

# FAMILY FOSTER & ADOPTION **NEWS FLASH**

JULY 2018



I know, it just seems too early to be talking about school, but this information will benefit you AND our kiddos come August 6!

- Did you know that foster youth are entitled to remain in their school of origin as long as they are in Washoe County custody and do not need a Variance? It's true and it's the law!
- Did you also know that if a case closes mid-school year this applies through the end of that year! Also true AND their parents don't need to do anything for the child to remain enrolled.
- Also, if there is no bus available to get your kiddo to his or her school of origin you, as the foster parent are eligible for reimbursement through WCSD. It's true! All transportation requests are submitted through your child's worker and there is no tracking of mileage involved.
- VERY IMPORTANT—With all of this in mind, you, as the foster parent may not enroll a child in the school your home is zoned for without the worker's permission just because it is more convenient for you. Changing of schools requires a coordinator's approval.
  - \*\*\* If you have any questions about any of this please collaborate with your child's worker \*\*\*

~ Did you know 760 children have died Nationwide due to pediatric vehicular heatstroke since 1998 ~ (Updated June 22, 2018) All of these deaths could have been prevented

Things can get busy and crazy when you're running from one appointment to another. Everyone gets cranky in the heat and it's easy to forget things. But please remember, NEVER leave your kiddos in the car, not even for a moment! It's illegal and simply not worth the risk.

## Did you know that 43 percent of drownings occur in open water such as lakes, rivers, and ponds as opposed to pools?

Even the strongest of swimmers can get into trouble in just a moment. Have fun this summer, but be sure to keep an eye on your kiddos and never assume they're as good as they think they are.

## Support Groups Updates

- Do you remember when you were a new foster parent? Scared, nervous, wondering what to do or who to call when that first child was placed in your home?
- Or when that first child was placed in your home and had that first monumental tantrum or bizarre behavior and you didn't know what to do or who to call?
- Well, what if someone called you when your license was first approved, before a child was ever placed?
- What if that person lived right around the corner from you? And what if that person committed to being there for you, to answer your questions, refer you to needed services or just listened to you vent? Would that have made life easier for you and your family? Would it now?
- Well, that is exactly what we're trying to do with the Welcome Wagon!

#### \*\*\*<u>WE STILL NEED WELCOME WAGON MEMBERS</u>\*\*\* DON'T BE SHY... YOUR FELLOW SMALL GROUP LEADERS ARE HERE TO HELP AND SUPPORT YOU!

For more information about these exciting changes please reach out to Tawnya Robertson at trobertson@washoecounty.us or (775) 785-8659.



Please make sure you pay close attention to your license renewal date. If you wait until the day your license expires to renew you run the risk of having your license placed on hold if you're missing documents.

On the other hand if you collaborate with your licensing worker and schedule earlier in the month you have more time to collect any missing documents with no affect on your license.

Don't ever hesitate to reach out to your licensing worker or their supervisor with questions, comments or concerns.





## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIE\$

#### THE QPI WEBSITE -

http://www.qpinevada.org/washoe/pages/ upcoming.shtml has a list of upcoming training opportunities (live and recorded). There's also several new videos in there from the February, 2018 QPI Conference which can be viewed by going to: http://centervideo.forest.usf.edu/video/ api/2018nationalconf/index.html

Would you like to learn more about how to help children accurately maintain their cultural connections? Follow the link below for an excellent training specifically related to this topic: <u>http://centervideo.forest.usf.edu/</u> <u>video/qpi/florida/culturalconnections/</u> <u>start.html</u>

CHILDREN'S CABINET offers a wide variety of training opportunities. Check out the calendar at www.childrenscabinet.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 <u>http://www.nvpep.org/</u>

Know of any trainings not listed here? Let me know!

SHOUTOUT

Let's hear a big Shout Out for Each of our Small Support Group Leaders:

- ◊ 3 Angels
- John & Jerri Ann Fredeen
- Cindy Johnson and Patty Steen
- Gloria & Mike Torma
- Brittney Augustenborg & Arlene Carter
- Zach & Raina Stetson
- Doug McGraw & Regan Lotsy

Thank you so much to each of you for taking time out of your busy lives to guide, befriend, mentor and just support your fellow foster, adoptive & relative foster parents.

Don't forget, we still have a need for more support groups so if you're thinking about it, let Tawnya know!!

Know anyone who should be recognized for going above and beyond or for just being a great example of QPI? Just e-mail Tawnya at trobertson@washoecounty.us

## **RE\$OURCE\$**



#### 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@csreno.org

#### **KIWANIS CLUB**

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

#### 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.

### It's summer!!!



If you're looking for a camp or just something fun and inexpensive to do with your kiddos just e-mail Tawnya at trobertson@washoecounty.us and she'll get you a list of ideas!

## **INTERESTED IN ADOPTING?**



Are you ready to meet the world's BIGGEST super hero fan?! Meet Joey! His smile will melt your heart, and his laugh will make you giggle! Joey has a sweet nature about him, and a soft spot for animals of any kind (especially dogs & cats). Joey will ride any roller-coaster, and is up for making you laugh at the drop of a hat...his impersonations alone will have you rolling! Don't let him play on a tablet too long and fool you - This young man enjoys cooking, amusement parks, museums, Legos, comic books, and using his imagination when playing! He really likes his new martial arts class and making movies and acting. He'd love to continue to attend church/youth group, a *Christian* household would be a plus.



If you would like more information about Joey, please contact

Cindy Adams at cadams@washoecounty.us or call 337-4503.



#### <u>Meet Madison</u> (11/10/03)

Madison is a fun and bright young woman who loves to be outdoors. She enjoys camping, jumping on trampolines, roller skating, going on family vacations and just hanging out with her friends. She also loves cheerleading and has the trophies to prove it! Madison likes a variety of music including pop, rock, R & B and country. She dreams of going to a live concert one day. Madison would do best as an only child, with her own bedroom and would love to have pets in her new home. Madison needs a kind, patient family who has experience working with Reactive Attachment Disorder and youth who've suffered significant loss. Her forever family will need to be willing to consistently remind her they are committed to her unconditionally.

If you would like to learn more about Madison contact Tawnya Robertson at <u>trobertson@washoecounty.us</u>

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Giving birth does
not make a mother.
Placing
a child for adoption
does not make her less
of one.
-Adoptionmamablog.com
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