

Renown Medical Center is experiencing a national shortage of TB serum for TB tests. But don't worry! There are other providers in the community who can do them. St. Mary's is still able to provide them as well as CVS*.

*pricing depends on insurance type



Check your cabinets! Contigo children's water bottle was recalled due to a choking hazard. This is only on the models where the base and cover of the silicon spout are black.



The Medical Unit has received flu shots for foster youth 6 months and older. Call 284-2763 to schedule an appointment today!



Zoom is now being utilized in select conference rooms. Need to attend a meeting and can't be there in person? Download the Zoom app and join by video!

**Respite funding
NOW AVAILABLE!!**



WCHSA has received respite funding through June 30, 2020 which makes each family eligible for up to **7 days of paid respite** per fiscal year!*

Respite is important to give yourself and your children a chance to have short periods of time apart to reset and recharge. This leads to better quality of care for the child and gives you a deserved and necessary break!

Do you recharge by going on vacation with your family? Funds can also be utilized to help take foster children on family vacations!

Please see your email for details on how to access these funds! If you have questions, please reach out to [Victoria Bowers](#) via email or by phone at 337-4484.

*funds only available to foster and flex homes at this time, not adoption only homes.



Take note: there is a NEW phone number for reporting child abuse and neglect for Washoe County:

833-900-SAFE

As a reminder, we are closed on the following days:

Nevada Day—Friday October 25th

Veteran's Day—Monday November 11th

Thanksgiving and Family Day—Thursday November 28th and
Friday November 29th

Christmas—Wednesday December 25th

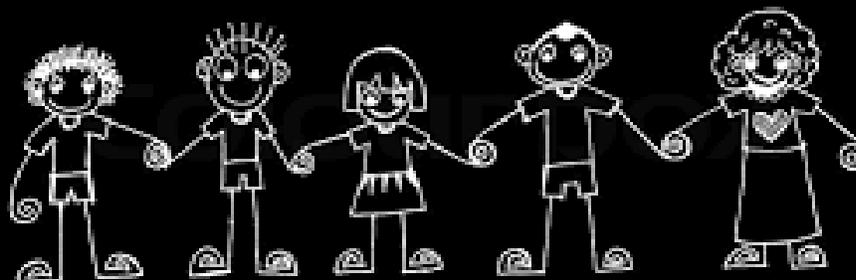
New Year's—Wednesday January 1st

If you have visits, please be sure to get in touch with your worker
to reschedule!

WE ARE RUNNING LOW ON SUITCASES FOR OUR KIDS!

**PLEASE DONATE YOUR NEW OR GENTLY USED LUGGAGE,
BACKPACKS, OR DUFFLE BAGS FOR OUR CHILDREN WHO ARE
MOVING TO A NEW FAMILY!**

**CONTACT TAWYNA TO COORDINATE DONATIONS
OR IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF LUGGAGE FOR
CHILDREN LEAVING YOUR HOME.**



Washoe County Human Services Annual Halloween Extravaganza!

Wednesday, October 30 from 2-4:30pm

350 S. Center St., Reno

Bring your ghosts and ghouls in their costumes
to trick or treat throughout the Department
and have fun with a variety of tricks and treats!





Raising a Relative's Child?

Foster Kinship provides information, resources, and support to individuals raising their relative's children in Nevada.

Free Programs for Kinship Families

Kinship Center:

Our kinship center offers information on supportive resources for families. We also offer walk-in intake services for our case management program.

Helpline:

We can answer complex questions regarding kinship and will connect families to the specific resources for which they qualify.

Support Groups:

Each month we offer multiple support group options for kinship caregivers. We also offer online support on Facebook: "Nevada Kinship Caregivers"

Child-Welfare Trainings:

Information sessions for all new caregivers working with the child-welfare system in Clark County, NV.

Case Management:

A comprehensive support program for informal kinship caregivers designed to increase the stability and well-being of the family. Families who qualify for and participate in case management may be eligible for financial support.

Child-Only TANF Application Sessions:

Available each Wednesday from 12-1 or by appointment. Applications provided.

Assistance with Guardianship Paperwork:

We can assist with providing the required forms, help with copies, and explain the process to receive temporary or permanent guardianship. By appointment only.

Family Events:

Annual family events include food, games and resources and are open to kinship caregivers and their entire family.

Advocacy:

Foster Kinship advocates for everyone who is raising a relative's child to receive equitable access to services and improved caregiving options through training, partnerships, and family advocacy.

Emergency Resources:

We provide emergency food and clothing assistance, back-to-school support, and assistance during the holidays.

Get Connected Now

(702) KIN-9988/ (844) 810-1667

www.FosterKinship.org

4344 W Cheyenne, 89032



UPCOMING AGENCY INITIATIVES

Some exciting things are coming your way due to all our hard work with our QPI partners!

Child and Family Team Meetings (CFT's)

The Agency is working on a model to encourage the use of CFT's. A child and family team meeting is a forum in which the child and family team come together to help the family craft, implement or change the individualized plan of action.

Why are CFT's beneficial?

- ⇒ CFT's are a great way to encourage open communication among team members and to make everyone's voice heard
- ⇒ CFT's are great for our youth as they allow them to have a voice in decisions being made
- ⇒ It shows the youth that people care about them and are willing to put work in to help them achieve their goals
- ⇒ Helps clarify any confusion, miscommunication, and eliminate triangulation
- ⇒ Is a great place for youth and other team members to have questions answered
- ⇒ Gives the team a great way to motivate and praise youth for all their hard work

"The key is having open communication with team members and the youth regularly...not only of the things each youth is struggling with but also the POSITIVE so we can share their successes with them in our own ways" - Steve Jachimowicz, HSA Case Worker

Who can attend? Anyone who has an interest in the child! Attorney, foster parents, CASA, mentors or adult supports, family members, therapist, PLR, school teachers, educational advocates, treatment provider case managers and support staff...

"CFT's really give an opportunity for the child to gain trust and meet the team responsible for their time in foster care and build a relationship with him/her. It gives hope for the child that reunification is still the goal." - Fatai Langi, foster parent & Director of 3 Angels Care

Who can request a CFT? ANYONE! Any member of the child's team has an opportunity to request a CFT be scheduled at any point in the case. Unclear of the direction of the case? Ask for a CFT. Notice the youth has been making major strides? Call a CFT to celebrate! Worried about new behaviors? Reach out to a member of the team to request a CFT!

CFT's can be held outside of a boring meeting room. Celebrate successes by meeting somewhere in the community, such as EZ Air!

Agency Initiatives continued...

Strengths –Based Language

While WCHSA emphasizes a strengths-based approach in working with families, we are now starting a shift to using more strengths-based language.



Words Matter: A Strengths-Based Approach for Family Foster Care

is an eye opening article which examines where terms such as “up for adoption,” “home study,” and “removed” came from and how it impacts foster youth. The below chart shows examples of ways we can change our everyday language to become more respectful to our foster youth.



Words Matter in Communicating and Building Trust

CWLA's (1) *PRIDE Model of Practice to Develop and Support Foster and Adoptive (Resource) Parents as Team Members in Child Protection and Trauma Informed Care of Children* and (2) *Kinship Traditions of Caring and Collaborating Model of Practice* each use “strengths-based” words to emphasize treating children, adults, and families with dignity and respect.

Instead of	Consider using
Case	Child or parent or family
Home	Family
Hard to place child	Safe, nurturing families are hard to find
Up for adoption	Child is ready to be adopted or needs an adoptive family
Placed in a home	Joined a family
aging out of the foster care system	Being connected to a relationship that is safe, nurturing and enduring
Kinship Caretaker	Kinship Caregiver
Foster parent	Resource parent
Natural family or natural parent	Birth family or birth parent
Visitation	Family time
Home study	Family assessment
Home visit	In home consultation
How many placements can the home take	How many children can the family care for
Screening out or weeding out	Selecting in
Children are removed or pulled	Children are separated
How many bed does the foster home have	How many children can join the family
Recruitment, retention	Develop, support

“They did not like to hear that they were removed from their parents and kin, because garbage and snow are removed. Instead, they preferred the word separated. They did not like to be referred to as damaged, like cars and furniture, but rather fragile or challenged. They did not like aging out of the foster care system or emancipating, as those are not words that most families use when their birth children move away or transition from home.”



COMING
SOON!

New program coming soon!

We are on the verge of introducing **PRIME**, an online interface where you can communicate with staff regarding licensing, placements, and child information. This will be a huge program and they are scheduling small group meetings to introduce it and get feedback.

Mark your calendars to attend the foster parent session on Monday, 10/14 from 10-noon in the 2nd floor conference room. Space is limited so please **RSVP** to your licensing worker today!

Come learn about PRIME!



QUALITY PARENTING INITIATIVE

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**SAVE
THE DATE**
.....

QPI4Kids.org

**QPI National Conference
May 27–29, 2020**

San Diego, CA 2020 | Loews Coronado Bay

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Registration Starts in January 2020

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





TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

NEVADA ASSOCIATION FOR POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT NET

WORK is holding their 3rd annual conference in Reno on December 9th and 10th, 2019! Register [here](#).



THE QPI WEBSITE

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

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 kinship caregivers homes. For more information and to RSVP for a class please contact them at their **NEW** contact at koula@3angelscare.org.

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



Champions

“Recently, I had the privilege of ending one journey, with a wonderful inspiring foster parent, **Arlene Carter**. She had two girls from one of my cases residing in her home for over three years. Not all children and parents are easy to deal with and this was one of those cases. Somehow, Arlene always worked her special magic. She always knew the right words to say to the parents, and she kept them involved with the case until it was time for the parents to say their good byes to their children. The parents trusted Arlene completely even when they didn’t have any trust in anyone else, and that says a lot about the time and effort she put in to her role as a foster parent.

It really does take a strong up beat person like Arlene to get through the most difficult times. Like most children in foster care they come with their own unique personalities, health issues and behavioral problems due to the past trauma in their lives. Arlene stood by the girls through the worst of times, and she advocated for the services she knew was right for them.

In the month of September, Arlene and I traveled to Texas with the girls to their adoptive relative placement. That afternoon in the airport as I watched Arlene giving the girls their last hugs and saying their good byes, and it made me think about how many times Arlene has gone the “extra mile” for this family. Ending this journey is bittersweet, and it has reminded me of how much love, patience and devotion Arlene has for our foster children.

I like to convey this message of gratitude to Arlene for a job well done as a foster mom. Arlene if you are reading this - thank you so much for going the “extra mile” over and over again for our families. I appreciate you so much!” - Debra Jackins, Case Manager

“I just wanted to highlight **Linda Fisher**. The kiddo I have in her home has really been testing her and Linda has rolled with the punches. This kiddo had to go to West Hills the other day and Linda really worked with the therapist there to highlight the strengths and positives with this kiddo and she’s great at updating me!” - Alexandra Clark, Case Manager

INTERESTED IN ADOPTING?



Da'Michael age 7, Miche'la age 6, & Mi'layah age 3

Da' Michael is very playful and seeks out positive feedback in his behavior. He is a good big brother and is eager to please. Da'Michael enjoys using his creativity in his play. He enjoys school and learning. Da'Michael's favorite superhero is the Black Panther.

Michae'la is very bright and sharp witted. She is a happy and smiling child who enjoys engaging others in play. She likes to dance and perform and receive positive feedback. Michae'la likes going to school and her favorite part of the day is recess. She has a smile that can light up a room.

Mi'Layah is funny and playful. She is a typical, healthy 2 year old who loves to spend time with her brother and sister. She is a true girly girl and likes all things girly such as cute hair and painted nails. She loves to have her hair done and loves when she has beads in her hair.

If you would like to learn more about this adorable sibling group please contact Tawnya Robertson at (775) 785-8659.

INTERESTED IN ADOPTING?

Deborah, age 9 & Noah, age 6

These kids are really close and very sweet. Noah tends to join and follow. Deborah is all girl. She loves her Barbie's and often changes outfits more than once in a day. She also loves to have her hair styled and play school. Amazingly both love to do things like hike - they even hiked 5 miles without complaining!

If you'd like more information please contact Cindy Adams at 775-337-4503.



Jaxson age 5 and London age 3

London is described as very bright and likes to play with dolls. Jaxson likes to play with his trucks and his legos. He can be more active but also is very loving.

If you would like further information please contact Cindy Adams at 775-337-4503.

