

NEWSLETTER

RESOURCE/ RELATIVE/ FICTIVE KIN/ ADOPTIVE PARENTS

Circle of Security: Exploring Relationships between Parents/Foster Parents and Young Children
Presented by Daryl Hitchcock, PhD

1-Day Only (9am-4pm) via Zoom

Friday, December 11 th	Friday, December 18 th	Saturday, December 19 th
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WHAT IS CIRCLE OF SECURITY PARENTING (COS-P)? The Circle of Security is a relationship based early intervention program designed to enhance attachment security between parents and children. It is an evidence-based intervention program for parents and children that focuses on relationships.

WHAT ARE THE TOPICS OF TRAINING: All About Young Children and Attachment, Social and Emotional Development, Developmental Milestones & Ways to Aid Attachment, Facts and Fiction about Attachment, Mismatch and Repair in the Attachment Relationship, Verbal and Nonverbal Communication & What to do when things do not go as planned & How to Repair Ruptures & Strengthen the Relationship?

Space is LIMITED to 20 participants per day
Foster Parent Training CEU's: 6 Hours Available
RSVP: KSpring@washoecounty.us
Reserve a spot in this **sure to fill** up attachment-based training.

The Great iFoster Bake Off! (No Baking required)

This will be a virtual event on Dec 18th and if youth or caregivers or agencies register prior to Dec 11th, we will send them a kit with everything they need to compete. We're building Pop-Tart Holiday Houses! And yes, teams are allowed - so group homes - start recruiting! There will be prizes for Best in Show (and various categories we have yet to dream up) and of course random drawings throughout!

Join us for the craziest Holiday Event EVER! Click the link below to learn more and register. Also, feel free to spread the word with the attached flyer!

[GREAT IFOSTER BAKE OFF!](#)

The Great iFoster Bake Off! (no baking required)

JOIN US FOR THE ULTIMATE BAKING BATTLE!

THE OVEN GLOVES ARE OFF FOR THE POP-TARTS HOLIDAY HOUSE CHALLENGE!

WHEN: Dec 18, 1 to 2:30 pm PT
WHERE: ONLINE
HOW: Register by Dec 11 and a free Holiday House kit will be sent to you with everything you need!

REGISTER

MASTER CHEFS will demonstrate the pop-tart art of Holiday House building!
POP-TART FOODIE EXPERTS will judge your creations for GREAT PRIZES and the ultimate GREAT IFOSTER BAKER award!

For more information or for Agency or Team participation, call/email/text iFoster at 1-855-936-7837 / support@ifoster.org / 213-608-5283

Quality Parenting Washoe

QPI STEERING COMMITTEE

The QPI Steering Committee is a monthly meeting where WCHSA staff, resource parents, and birth parents meet and work collaboratively to improve Quality Parenting within Washoe County. The QPI Steering Committee is **the third Thursday of every month at 9:30am on Zoom!** We would love for you to attend. Please reach out to Kylee Spring, QPI Liaison for the Zoom link. kspring@washoecounty.us



BRIDGES out of POVERTY



Dates of training:

Saturday, December 12th, 2020

10:00am-12

This is a **mandatory** training requirement for your license renewal.

Please contact Matt Polly for more information or to register.
MPolley@washoecounty.us

RESOURCE PARENT, RELATIVE, FICTIVE KIN & ADOPTIVE

Support Groups

WE ARE LOOKING TO ENHANCE OUR SUPPORT GROUPS

- **3 Angels Care** offers support group on the **2nd and 4th Wednesday** of every month from **8:30-9:30pm**. Please contact Koula@3angelscare.org to RSVP.
- **Resource Parent Advisory Board** support group **December 8, 2020** at **noon**. Please contact kspring@washoeounty.us to RSVP
- **Adoptive Parent Therapeutic Support Group:** For pre- & Post-Adoptive Families. **Wednesday 5-6** vis Zoom. Please contact jcasarez@washoeounty.us or danderson@washoeounty.us for any question or if you want to attend
- **Relative Support Group: Coming soon**



We are working on getting an updated list and would love to get the word out to others. Please reach out with any other support groups that I have missed.



KEYWORD

Normalcy

Means the condition of experiencing a typical childhood though participation in activities that are age or developmentally appropriate.

Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard / Normalcy: The foster home will provide opportunities for children to experience and participate in normal activities which include involvement in community, school, family or social activities. Such activities not only allow foster children to experience normalcy in their daily lives but provide a child opportunity to experience safe risk-taking, supported by parental guidance and nurturing. These experiences ultimately support normal development and give the youth skills needed to be healthy and productive adults.

Pursuant to NAC 424, a foster parent or designated member of the staff of a foster home, may allow a foster child to participate in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural and social activities similar to those participated in by peers of the same age, maturity and developmental level. When deciding whether to allow or deny participation in such activities, a foster parent or designated member of the staff of a foster home must be informed by all information about the activity that is available to the foster parent or staff member; and shall use the reasonable and prudent parent standard.

**Washoe Quality Parenting
Spotlight Award!**

We want to celebrate all team members that touch the lives of children and family in our community and need your help to do so! As you have seen there has been videos going out to resource families and WCHSA staff shining a spotlight on people who are nominated. These nominations can be resource parents, WCHSA staff or any community member we want to hear and shine the spotlight on everyone!

Our mission is to give recognition to every person who is helping children and families. All that has to be done to nominate is to fill out the Quality Parenting Washoe Spotlight Nomination form that can be found on the QPI website (<http://www.qpinevada.org/>). After you fill it out send it to Kylee Spring, QPI Liaison (kspring@washoeounty.us) and she will do the rest of the work. Remember you can nominate resource parents, caregivers, birth parents, WCHSA staff, or community providers.

Let's celebrate together and showcase our amazing community and all the people involved!

New Training updates:

QPI WEBSITE:

[HTTP://WWW.QPINEVADA.ORG/](http://www.qpinevada.org/)

Below are amazing new trainings that are on the QPI website that you can get renewal training hours!

Regulation for Protection

We learn how to regulate our feelings and emotions as very young infants. Through our interactions, we learn how to filter information and how to respond to information. When children do not receive the nurture and care they need to develop optimally, their ability to self-regulate is disrupted. This can manifest in many ways, including tantrums, elopement, disrobing, melt downs and many other behaviors of concern. This presentation will provide attendees with an overview of how children learn to regulate their behaviors in infancy and how this develops as they grow. Additionally, the presentation will include strategies caregivers can use when children do not develop self-regulation strategies to help them learn this skill, regardless of their age. 1.5 hours

Autism Spectrum Disorder for Child Welfare Professionals (CC)

Jill Hill presents on Autism Spectrum Disorder as it pertains to Child Welfare Professionals (CWP). This training is designed to teach CWP how to approach individuals who may be diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder as well as discuss ways to ensure effective communication while interviewing and how to recognize patterns and behaviors exhibited by those with this diagnosis. Jill has experience in working with "Wrap Around Services" and although her training is usually geared towards first responders, she is excited to share how this information can positively impact Child Welfare. 1.5 Hours

De la Resistencia a la Resiliencia
Esmirna Ramirez - Training and Evaluation
Analyst, UC Berkeley, School of Social
Welfare, CalSWEC

Descripción de entrenamiento

La pandemia de Covid-19 está poniendo enorme presión sobre nuestras familias que ahora están enfrentando no solo las obligaciones de administrar y balancear las muchas necesidades de un hogar, pero también la gran responsabilidad de educar a los jóvenes en la casa. Como padres de crianza, nos vemos obligados a desempeñar muchos roles, el de trabajador, cuidador, maestro, cónyuge y más. Estos estresores adicionales a menudo pueden conducir a conflictos y luchas de poder en el hogar. El objetivo de esta presentación es proveer una interpretación más profunda del comportamiento resistente que podemos percibir en nuestra juventud, como la resistencia a las tareas del diario vivir, como completar el trabajo escolar o ayudar en las labores del hogar. También, ofrece herramientas y técnicas prácticas para los padres de crianza sobre cómo ayudar a los jóvenes a pasar de un comportamiento evitativo y resistente a la resiliencia y la formación de hábitos saludables.

Just in Time Training

Training you need, when and where you need it.



Top Tips for Getting a Certificate

No Fast Forward You will see a box beneath the video where the link to the quiz will be available. But if you fast forward anywhere in the video, the link will not be enabled.

Avoid Cell Phone You can watch any of the videos on a cell phone. BUT, beware of viewing on a cell phone if you need a certificate. You may be more likely to close the screen or restart the video which will affect your ability to access the link to the quiz.

3 Tries And Locked You are only allowed 3 attempts to pass the quiz - even if you took the quiz months ago. If you are locked out, we will need to unlock your account before you can try again.

Download Certificate Upon passing the quiz, please download (or right click) your certificate before printing or emailing for credit.

We are here to help! We want you to have the best experience possible. If you need assistance (including unlocking your account) email center-support@usf.edu and provide us with your NAME, TITLE of the video or quiz, which STATE you reside in and the ISSUE you are having. We will respond within 24 hours Monday through Friday.

Interested in Adoption?

Trey, Jayden & Milo

9, 7 & 4 years old

LOOKING FOR ADOPTIVE HOME

These closely bonded, high energy little boys will have you laughing all day long. They love to make people happy, are sweet, silly, affectionate and love cars and all things super-heroes.

Trey is a "pretty easy-going kid" with "an incredible imagination" who loves to make people happy. He is described as fearless, determined, adventuresome and not afraid to try new things. Although he is a pretty picky eater. Still, he loves pizza, burgers, pasta with red sauce and cereal and is working on expanding his pallet.

Jayden is very bright and articulate for his age. He is currently learning Spanish and his foster parents are impressed with the fact that he's doing so with no accent. He shows remarkable leadership skills and is very protective of his brothers. People will tell you that Jayden's smile lights up a room. He is a "big hugger", loves to be a helper and is a kind, loving, polite little boy with excellent manners and a little flirtation mixed in. Thanks to his foster parents Jayden has been exposed to a large variety of foods and loves to explore.

Milo is all boy and looks up to his older brothers. Like Jayden he is very bright and articulate for his age and is learning Spanish. However, unlike Jayden Milo is a very picky eater. He strives to be "a big boy" and loves to dress himself and be independent. Milo has an infectious laugh and his foster parent cautions that he uses his cuteness to his advantage and it's pretty easy to get sucked in.

If you'd like to learn more about more about this precious sibling group contact Tawnya Robertson at (775) 785-8659 or Trobertson@washoecounty.us



Baby Boy a.k.a "Little Man" or "Rueger"

October 2019

FLEX HOME REQUIRED- LEGAL RISK

Meet Little Man!

This handsome little boy has the heart of a lion. Baby Boy is usually smiling and laughs often. Being outdoors, playing in the dirt and learning to walk are amongst his favorite pastimes. He gets along well with other children and adults alike. He is also content to play by himself. Little Man does well with a routine. He eats like a champ and sleeps thru the night. Baby Boy is confident meeting new people, makes great eye-contact and is very affectionate. Little Man has asthma and requires breathing treatments, the frequency of which are dependent on the weather and environment. Any applicant wishing to be considered must commit to maintaining Little Man's breathing regimen. If you interested in learning more about this happy little boy contact Mitch Matthews,

LSW

Children's Division - Washoe County Human Services Agency
mmatthews@washoecounty.us

Charlie

November 20, 2017

LOOKING FOR FOREVER HOME

Charlie is described as a love bug. He is an extremely affectionate little boy who thrives from positive attention. He loves animals and is especially fond of his foster parent's dog. He follows him everywhere and you can't help but giggle watching him play fetch with the pup. Charlie is also inquisitive and likes to independently explore the world around him. He finds joy in books, watching cartoons, playing on his tablet and playing with water. He also loves music and dancing and is delighted to see and hear others sing as well as play musical instruments. Charlie is becoming increasingly adventurous in his exploration with new foods. His current favorites are tacos and curry.

If you would like to learn more about this fun, adorable and curious little boy please contact Tawnya Robertson at (775) 785-8659 or trobertson@washoecounty.us



Washoe County School District Update

Distance Learning Facilities/Resources

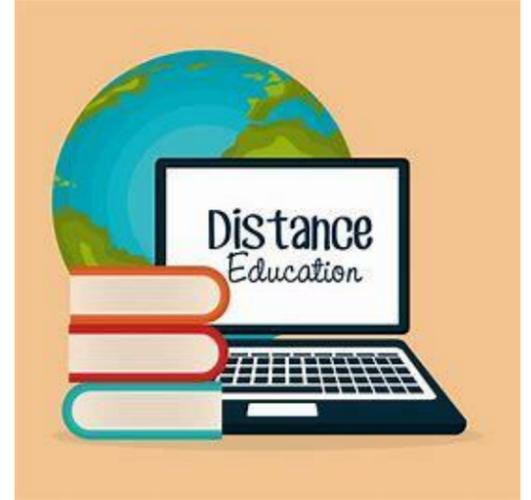
All programs support WCSD distance learning

NV PREP

- Serves grades K-5
- Licensed preschool - fees apply, no subsidies available yet
- Before/after school programs also available
- Can utilize distance learning 2,3 or 5 days/wk
- Capacity 12 students total
- 780 Sandhill Rd., Reno, NV 89521 775.415.7737 info@prepsm.com

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

- Serve ages 6+ K-12
- 3 locations – maximum capacity 300
 - **9th Street Facility** 2880 E. Ninth St., Reno, NV 89512
 - **Pennington Facility** (next to Reno HS) 1300 Foster Dr., Reno, NV 89509
 - **Carano Facility** (Near Vassar/Keitzke) 1090 Bresson Ave., Reno, NV 89502
- Their gyms are converted to provide a quite socially distant learning environment – along with staff support
- Breakfast and lunch provided for kids staying the entire day.
- Low rates, subsidies available
- Contacts for distance learning
 - Arantza Alcantara 775-360-2410 aalcantara@bgctm.org
 - Sarah Odom 775-360-2471 sodom@bgctm.org



DISCOVERY MUSEUM

- Grades 2-8 Fees
- Capacity 108 total – see site for current availability nvdm.org
- 490 S. Center St., Reno 775.786.1000 Fees apply

SOME DAY CARE FACILITIES – SEE UPDATED AGENCY LIST (https://www.washoecounty.us/hsa/childrens_services/child_care_and_early_childhood_services/Child%20Care%20Facilities%20Openings%20and%20Closures)

WCSD also has coats for children that will be available through the FEC

At Home Learning Schedule:

Here are a few options for at home learning schedules

At Home Learning Schedule: Option "A"		
Name: _____		Date: _____
8:30am	Plan for the day Do you have tests to take today? Do you have Zoom Calls to attend? If so, what time? Put that on the block below, so you remember to attend. What classes are you going to work on today? Be specific.	Explanation of your plan today:
8:45am- 9:45am	Work Block #1 What class(es) did you work on? What did you do?	Explanation of what you worked on:
9:45am-10:00am	Break #1	
10:00am-11:00am	Work Block #2 What class(es) did you work on? What did you do?	Explanation of what you worked on:
11:00m-11:15am	Break #2	
11:15am-12:15pm	Work Block #3 What class(es) did you work on? What did you do?	Explanation of what you worked on:
12:15pm-1:00pm	Lunch Break	
1:00pm-2:00pm	Work Block #3 What class(es) did you work on? What did you do?	Explanation of what you worked on:

At Home Learning Schedule: Option "B"		
Name: _____		Date: _____
11:00am	Plan for the day Do you have tests to take today? Do you have Zoom Calls to attend? If so, what time? Put that on the block below, so you remember to attend. What classes are you going to work on today? Be specific.	Explanation of your plan today:
11:15am- 1:15pm	Work Block #1 What class(es) did you work on? What did you do?	Explanation of what you worked on:
1:15pm-1:30pm	Break	
1:30pm-3:30pm	Work Block #2 What class(es) did you work on? What did you do?	Explanation of what you worked on:

Christmas is coming!

This year has been a tough one for sure; but, thanks to the Pennington Foundation for a sizable grant to directly serve children in care, it has hopefully been a bit brighter. Remember, this grant serves every child in foster care during 2020 (each child qualifies for up to \$450 in school supplies, clothing, and Christmas gifts).

WCHSA has been reaching out to care providers (resource parents) for the past six months on ways to access these monies.

Please reach out Jesse Brown (Jbrown@washoecounty.us) with any questions. We will be finalizing all purchases by December 18th, so act fast.



Nurture *the* Village

Do you have friends and family ask you about foster care or adoption?

Our Recruitment and Team is a wealth of knowledge and would come to your village (virtually) to help spread the word about foster and adoption. Even in times of COVID our Recruitment and Training are meeting and training resource parents through Zoom. They are able to answer any questions your friends and family may have. Lets work together so every child has a home.

To Schedule or learn more about this call the Recruitment and Training team at 337-4470!

2021 schedule for foster care and adoption payments



WASHOE COUNTY
"Dedicated to Excellence in Public Service"

350 SOUTH CENTER STREET
RENO, NEVADA 89520-0027
PHONE: (775) 337-4470
FAX: (775) 337-4495

HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
Child Care Services

December 20, 2020

Re: Publication of Calendar Year 2020 Check Issuance Dates

Dear Foster and/or Adoptive Parent(s):

I'd like to take this opportunity to share with each of you the 2021 schedule for foster care and adoption payments. The schedule was designed around the County's payment processing deadlines and every effort was made to issue payments as early in the month as possible. The current payment dates are as follows:

January 13, 2021	May 12, 2021	September 08, 2021
February 10, 2021	June 09, 2021	October 13, 2021
March 10, 2021	July 14, 2021	November 10, 2021
April 14, 2021	August 11, 2021	December 08, 2021

Checks are generated during the day listed above and mailed out late in the evening. Funds that are direct deposited are generally posted to your account late in the evening or early the following morning.

Washoe County is able to process payments via direct deposit for those who are interested. Please fill out the enclosed form and send to the following address:

***If you have already filled out a direct deposit form, you do not need to fill out a new one.**

Human Services Agency
Attn: Bookkeeping Dept
350 South Center St
Reno, NV 89520
FAX (775) 337-4495
Email SSBookkeeping@washoecounty.us

If you have any questions related to payments, please call the Department at 775-785-5641 and ask to speak to a member of the Bookkeeping Unit.

Sincerely,

Amy Sandvik
Children's Services Coordinator

WASHOE COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Please share with others this holiday season

The next orientation is
December 9, 2020, 5:30 - 7:30 pm.
via Zoom until further notice. All orientations are available
in Spanish.

RSVP at adoption_recruitment@washoecounty.us or (775) 337-4470.

View haveaheartwashoe.com for future orientations!

SPOT TO SHARE

“ADOPTING ISN’T JUST UNTIL 18. DAUGHTERS ARE FOREVER”

A local teen is celebrating after finding parents of her own. Now she is hoping her story will inspire others to consider adoption.

<https://fb.watch/1TZPBbEiws/>



Rebecca Kitchen
Reporter



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.

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.

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.

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.