

## Summer is over...time to start thinking about *the holidays!*



As a reminder, the expectation of WCHSA is that youth in foster homes are given gifts for holidays, birthdays, etc. as you would your own children. Some annual events that can help with gifts are:

- \*The Reno Rodeo Toy Drive: This event may or may not happen year to year depending on the amount of donations they receive.

- \*Sierra Association of Foster Families host a Christmas party every year for foster, adoptive, relative, and birth parents. In

addition to the party, they receive gift cards donated to them by Junior League of Reno for the teens. These gift cards are intended to be an additional gift for our kids.

*\*\*\*Keep an eye on your email for more information about these events!*



## CALLING ALL HOMES WITH TEENS!

Are you completing your Independent Living Modules? “Introduction to Independent Living Modules” are the instructions for the monthly “Independent Living Modules”. It is required for all foster parents to be going over and documenting with youth age 14 and up on a monthly basis as part of our IL program. The youth’s worker will also be following up during their monthly visits.

Check out the resources on the QPI Documents page in the Independent Living Section. There are power points/slideshows for additional training and useful information for our youth looking to or who have aged out. (Some of this information can also be used to meet the requirements in some of those modules!)



We will be closed on Monday, September 2, 2019 for Labor Day. If you have visits please be sure to get with your kiddo’s worker to reschedule the visit.

Our mailing address has changed—  
please make sure you’ve updated your  
Insurance. The new address is:

350 S. Center Street, Reno NV 89501





## ***AND NOW, A WORD FROM YOUR LICENSING WORKERS...***

As a reminder, licensing now has a 5th worker! Zip code assignments have been reassigned — take a look [here](#) as your worker may have changed!



Starting in September, we are moving to **BIENNIAL** foster care licenses!



**What does this mean? It means that your license will be valid for 2 years instead of one! But don't worry, you'll still get to see our smiling faces each year as we will still be required to do an annual inspection.**

**The benefit? You won't have to complete the renewal packet every year - only on the year your license expires!**

**The catch? You will still have to do things that are due yearly such as update any expired TB tests, complete law enforcement forms, fingerprint, provide updated rabies, and have your fire extinguisher serviced.**

**Please reach out to your licensing worker if you have any questions!**



# FORMER NEVADA



# FOSTER YOUTH

The Nevada Board of Regents provides a waiver of fees for former Nevada foster youth .

# FEE WAIVER

## INITIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS – STUDENTS MUST MEET ALL FOUR (4):

- In foster care in Nevada at the age of 14 years or older;
- Graduated from a Nevada high school or passed the TASC, HiSET, or GED;
- Completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); **and**
- Under the age of 26 years

## CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY:

- FAFSA – Complete the FAFSA each year; **and**
- Satisfactory Academic Progress – Students who meet the initial eligibility requirements are required to meet Title IV financial aid satisfactory academic progress requirements at their institution for continuing eligibility.

FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT:

DESIRAE ACOSTA

PROGRAM COORDINATOR, NEVADA FIRST IN THE PACK

PH: 775-682-8943 EMAIL: DESIRAEA@UNR.EDU

# 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 12<sup>th</sup> St. \* Sparks  
RSVP: Cindy Johnson \* 775-250-4765 or [cindyinsparks@gmail.com](mailto:cindyinsparks@gmail.com)  
Or Patty Steen \* [j-psteen@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:tfi.nevada@gmail.com)

## Foster Parent Game Night! \* TBD \*

\*Please RSVP to [RainaStetson@gmail.com](mailto:RainaStetson@gmail.com)





# TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

## ➔ [THE QPI WEBSITE](#)

New trainings are being added to the QPI website all the time... including trainings in Spanish. Go check them out !



**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](mailto:centersupport@usf.edu) to get back in. Then you have to watch the video again.

➔ [CHILDREN'S CABINET](#) - offers a wide variety of training opportunities. Check out the calendar for upcoming classes!

## ➔ [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.

## ➔ [NEVADA PEP](#)

Nevada PEP provides information, services, and training to families of children with disabilities. They empower families to be life-long advocates for their children by educating and supporting them to learn about disabilities, intervention needs, and how to develop a support system.

## ➔ [CPR/FIRST AID](#)

**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](mailto:koula@3angelscare.org).

**Sheri Blackwell-Ralphe** also teaches CPR and can be reached at (775) 691-9952 or [certifiedcpr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:certifiedcpr@sbcglobal.net).



# Champions

Alma and Greg Chilson have been nominated due to the wonderful relationship they developed with not just the child placed in their home, but the child's family. The Chilson's invited the dad to their house for visits and on family camping trips. They were a huge support in the reunification process, and now that the child is home they continue to support the family by providing child care and other support to the family! Way to go!!

Cristin and Dustin Brown demonstrated exemplary QPI by being very accommodating and flexible upon placement. They took time to ask the right questions about how to be the best support to the child and mom as they could. They were open to doing a comfort call to help the parents feel more comfortable about their child's placement. They were open and understanding and great to work with!

Raymond and Fatai Langi are at it again! Case Worker Alexandra Clark wanted to recognize how much support and dedication they give to all the children in their home. Her kiddo has come such a long way since being with them and she has no doubt that it's from Raymond and Fatai's love and guidance.

Kelli Mowe is always willing to take emergency placements and has maintained difficult older youth with emotional needs. She treats each youth like family and advocates for them as she would her own child. She has maintained two emergency placements and during a difficult case she has continued to focus on the needs and best interest of the children.

# RESOURCES



## **NEW!! RENO VOLLEYBALL CLUB**

The Reno Volleyball Club is willing to offer discounts to children and youth in WCHSA foster care who would like to play volleyball. For more information, visit their website or contact Cindy Lawrence at 775-313-4124 or [RenoVBC@aol.com](mailto:RenoVBC@aol.com).

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## **NEW!! SOCCER SPROUTS**

The Reno Sportsdome is offering discounts to foster youth who have an interest in soccer! For more information contact Shannon at [sprouts@renodome.com](mailto:sprouts@renodome.com).

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## **UPDATE!! THE ADOPTION EXCHANGE**

Offers a number of webinar options on their website for families regarding adoption and foster care topics. View their main [Classes and Training](#) page as well as their [Upcoming Classes](#). In addition, they also have 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 their website above or call 1-800-451-5246 to learn how easy it is to borrow and return.

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## **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. Check out their website for qualifications.

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## **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 visit their website or call Laurie at 750-9823.

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## **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](mailto:mjack@csareno.org).

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## **FREE TUTORING!**

If your youth needs tutoring, please reach out to [Joseph](#) at Sierra Association of Foster Families (SAFF). As a reminder, SAFF can tutor students of all ages who are foster, adopted and/or have reunified.

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## **BIGGEST LITTLE BABY**

Previously the Nurturing Nest, Biggest Little Baby 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.

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## **LUGGAGE FOR LITTLES & 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, email [Tawnya Robertson](mailto:Tawnya.Robertson@washocounty.com) or call 785-8659.

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## **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. Groups are the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 7-8:30p.m. (excluding December). **Please RSVP** to Sharon Willams at least 1 day in advance at 322-4650 or [Sharonacwoffice@att.net](mailto:Sharonacwoffice@att.net).

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## **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.

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## **KIWANIS CLUB**

Has really great bikes and accessories available at discounted prices! Contact them at (775) 337-1717 or check out their website above.

# INTERESTED IN ADOPTING?

## Mia, age 5

Mia is described as sweet, silly and enjoys playing with others children and loves school. Mia likes to play with her baby dolls, Legos and riding her scooter. Mia enjoys watching Disney movies, playing outside on the trampoline and being active.

Mia needs a flexible foster family.

If you would like more information, please contact [Carmen Cognian](#).



## Lillihana, age 4 & Destinie, age 5

These girls love to play dress up. When not playing dress up, you can find them playing with puzzles. They also love to read and to be read to. They can be very sweet but also get anxious at times. Potential parents for these two need to have lots of energy.

If you would like more information please email [Cindy Adams](#) or call 775-337-4503.

## Jamir, age 11

Jamir is described as smart, creative, intelligent and kind. He enjoys playing video games and learning new things. He is involved in sports which he has enjoyed. Jamir enjoys one-on-one time and thrives with positive reinforcement and encouragements of his successes. He is thoughtful of others and desires to be part of a family unit who can help him navigate through challenges and provide him a stable, safe and supportive home.

Jamir's ideal family will provide structure, have established rules and expectations and be able to provide guidance in his young life. Jamir has many exceptional qualities which will only be enhanced by him gaining a sense of support, reliability and understanding from his prospective family.

Check out his [Have a Heart video!](#)

If you would like more information about Jamir please email [Tawnya Robertson](#) or call 775-785-8659.

