

# NEWSLETTER

## RESOURCE/ RELATIVE/ FICTIVE KIN/ ADOPTIVE PARENTS



WCHSA Licensing workers now only use their County issued cell phones and no longer have desk phones

- Codi Soap 775.842.1992
- Jessica Shepherd 775.622.6919
- Anastasia Cooper 775.560.7773
- Tracey Rodriguez: 775.737.8123
- Barbara Jaime 775.842.1704

Always reach out to your licensing worker prior to installing/erecting any water features to ensure the licensing authority approves it. This includes pools!

**NAC 424.420 Empty water features, standing bodies of water, saunas and tanning booths. ([NRS 424.020](#))**

1. Any standing body of water on the premises of a foster home must be maintained in a condition that is healthy and safe for children. The water in any pond used for swimming must be maintained in a healthy and sanitary condition.
2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a foster home that has an empty water feature or standing body of water on the premises and is licensed to care for any child who is less than 5 years of age must provide a fence on all sides of the empty water feature or standing body of water, separating it from the general yard area. If the empty water feature or standing body of water is adjacent to an area of an outside wall of the foster home that has no windows or doors, the wall may function as part of the fence. A fence is not required for a hot tub on the premises of a foster home described in this subsection if the hot tub has a protective cover that is kept in place and locked when the hot tub is not in use.
3. The fence required by subsection 2 must:
  - (a) Be at least 4 feet high on all sides.
  - (b) Have no vertical opening more than 4 inches wide.
  - (c) Be of such a design that young children cannot climb it or squeeze under it. The use of a chain link fence is prohibited.
  - (d) Not obstruct the view of the empty water feature, standing body of water or surrounding area from the house.
  - (e) Have a gate that is self-closing, with a self-latching mechanism which is in proper working order and out of the reach of young children.
4. If a foster home is licensed to care only for children who are 5 years of age or more:
  - (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), the area surrounding an empty water feature or standing body of water must be fenced and locked in a manner which prevents access by children or others who are not entitled to be on the premises; or
  - (b) If the area surrounding the empty water feature or standing body of water is not fenced, there must be a locked, protective cover which will not allow access by a child. Any pool cover must be free from standing water.
5. A reaching pole with a life hook, and a ring buoy, must be present and accessible at all times as minimum safety devices unless the standing body of water is such that a person supervising a child is able, without entering the water, to reach the child in the water and remove the child by hand.
6. Steps leading to an above-ground pool must be removed when the pool is not in use.
7. Any sauna or tanning booth on the premises of a foster home must be locked in a manner which prevents access by children.
8. If a wading or inflatable pool is used, it must be constructed, maintained and used in a manner which safeguards the lives and health of the children. A wading or inflatable pool must be emptied when not in use or comply with all regulations applicable to a standing body of water.
9. If a foster home has access to a community pool, the foster parents and staff shall ensure that a child does not enter the pool area unless:
  - (a) The child is under the direct supervision of a foster parent or staff member; and
  - (b) The pool is equipped with a reaching pole with a life hook and a ring buoy.
10. As used in this section:
  - (a) "Empty water feature" includes, without limitation, an empty pool.
  - (b) "Standing body of water" includes, without limitation, any lake, pond or in-ground or above-ground pool, hot tub or large stationary bird bath

## *Do you know what the QPI Liaison does?*



### **Kylee Spring - QPI Liaison**

Kylee is the QPI Liaison for WCHSA. Through her work in this position, she has worked to enhance and develop new programs and practice changes. Some of the initiatives include the PSP program, resource parent advisory board, policies regarding transitions for children, and supporting meaningful relationships between all team members. If you have ideas on how our agency can improve please reach out to Kylee.

Kylee's primary role within the agency is to support our birth and resource families. She is able to get involved in any case that concerns arise and help ensure all voices are heard and questions are answered. If you are ever in need of any support, have any questions or are frustrated in any way, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Kylee is also a foster/adoptive parent and understands some of the challenges that come with fostering. [✉ kspring@washoecounty.gov](mailto:kspring@washoecounty.gov)





# RESOURCE PARENT ADVISORY BOARD

Let your voice be heard. Open to any and all caregivers!

The purpose is to have open and honest conversations and work together with a problem-solving approach for challenges that come up for caregivers.

This meeting has impacted significant changes within the agency already and we would love your participation.

Second Tuesday of Every Month  
11am to Noon  
ZOOM

If you're interested, please contact:  
Kylee Spring  
kspring@washoecounty.gov

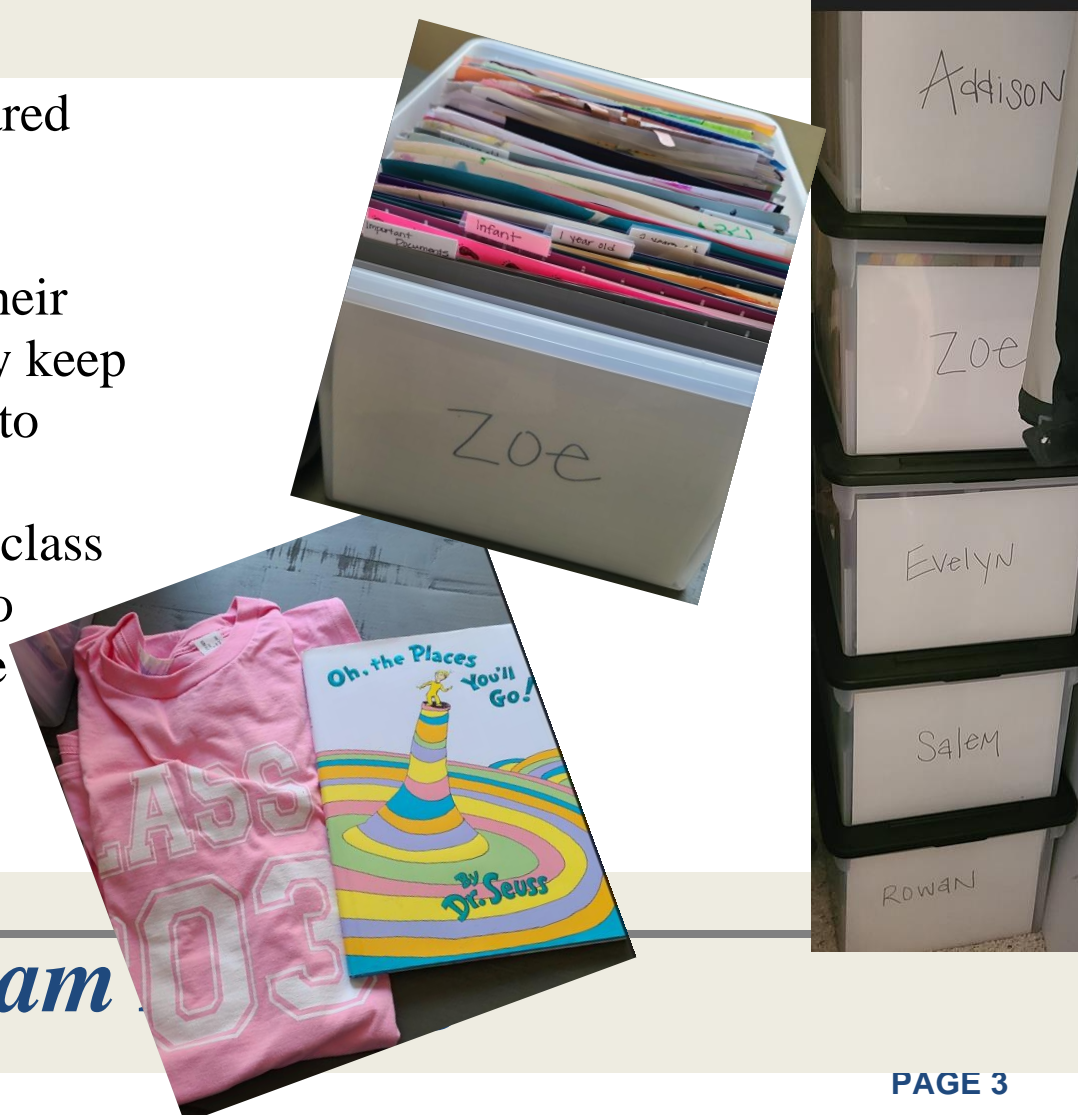
## *Kid Boxes!*

One of our Resource Parents, Lauren shared with me her Kid Boxes!

Her family has a box for every child in their home biological or foster. In the box they keep everything from medical documentation to report cards, yearbooks to art and homework. They also get each kiddo a "class of" shirt for first day of school pictures to watch them grow each year and a "oh the places you go" book for their teachers to sign. These are also kept in their boxes.

What a wonderful idea!!

## *Placement Support Team*



## Did you know we have internal Placement Support Team Meetings?

The Placement Support Team meeting is a multidisciplinary team that meets weekly to discuss placement stability and what additional supports may be helpful to our resource parents.

This meeting includes licensing, clinical workers, QPI liaison, placement workers, caseworkers, supervisors, coordinators & the FEC. During this meeting the team discuss specific cases and what immediate help can be provided and if there are any community resource could help the children and/or resource family.

The goal for this meeting is think out of the box on ways to help our children and families.



## Washoe County Foster & Adoption Virtual Support Group

This is our Resource, Relative, Fictive Kin & Adoptive Family Facebook Support group!

Washoe County QPI presents to you the Washoe County Foster & Adoption Support Group! This group welcomes ALL WCHSA's Resource families, Relative/ Kin families, SFC families & Flex and Adoptive families. This group is to share support and resources with one another. The ONLY WCHSA staff in this group is the QPI Liaison to help promote a safe place to share successes, frustrations, and things you've learned along the way. We want to share stories and have our group be more of a community supporting one another. Please reach out to the QPI Liaison with questions or concerns Kylee Spring [kspring@washoecounty.gov](mailto:kspring@washoecounty.gov)



QR code for  
Washoe County Foster & Adoption Support  
Facebook group

## Northern Nevada Moses Project

One of our very own WCHSA foster/adoptive parents Lauren Dees has a nonprofit to help support foster / relative/ kin/ adoptive or birth families!

The Moses Project can help families with clothing, furniture, basic necessities, anything a child might need!

If you are in need of anything or have donations, please reach out to Lauren Dees at 775.857.7924

Find more on the Northern Nevada Moses Project by going to their website- [www.nnmosesproject.org](http://www.nnmosesproject.org)





**Calling All Artists**

**An Art Project open to all Washoe Co Foster Youth**

Open to all ages  
Please submit Art\* that represents your idea of:

**"I Dream To..."**

**Submission Deadline: August 14th**

5 artists will be picked to transfer their design to canvas with the assistance of local artists

**Art Reveal Party**

September 24th 10am to 2pm  
The Generator | 2450 Oddie Blvd. Sparks

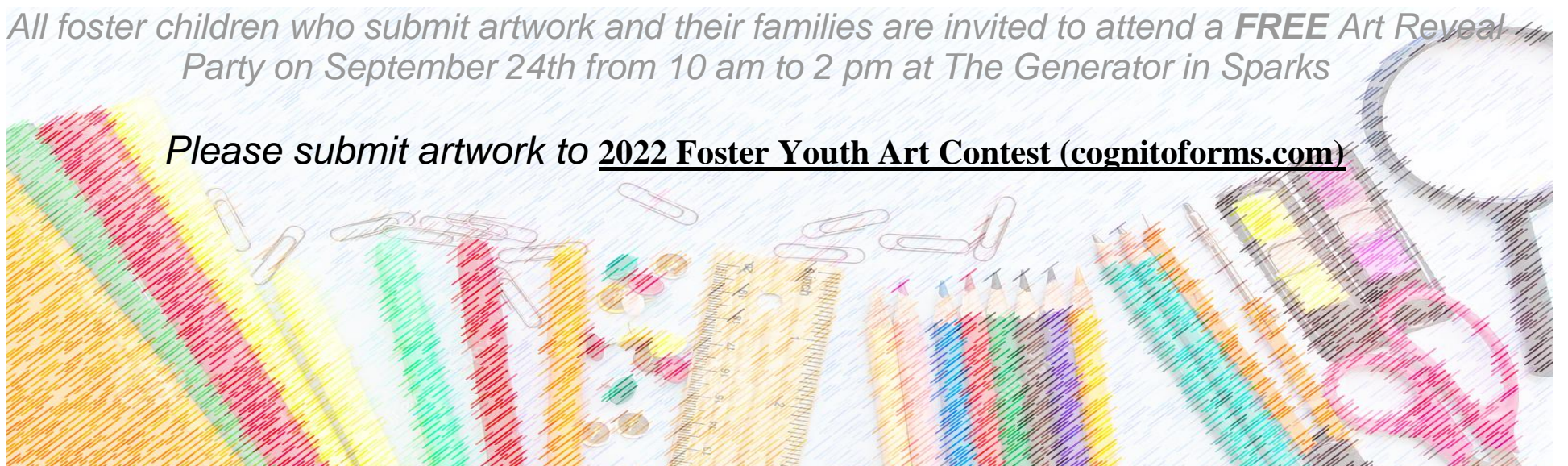
**Free Event: Enjoy Food, Music, Art Activities and Games for all ages**

\*Please use pen, pencil or paint on a flat surface

All Washoe County foster youth, of any age, are encouraged to submit artwork. Five Artists will be selected to transfer their design to canvas with the assistance of local artists. There is NO cost to participate.

*All foster children who submit artwork and their families are invited to attend a **FREE** Art Reveal Party on September 24th from 10 am to 2 pm at The Generator in Sparks*

*Please submit artwork to **2022 Foster Youth Art Contest (cognitofrms.com)***



# Reno Rodeo Closet

## Reno Rodeo Foundation Clothing Closet



The Reno Rodeo Foundation generously provides clothing, teddy bears, and rolling backpacks to children who are newly placed into foster care or transitioning from an emergency placement.

Resource parents and children can visit the Reno Rodeo Closet to "shop" for clothing essentials, ensuring that the children can pick out items in the correct sizes and preferred style.

The Reno Rodeo closet is open 24/7. The instructions to access the closet are below:

<p><b>Step 1:</b> Visit the Kids Kottage Front Desk, located at 2075 Longley Lane. Inform the front desk staff that you are there to check out keys for the Reno Rodeo Closet. Please fill out the key check-out log to the best of your ability.</p>	<p><b>Step 2:</b> The resource parent and child visit the Reno Rodeo Closet, located in the Kids Kottage Gym, 2085 Longley Lane. The Reno Rodeo closet is located through the double doors and to the right before you enter the gym.</p>
<p><b>Step 3:</b> The child picks out new clothing to meet their immediate needs.  There is no specific number of items available per child, but please be reasonable in the amount of items taken so that other children can have the same access to new clothing.</p>	<p><b>Step 4:</b> Resource parent completes the RRF tracking sheet, located in an envelope next to the door, and places completed form back in the envelope upon exit. This step is very important as it helps the Reno Rodeo Foundation replenish the closet! <b>Please be mindful to leave the closet in an orderly condition following your visit.</b></p>
<p><b>Step 5:</b> Resource parent locks both the Reno Rodeo Closet door and the KK Gym door upon exit.</p>	<p><b>Step 6:</b> Resource parent returns key and completes sign out log.</p>

**Tip:** The closet is located right next door to the Child Advocacy Center, so visit following your new placement's medical evaluation!

If you have taken placement of a child who has an immediate clothing need and you absolutely cannot get to the closet, please email the attached request form to [HSA-RRFCloset@washoecounty.gov](mailto:HSA-RRFCloset@washoecounty.gov) and we will ensure the request is fulfilled. Please indicate in your email if you would prefer to pick up the items somewhere or have the child's case worker deliver at their next child contact.

## *Interested in Adoption?*

### **Anne Marie & Izabella**

*11 & 10-years-old*

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#### FLEX FAMILY

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Meet Anne Marie and Izabella! These girls are the epitome of resilience! They are strong, smart, kind and respectful, with just the right amount of fun mixed in. They take their education seriously and consistently amaze their teachers with how quickly they're catching up to their peers. Both girls love pizza, tacos, authentic Mexican food and cheeseburgers. They also love playing Roblox, jumping on their trampoline, going to the lake, riding their bikes and hope to learn how to cook one day.

Anne Marie gets along easily with adults and peers alike. She has the skillset to be a great leader and would benefit from some positive guidance to help her hone this skill. She loves math, dancing, learning to read and trying new things. Anne Marie is looking for a family willing to support her as she learns more about her likes, dislikes and talents. This family will also make her lunches for school and enjoy family time at home preparing meals and gathering around the family table.



Izabella is the free-spirited silly half of this duo. She takes great pride in cracking you up and acting much younger than her years. Yet she possesses the ambition of a much older youth and enjoys working hard to achieve her academic goals. She is caring and gets along well with her peers. Izabella is a great listener who follows rules and takes direction without a quarrel. Like her sister, she loves math, dancing, learning to read and would love to learn how to box.

If you would like to learn more about this dynamic duo please reach out to Tawnya Robertson at [Trobertson@washoecounty.gov](mailto:Trobertson@washoecounty.gov)

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### **Zaria & Adonis**

*5 & 3-years-old*

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#### FLEX FAMILY

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Are you looking for a couple of silly yet clever littles to adopt? Meet Zaria and Adonis!

Zaria is an incredibly bright, talkative four-year-old who enjoys telling you all about herself. She has a big vocabulary, is a quick learner and easily adjusts to any situation. She is kind and easy to build rapport with. Zaria also loves crafting and doing her hair.

Adonis is quiet but friendly and tends to follow his sister's lead. He is open and playful in conversations. He is also easy to build rapport with.

Adonis enjoys playing with his toys, his sister and generally being active. Both children thrive from the one-on-one attention of committed, caring adults.

If you think you can keep up with these two and are interested in learning more reach out to Tawnya Robertson at [Trobertson@washoecounty.gov](mailto:Trobertson@washoecounty.gov)

## Mya & Michael

### *10 & 8-years-old*

#### FLEX FAMILY

Meet this adorable duo, Mya and Michael who share an amazing bond.

Mya is described as a sweet, loving, and fun little girl. She is happy, polite, respectful, and loved by all those who meet her. This young lady makes friends everywhere she goes. Mya loves to play with her dolls, do her dolls hair, watch TV and be on her tablet. She loves family time at the lake roasting marshmallows and dreams of going to Disneyworld and sightseeing in Florida. Mya is a good eater, but vegetables and tortillas are not her favorite. Mya loves and excels in school; she hopes to become a professional one day supporting individuals with special needs. Mya is helpful and a caregiver at heart, she needs to be provided the opportunity to just be a kiddo. Mya loves receiving one on one attention and needs a family that can build her up and help her find her voice. Michael is a happy and sassy young man with a funny bone to him. He loves hugs and cuddles and takes very well to adults. Michael is very fond of dogs and babies and anytime there is one around, Michael wants to be right there holding them. Michael enjoys riding his bike and scooter, playing with his toy cars, and most of all sneaking in the pantry to get to the snacks. Michael is continuously progressing but will likely require supports and care into adulthood.



Mya and Michael share a very strong bond and the ideal family for these siblings is one that can and will foster that bond.

Mya and Michael need a loving flexible family that is patient, committed and willing to put the time into helping these adorable siblings grow. The ideal family will have knowledge and or experience working with children with special needs and will be accepting of a child's unique abilities.

If you are interested in learning more about Mya and Michael, please contact **Brenda** at [Bsilis@washoecounty.gov](mailto:Bsilis@washoecounty.gov)



## Micah

### *10-years-old*

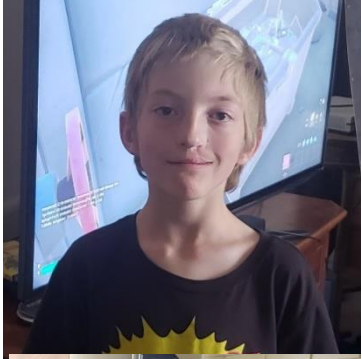
#### LOOKING FOR HIS FOREVER FAMILY

Meet this energetic young man, that is in search of his forever family. Micah enjoys listening to music (K-Love), likes dinosaurs, pirates, and has a great interest and knowledge of ships! He enjoys being active, swimming and jumping on the trampoline. Micah has a big imagination and is an elaborate storyteller.

Micah needs a forever family that will foster and support his relationship with his brother with whom he does not reside but is very important to him. The ideal family for Micah is one that can provide him a sense of safety and love him unconditionally. Micah needs and does best in a structured environment where he can receive guidance and support and be given the love and nurturing that he deserves.

If you would like more information on Micah, please contact Brenda Silis at [bsilis@washoecounty.gov](mailto:bsilis@washoecounty.gov)





## Asher & Kinzly

### *9 & 5-years-old*

FLEX FAMILY

Meet Asher an outgoing and independent young man who exudes confidence. Asher is very likeable and enjoys being active, whether it is playing flag football or soccer he is all for it. Amongst his other favorite past times are playing video games and electronics. Asher is described as guarded, easygoing, and sweet.

Meet Kinzly is a social little girl who makes friends and plays well with everyone she meets. She is described as a sassy and spicy girly girl, who loves her cowgirl boots. Kinzly loves animals and being active, she is especially fond of playing outside and being in the pool. In addition, she loves playing with her dolls, watching Strawberry Shortcake cartoons and is very artistic.

Asher and Kinzly need a loving family, with whom they can feel safe, know the routine and expectations, and grow up together. The ideal family will provide them the love and support they need to grow and succeed.

If you are interested in learning more about Piper and Kaylee, please contact **Brenda** at [Bsilis@washoecounty.gov](mailto:Bsilis@washoecounty.gov)

## Macen

### *11-years-old*

FLEX FAMILY

Meet Macen, an active young man who will keep you on your toes. Macen loves biking, swimming, basketball, soccer, hiking, camping, and spending time with family. He also enjoys playing independently with Legos, spending time at the arcade and best of all, he cleans up after himself well, as he is a hard worker and very helpful. Macen is described as cute, sweet, creative, and kind. He is very thoughtful towards other and has a huge heart, he is the young man that when you aren't feeling well, will make you a hot cup of tea. One of Macen's many strengths is his huge heart!



Macen needs a flexible foster family, who can provide him with a nurturing and loving environment. The ideal family for Macen will be patient and committed to providing him a structured, loving, and supportive home where he can continue to grow and develop.

If you would like more information about Macen, please contact Brenda Silis at [Bsilis@washoecounty.gov](mailto:Bsilis@washoecounty.gov)

## Family Engagement Center (FEC)

Greetings care providers, resource families, caseworkers, relatives, and others (**Caseworkers please forward to any unlicensed relative/fictive kin placements**)! For the third year in a row, the Pennington Foundation has graciously provided a grant to gift all local children in the care/custody of Washoe County HSA with approximately \$500 in school supplies, clothing, and Christmas gifts. The Pennington Foundation's generosity couldn't have come at a better time considering the difficulties our community has been facing. Please read this email thoroughly as it holds all of the information you will need to know to access these gifts and the time frames and processes that are in place. As last year showed us, we must stick to our processes so that that all eligible children and families are served timely. To be efficient all deadlines and requirements will be fully enforced barring emergencies. We truly thank everyone for their understanding.

**Eligible children/families:** *All children who are currently in custody of Washoe County Human Services at the time of 'shopping' are eligible. These children **MUST** reside in Washoe County or within 60-90 miles of Reno/Sparks - close enough that the care provider can drive to attend our shopping days. Caseworkers, PLEASE... for any new children taken into care past June 17, 2022 and ongoing, alert the [HSA-PenningtonProject@washoecounty.gov](mailto:HSA-PenningtonProject@washoecounty.gov) email group with the Childs name and placement information so we can ensure they receive everything they can.*

**What is available:** *All eligible children will be entitled to Supplies (school supplies for children 5+), clothing, and Christmas gifts. We are dividing the process into 3 separate 'events' as outlined below.*

**How and when:** *School supply shopping will once again be held at the Family Engagement Center as noted below in early August 2022. Clothes shopping events will be held in September 2022 as noted below. This is also the time to shop for supplies for children who don't qualify for school supplies. Christmas shopping events will be held in November/December 2022 as noted below.*

### **SCHOOL SUPPLIES:**

- For ALL eligible children of school age (Kinder-College).
- August 1-12 (Monday-Friday) 8:30 am – 6:00 pm
- Family Engagement Center – 905 E. Prater Way in Sparks.
- Backpacks (name brand) and basic school supplies will be available. This includes things such as pencils, pens, markers, colored pencils, crayons, folders, scissors, dry erase markers, highlighters, glue/glue sticks, composition notebooks, sharpies, erasers, pencil boxes/pouches, hand-sanitizer, Kleenex, and rulers. Not all required supplies from each school/classroom will be provided. Some supplies will need to be purchased by you, the care provider.
- There is NO RSVP for this event but you must come in person to the FEC to pick out items.
- It is imperative that kiddos are present to pick out their own supplies, colors, styles, etc.

### **CLOTHING/SUPPLIES:**

- For ALL eligible children (no age restriction).
- In-person shopping days to be held at the Sparks TARGET in SEPTEMBER.
- A 'reservation'/RSVP form will be sent out by email (in August) to sign up for shopping days in September.
- It is imperative that older children be present to pick out their own clothing/styles. Our kiddos have so few choices in life that this is an important one for us to promote.
- For younger children who do not receive school supplies – they will be able to purchase additional clothing, diapering supplies, or educational supplies during this event.

### **CHRISTMAS SHOPPING:**

- For ALL eligible children (no age restriction).
- In-person shopping days to be held at the Sparks TARGET only during the days noted.
- A 'reservation'/RSVP form will be sent out by email (in October) to sign up for shopping days in November/December.
- For this event, it is imperative that children NOT be present to pick out their own gift. Last year we had many kids shopping with their care providers and this made for an uncomfortable experience as kiddos were not being surprised and some care providers not treating this event as intended. This is not a mandatory religious experience but we do want kiddos to be surprised and provided experiences like the majority of their peers. We want these gifts to come from you, their care provider, and for them to know that they are cared for, respected, and loved.

### **NOTES:**

- As mentioned above, reservation/rsvp forms will be required for shopping days for Clothing and Christmas gifts. Those will be sent out at a later day as noted above.
- We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding with this endeavor while we support more than 600 children with these purchases/events.
- All communication will be done electronically through email, newsletters, notices, etc. and we request that any questions be sent directly to the [HSA-PenningtonProject@washoecounty.gov](mailto:HSA-PenningtonProject@washoecounty.gov) email group (NOT directly to me) for consistency and timely replies.
- It is required that any items children receive from this grant, just like all other items they receive while in foster care, are kept with them and provided to them when/if they leave your home.
- Please note that this email is being sent to ALL currently licensed foster homes and caseworkers with HSA – so, if you do not currently have a child in your home that qualifies, I apologize.
- **Caseworkers and agency staff** – PLEASE forward this email to anyone that I have missed and any unlicensed relative/fictive kin placements, etc. so that they are all aware.

Thank you very much and please reach out to [HSA-PenningtonProject@washoecounty.gov](mailto:HSA-PenningtonProject@washoecounty.gov) with questions, concerns, photos of kiddos with their gifts, clothing, school supplies, etc. so that we can pass them on to the Pennington Foundation at the end of the year. HSA appreciates you – not only for caring for our kiddos but also for supporting them through some of the hardest times of their lives.

## HOW TO MODEL PRO-SOCIAL BEHAVIOR FOR A CHILD'S MENTAL HEALTH



### SHARING IS CARING

Children learn by observing the adults around them. To teach children how to share, it is recommended to point out when adults share. For example, "Did you see momma share her ice cream with your aunt? That was very nice of her!"

### NOTICE AND PRAISE

When you notice a child behaving in a way that is kind and respectful, praise them! Positive praise that focuses on actions rather than accomplishments teaches children to act accordingly.



### KEEP CALM AND MODEL ON

Caregivers can teach children emotional regulation skills by modeling them. If a father finds himself getting frustrated with a toddler's dysregulation, he can say "Daddy is starting to get frustrated. Let's take three deep breaths together."

### BE KIND TO ANIMALS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Teaching empathy extends beyond our relationships with people. Modeling being kind to animals and respecting nature teaches children to expand their empathy skills.



### KEEP THE CONTENT FRIENDLY

Because children reenact behavior they see in media, it is important to be selective in the content children watch. Vet content to see if it promotes respect, kindness, and empathy before having a child watch it.

### GUIDANCE FOR PEDIATRIC PROVIDERS

When talking to caregivers and families, it may be helpful to share the [Parent Help Line's Skill-Time Booklet](#) as they provide ample guidance for supporting children as they learn pro-social skills.



### BOOKS FOR FAMILIES

- *The Emotional Life of the Toddler* by Alicia F. Lieberman
- *Easy to Love, Difficult to Discipline: The 7 Basic Skills for Turning Conflict into Cooperation* by Becky Bailey
- *Raising a Secure Child* by Kent Hoffman, Glen Cooper, and Ben Powell with Christine Benton

# Washoe County School District

The driver shortage remains a crisis, so please please please help us get as creative as possible, so our kids can get to school.

**Rolling blackouts are back** – Stay tuned for more info, as the dates have not yet been released for each school area. Our foster kiddos WILL get a route if already receiving transportation, but it may be slightly different then their standard route.

**Things to consider IF there is no route available for your foster kiddo.**

- Before and after school programming on site and through off site locations. Subsidies available and completely free for foster kids to participate in Boys & Girls Clubs (BGC)
  - See attached list from last year..will share the current list when we receive updates
- Some BGC locations transport to and/or from school (see attached list from last year, new list available soon)
  - Sometimes we can get a school bus to and/or from school from BGC clubs.. your worker can check on that for you
- Mileage reimbursement available – IF a transportation request was submitted by your worker and officially denied. Pays for one round trip for transport both AM and PM– school district tracks based on pickup/drop off address and attendance. Pays a maximum of \$10/day \$50/week or \$200/month based on the new rate of 62 cents per mile! Will cover only one student in the home – the one who attends the furthest school.

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP TRANSPORT another foster youth who may not be placed with you, PLEASE consider it and reach out to Keri Pruitt, our Educational Liaison [kpruitt@washoecounty.gov](mailto:kpruitt@washoecounty.gov) and provide the following information. You will receive the mileage reimbursement described above.

- Are you able to help drive in the AM, PM or both?
- What are the time frames you're available?
- What area do you live and/or work in?
- If you would be assisting on your way to/from work, or transporting other children what is that general route?
- Are you able to accommodate more than one child in your vehicle?



## 2021-2022 School Year Transportation List

**Donald W. Reynolds Facility**  
2680 E. 9th Street, Reno

**William N. Pennington Facility**  
1300 Foster Drive, Reno

**Neil Road Youth Facility**  
3905 Neil Road., Reno

**Lemmon Valley Facility**  
325 Patrician Drive, Reno

**Donald L. Carano Facility**  
1090 Bresson Avenue, Reno

**Pinecrest Academy**  
1150 Silent Sparrow Dr, Sparks



\* = Morning program hosted at Club House location  
 \*\* = Washoe County Dropping Off for the PM Program  
 \*\*\* = Walking from school to Carano facility in the afternoon

- Agnes Risley
- Alice Maxwell
- Bernice Matthews\*
- Billinghurst Middle
- Clayton Middle
- Coral Academy on 9th St.
- Coral Academy Elem. School
- Coral Academy High School
- Coral Academy on Valley Rd.
- Diedrichsen
- Dodson
- Echo Loder\*
- Florence Drake
- Grace Warner\*
- Greenbrae
- Holman Way\*
- Honors Academy\*
- Hunter Lake\*
- Indian Colony\*
- Jessie Beck\*
- Katherine Dunn
- Lena Juniper
- Libby Booth (-)(\*\*)
- Lincoln Park
- McQueen High
- Mendive Middle
- Mt. Rose\*
- O'Brien\*\*
- Peavine
- Pinecrest\*
- Pine Middle
- Rita Cannan
- Roger Corbett\*
- Roy Gomm\*
- Sarah Winnemucca
- Smithridge
- Sparks Middle
- Stead\*\*
- Sun Valley\*
- Swope Middle
- Traner Middle
- Veterans Memorial (-)(\*\*)
- Westergard

Revised: August 2, 2021

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMING 2021/2022		
<b>Team Up (PM Only/On site)</b>	<b>Sierra Kids City of Reno</b>	<b>Boys &amp; Girls Club/on-site (PM only unless noted)</b>
Allen ES	<b>Morning:</b>	Dilworth
Anderson ES	Alice Smith	Donner Springs
Booth ES	Desert Heights	Esther Bennett
Cannan ES	Elmcrest	Greenbrae (Before & After)
Desert Heights ES	Glenn Duncan	Hidden Valley
Duncan ES	Lemelson	Lemmon Valley
Elmcrest ES	Stead	Lois Allen (Before & After)
Greenbrae ES	Virginia Palmer	Michael Inskip
Lemelson ES	<b>Morning &amp; Afternoon:</b>	Nancy Gomes
Lemmon Valley ES	Caughlin Ranch	Rollan Melton
Loder ES	Dodson, Edwin	Sun Valley ES (Before & After)
Mariposa CS	Double Diamond	Verdi
Mathews ES	Hunter Lake	<b>Kid Konnection / On-site</b>
Maxwell ES	Jessie Beck	Bud Beasley
Mitchell ES	Mamie Towles	John C. Bohach
Natchez ES	Mount Rose	Miguel Sepulveda
Palmer ES	Peavine	<b>Before School ONLY:</b>
Alice Smith ES	Poulakidas, Nick (FULL)	Katherin Dunn
Kate Smith ES	Sarah Winnemucca	Spanish Springs
Smithridge ES	Silver Lake	Edward Van Gorder
Sparks MS	Westergard, George	Jerry Whitehead
Stead ES		<b>After School ONLY:</b>
Sun Valley ES	<b>Judy's Kidz Club</b>	Lloyd Diedrichsen
Vaughn MS	<b>On-site</b>	Jesse Hall
Veteran ES	Lenz	Lena Juniper
	Hunsberger	Marvin Mos
<b>Kids Zone/On-site</b>	Huffaker	Alyce Taylor
Brown ES		
Pleasant Valley		

# WCHSA Directory

**Center Street Front desk:** 775.785.8600

**Emergency After hours number:** 1.833.900.7233

In case you have an emergency that occurs after hours please call.

## Administration:

### Division Directors:

- Cara Paoli
- Ryan Gustafson

### Coordinators

- Amy Sandvik- [asandvik@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:asandvik@washoeconomy.gov)
  - Child Care licensing, Licensing, Recruitment & Training, Adoptions
- Kim Martin- [k martin@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:k martin@washoeconomy.gov)
  - CQI, Training Unit
- Shannon McCoy- [smccoy@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:smccoy@washoeconomy.gov)
  - Permanency
- Stacy Lance- [slance@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:slance@washoeconomy.gov)
  - Clinical, FEC
- Tammi Williamson- [twilliamson@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:twilliamson@washoeconomy.gov)
  - Assessment

## Assessment / Permanency:

### Assessment Supervisors

- Amber Hurtado- [ahurtado@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:ahurtado@washoeconomy.gov)
- Cassie Pasley- [cpasley@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:cpasley@washoeconomy.gov)
- Denise Tyre- [dtyre@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:dtyre@washoeconomy.gov)
- Jennifer Bascom - [jbascom@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:jbascom@washoeconomy.gov)
- Jennifer Kelly- [jlkelly@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:jlkelly@washoeconomy.gov)
- Kacie Schwin- [kschwin@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:kschwin@washoeconomy.gov)
- Kassi Morris- [kmorris@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:kmorris@washoeconomy.gov)
- Megan Aguayo - [maguayo@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:maguayo@washoeconomy.gov)

### Permanency Supervisors

- Julia Nesser - [jnesser@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:jnesser@washoeconomy.gov)
- Kasey Pomerleau - [kpomerleau@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:kpomerleau@washoeconomy.gov)
- Melony Elam - [melam@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:melam@washoeconomy.gov)
- Natalie Miller - [nmiller@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:nmiller@washoeconomy.gov)
- Rocio Lopez - [ralopez@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:ralopez@washoeconomy.gov)
- Scott Sheldon - [shsheldon@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:shsheldon@washoeconomy.gov)
- Steven Canale - [scanale@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:scanale@washoeconomy.gov)
- Tara Sterrett - [tsterrett@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:tsterrett@washoeconomy.gov)

## Adoptions:

### Supervisors

- Emily Smith- [esmith@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:esmith@washoeconomy.gov)
- Jessie Valencia – [jvalencia@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:jvalencia@washoeconomy.gov)

## Placement Support, Recruitment & Training:

### Supervisor

- Laura Caprioli- [lcaprioli@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:lcaprioli@washoeconomy.gov)

### R&T Staff

- Brenda Silis – [bsilis@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:bsilis@washoeconomy.gov)
- Mitch Matthews - [MMatthews@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:MMatthews@washoeconomy.gov)
- Myra Yeargan – [myeargan@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:myeargan@washoeconomy.gov)
- Tawnya Robertson – [trobertson@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:trobertson@washoeconomy.gov)

**Foster Care Services Front Desk:** 775.337.4470

### Foster Care Licensing Supervisor:

Melissa Coates: 775.815.3827

### Licensing team: Call or text

Codi Soap: 775.842.1992  
 Barbara Jaime: 775.842.1704  
 Jessica Shepherd: 775.622.6919  
 Anastasia Cooper: 775.560.7773  
 Tracey Rodriguez: 775.737.8123

### Relative Support:

Ana Bassett- [abassett@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:abassett@washoeconomy.gov)  
 Marci Hlade - [mhlade@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:mhlade@washoeconomy.gov)

### Placement Support

Heather Wenker - [hwenker@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:hwenker@washoeconomy.gov)  
 Katie Proctor - [kproctor@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:kproctor@washoeconomy.gov)  
 Sandra Espino: [sespino@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:sespino@washoeconomy.gov)

### SFC Support

Mele Peaua - [mpeaua@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:mpeaua@washoeconomy.gov)  
 Rayna Labarry- [rlabarry@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:rlabarry@washoeconomy.gov)

### Post-Adoption Support

[HSA-PostAdoptionServices@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:HSA-PostAdoptionServices@washoeconomy.gov)

Erika Meszaros - [emeszaros@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:emeszaros@washoeconomy.gov)  
 Mary Encarnacion- [MEncarnacion@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:MEncarnacion@washoeconomy.gov)

**OPI Liaison:** Kylee Spring: 775.530.1646

[kspring@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:kspring@washoeconomy.gov)

**Family Engagement Center (FEC):** 775.352.3230

905 E Prater Way, Sparks, NV 89434  
 Corner of Prater and Howard

### FEC Supervisor

- Jesse Brown - [jbrown@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:jbrown@washoeconomy.gov)

### Engagers:

- Betty Sharkey- [BSarkey@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:BSarkey@washoeconomy.gov)
- Kin Minor - [KMinor@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:KMinor@washoeconomy.gov)
- Leona Lopez - [LLopez@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:LLopez@washoeconomy.gov)
- Mayra Quiroz - [MQuiroz@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:MQuiroz@washoeconomy.gov)
- Olivia Lynch - [olynch@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:olynch@washoeconomy.gov)
- Patty Daniel - [pdaniel@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:pdaniel@washoeconomy.gov)

**Medical Unit:** 775.284.2763

Children's Advocacy Center (CAC)  
 2097 Longley Lane, Reno, NV 89502  
 next door to Kids Kottage

### WCSD Liaison

- Keri Pruitt - [KPruitt@washoeconomy.gov](mailto:KPruitt@washoeconomy.gov)

# Resources

## 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.

## SOCCKER 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).

## RAISE THE FUTURE

Offers several 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.

## NEVADA EQUINE ASSISTED THERAPY (NEATS)

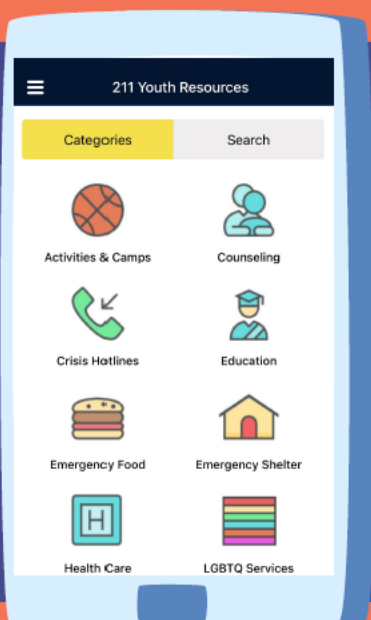
If you're interested in learning more about NEATS and how their services can help you or a youth in your home visit their website or call Laurie at 750-9823.

## 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).

## Nevada 211 YOUTH APP

Ages 12 to 19  
Easy  
Fast  
Confidential



SEARCH FOR LOCAL RESOURCES

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App Store

Find help 24/7 by dialing 2-1-1  
texting 898-211 or  
visiting [www.nevada211.org](http://www.nevada211.org)

## 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 childbirth to yoga. They also offer free weekly circles of support, toddler playgroups and breast-feeding circle to mention just a few.

## 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).

## 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.

## KIWANIS CLUB

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

## 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.

## NEVADA 211 YOUTH APP

BÚSQUEDA DE RECURSOS LOCALES

A TUS DEDOS 24/7

Actividades y campamentos

Asesoramiento

Líneas directas de crisis

Recursos de equidad

Alimentos de emergencia

Refugio de emergencia

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