



RURAL NEVADA CAREGIVER COURIER

JANUARY 2023

BI- MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



FOSTER CARE 2022: A YEAR IN REVIEW

What's In This Issue:

- 2022 in review
- NEW Caregiver Corner
- Training & Resources
- Other Announcements

A Word the Rural NV Foster Care Recuriter

For those of you reading this whom have been fostering for many years, you have likely seen shifts in the culture or procedures you see in court, among workers and among the families you serve. You may have seen a rise of children placed in your home for a certain reason, you may have noticed there are more virtual options for services than ever before. Or maybe you've noticed the number of foster homes in your area has changed and of course, the licensing regs always change. In 2022, we still endured kinks brought on by the COVID 19 Pandemic 2 years ago. We're still catching up with delayed court hearings and

helping our kiddos cope with the changes and new "Normals" of the pandemic and trying to gain a sense of community back since 2020. A good handful of foster homes have moved away, retired or closed their license. On the same note, a new generation of foster homes are eagerly awaiting to get started. 14 homes (or 27%) of our fostering community were licensed in the last 24 months. We also have 17 homes registered for our next training at the end of January 2022. In this article, you will find trends & numbers as pertains to

our Rural NV foster care program. You'll also find an invitation to our inaugural Virtual Caregiver Corner where we invite **YOU** to **connect with other foster parents** and **build a village** with your fostering network. Thank you to those foster homes that fostered our rural Nevada children through 2022 and a special shout out to those who started their fostering journey this year.

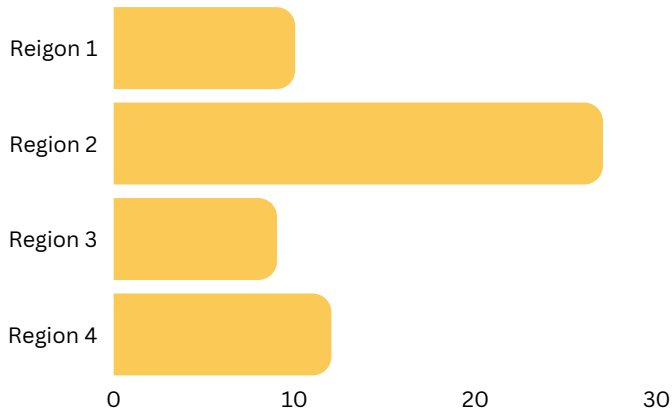
2022 In Review

(Data provided by Binti & the current DCFS data book)

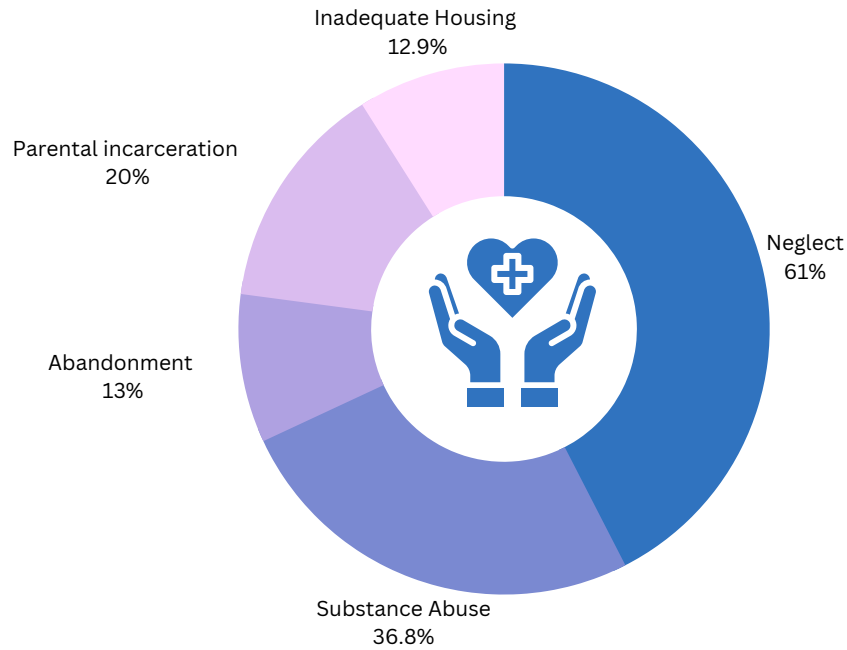
We broke down some numbers about our foster care program for 2022. Do any of these numbers Surprise you? Are you interested in the other data we track? View our whole

Databook [here](#).

Foster Homes By Region



Reasons for Entering Foster Care



Note: Youth may have multiple removal reasons selected. Thus, the total of the removal reasons used is greater than 100%.

Longest Active License

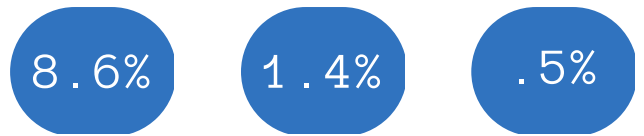
Jimmy & Sheila Allred

Fostering for 22 years!



thank you

Smaller But Notable Numbers



8.6% Removed due to Physical abuse
 1.4% Removed due to emotional abuse
 .5% Relinquishment

Placement Breakdown of Statewide Youth in Foster Care on July 31, 2022

Placement Type	Count of Statewide Foster Youth in Placement Setting	Percent of Statewide Foster Youth in Placement Setting
Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	1,761	41.3%
Foster Family Home (Relative)	1,700	39.9%
Trial Home Visit	494	11.6%
Institution	230	5.4%
Runaway	43	1.0%
Group Home	22	0.5%
Pre-Adoptive Home	15	0.4%
Supervised Independent Living	0	0.0%
Total Youth	4,265	100.0%

Trainings & Resources

NEW Online Caregiver Corner

Virtually gather with other rural Nevada foster parents for support, connections & resource sharing.

Open to all types of caregivers!

- Community
- Relative
- Fictive kin
- Group & residential staff

- Share/get advice
- Share your experiences
- Meet other caregivers
- Build a village

1st Inaugural meetings

2 options

January 18 7:30 PM

[CLICK TO JOIN](#)

OR

January 21 at 3:00PM

[CLICK TO JOIN](#)

Via Microsoft Teams



December survey raffle winner:

Jason Smithburg

won \$15 to Starbucks for filling our December Caregiver Survey

Join our virtual meeting for a chance to win our first meeting participation raffle!

**YOU
WON'T
WANT
TO MISS
OUR
NEXT**

Our January 18th Rural Region QPI Committee meeting will have a full agenda that includes [hearing from Carole Shauffer from QPI National and a co-founder of the QPI movement](#). Carole is a tireless advocate for the QPI core value that "all children deserve excellent parenting." We'll also be hearing from [Liz Stetson and Dana Gray from DCFS Quality Assurance on using Comfort Calls and Ice Breakers to help a foster home communicate with the birth family about the children placed in their home](#). These tools are important so that children removed from their family can maintain contact with their family when that is appropriate and also for the birth parent to connect with the foster home on behalf of the child (i.e. learning about child's routine, favorite foods, allergies, etc.). We'll also be talking in the QPI Rural Region meeting about progress in [developing a QPI Facebook page as well as plans to start a Foster Parent Connection Group that will help build our foster care community in the 15 rural counties](#). If you'd like to attend the Rural Region QPI meeting on January 18th,

please email Kevin Quint at kevin.quint@dcsf.nv.gov or call him at 775-684-1973.

Carole Shauffer

QPI Senior Director



Carole Shauffer became Youth Law Center's Senior Director, Strategic Initiatives in 2012 after serving as its Executive Director for 26 years and a staff attorney since 1981. Her experience in systems change and as a Zero to 3 fellow, led to the creation of the Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI). Prior to working at the Youth Law Center she was a staff attorney at the Louisiana Center for the Public Interest and the ACLU of Louisiana.



MEETING: JANUARY 18

Trainings & Support Groups



CWLA is excited to share several training opportunities in the new year!

**There may be fee's to enroll in these trainings*

Fostering School Success: How Caregivers and Social Workers Can Support the Educational Needs of Children

January 24, 25, 31 and February 1 at 12:00pm ET

This four-part engaging, skill-building training will share how to improve school experiences and long-term outcomes for children who have experienced trauma. Participants will develop an understanding of common barriers to educational engagement for youth who have experienced trauma; learn practical strategies for cultivating resilience at home that will lead to improved school performance; and expand their collaboration and advocacy toolkits to ensure children and youth have access to high quality schooling.

[Find Out
More](#)

A Responsive Framework of Care for Children and Youth with Emotional and Behavioral Health Challenges

January 26, February 2, 9, 16 & 23 at 2:00pm ET

This five-part training series is a follow-up to a recent webinar focused on serving children and youth with emotional and behavioral health challenges. The series will cover the initial steps to fully understand the population and their needs, including cluster analysis and clinical constellations; examining this information in partnership with youth, parents, and other stakeholders to develop interventions/programs based on the findings; funding and infrastructure; examining out-of-home treatment and developing what is needed.

[Find Out
More](#)

Crisis Assessment and Intervention When Trauma Strikes: A Five-Step Approach to Foster Hope, Collaboration, and Change

February 7, 14, 21, & 28 at 1:00pm ET

This four-part skills-based training will feature facilitated conversations as a way to foster the hope, collaboration, and change needed to assess and intervene when trauma and tragedy strike. These conversations seek to cultivate environments of safety and trust, significant supervisory support, increased tolerance for ambiguity and stress, and a well-formulated team orientation. As professionals and organizations enhance their capacity to rebound from crisis and weather stress, they also gain vital resources to deal more efficiently with future challenges.

[Find Out
More](#)

**MORE JUST IN TIME TRAINING:
(qpinevada.org)**



Trainings & Support Groups

RENO RODEO FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

A Reno Rodeo Foundation Scholarship award supports tuition costs and school related expenses as provided by the educational institution to support the upcoming school year. Students who intend to enroll in a Nevada System of Higher Education College or University institution or a Career College or Vocational School licensed by the State of Nevada Commission on Postsecondary Education accredited as recognized by the U.S. Department of Education are encouraged to apply.

EXPANDED SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Additional consideration will be given to applicants participating in one of more of the following: 4H, FFA, Grange, Rodeo, as well as Foster Youth currently in or who have been in Northern Nevada foster care.

AL EVANS SILVER SPURS SCHOLARSHIP

Two recipients will receive a \$5,000 award for applicants with declared majors in Veterinary or Pre-Veterinary degrees.

WESTERN ARTS & CULTURE SCHOLARSHIP

The Western Arts & Culture Scholarship is intended to create further awareness and appreciation of western arts, culture and heritage in college-age Northern Nevada students through recognition of outstanding potential, contributions and skill in the creative arts. The recipient of the award will receive an additional \$2,500 added to the Reno Rodeo Foundation scholarship award. The applicant does not need a major in the arts to be eligible to apply.



Al Evans Silver Spurs Scholarship Awards for Pre-Veterinary or Veterinary degrees



2022 Scholarship Students



100% of the Rodeo State License Plate income received by the Reno Rodeo Foundation funds educational scholarships.
Get Your Rodeo License Plate Today & Help the Kids!

VISIT RENORODEOFUNDATION.ORG FOR SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES AND THE ONLINE APPLICATION.

Reno Rodeo Foundation Scholarship Deadline is Thursday, February 9, 2023

ONLINE APPLICATION HERE

Join a community
of families
for a FREE virtual
learning series

Family ECHO: Autism, supported by Autism Speaks, is a virtual learning program offering free, real-time access to autism and behavioral experts. Through a series of 75-minute online sessions, you will learn to engage and build skills around:

- Understanding and managing severe and distressing behaviors
- Building support for you and your family
- Anxiety and autism
- ADHD and autism
- Transition to adulthood
- Making decisions with your care team

Eligible attendees: family members and caregivers of an autistic child or adult



REGISTER NOW

<https://bit.ly/FamilyECHO>

For questions email: autismcarenetwork@nationwidechildrens.org

SEVERAL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR NEVADA FOSTER YOUTH



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
of Northern Nevada

APPLICATION OPENS JANUARY 15

Did you know that if a student is awarded scholarship amounts that exceed their tuition cost, they will be awarded the difference in a residual check that they can use for rent, groceries, books, or other emergencies? Although many former youths qualify for free in-state tuition, talk to your teen about how extra scholarships and funding can make a difference in their financial future.

Announcements & Other News


JOIN OUR FACEBOOK
COMMUNITY:

CLICK HERE

FOSTER PARENTS OF RURAL
NEVADA



HELPFUL LINKS:

 [Agency Forms and Documents
for Foster Parents](#)

Welcome

NEW FOSTER HOMES!

SAM AND KRISTIN INMAN

SILVER SPRINGS, NV

MARISSA AND CASSANDRA BUCKNER

FALLON, NV

LAURA & ROOSEVELT BOSTIC

PAHRUMP, NV

SAMANTHA & JOSEPH SETTLES

ELY, NV

ZACK & KAMI BEITLER

GARDNERVILLE, NV

Struggling with the child welfare system?
*this is a common issue with new and seasoned
foster homes. There are those you can reach out to
for assistance:*


Kelly McKiddie - Mental Health Counselor 2
kmckiddie@dcfs.nv.gov

**Kevin Quint - Manager, Advanced Foster Care
and Licensing**
kevin.quint@dcfs.nv.gov

Laurie Jackson - Rural Child Welfare Manager
ljackson@dcfs.nv.gov

**Please reach out to us and we are happy to
assist you!**



**JOIN OUR MONTHLY QPI MEETINGS VIA
MICROSOFT TEAMS
EMAIL THE QPI COORDINATOR,
KEVIN QUINT, KEVIN.QUINT@DCFS.NV.GOV
FOR THE MEETING INVITE.**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE
REMOVED FROM THIS MAILING
LIST, PLEASE EMAIL
Shelby.riley@dcfs.nv.gov**