

OCTOBER 2022

NEWSLETTER

RESOURCE/ RELATIVE/ FICTIVE KIN/ ADOPTIVE PARENTS

it's baaack...

halloween carnival

wed, oct 26th 12-7pm
family engagement center
905 e prater way

join us for
treats, scares, fun,
games & prizes!

CIRCUS
ADMIT ONE

8096000

rsvp to hsa-specialevents@washoecounty.gov
please provide names of all in your party & 3 time slots in order
of preference (half hour blocks between 12-6:30pm)

Trunk or Treat at Kids Kottage

You are Invited to Halloween Trunk or Treat at Kids Kottage

Please join us for a safe and fun Trunk or Treat put on again this year by the Assistance League. We will be taking health and safety precautions (spacing out cars, requiring masks, having a flow of foot traffic, etc) while still allowing children in care to celebrate this silly, fun, creepy, holiday.

Who: Witches and Goblins of all ages

What: Trunk-or-Treat

When: Wednesday, October 26th 6:30p-8:00p

Where: Kid's Kottage, 2075 Longley Lane, Reno, NV 89502

Why: To have a hauntingly good time & receive tasty treasures

Please RSVP by Oct 21st (ebell@kidskottage.net)

Don't forget to bring a mask, a candy bag, and excitement for Halloween fun
 Parking will be available in the Children's Cabinet lot and along Longley Lane
 A spaced line will be made along the sidewalk at the Kottage street entrance



Respite

Respite funds have been approved again for 7 days use between July 1st, 2022, through June 30th, 2023. Respite funds can be used for true respite (babysitting) with an approved provider or inclusive respite such as a family vacation. Please reach out to Heather Wenker at hwenker@washoecounty.gov or 775-432-4973 with any questions or if you are interested in being on the respite list to help, thank you!



WASHOE COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

350 S. CENTER STREET
RENO, NEVADA 89501-2103
PHONE: (775) 337-4470
FAX: (775) 337-4495

Date: _____

Name of Foster Parent making Request: _____

I am applying for alternate care funds to be paid to:

Myself for a family vacation inclusive of my foster child(ren). (*"Inclusive Respite"*)

A licensed foster parent to care for my foster child(ren) in my absence. (*"Paid Alternative Care"*)

Other approved alternate care provider (direct care staff, babysitter, or licensed child care staff).

Name of Alternate Caregiver: _____ Phone Number: _____

Dates: From _____ to _____ for a total of _____ days.

Foster Child Name(s)	Date of Birth	Assigned Caseworker

In selecting the care provider, I have considered the unique needs and behaviors of each child and have communicated the supervision requirements to maintain child safety. All medical, dental, and therapeutic appointments, as well as visitation and school transportation, have been arranged and covered. I have discussed these arrangements with the child's caseworker and have verified the care provider is in good standing with licensing and/or the child's caseworker and able to accommodate the additional children.

Thank you,

Foster Parent Signature

** FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN 1 WEEK BEFORE ALTERNATIVE CARE. Email to: HSA-RespiteRequests@washoecounty.us

** IF USING MORE THAN ONE CARE PROVIDER, PLEASE USE SEPARATE FORMS

OFFICE USE ONLY

Approved Denied (explain) _____

Confirmed care performed & paperwork on file for payment

INTEGRITY

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION
350 S. CENTER STREET, RENO, NV 89501
WWW.WASHOECOUNTY.US

QUALITY PUBLIC SERVICE



Respite / DCSM Checklist

Before providing respite for any child, you must first have permission from your licensing worker. Additionally, the foster parent asking for respite must have permission from their licensing worker.

Things to consider:

- Do you have the space in your home to accommodate more children?
- Do you have the space and car seats available to accommodate more children in your vehicle?

What to ask the resource parent and/or worker prior to providing respite:

- Any appointments for the child(ren) while in your care:
 - o Medical: _____
 - o Dental: _____
 - o Therapy: _____
 - o Psychiatric: _____
 - o PSR/BST: _____
 - o PT/ OT: _____
- Allergies / Dietary restrictions: _____
- Medication (s): _____
- Visitation – days, times, parents visits together or separate, sibling visitation _____
- School/Daycare & transportation: _____
- Important boundaries/triggers, behaviors and/or supervision requirements: _____
- Routines in home where they currently reside: _____

Contact information

Child(ren)'s Case worker: _____
Phone number: _____ Email: _____

Child(ren)'s Therapist: _____
Phone number: _____ Email: _____

Child(ren)'s Attorney: _____
Phone number: _____ Email: _____

Placement specialist:
Heather Wenker
hwenker@washoecounty.gov
Katie Proctor
kproctor@washoecounty.gov

Dates requesting: _____

Child's Name: _____
DOB: _____

Child's Name: _____
DOB: _____

Child's Name: _____
DOB: _____

Resource Parent: _____

Contact Information: _____

AFTER HOURS NUMBER:
833-900-SAFE (7233)

Medical Unit
775-284-2763
2097 Longley Lane

FEC
775.352.3230
905 E Prater Way

Resource Parent Head Quarters
2395 East Prater Way

WEBSITE:
www.washoecounty.us/hsa
www.qpinevada.org
haveaheartwashoe.us

Both forms are attached to this email for your convenience and can be found on the Just In Time QPI Website. Qpinevada.org under the Washoe tab. Once you are at the Washoe Tab click on Caregiver Resource & Support and scroll down to RESPITE. There you will find both forms as well as additional information regarding respite.

AMAZING TRAINING OPPORTUNITY!

TBRI® CAREGIVER TRAINING: Washoe County and Rural Nevada

- **TBRI® Introduction & Overview**
October 25th & 27th, 2022 | 6pm-9pm each day
Virtual training via Zoom
- **Complete TBRI® Caregiver Training Series**
November 14th-18th, 2022 | 10am-2:30pm each day
Virtual training via Zoom
- **TBRI® Introduction & Overview**
March 28th & 30th, 2023 | 6pm-9pm each day
Virtual training via Zoom
- **Complete TBRI® Caregiver Training Series**
Fridays in April 2023 (4/7, 4/14, 4/21, and 4/28) | 9am-3pm each day
Virtual training via Zoom
[REGISTER](#)



Trust-Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI®) Caregiver Training

Free training for caregivers of children from hard places

ABOUT TBRI®

Trust Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI®) is an evidence-based parenting and intervention model developed by Dr. Karyn Purvis and Dr. David Cross at the Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development (KPICD) at Texas Christian University (TCU). TBRI® has been built on a solid foundation of neuropsychological theory and research, tempered by humanitarian principles. It is a family-based intervention, designed for children who have experienced relationship-based traumas such as institutionalization, multiple foster placements, maltreatment, abuse, and/or neglect.

FOUR TRAINING MODULES

- Introduction & Overview
- Connecting Principles
- Empowering Principles
- Correcting Principles

Use the QR code below to learn more and register for upcoming trainings!

SCAN ME

Look for information under the "TBRI® Caregiver Training" tab





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

Licensing Updates

FOSTER CARE LICENSING - CASELOADS BY ZIP CODE

TRACEY RODRIGUEZ (775) 737-8123 TRodriguez@washoecounty.gov	ANASTASIA COOPER (775) 560-7773 ACooper@washoecounty.gov	BARBARA JAIME (775) 842-1704 BJaime@washoecounty.gov	JESSICA SHEPHERD (775) 622-6919 JShepherd@washoecounty.gov	CODI SOAP (775) 842-1992 CSoap@washoecounty.gov
89439	SPECIALIZED FOSTER	89436	89434	89431
89441	ENHANCED HOME	89509	89450	89433
89503		89506 South of Stead Blvd, Panther Valley, Golden Valley, Lemmon Valley	89451	89512
89523			89501	89508
89519			89502	89704
Spanish-speaking homes			89510	89506 North of Stead Blvd, Cold Springs, Bordertown, Silver Knolls
			89511	
			89521	
			89706	



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

Interested in Adoption?

David

13-years-old

100% FREE

David is longing for a forever family. This genuinely thoughtful boy is wise beyond his years and full of personality. He loves to please others and is an excellent big brother who takes pride in looking out for his little brother.

David's favorite super-heroes are Batman and Black Panther. His favorite food is sushi and his favorite dessert is ice cream. Foods he simply will not eat are tomatoes, sweet peppers, zucchini and mushrooms. Although David admits if mushrooms are on his pizza, he won't pick them off. David says he is a dog person but will tolerate cats if they're loving and cuddly. David loves building Legos and will talk for hours about the ones he's already built as well as those he'd like to. David likes to play video games and dreams of one day having his own Xbox Series X and or a PS5.

David is hoping for a two-parent household where he is the only child. His forever family will love him unconditionally, while providing a safe, structured environment where he can grow, thrive and heal.

Check out the link below to watch David's Have a Heart episode which aired on 9/7/21 - <https://www.kolotv.com/video/2021/09/07/have-heart-meet-david/>

If you're interested in learning more about this amazing boy please contact Tawnya Robertson at troberson@washoecounty.us



Kyler

13-years-old

100% FREE

Kyler is described as a happy, articulate, active young man! He finds joy in drawing, playing football and going to church/youth groups. He also loves, singing, dancing and learning new instruments. He adores his younger siblings and is an excellent big brother.

To see his Have a Heart video from KOLO 8 News
Now click on the link below:

<https://www.kolotv.com/content/news/Have-a-Heart-Meet-Kyler-508160191.html>

If you would like more information about Kyler, please contact Tawnya Robertson at troberson@washoecounty.us



Nevada Pediatric
Psychiatry Solutions

3 Simple Ways to Nurture Hope



Notice and express gratitude for good things

Talking about what we are thankful for boosts happiness and health. Make it a family affair: you and your teen can share something you are grateful for over a meal or on your way to school. Be intentional about expressing gratitude each day. Notice how it lifts your families' spirits and reminds you all there is reason to hope.

Make a contribution

Encourage your teen to join an after-school service club or youth group. Giving back not only helps others, but it also reminds the giver about how much they matter. Even small gestures of kindness reinforce that their actions make a difference.



Laugh a little

Laughter is an under-utilized strategy for coping with stress. Humor has been shown to improve mental and physical health and increase hope. When we laugh, we release feel-good chemicals that tell our brain and body to relax a bit. So give your teen permission to watch a funny video or unwind with a sitcom.

These simple strategies can help teens thrive in good times and navigate challenging times. That is something to be hopeful about, as we all stand to benefit when our teens flourish.

Source: <https://parentandteen.com/three-ways-to-increase-hope/>

Placement Support Team Meetings

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.



Profile Party

Greetings! On November 1, 2022, we will have a live *Profile Party* via Zoom. Please join us to learn about some of the **amazing & lovable** children for whom we are looking for **amazing & lovable** homes! You will find the Zoom link in your inbox.

Participation in Profile Parties provide The Agency with an opportunity to become more familiar with prospective families' strengths, goals, expectations and how these align with the needs of the children.

Families who wish to be considered as adoptive resources for children coming into recruitment are encouraged to regularly attend these events.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Mitch Matthews, LSW – Family Manager – Children's Division mmatthews@washowcounty.us

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!

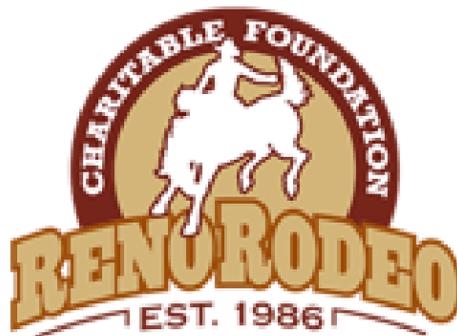
If you are in need of anything or have donations, please reach out to Lauren Dees at 775.857.7924

Find more on the Northern Nevada Moses Project by going to their website- www.nnmosesproject.org



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>Step 1: 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>Step 2: 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>Step 3: 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>Step 4: 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! Please be mindful to leave the closet in an orderly condition following your visit.</p>
<p>Step 5: Resource parent locks both the Reno Rodeo Closet door and the KK Gym door upon exit.</p>	<p>Step 6: 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 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.



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR PORTRAITS?

Christy Bingham at Creation Studio is volunteering her time to help you out.

Sat. Sept. 17, 2022 from 9:30-11:30 at Rock Park in Sparks (Rock Blvd. at the Truckee River)

Time slots available: 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00

- What to wear: 1. A great attitude 2. The outfit that makes you feel good 3. Solid color modest clothing 4. Tank tops and prints are not recommended.

- What to bring: 1. Your smile 2. Your rested, bright, youthful eyes 3. Props that expose your personality: Jackets, balls, skateboards, etc. 4. A sweater/jacket for a wardrobe change

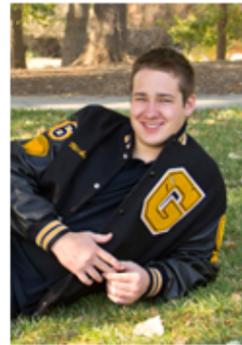
What do you need to do?

- 1. Email your filled out Questionnaire to Christy@creationstudioreno.com by Mon. Sept. 12, 2022 to reserve your spot. 2. Show up 10 min. early to your reserved time. Be ready to stay for 40 minutes.

What you need to know: You will receive via email Christy's 3 favorite jpgs from your session by Saturday September 24, 2022.



CREATION STUDIO PHOTOGRAPHY Christy Bingham (775) 225-4515 Christy@CreationStudioReno.com



SENIOR PORTRAITS



SENIOR QUESTIONNAIRE 2022

Senior Name _____

Guardian Name _____

Phone # for contacting you _____

Email Address for sending jpg files _____

Which time slot do you desire? _____



What do you like to do? _____

What do you want in your senior portrait? _____

How can I capture your personality in your photos? What do you love?

Books Sports Water Trees Colors

What do you worry about in a portrait? _____

What do I need to know about you? _____

Check out CreationStudioReno.com for More posing ideas in my Portfolio.

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
 - Child Care licensing, Licensing, Recruitment & Training, Adoptions
- Kim Martin- k martin@washoeconomy.gov
 - CQI, Training Unit
- Shannon McCoy- smccoy@washoeconomy.gov
 - Permanency
- Stacy Lance- slance@washoeconomy.gov
 - Clinical, FEC
- Tammi Williamson- twilliamson@washoeconomy.gov
 - Assessment

Assessment / Permanency:

Assessment Supervisors

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

Permanency Supervisors

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

Adoptions:

Supervisors

- Emily Smith- esmith@washoeconomy.gov
- Jessie Valencia – jvalencia@washoeconomy.gov

Placement Support, Recruitment & Training:

Supervisor

- Laura Caprioli- lcaprioli@washoeconomy.gov

R&T Staff

- Brenda Silis – bsilis@washoeconomy.gov
- Mitch Matthews - MMatthews@washoeconomy.gov
- Myra Yeargan – myeargan@washoeconomy.gov
- Tawnya Robertson – 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
 Marci Hlade - mhlade@washoeconomy.gov

Placement Support

Heather Wenker - hwenker@washoeconomy.gov
 Katie Proctor - kproctor@washoeconomy.gov
 Sandra Espino: sespino@washoeconomy.gov

SFC Support

Mele Peaua - mpeaua@washoeconomy.gov
 Rayna Labarry- rlabarry@washoeconomy.gov

Post-Adoption Support

HSA-PostAdoptionServices@washoeconomy.gov

Erika Meszaros - emeszaros@washoeconomy.gov
 Mary Encarnacion- MEncarnacion@washoeconomy.gov

OPI Liaison: Kylee Spring: 775.530.1646

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

Engagers:

- Betty Sharkey- BSarkey@washoeconomy.gov
- Kin Minor - KMinor@washoeconomy.gov
- Leona Lopez - LLopez@washoeconomy.gov
- Mayra Quiroz - MQuiroz@washoeconomy.gov
- Olivia Lynch - olynch@washoeconomy.gov
- Patty Daniel - 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 - KPruiitt@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.

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.

Nevada 211 YOUTH APP
Ages 12 to 19
Easy
Fast
Confidential

SEARCH FOR LOCAL RESOURCES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS 24/7

DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY

GET IT ON **Google Play**
 Download on the **App Store**

Find help 24/7 by dialing 2-1-1
texting 898-211 or
visiting www.nevada211.org

NEVADA 211 YOUTH APP

BÚSQUEDA DE RECURSOS LOCALES
¡descargue su aplicación para jóvenes Nevada 211 hoy!

¡A TUS DEDOS 24/7!

Actividades y campamentos
 Asesoramiento
 Líneas directas de crisis
 Recursos de equidad
 Alimentos de emergencia
 Refugio de emergencia
 Cuidado de la salud
 Servicios LGBTQ
 SafeVoice
 Grupos de apoyo
 Empleo juvenil
 ¡Y mucho más!

2-1-1 Nevada