



# QUALITY PARENTING WASHOE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

Resource / Relative / Fictive Kin / Adoptive Parents

## THANKSGIVING IS HERE WHICH MEANS... **CHRISTMAS IS COMING!**

It seems like every year the holidays arrive quicker than we are prepared for and once again the Pennington Foundation's generosity is here to save the day! For those not aware, the Pennington Foundation has graciously gifted foster children in WCHSA custody an unbelievably large grant for 2022 that encompasses Supplies, Clothing, and Christmas Gifts. So far, all children have been provided access to school SUPPLIES, CLOTHING, and now we are ready for the final (and for many, the most exciting) portion of the grant... CHRISTMAS PRESENT shopping days! As with supplies and clothing, the Christmas portion of the grant is only available to children in WCHSA custody who reside in Northern Nevada – if you are unsure if this pertains to you, please ask us. To sign-up for and attend a CHRISTMAS shopping day, please **open the attachment, complete it and send it back to [hsa-penningtonproject@washoecounty.gov](mailto:hsa-penningtonproject@washoecounty.gov)**.

### **Important things to note:**

1. **After sending in your RSVP form, you will receive a response that your request was received, and any additional information needed.** Please call the FEC (775-352-3230) to follow up on your request or to sign up for a shopping day by phone.
2. Once you arrive at Target, you **must check-in at the table** located inside the store to obtain your 'shopping pass' at a time that HSA staff are present (see the attached form for times/days). Give yourself enough time to shop before your check-out time. It is super important that you separate items by child if you have more than one child you are shopping for.
3. WCHSA staff will be present at each event to assist you.
4. When done shopping, you will move to one of 2 check stands with WCHSA staff who will purchase your items. You must arrive in line no later than your check-out time (the time you sign up for).
5. **Unlike Clothing shopping days, children should not be in attendance at these events – Christmas gifts should be surprises.**
6. We are allowing one shopping day per child for Christmas so all the items you choose will need to be made on your scheduled day.
7. If you were unable to attend one of the clothing shopping days, you will be able to purchase clothing at this time also. Please specify that on your RSVP.
8. To send pictures and/or letters to thank the Pennington Foundation, or to ask general questions about this grant or our processes to expend it, please email [hsa-penningtonproject@washoecounty.gov](mailto:hsa-penningtonproject@washoecounty.gov). 😊

Thank you – WCHSA hopes that everyone has an amazing holiday season filled with love, happiness, and positive co-parenting relationships. We thank you for everything you do, the support and stability you provide to the children and families of Washoe County, and the inspiration you provide to our community.



# Supports



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)



## 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.

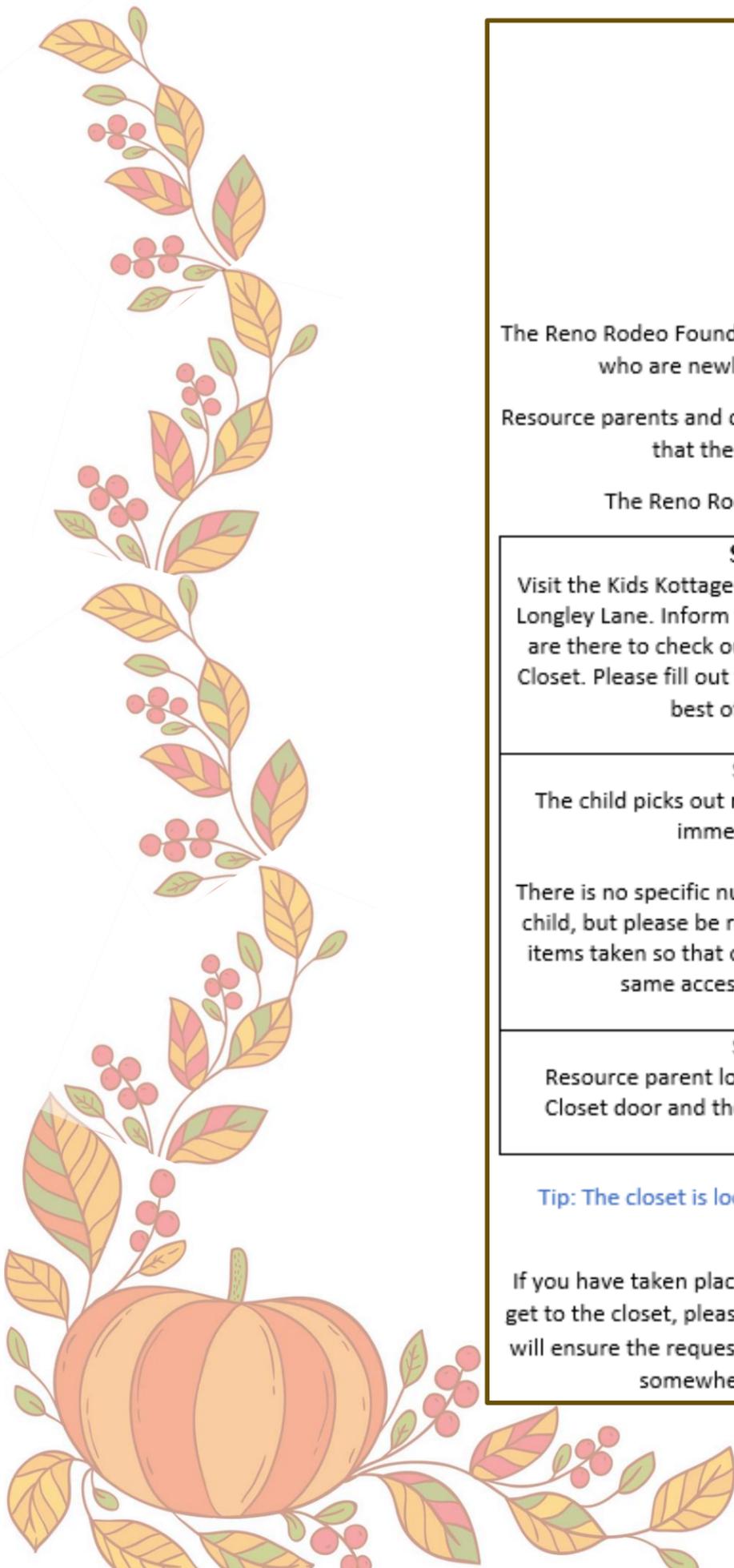
Resource parents and children can visit the Reno Rodeo Closet to "shop" for clothing essentials, ensuring that the children can pick out items in the correct sizes and preferred style.

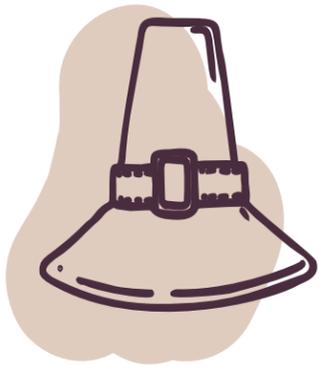
The Reno Rodeo closet is open 24/7. The instructions to access the closet are below:

<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.





# TBRI Training



**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



**RAISE the FUTURE**

**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.

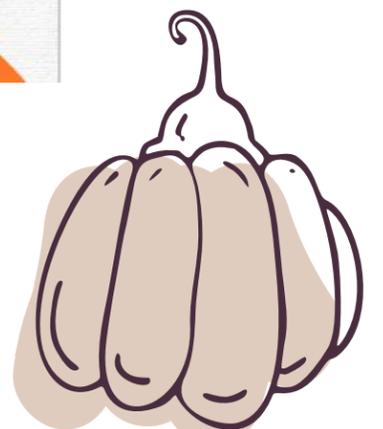
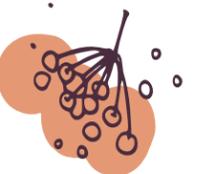
**FOUR TRAINING MODULES**

- 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





## LGBTQ+

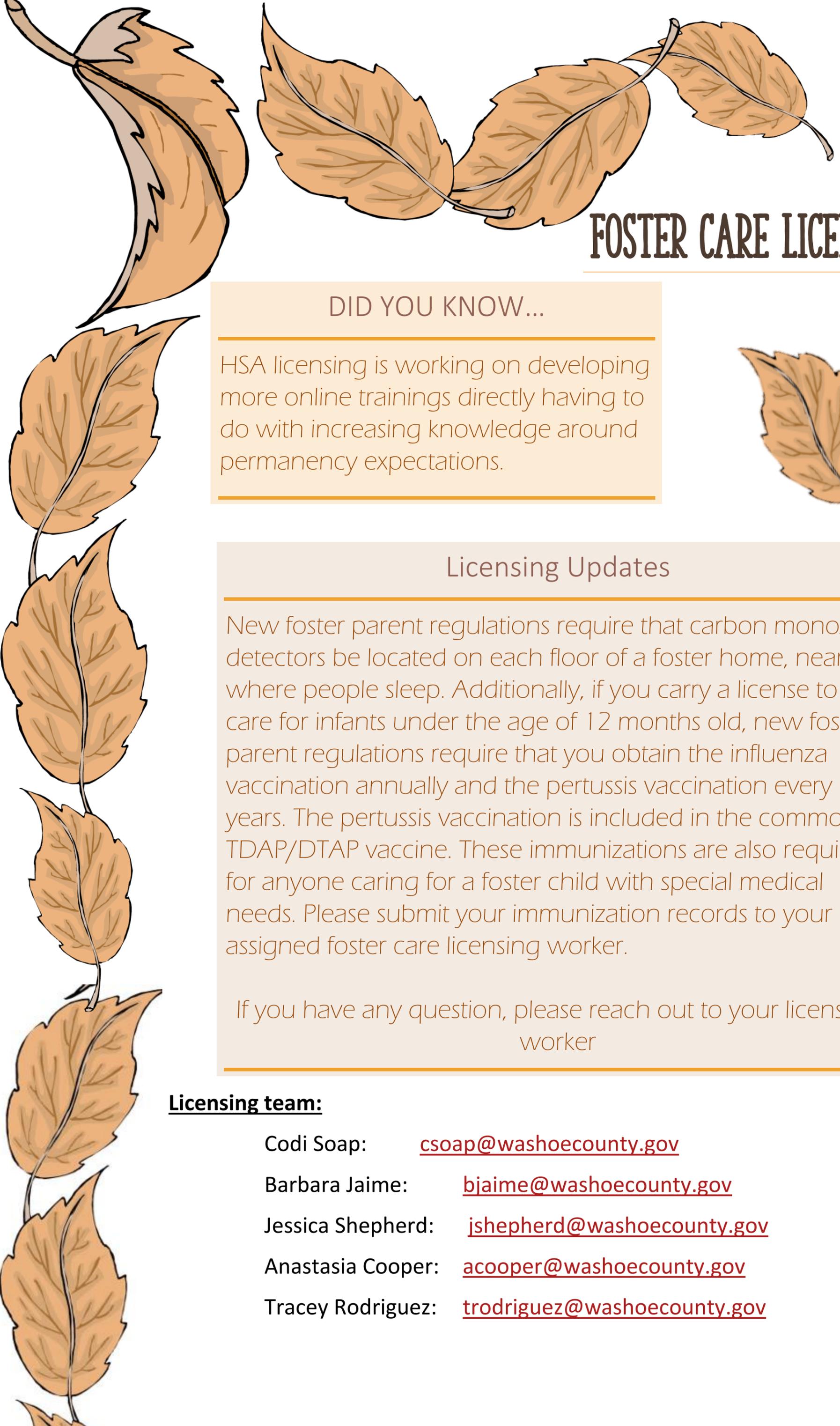
Yay! Finalmente tenemos entrenamiento LGBTQ+ en Español. Este es un entrenamiento requerido y se espera que lo complete lo antes posible. Brenda y Sandra han programado un entrenamiento el 16 de noviembre vía Zoom. Si desea tomar el entrenamiento en su propio tiempo, este es el enlace [Apoyando a Nuestros Niños y Jovenes LGBTQ+ \(Training Video\) \(usf.edu\)](https://www.usf.edu/training/video). Verá el video, completará el cuestionario e imprimirá el certificado.



## NEW POSITION

The Kinship Liaison, Sandra Espino is available to relative and kin caregivers through the life of a case to provide support and guidance. The CPS process can be challenging to work with. The Liaison is here to help you understand the process from initial placement, working with the court system, and navigating family engagement requirements. This support includes, but is not limited to, personal/emotional support, access to groups, clinical or community referrals, and additional trainings. Sandra can be reached at (775)530-6373 [SEspino@washoecounty.gov](mailto:SEspino@washoecounty.gov) (English/Spanish Speaking)



A decorative border of autumn leaves in shades of orange and brown runs vertically down the left side of the page. At the top right, there is a cluster of three leaves. A single leaf is positioned to the right of the 'DID YOU KNOW...' box.

# FOSTER CARE LICENSING

## DID YOU KNOW...

HSA licensing is working on developing more online trainings directly having to do with increasing knowledge around permanency expectations.

## Licensing Updates

New foster parent regulations require that carbon monoxide detectors be located on each floor of a foster home, near where people sleep. Additionally, if you carry a license to care for infants under the age of 12 months old, new foster parent regulations require that you obtain the influenza vaccination annually and the pertussis vaccination every 10 years. The pertussis vaccination is included in the common TDAP/DTAP vaccine. These immunizations are also required for anyone caring for a foster child with special medical needs. Please submit your immunization records to your assigned foster care licensing worker.

If you have any question, please reach out to your licensing worker

### Licensing team:

Codi Soap: [csoap@washoecounty.gov](mailto:csoap@washoecounty.gov)

Barbara Jaime: [bjaime@washoecounty.gov](mailto:bjaime@washoecounty.gov)

Jessica Shepherd: [jshepherd@washoecounty.gov](mailto:jshepherd@washoecounty.gov)

Anastasia Cooper: [acooper@washoecounty.gov](mailto:acooper@washoecounty.gov)

Tracey Rodriguez: [trodriquez@washoecounty.gov](mailto:trodriquez@washoecounty.gov)



Thank you to those who could make it to  
**HSA's It's Pumpkin Time Event!**



# INTERESTED IN ADOPTION?

## Timothy

*12-years-old*

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100% FREE

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Do you enjoy learning new things while spending quality one-on-one time with a caring, insightful youth? Timothy just might be the kid you've been waiting for. He is described as a perfectionist who is kind, smart, resilient and incredibly insightful to his own needs.



Timothy thrives with one-on-one attention. His favorite activities to share with those closest to him are; cooking, listening to music and playing musical instruments, playing video games, fishing, learning about sports, boxing, boy scouts and building things.

If you'd like to learn more about this precious and loving child, please reach out to Tawnya Robertson at [Trobertson@washoecounty.gov](mailto:Trobertson@washoecounty.gov)



## Kyler

*13-years-old*

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100% FREE

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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 [trobertson@washoecounty.us](mailto:trobertson@washoecounty.us)

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

## **Assessment / Permanency:**

### **Assessment Supervisors**

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

### **Permanency Supervisors**

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

## **Adoptions:**

### **Supervisors**

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

## **Placement Support, Recruitment & Training:**

### **Supervisor**

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

### **R&T Staff**

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

**Foster Care Services Front Desk:** 775.337.4470

## **Foster Care Licensing Supervisor:**

Melissa Coates: 775.815.3827

### **Licensing team:**

- Codi Soap: [csoap@washoecounty.gov](mailto:csoap@washoecounty.gov)
- Barbara Jaime: [bjaime@washoecounty.gov](mailto:bjaime@washoecounty.gov)
- Jessica Shepherd: [jshepherd@washoecounty.gov](mailto:jshepherd@washoecounty.gov)
- Anastasia Cooper: [acooper@washoecounty.gov](mailto:acooper@washoecounty.gov)
- Tracey Rodriguez: [trodriguez@washoecounty.gov](mailto:trodriguez@washoecounty.gov)

## **Relative Support:**

Ana Bassett- [abassett@washoecounty.gov](mailto:abassett@washoecounty.gov)

Marci Hlade - [mhlade@washoecounty.gov](mailto:mhlade@washoecounty.gov)

## **Placement Support**

Heather Wenker - [hwenker@washoecounty.gov](mailto:hwenker@washoecounty.gov)

Katie Proctor - [kproctor@washoecounty.gov](mailto:kproctor@washoecounty.gov)

Sandra Espino: [sespino@washoecounty.gov](mailto:sespino@washoecounty.gov)

## **SFC Support**

Mele Peaua - [mpeaua@washoecounty.gov](mailto:mpeaua@washoecounty.gov)

Rayna Labarry- [rlabarry@washoecounty.gov](mailto:rlabarry@washoecounty.gov)

## **Post-Adoption Support**

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

Erika Meszaros - [emeszaros@washoecounty.gov](mailto:emeszaros@washoecounty.gov)

Mary Encarnacion- [MEncarnacion@washoecounty.gov](mailto:MEncarnacion@washoecounty.gov)

**QPI Liaison:** Kylee Spring: 775.530.1646

[kspring@washoecounty.gov](mailto:kspring@washoecounty.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@washoecounty.gov](mailto:jbrown@washoecounty.gov)

## **Engagers:**

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