



WASHOE COUNTY FOSTER, ADOPTIVE, RELATIVE & KINSHIP QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY, MARCH & APRIL 2019



The new Quality Parenting Standards for Foster Homes are now posted on the QPI website. We will be sending printed versions out to licensed homes. We are in the process of translating this to Spanish. Meanwhile, please take a moment to look over this update online by going to <http://www.qpinevada.org/washoe/pages/documents.shtml> Thank you so much to all of you who participated in this process with us, we could not have done it without you!! If you have any questions, please contact your foster care licensing worker and note that with the addition of Laura your licensing worker may have changed.

Remember, AB99 mandates that LGBTQ training occur within the first 90 days of licensure and annually thereafter. LGBTQ information is embedded throughout the TIPS course and meets this initial requirement. However, beginning for June renewals, licensing workers will require proof of this training in addition to the four hours required annually. The following trainings are available on the QPI website and meet this requirement.

- 2017 Fostering and Adoption Summit: How Gender and Orientation Impacts All Youth
- Supporting LGBTQ and Gender Diverse Youth in Out-of-Home Care
- LGBTQ 101
- Transgender Issues in Foster Care

In case you didn't know our mailing address has changed. It is now:

**350 S Center Street
Reno, NV 89501**

Please be sure to update your insurance to reflect the new address.

Respite Etiquette— Please be thoughtful, respectful & kind when utilizing or providing respite. When you're requesting respite it is your responsibility to share information regarding appointments, visits, safety plans, level of supervision needed/required and any medical advice or diet restrictions, etc. When providing respite it is your responsibility to get kiddos to any scheduled appointments and visits, as well as follow any safety plans or medical advise so be sure you're asking all the right questions. Finally, you must always check in with your licensing worker and don't forget to document!

The FDA is alerting parents, caregivers, and health care providers that jewelry marketed for relieving teething pain should not be used with infants or to provide sensory stimulation to persons with special needs, such as autism or attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder. The risks of using such jewelry include choking, strangulation, injury to the mouth, and infection. Additionally, amber teething necklaces contain a substance called succinic acid, which may be released into an infant's blood stream in unknown quantities. Instead, the FDA recommends that parents, guardians and caregivers consider the American Academy of Pediatrics' recommendations of alternative ways for treating teething pain such as rubbing infants' gums with a clean finger or providing a teething ring made of firm rubber to chew on.

To read more information and recommendations, visit the [Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance blog site](#)



**MAY IS
FOSTER CARE
MONTH!**

**HSA PRESENTS
HAVE A HEART UNR BASEBALL GAME**

GAME TIME

**SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019
NEVADA VS. FRESNO STATE**

In spirit of National Foster Care Month, Washoe County Human Services Agency would like to recognize foster families by inviting their pack to support the Wolf Pack!

Come out to the ballpark and enjoy a day of fun by watching University Nevada Wolf Pack take on Fresno State Bulldogs.

GO PACK!

Join us Sunday, May 5, 2019, at **11:00 am** to tailgate at the Wolf Pack Park where kids can play, enjoy food and beverages, and where everyone can get their tickets to the game.

Game time starts at **1:00 pm**. One of our very own foster parents will be throwing the first game ball pitch!

RSVP to Mikie Franklin with number of attendees to:

Email: MFranklin@washoecounty.us

Phone: (775) 337-4471

Practice Field near Peccole Park, University of Nevada, Evans Ave, Reno, NV 89557

Be The Village

A Foster Care Banquet



Please join us for a delicious lunch, inspirational speakers, entertainment and a raffle as we celebrate those who have dedicated their hearts and lives to children in foster care in Northern Nevada.

You do not have to be a foster parent to be a part of the village that supports children in foster care and foster families. Simply by attending, you become part of the village. Please invite your friends and family. Anyone can attend so please help spread the word.

When: Sunday, May 26th at 2:00pm

Where: Eldorado Casino – 345 N. Virginia St. Reno, NV 89501

Tickets: \$30.00 per person

Just go to gf.me/u/rtbsaj to buy your tickets

Each ticket includes a full lunch and one raffle ticket. A cash only, no host bar will be available.



Support Groups

Foster/Adoptive Support Group focusing on Transracial education

Third Tuesday of each month @ 6pm * Training offered

Los Compadres * 25 Foothill Rd. * Reno

RSVP to Brittney Augustenborg * 846-6745 or Arlene Carter * 737-1603

“Instant Family” – A support group for foster/adoptive/relative & kinship caregivers

Fourth Thursday of each month @ 6pm * Training offered

Sparks Library * 1125 12th St. * Sparks

RSVP: Cindy Johnson * 775-250-4765 or cindyinsparks@gmail.com

Or Patty Steen * j-psteen@sbcglobal.net or 775-544-3388

Foster/Adoptive Parent’s Night Out

Third Thursday of each month @ 6pm

Reach out to Jerri Ann to find out which restaurant they’re going to this month!

RSVP to Jerri Ann Fredeen * 224-1380

Relative Foster Parent Support Group

Third Saturday of each month @ 11am

Round Table Pizza * 1075 N. Hills Blvd. #110* Reno (Golden Valley)

Please RSVP to Regina Hayes * (530) 386-7221 or regina.haynes522@gmail.com

3 Angels Support Group

Third Thursday of each month @ 6pm

Food, child care & training offered

1095 East Taylor St. * Reno

Provided by Fatai & Raymond Langi with 3 Angels Care LLC * RSVP to koula@3angelscare.org

Faith Based Relative Foster Parent Support Group *TBD*

Faith Ministries located * 2301 Kings Row* Reno

Please RSVP to Gloria Torma at tfi.nevada@gmail.com

Foster Parent Game Night! * TBD *

Please RSVP to RainaStetson@gmail.com





TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

CPR/FIRST AID CERTIFICATION TRAINING—Fatai Langi with 3 Angels Care LTD. offers CPR classes to new and licensed foster, adoptive and relative foster homes. For more information and to RSVP for a class please contact them at their

NEW contact at koula@3angelscare.org

Or you can try **Sheri Blackwell-Ralphe** at (775) 691-9952 certifiedcpr@sbcglobal.net

THE QPI WEBSITE - New trainings are being added to the QPI website all the time. Including Trainings in Spanish. Go check them out at

<http://www.qpinevada.org/washoe/pages/upcoming.shtml>

Tips for successfully obtaining your certificate after completing an online training through the QPI website:

- ◆ You cannot fast forward — if you do the link you need to click on to print your certificate will be disabled.
 - ◆ Try not to watch the trainings on your cell phone—you're more likely to accidentally hit something on the screen that will disable the certificate button.
 - ◆ You're only allowed 3 attempts to pass a quiz at the end of the training—After that it locks you out and you'll need to contact support at centersupport@usf.edu to get back in. Then you have to watch the video again.
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MINI MEDICAL TRAININGS ARE ON HOLD — Due to lack of attendance. However, please watch for information on an all-day multiple subject training in the spring and fall.

CHILDREN'S CABINET - offers a wide variety of training opportunities. Check out the calendar at www.childrencabinet.org

WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT PARENT UNIVERSITY- Parent University offers learning sessions to help families build upon skills, knowledge and support systems to advocate for student success.

<https://www.washoeschools.net/parentu>

Nevada PEP - Strengthening Families with Education, Empowerment and Encouragement <http://www.nvpep.org/>



Champions

Crystal Granillo has been nominated by one of the staff at the FEC. This staff explained how Crystal “literally embodies QPI.” When dealing with a very difficult first visit “Crystal showed up, seriously showed up!” The birth mother was struggling with the removal of her child and was on the verge of just giving up. Crystal took all the engager’s notes for a very different approach to the visit and as a result, got the mom involved. “Seeing this mom embrace her baby was amazing. Watching them walk out together, with a wink from Crystal, told me that mom had hope again. It would not have been possible without Crystal’s support. She rocks!”

Raymond and Fatai Langi have been nominated to recognize their enduring ability to provide unconditional love, healing, patience and structure while “looking at the bigger picture” with each and every challenging little nugget we place in their home!

Doug and Regan Losty have demonstrated their understanding of QPI! They recently transitioned 3 little ones to a relative placement. In the process they allowed the family to stay in their home. They even had the family over for Christmas to help the children transition and develop trust for their new forever family. They are truly committed to doing what is best for children and are phenomenal foster parents.

Sherry Peck was nominated by a Public Defender! Sherry is described as being very supportive of child’s relationship with his family throughout the case. She was very kind and engaged with the parents, despite their occasional resistance and struggles. At one permanency hearing, she stood up and told the court she thought it was in child’s best interest for his parents to have every opportunity to reunify with him. “The manner in which she (Sherry) interacted with my client made it so that he would have felt comfortable with her adopting his young son and had no concerns about her care for him.” Way to go Sherry and thank you for helping to put our families at ease, but putting the needs of the child first and foremost!



Even More Champions

Kristi Sprinkle has been nominated by an amazing foster parent. This foster parent writes “Today was our adoption day for 2 kiddos and it’s the anniversary of adoption day for our other kiddo. Kristi Sprinkle is our worker and she brought gifts for the kids and then separately got each kid their favorite stuffed animal. Our daughter loves llamas so she got a stuffed llama, our son loves dinosaurs and he got one of those and our kiddo who already adopted got a whale. It took extra effort and paying attention to know the animals they love and then she went out and got them for my kids. We feel so loved and seen!” You are amazing and more appreciated than you know Kristi! Thank you for being an example and an inspiration!

Thank you to Dave and Lisa Ryan for creating your own GoFundMe account to raise money and awareness for Totes for Teens and Luggage for Littles! If that wasn’t enough ~ you went out on your own and purchased all of the luggage pictured here! You amazing!!



Thank you William Way for advocating for our youth with your employer, Harrah’s. Because of William’s advocacy, any new, unused luggage that would normally be gifted to their VIP hotel guests is now being given to our kiddos! He’s given more than what’s pictured here and there’s more on the way! WOW William!



RESOURCES



CAST HOPE

Would you like the opportunity to take one of your kiddos out fishing? Cast Hope offers a free fly fishing lesson and trip to qualified kiddos. To see if your kiddo qualifies go to <https://www.casthope.org/about/>

WANDA'S BABY CLOSET

Have you ever heard of Casa de Vida? They're a great Resource for our teen moms. What you may not be aware of is Wanda's Baby Closet who works in collaboration with Casa de Vida providing free baby clothes and supplies to our bio and foster parents. For information on how to access this amazing resource or to help your bio parent call (775) 329-3211.

NEVADA EQUINE ASSISTED THERAPY (NEATS)

If you're interested in learning more about NEATS and how their services can help you or a youth in your home call Laurie at 750-9823 or go to www.NevadaEquineAssistedTherapy.com

HEAD START

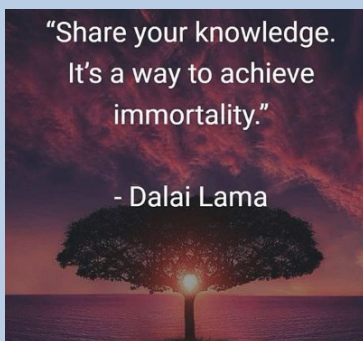
Has openings! The Community Services Agency (Head Start, State Pre-K and Early Head Start) would love to talk to you if you're interested in early education for your 0-3 or 3-5 year old. Contact Megan Jack at (775) 786-6023 ext. 207 or mjack@csareno.org

KIWANIS CLUB

Has really great bikes and accessories available at discounted prices! Contact them at (775) 337-1717 or <http://www.kiwanishbikes.org>

FREE TUTORING!

If your youth needs tutoring, please reach out to Joseph at Sierra Association of Foster Families (SAFF) at the following email address JoeyGalata@gmail.com As a reminder, SAFF can tutor students of all ages who are foster, adopted and/or have reunified.



THE NURTURING NEST

The Nurturing Nest is a birth and parenting community that offers a variety of free classes from pregnancy and child birth to yoga. They also offer free weekly circles of support, toddler playgroups and breast feeding circle to mention just a few. **THE CLOTH DIAPER PROJECT** was created by staff at The Nurturing Nest. For more information about how you can access the services at either the Nurturing Nest or The Cloth Diaper Project go to <http://www.nurturingnestreno.com/schedule.html>

LUGGAGE FOR LITTLES AND TOTES FOR TEENS

Did you know we have a luggage closet here at Washoe County? If you find yourself in need of luggage for your littles or totes for your teens please, never move a child's things in trash bags. Instead, contact Tawnya Robertson at 785-8659 or trobertson@washoecounty.us

A CHILD'S WORLD

Offers a community support group for parents of children with attachment or trauma issues. Receive one hour of training credit per group attended.

When: 3rd Tuesday of each month from 7-8:30p.m. (excluding December)

Where: 2301 Sparks Blvd. FREE child care
Please RSVP to Sharon Willans at least 1 day in advance at 322-4650 or Sharonacwoffice@att.net

THE ADOPTION EXCHANGE

Has a free lending library. They offer a wide variety of books with topics ranging from; exposure, grief & trauma healing, mental illness, sexual abuse, special needs adoption, books for children and more. Visit www.utahadopt.org or call 1-800-451-5246 to learn how easy it is to borrow and Return.

MASSAGE THERAPY

Holistic Arts Bodywork offers Massage Therapy at discounted rates for foster/adopt/relative/kinship care givers with a purpose call 433-1600 or e-mail holisticartsbodywork@outlook.com

INTERESTED IN ADOPTING?

Emerelda age 4, Neveah age 3, Mia age 6 & Dominic age 7

The three girls love to sing and dance! They may even sign up for cheerleading soon. Dominic is very athletic and funny. All the kids enjoy playing outside and being playful. They are definitely the 4 musketeers!

If you would like more information please contact Cindy Adams at 337-4503 or cadams@washoecounty.us



Zachery (6/17/08) & Savanna (4/24/06)

Zachery likes typical boy stuff including motorcycles and sports. He enjoys playing outside, bike riding and video games. His favorite sport is soccer. Zachery is willing to try most foods. He loves Mexican food, chicken enchiladas, spicy food, peaches and pizza.

Savanna enjoys arts and craft and playing outside. She enjoys bike riding and playing with her toys and animals. Savanna is not a picky eater and willing to try most foods. She loves Mexican food, spicy food, pizza and ribs.

Savanna and Zachery would like to find a family that like to go on family vacations and road trips.

Please contact Carmen Silva if you would like more information at csilva@washoecounty.us

Meet Pete!

(4/10/07)

Pete is a fun, intelligent little boy who is also known to be a bit of a prankster. He is described as a very warm and caring old soul who is way beyond his years. When he finds something that interests him, he "dives" into learning about it! Pete is all boy and loves super heroes, building things and playing with electronics and video games. He is kind to animals and loves archery, swimming, riding his new bike and going to the park as well as Fly High Adventure Park.

If you'd like to learn more about this extraordinary child please contact Tawnya Robertson at (775) 785-8659 or trobertson@washoecounty.us

