



CLOTHING CLOSET

All children deserve the essentials! Most abused and neglected children enter foster care with little to no clothing and supplies.

The clothing closet at the FEC provides clothing and personal care items for all foster parents, birth parents and children as needed.

Donations are accepted from the community of new or slightly used clothing, school supplies, scrapbook items and gifts for birthday's and holiday seasons. Donated items are primarily used by current clientele or families involved within the HSA; however, they can be available for anyone in need.

ON SITE FOOD PANTRY

Everyone has the right to have nutritious meals daily; however, many families experience food insecurity. As a result, many families do not know when their next meal will come and often go hungry.

Families involved within the HSA have the benefit of an on site food pantry to bridge the food gap and help relieve hunger, along with utilizing this food during their visits with their child (ren).



**GET IN TOUCH WITH US.
WE'RE HERE TO HELP.**

**WASHOE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CENTER**

CONTACT INFORMATION



Phone
(775) 352-3230
(voicemail is NOT available)



Hours
8:00 am - 7:00 pm
(Monday - Friday)



Website
www.washoecounty.us/hsa



Address
905 E Prater Way
Sparks, NV 89434



CONNECT WITH
WASHOE COUNTY



HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY

**FAMILY
ENGAGEMENT
CENTER**





At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CENTER PURPOSE & PHILOSOPHY

Family Engagement and Visitation is essential for a child's well-being, fundamental to permanency and vital to a child maintaining family relationships and cultural connections.

Visitation is a right, not a privilege, and should be embraced and encouraged. Research has shown the most powerful motivation a parent has to make positive lifestyle change is to see their child(ren). Consistent visitation is associated with higher rates of reunification and decreases in a child's anxiety and depression. Visitation

maintains and supports the parent/child relationship, which is essential for successful reunification and for preventing re-entry into foster care.

The Washoe County Human Services Agency (HSA) Family Engagement Center (FEC) allows visitations to be facilitated in an environment that is child friendly and positive. It provides various opportunities for parents to interact, play, and learn healthy behaviors, while building confidence in their ability to parent.

MEETING YOUR ENGAGER

Every child with a scheduled visit, has a visitation coordinator assigned to them called an "Engager".

The Engager facilitates the visitation by providing developmentally appropriate parenting education and coaching to help the parent learn about their child's developmental/emotional needs, and connect with their child(ren) by following the child's lead.

The Engager will coordinate all of the family's visits and will be the primary point person for all visitation related issues.

YOUR FIRST VISIT AT THE FEC

HSA's top priority is to ensure a child's well-being is met first and foremost. All children deserve stability, love and encouragement.

When a child has been removed from their home, HSA strives to immediately schedule the first visit between the child(ren) and the parents.

The assigned FEC Engager will contact the parents and foster parents as soon as possible following the removal of the child(ren). During the first visit, a co-parenting relationship will be developed, and on-going visitation plans and expectations will be made between all parties.

The intent of the visitation is to strengthen the parent/child relationship by focusing on quality family time. This enables parents to connect with their child(ren), practice new skills and techniques, and stay informed about what is happening in their child(ren)'s lives.

