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
FASD Awareness Month
Health Care Month
Hydrocephalus Awareness Month
Respite Awareness Month
Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness Month

August 2021

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

September 2021

October 2021

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
www.dcnv.org Deaf Centers of Nevada seeks to empower the deaf and hard of hearing community by providing advocacy services, coordinating equal access to communication, job placement and coaching, teaching independent living skills, hosting community building events and creating civil rights advocacy programs.			1	2	3	4
5	6 Labor Day	7	8	9	10	11 Patriot Day
12 Grandparent's Day	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 National POW/ MIA Recognition Day	22 First Day of Fall	23	24	25
Deaf Awareness Week						
26	27	28	29	30	www.mychildwithoutlimits.org MyChildWithoutLimits.org site provides parents of children with disabilities an online resource with critical information that also connects parents to a vital social network of parents of newly diagnosed children ages 0 to 5.	

Foundation for Positively Kids'

Early Intervention Program is committed to providing an environment that will have a positive effect on the growth and development of young children with disabilities or special health care needs.

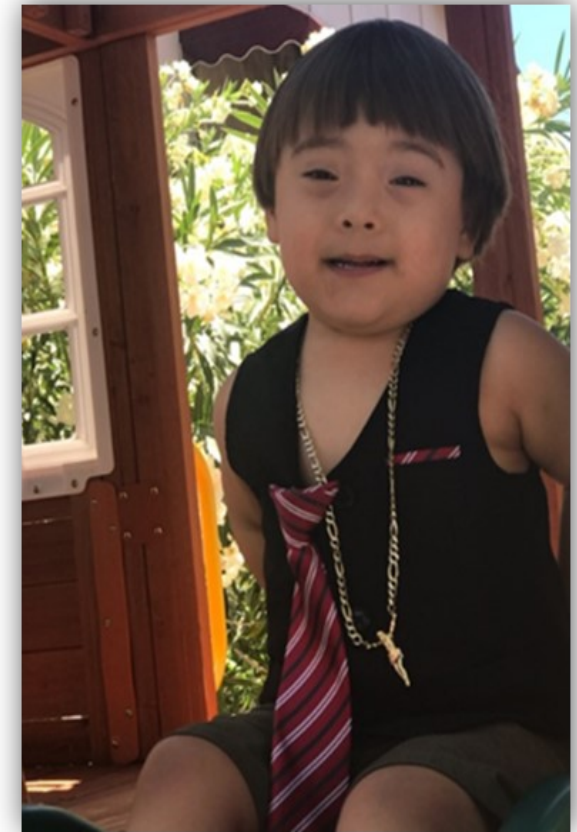
Programs offered by Positively Kids strive to embrace each child's unique needs while providing the services essential to their well being and happiness. Vital to the success of every program we provide is its ability to achieve these goals:

- *Help children reach their full potential*
- *Create hope and foster inclusion*
- *Promote comfort and quality of life*

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**

"Quiero dar gracias a Positively Kids ya que Dios me los puso en el camino mi hijo, Jacob, pudo empezar las terapias temprano, que fueron una gran ayuda porque cada ejercicio que me le daban yo los continuaba haciendo con mi hijo para que el pudiera agarrar movimiento en su cuerpo. El primer reto fue que pudiera sentarse por el solo y con mucha perseverancia lo logramos. Gracias a que Positively Kids estuvo allí para guiarme con las diferentes maneras de terapia y tip de como mi hijo podia hacer el movimiento de su cuerpo. Hoy les quiero dar las gracias porque Positively Kids un muy buen equipo de trabajo que se preocupan por el bienestar de los niños. Hoy yo les puedo contar que mi hijo empezó a dar sus primeros pasos a los dieciséis meses y cuando cumplió dos años el ya caminaba y hoy ya tiene dos años once meses y siento una gran alegría muy grande porque lo veo corriendo, pegándole a un balón de futbol, poniendo la pelota en una canasta de basquetbol, deslizar en los juegos del parque. Como madre me siento muy feliz y que Positively Kids haya estado conmigo para apoyarme grandemente y quiero dar gracias a cada una de las que trabajan para Positively Kids por asistir a mi casa y estar pendiente de todas las necesidades que mi hijo iba teniendo a medida que iba creciendo. Hoy yo puedo decir que mi hijo camina, corre, come muy bien, duerme bien y juega por el solo y ya toma sus propias decisiones en que quiere hacer. Como madre es una alegría inmensa y solo puedo dar gracias a Dios y gracias a Positively Kids por existir, Dios los bendiga siempre". ~ Mamá

[English translation] "I want to thank Positively Kids, God placed you on our path. My son, Jacob, was able to start therapy early on, they have been a great help. Every exercise that I was given, I would continue working them on my son so that he can gain movement in his body. Our first challenge was to get him to sit up on his own and after much perseverance we did it! Thankfully Positively Kids was there to guide me with different kinds of therapies and Positively Kids has done such a great job on taking care of our children's wellbeing. Today I can say that my son began to take his first steps at sixteen months old and when he turned two he was walking. Now he's two years and eleven months and it fills me with so much joy because I can watch him kick a soccer ball, throw the basketball into the hoop and slide on the playground at the park. As a mother I am so happy, Positively Kids has been such a great support for me and I want to thank every single person that works at PK, that has visited my home, you have been on top of everything making sure every need my child had is being met. As my child keep growing, I can say that my child can walk, run, eat really well, sleep and play really well on his own and he's starting to make his own choices. As a mom that gives me immense happiness and I can only give thanks to God and to Positively Kids for existing. May God bless you always" ~ Mom



"The brain grows at an amazing rate during development. At times during brain development, 250,000 neurons are added every minute! At birth, almost all the neurons that the brain will ever have are present. However, the brain continues to grow for a few years after birth. By the age of 2 years, the brain is about 80% of it's adult size." — Neuroscience for Kids, University of Washington

Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities



(NCED) creates a bridge between science and practice by sharing research-based, best practice evidence with communities.

The NCED's mission is to work cooperatively with consumers (people with disabilities, family members, etc.), agencies, and programs to assist Nevadans of all ages with disabilities to be independent and productive citizens, fully integrated into their communities. This mission is accomplished by honoring the diversity of people with disabilities, their families, and those who serve them.

The important principles of self-determination, family-centered care, and cultural competence are reflected in the ways the NCED provides service, training, and technical assistance; conducts research; and disseminates information.

The NCED projects are focused in Advocacy and Family Support, Assistive Technology and Accessibility, Education of Children with Disabilities, Employment and Transition, Positive Behavioral Supports, and Leadership Preparation and Disability Awareness.

For more information:

Office: (775)-784-4921

www.nced.info

- [Audiology Awareness Month](#)
- [Blindness Awareness Month](#)
- [Campaign For Healthier Babies Month](#)
- [Children with Special Health Care Needs Month](#)
- [Dental Hygiene Awareness Month](#)
- [Disability Awareness Month](#)
- [Down Syndrome Awareness Month](#)
- [Rett Syndrome Awareness Month](#)
- [Spina Bifida Awareness Month](#)

September 2021

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

October 2021

Nevada's Month for Children with Special Needs

November 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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28	29	30				

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
https://sites.ed.gov/idea/ The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a law ensuring services to children with disabilities throughout the nation. Infants and toddlers with disabilities (birth to age 3) and their families receive early intervention services under Part C of the IDEA. This site was created to provide a "one-stop shop" for resources and information.					1	2
3	4 <i>Child Health Day</i>	5	6	7	8 <i>Anniversary of PL 99.457 establishing Part C of IDEA (Early Intervention for Infants and</i>	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 <i>Disability Mentoring Day</i>	22	23 <i>Make a Difference Day</i>
24	25	26	27	28	29 <i>Nevada Day</i>	30
31 <i>Halloween</i>	www.zerotothree.org/resources/series/parent-favorites ZERO TO THREE's Parent Portal provides a variety of resources for parents and caregivers of young children in areas such as: Ages and Stages, Social-Emotional Development, School Readiness and Early Learning, Play, Challenging Behavior, Sleep, and Positive Parenting Approaches. Resources designed to help you tune in to what makes your child tick, and to guide you in thinking about the best way to meet your child's individual needs.					



"Hi my name is Alexys! When I was born nobody knew I had a special heart. Not even the Doctors! My mommy and I were life flighted to Salt Lake City, Ut. They transferred me to the Primary Children's Hospital and they ran different tests and scans on my body. The Dr's told my mommy and daddy that I needed my first open heart surgery.

After my first successful surgery the Genetics Dr came and told my mommy and daddy that I had an extra chromosome, and I was diagnosed with DeGeorge Syndrome or 22q11.2 deletion.

We're all learning my syndrome as I grow bigger and stronger. With the help of NEIS I have come such a long way. They always check up on me and make sure I'm headed in the right direction! I look forward to many more visits with them." ~ Alexys/Mom, NEIS-Northeast Region

Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) – Northeast Region provides family-centered early intervention services and supports to rural communities in Pershing, Humboldt, Upper Nye, Lander, Eureka, Elko, and White Pine counties.

NEIS provides most services in homes or community-based environments for children with developmental delays and their families. They recognize the important role of the family in a young child's development and assist parents in their natural role as teachers to help meet their child's special needs.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**

"Logan had a bit of a rough start in life. Being diagnosed with cataracts and having them removed at 6 weeks old and then developing glaucoma a few months later caused him to have 9 eye surgeries in his first 18 months of life. On top of that he had multiple hospital stays due to asthma.

When we started with Nevada Early Intervention Systems (NEIS) Logan had fallen off the growth curve from 50th percentile to 5th and was falling behind in a lot of areas. Over the 18 months of being with NEIS he has worked with many therapists who have helped tremendously. They were so kind and patient with Logan and taught me the skills and activities that would help my child thrive.

Logan has been able to stay on his growth curve, he started and graduated from speech therapy, and is caught up with almost everything except for what his visual impairments make a little more difficult for him.

Logan turns 3 and will graduate out of the program and we are sad to say goodbye to all the incredible people we have worked with and so grateful for all the help they have provided." ~ Mom, NEIS-Northeast Region



"The hope is that if we can improve intervention with infants and toddlers, many of them will be able to leave their disabilities behind by age 5". — Sally J. Rogers, PhD, Professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences, M.I.N.D. Institute, University of California Davis Medical Center (2012)



Early Head Start offers comprehensive child development and family support services for birth to three year olds in home-based and center-based programs with or without disabilities.

The individualized home-based program provides visits by certified parent educators trained in child development who help parents understand what to expect in their child's development. Parents also receive practical tips on ways to encourage learning, manage challenging behavior, and promote strong parent-child relationships.

Center-based programs provide full-day, and full-year services, including high quality child care for infants and toddlers with without disabilities or without. Early Head Start promotes infant and toddler health and development; fosters positive family relationships and supports parents as the primary decisions makers and nurturers of their children.

For more information about Early Head Start:

(702) 486-6626 (Las Vegas)

<http://www.doe.nv.gov/HeadStart/>

www.rarediseases.org

National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) has a searchable database for the rare disorders, foundations, support groups, agencies, and more.

- Adoption Awareness Month*
- American Diabetes Month*
- Child Safety Protection Month*
- National Epilepsy Awareness Month*
- National Family Caregivers Month*
- Prematurity Awareness Month*

October 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Project ASSIST

Nevada's Central Directory for Resources & Information

1-800-522-0066 or **ProjectASSIST@dhhs.nv.gov**

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

December 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 <i>Election Day</i>	3	4	5	6
7 <i>Daylight Saving Time ends</i>	8	9	10	11 <i>Veterans Day</i>	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 <i>National Adoption Day</i>
21	22	23	24	25 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	26 <i>Family Day</i>	27
28	29 <i>Anniversary of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)</i>	30	<p>www.familytiesnv.net Family TIES of Nevada is a statewide nonprofit organization that serves people with disabilities throughout their lifespan, and supports their families and professionals who work on their behalf. As the Family Voices State Affiliate, Family TIES promotes family engagement to ensure Family-Centered Care.</p>			

Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) - Carson City from which they provide family-centered early intervention services and supports to northwest Nevada and its rural communities. NEIS provides most services in homes or community-based environments for children with developmental delays and their families. They recognize the important role of the family in a young child's development and assist parents in their natural role as teachers to help meet their child's special needs.

**For more information
Contact
Project ASSIST**

"Hi my name is *Gustavo*. I was born in December, 2017. I was diagnosed with Joubert syndrome and Dandy Walker malformation, which effects all of my motor skills, including the ability to eat things by mouth.

I have been working with Carson City NEIS since I was five months old. Thanks to my wonderful team and lots of hard work, I have accomplished so many goals! My next goals are to walk with some support, and eat more solid food, and graduate from early intervention!

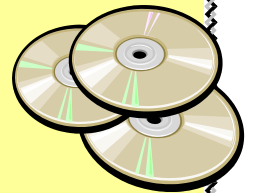
Thank you to all of the members of Carson City NEIS for their love and support!" ~ *Gustavo/Mom*



EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION LIBRARY



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 Central Directory's lending resource library, updated frequently with new books or videos. This large collection of books and videos is a tremendous source of information for parents and professionals in the care and education of a young child with a disability.



These library materials are available for use statewide at no cost to our families.

For more information, please contact your service provider or coordinator.

Catalog at:

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

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

or email ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

Nationally, less than a third of those ages 9 to 35 months received developmental screening, according to findings published in the July 9, 2018 online journal *JAMA Pediatrics*.



As the statewide Parent Training and Information (PTI) Center, **Nevada P.E.P.** provides services to parents of children with special needs, and to professionals.

Nevada P.E.P. offers the following services:

- Information, referral and technical assistance
- Individual assistance and support
- Specialized workshops on: Special Education Law, Due Process, Early Intervention Transition, and Parent/Professional Partnerships
- Newsletter and Resource Library
- Speakers

For additional information contact:

Las Vegas (702) 388-8899

Reno (775) 448-9950

Statewide (800) 216-5188

E-mail: pepinfo@nvpep.org

www.nvpep.org

www.p2pusa.org

Parent to Parent-USA is a national alliance of Parent to Parent (P2P) programs with the primary purpose of supporting emerging or established Parent to Parent programs.

Safe Toys and Gifts Month

November 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Project ASSIST

Nevada's Central Directory for Resources & Information

1-800-522-0066 or **ProjectASSIST@dhhs.nv.gov**

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

December 2021

January 2022

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
nvhandsandvoices.org Nevada Hands & Voices is a parent/professional collaboration and non-profit organization dedicated to providing information and support to families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing as well as the professionals who serve them.			1	2	3 <i>International Day of Persons with Disabilities</i>	4
5	6	7 <i>Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</i>	8	9	10	11
Inclusive Schools Week						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 <i>First Day of Winter</i>	22	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve Observed Holiday</i>	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>
26	27	28	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve Observed Holiday</i>	<i>New Years Day</i>

Nevada Resources

Each year, roughly 3 percent, or 388,000 American children receive Part C/Early Intervention (EI) Services (Office of Special Education Programs, 2018).

EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

Children with Disabilities ages 0-3 years

Statewide referral: 1-800-522-0066 or ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

Southern Region: Referrals (702) 486-9200

– Nevada Early Intervention Services - South

Northwest Region: Referrals (775) 688-1341

– Nevada Early Intervention Services - Reno

– Nevada Early Intervention Services - Carson City

Northeast Region: Referrals (775) 753-1214

– Nevada Early Intervention Services - Elko

– Nevada Early Intervention Services - Ely

– Nevada Early Intervention Services - Winnemucca

Children with Disabilities ages 3 and up

Nevada Head Start Collaboration and Early Childhood Systems

<http://www.doe.nv.gov/HeadStart/>

Local School District Special Education Services

(refer to your local County School District phone numbers)

TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

IDEA Part C Office

(775) 687-0587 or 1-800-522-0066

Nevada Department of Education — Carson City

(775) 687-9171

Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities — UNR

(775) 784-4921

REFERRAL AND RESOURCES

Early Childhood Special Education Library —

1-800-522-0066 or ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

Project ASSIST, a Central Directory for Disability Information —

1-800-522-0066 or ProjectAssist@dhhs.nv.gov

United Way's Information & Referral line —

Dial 211 or online at: www.nevada211.org

STATEWIDE PARENT TRAINING, INFORMATION & SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

Nevada PEP —

Toll Free 1-800-216-5188

ADVOCACY and LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center —

South —Toll Free 1-888-349-3843

North —Toll Free 1-800-992-5715

Elko —Toll Free 1-800-992-5715

STATE WEBSITES

— **State of Nevada**

<http://nv.gov>

— **Nevada IDEA Part C - Early Intervention**

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

— **Nevada Early Intervention Programs**

http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/IDEA/Early_Intervention_Programs/

— **Nevada Central Directory for Early Intervention**

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

— **Aging and Disability Services Division - Early intervention**

http://adsd.nv.gov/Programs/InfantsToddlers/Infants_Toddlers/



STEVE SISOLAK
Governor

Richard Whitley
Director, DHHS

185,837 young children in Nevada (0 to 4 years) — U.S. Census Bureau, July 1, 2017.

Nevada Early Intervention Services serves children 0 until 3 years.

