

Nevada Division of Child and Family Services'

Foster Parent Pre-Service Training: Session 2

October 10 & 12, 2023
6:00 pm to 9:00pm

Presented by

Kevin Quint, Clinical Program Manager and

Lori Nichols, Licensing Team Supervisor

Ashley Smith, Fallon District Office Licensing Worker



Welcome back...Missed you, we did...



Review Session 1

- What were some of the topics from Session 1?
- What sticks in your mind from Session 1?
- Any questions from last time?
- Review and discuss homework

AGENDA

How it Works-Part 2

- Mock Case: “Alice’s Story”—Group Exercise and Discussion
- Court Appointed Special Advocates—CASA: Guest Panel
- What Does it Take to Successfully Foster?
- What About Children with Special Needs?
- Teamwork Toward Success

Licensing 101

Recap and Q&A

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Case Study: Alice's Story



Alice's Story: Group Activity

Let's discuss the questions on your handout, **"Alice's Story: Group Exercise"** (and you can make up your own). Answers to some of the questions may come from the written case but some are just a matter of your observation and opinion.



Breathe in for 4 seconds,
Hold for 4 seconds,
Breathe out for 4 seconds,
Hold for 4 seconds,
Repeat...



Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

NEVADA CASA ASSOCIATION

GUEST PANEL: CASAs from across the Rural Region--Melanie McCormick, Carson City; Alana McKinney, Nye County (invited); Mary Smith, Lyon County. Also, Kathie McKenna, Guardian Ad Litem, Nye County

Give me a break, give me a break...



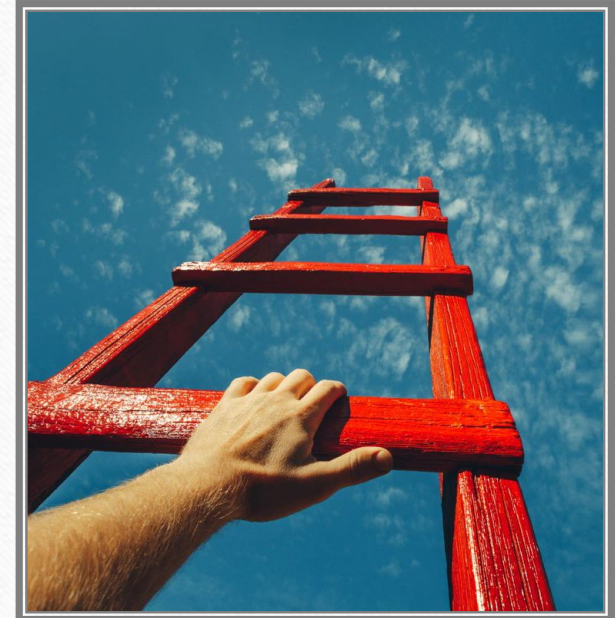


What Does It Take to Successfully Foster?

What do YOU think it takes to foster children successfully?

What Does It Take to Successfully Foster?

- Empathy
- Good listening skills
- Perseverance when things get tough
- Flexibility and adaptability
- Patience and...a *very* good sense of HUMOR



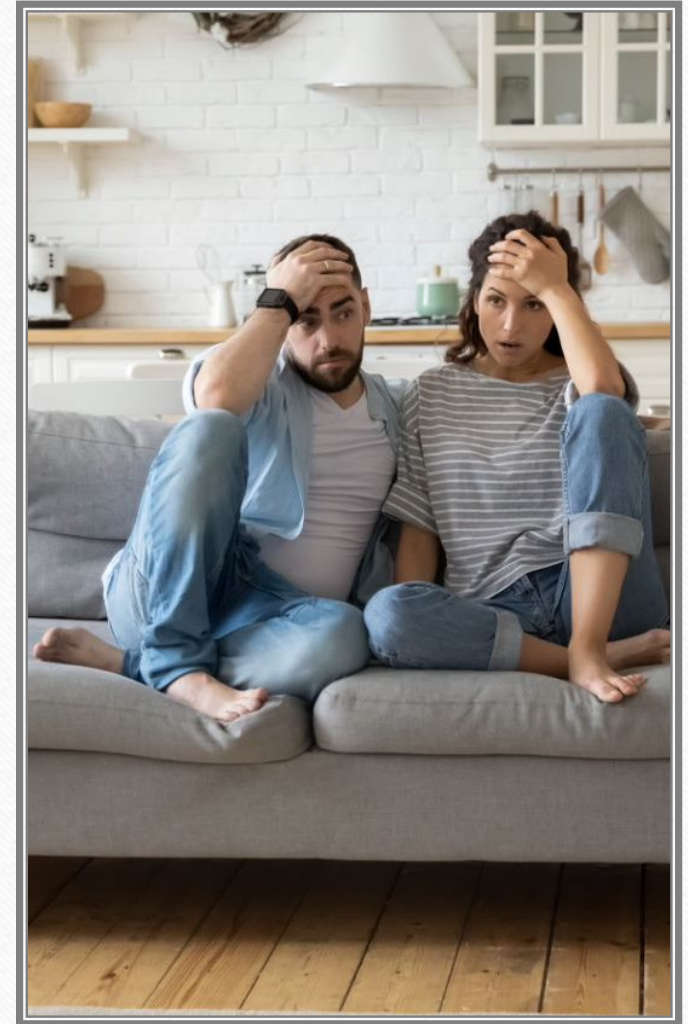
What does it take to successfully foster?

- Stability and consistency in your own personal and family life
- Ability to recognize that YOU have needs too
- Willingness to work with others in a child's life such as birth parents and/or family members
- Willingness to support the child to develop a sense of identity that includes their culture, language, & religion

**Let's hear from a couple of
foster parents...**

**What does it take to
successfully foster?**

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What about children with special needs?

- Race
- Sexuality
- Sexual identity
- Mental health
- Substance use issues
- Developmental
- FASD

“What you see is not always what you get...”



"YOUR DESIGNS CONSIST OF SOFT, WARM COLORS THAT ARE CALMING AND SOOTHING. NO OFFENSE, BUT I PICTURED YOU LOOKING A LITTLE DIFFERENT."



WHICH ONE IS THE “SPECIAL NEEDS” CHILD?

Could You Love Me Anyway?

GROUP EXERCISE: Children with Diverse Backgrounds

(See handout entitled, “Group Exercise: Children with Diverse Backgrounds”)





Final Word on How it Works: *TEAMWORK*

The team members involved in the child's life:

- Share a commitment to the child's safety, permanency, and well-being
- Have distinct roles and responsibilities
- Relate to your child in different ways
- Are NOT equally trauma-informed

More on this later!



TIME FOR RECAP

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How about a
little review?

LICENSING

101

Introducing...
THE LICENSING TEAM!!!



LORI NICHOLS,
LICENSING TEAM
SUPERVISOR

REBECCA BURT,
LICENSING
WORKER, ELKO

ASHLEY SMITH,
LICENSING
WORKER, FALLON

SHANA ROGERS,
LICENSING
WORKER
PAHRUMP

TAWNEY SIMPSON,
LICENSING
WORKER, CARSON
CITY

VACANT,
ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT

SHELBY RILEY,
FOSTER CARE
RECRUITER

LICENSING
CONTRACTORS

Topics of Discussion

Licensing
Process

Home Study
Interviews

Home
Inspection

NRS/NAC
424

QPI

What happens
after initial
licensing?

5 Tips to
Prepare for a
Home Study

Licensing Process

Licensing Process in a Nutshell:

- Inquire with the Division of Child and Family Services about becoming a licensed foster parent.
 - ✓ DCFS Foster Care website: www.ruralnvfostercare.com
 - ✓ Shelby Riley, Foster Care Licensing Recruiter, T: (775) 684-1950
- Complete a profile through our new foster care software, Binti, which can be accessed on our website.
- Schedule and complete the Foster Care Pre-Service Training.
- Once your application has been received and reviewed, you will be contacted by a licensing worker to begin the process.
- Submit all required paperwork through Binti.
- Complete home inspection.
- Complete interview process.
- Home study written by the licensing worker and signed by family.

WELCOME TO binti

An Introduction to a Positive Change for our Fostering Community!

“Binti is a mission-driven, technology company based in Oakland, California. We have a huge vision in foster care, adoption and beyond, and are growing our team quickly to help us get there.”

From the Binti website



The background features a repeating pattern of black house icons in various styles, including simple outlines, houses with hearts, and houses with windows. A central white rectangular box with a thin green border contains the text. Two dark brown horizontal bars are positioned on either side of the box, partially overlapping it.

Home Study

What is a Home Study?



Home Study: Getting Started



Home Study Interviews: How long is the interview process?



Home Study Interviews



Questionnaire
1



Questionnaire
2



Compatibility
Inventory



Children
Interviews

Home Study Interviews

Questionnaire 1

- This will be given to you prior to your first interview.
- This form will be filled out and returned to the licensing worker.

Questionnaire 2

- This form will be given to both applicants and filled out in the home privately.
- Couples will be interviewed separately.

Home Study Interviews: Compatibility Inventory



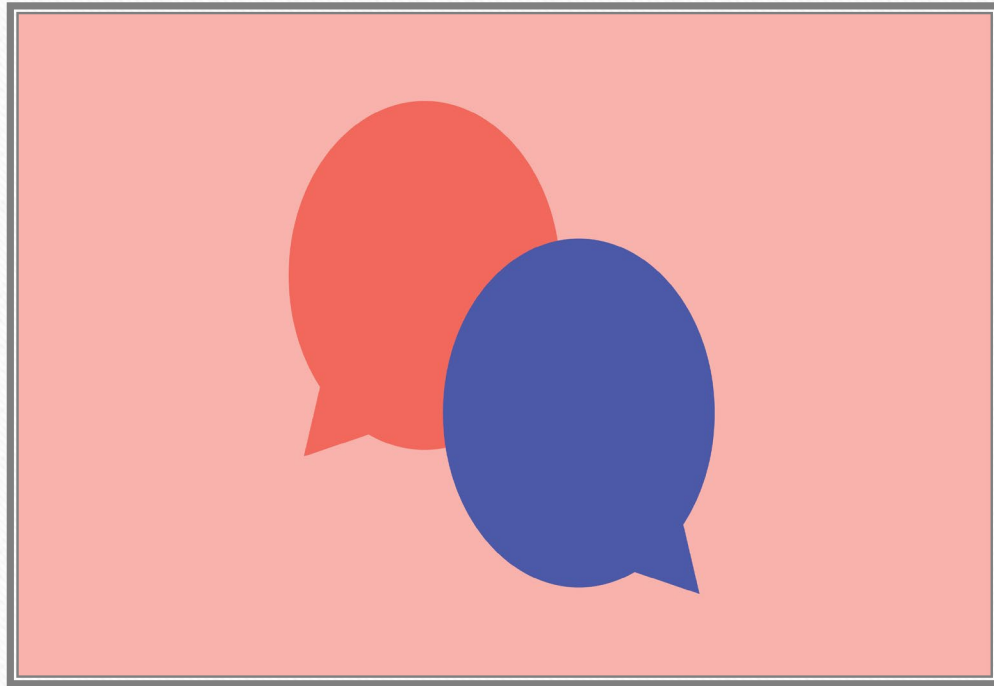
Home Study Interviews: Children Interviews





Jumping Break

Home Study Interviews: What is discussed in interviews?





Home Inspection

Home Inspection: What is it and Why is it Important?



Home Inspection: What do we inspect?



Home Inspection “SCAVENGER HUNT”



5 Tips to
Prepare for a
Foster Care
Home Study





5 Tips to Prepare for a Foster Care Home Study

Tip 1: Take a deep breath, relax, and welcome the licensing worker into your home

Tip 2 – Use the information we provide to you

Tip 3- Prepare your bedrooms

Tip 4 – Clean up a little bit, but don't go crazy

Tip 5 – Don't over think it!

NRS and NAC 424

REGULATIONS

RULES



NRS 424 and NAC 424



What are NRS 424 and NAC 424?

- Nevada Revised Statutes and Nevada Administrative Code for foster homes for children:
 - ✓ <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-424.html>
 - ✓ <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/NAC-424.html>
- These are the governing laws and regulations for foster homes.

NRS 424 and NAC 424

EXAMPLES:

- **NAC 424.420** Empty water features, standing bodies of water, saunas and tanning booths. (NRS 424.020)
- **NAC 424.530** Discipline of children: Restrictions. (NRS 424.020)
- **NAC 424.390** Portable heaters
- **NAC 424.375** Sleeping accommodations
- **NAC 424.560** Medication



You have become
a licensed foster
parent!

What happens after initial licensing?



Life after Licensing: What to Expect





Let's hear from some foster parents on the foster care licensing process

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ekr36](https://usf.box.com/s/317oeg9915yky02pk1nv50ok71f
ekr36)

[https://usf.box.com/s/18fruun6lxymoo1fa2h2e4gmhxx
rbnhk](https://usf.box.com/s/18fruun6lxymoo1fa2h2e4gmhxx
rbnhk)

Questions?



A yellow diamond-shaped sign with a black border and two mounting holes at the top and bottom. The sign is positioned on the right side of the image, set against a background of a bright blue sky filled with scattered white clouds. The text on the sign is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font, arranged in three lines: 'TIME' on the top line, 'FOR A' on the middle line, and 'BREAK' on the bottom line.

**TIME
FOR A
BREAK**

Foster Parent Panel





Key Takeaways for the Day

- What caught your attention?
- What did you learn that you didn't know before?
- How did this change how you see your future role in foster care?
- Homework

SEE YOU LATER

