

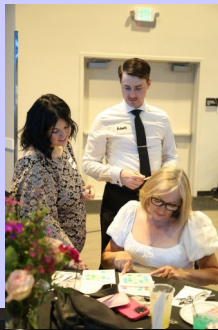


FAMILY CONNECTION

Our Foster Parent Appreciation Event was a great way to kick off National Foster Care Month! We had so much fun celebrating YOU and the huge difference you are making in this community. We can't thank you or show our appreciation enough for all the invaluable work you do day in and day out! We are so lucky to have you as part of our FAM!



Nuestro evento de reconocimiento a los padres de crianza temporal fue una excelente manera de comenzar el Mes Nacional de Crianza Temporal! Nos divertimos mucho celebrándote a TI y la gran diferencia que estás haciendo en esta comunidad. No podemos agradecerles ni mostrarles lo suficiente nuestro aprecio por todo el invaluable trabajo que hacen día tras día! Somos muy afortunados de tenerte como parte de nuestra FAM!



Important Dates/ Fechas importantes

June

6th - Lunch Buddies
12th - Nature Walk
19th - Entre Amigos!

July

11th - Lunch Buddies!
17th - Entre Amigos!

QPO Surveys

Thank you to all who have been participating in our QPO surveys! The feedback has been wonderful in helping us identify areas of growth within the agency. You should have received a survey last week focused on supportive services: Post-Adoption, SPARK, and Placement Support. Please take a few seconds to give us feedback!

**SAVE THE QPO
TEXT NUMBER!**



Encuestas QPO

Gracias a todos los que han participado en nuestras encuestas de QPO! Los comentarios han sido maravillosos para ayudarnos a identificar áreas de crecimiento dentro de la agencia. Deberías haber recibido una encuesta la semana pasada enfocada en los servicios de apoyo. Post-Adopción, SPARK y soporte de colocación. Por favor, tómese unos segundos para darnos su opinión!

Respite Reminders

***Please plan ahead for respite needs!!**

- As early as possible, reach out to families you have connections with or ask your SPARK worker for an updated respite provider list
- Especially if your plans occur during holidays or school breaks, please plan ahead as it is harder to find respite providers the closer to the date you need them
- Let the caseworker and licensing worker know of any plans to utilize respite PRIOR to the respite date
- Complete respite form PRIOR to respite date if you are utilizing respite reimbursement
- Babysitters are approved for normalcy activities like an evening out. Must be under 6 hours, not overnight.
- The SPARK team is always here to assist in finding respite, however we encourage families to build connections and relationships with other families to help support one another

Recordatorios de respiro

***Por favor planifique con anticipación las necesidades de respiro!!**

- Lo antes posible, comuníquese con las familias con las que tenga conexiones o pídale a su trabajador de SPARK una lista actualizada de proveedores de respiro.
- Planifique con tiempo, ya que es más difícil encontrar proveedores de servicios de respiro mas cerca de la fecha en que los necesita, especialmente si sus planes ocurren durante vacaciones o descansos escolares.
- Informe al trabajador social y la trabajadora de licencias sobre cualquier plan para utilizar el respiro ANTES de la fecha del respiro.
- Complete el formulario de respiro ANTES de la fecha de respiro si está utilizando el reembolso de respiro.
- Las niñeras están autorizadas para actividades normales, como una salida nocturna. Deben ser menos de 6 horas y no durante la noche.
- El equipo SPARK siempre está disponible para ayudar a encontrar un respiro. Sin embargo, animamos a las familias a establecer vínculos y relaciones con otras familias para apoyarse mutuamente.

Washoe County Foster Parents! You are invited to join the virtual QPI National Conference this year for **FREE!!!** The conference will be held on May 22, 2025 from 9 am to 2 pm. Scan or click on the code below to register and use code QPIGIFT25 for your free admission!

YOUTH LAW CENTER PRESENTS

2025 QPI NATIONAL CONFERENCE

VISION-BASED CHILD WELFARE:

ELEVATING VOICES AND BUILDING COLLABORATIVE PARENTING COMMUNITIES

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM PT | 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM MT |
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM CT | 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM ET

FOSTER PARENTS, YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN US!

Register using the code **QPIGIFT25** for free admission!
Scan or click the QR code below.

True change happens when youth, parents, caregivers, professionals, and communities unite around a vision of love, connection, and healing. Grounded in research on stakeholder engagement, this event highlights the power of elevating voices, building partnerships, and shifting to relationship-centered practices.

Through dynamic discussions, research reviews, and innovative strategies, we'll explore how to create lasting collaborative parenting communities and ensure that love, parenting, and relationships are prioritized for every child in out-of-home care.

QPI CHAMPIONS PRACTICE EXCHANGE

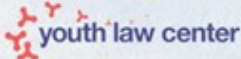
A QPI APPROACH TO KINSHIP CARE

The "Champions Practice Exchange" is an interactive community of dedicated, trained QPI Champions.

Participants will meet to connect and strengthen their QPI practices through shared learning around challenges, opportunities, and insights related to three strategic topic areas that meet quarterly.

Join us for **A QPI Approach to Kinship Care** on:

Tuesday, **June 3, 2025** at
2pm Eastern / 1pm Central /
12pm Mountain / 11am Pacific

To register visit:
[Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

10 WAYS TO QPI DURING NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH



1. Ask, "Is this child-centered?"

At your next meeting or decision point, pause and center the child's needs, voice, and relationships.

2. Commit to learning

Register for the QPI National Conference on May 22—a virtual gathering focused on vision-based, relationship-centered child welfare. [Click here to register](#)

3. Celebrate others

Nominate someone for our Elevate & Celebrate award—whether it's a youth, parent, or professional—if you see them putting QPI into action, let's recognize them! [Click here to nominate](#).

4. Support meaningful transitions

Transitions should never feel like a shuffle. Make sure they are developmentally appropriate—ensuring youth are prepared, supported, and connected at every step. [Explore QPI's resource library full of tools to support transitions.](#)

5. Make a comfort call

A comfort call is an early conversation between caregivers and birth parents shortly after a child enters care. It's a key first step in building a co-parenting relationship—sharing important information about the child, easing fears, and showing mutual respect. Comfort calls lay the foundation for partnership and help everyone focus on what matters most: the child. Check out this resource: [Comfort Call Guide](#)

6. Partner across roles

Bring caregivers, birth parents, and youth into conversations. Shared voice leads to stronger, more inclusive decisions. Check out this resource: [Power in Partnership](#)

7. Center culture

Ask about a child's cultural background and make sure it shows up—through food, language, traditions, and connections that reflect who they are.

8. Strengthen sibling bonds

Siblings are often a child's longest connection. Keep them together when possible and make regular contact a priority.

9. Share your story

Whether you're a young person, caregiver, parent, or agency staff—your voice matters. Share it to teach, connect, and inspire others.

10. Be a relationship builder

Systems don't parent children—people do. Show up with empathy, consistency, and care in every interaction.

Let's bring these values to life—not just in May, but every day.
#QPI4Kids #FosterCareMonth #ElevateAndCelebrate

A note from licensing...

As you are preparing your home for summer, you might be considering a pool or water feature. While these are wonderful additions, please keep in mind the strict regulations around bodies of water on your property. There are fencing requirements and often times a variance is needed. Please reach out to your licensing worker if you are considering this in your summer plans.

Has someone new moved into your home? Has your 17 year old turned 18? Please remember to have your boarders or others in the home over 18 years of age cleared in a timely manner. To do this, please reach out to your licensing worker to get the link to the application in Binti ,complete fingerprinting and sign law enforcement background check consent forms, and provide a completed TB test.

Just a little reminder about Safe Sleep, please see this helpful infographic below. Remember, babies under the age of 12 months must be Alone, on their Back, in the crib. The newest addition to the ABC's of Safe Sleep is D - Don't smoke.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out!

Una nota de licencias...

Mientras prepara su casa para el verano, es posible que esté considerando una piscina o una fuente de agua. Mientras estas son maravillosas adiciones, tenga en cuenta las estrictas regulaciones sobre los cuerpos de agua en su propiedad. Existen requisitos de cercado y a menudo se necesita una variación. Comuníquese con su trabajadora de licencias si está considerando esto en sus planes para el verano.

Alguien nuevo se ha mudado a tu casa? Tu hijo de 17 años ya cumplió 18? Por favor recuerde que debe dar de alta a sus huéspedes u otras personas en el hogar mayores de 18 años de manera oportuna. Para hacer esto, comuníquese con su trabajadora de licencias para obtener el enlace a la solicitud en Binti, completar las huellas y firmar los formularios de consentimiento de verificación de antecedentes policiales y proporcionar una prueba de tuberculosis.

Solo un pequeño recordatorio sobre el sueño seguro: consulte esta útil infografía a continuación. Recuerde, los bebés menores de 12 meses deben estar solos, boca arriba, y en la cuna. La última incorporación al ABC del sueño seguro es la D: no fumar.

Como siempre, si tienes alguna pregunta, no dudes en contactarnos!



Safe Sleep for Your Baby

I Sleep Safest...

Alone

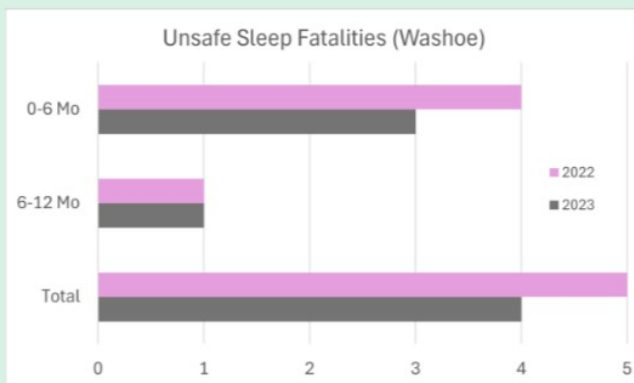
On my **B**ack

In a **C**rib

Don't smoke

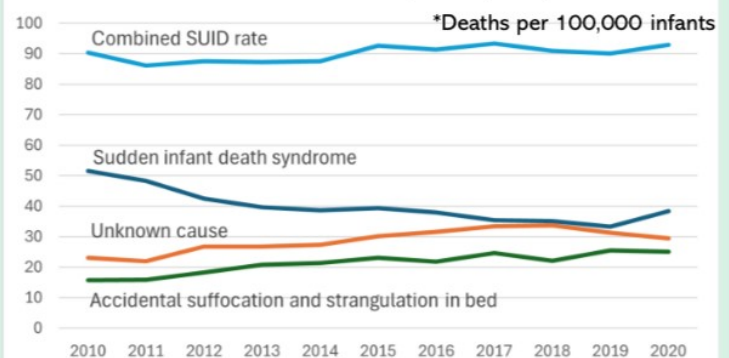


Data Trends for Unsafe Sleep Fatalities



- 50% of infant deaths Washoe County for 2023 were a result of co-sleeping; 50% a result of unsafe sleep in a crib or bassinet
- Infant fatalities in Washoe County are more common in unsafe sleep environments than in motor vehicle accidents..

National Infant Fatality Data (CDC)



- National trends show that the number of unsafe sleep deaths continue to increase year over year

Fatalities from unsafe sleep environments are PREVENTABLE
Even one is TOO MANY!

Pacifiers:

Pacifiers reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) in newborns when used EVERY TIME you put your baby to sleep

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends:

- Clean pacifiers regularly
- When breastfeeding, use a pacifier only after 1 month to avoid feeding problems

Risks of Bottle Propping:

- Choking
- Tooth Decay
- Ear Infections
- Interrupted bonding time

How to Best Dress Baby to Sleep at Different Temperatures



(this is a guide only)

78+°F
26+°C



75-77°F
24-25°C



+



71-74°F
22-23°C



+



69-70°F
20-21°C



+



+



64-68°F
18-19°C



+



+



61-63°F
16-17°C



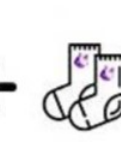
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Under 60°F
Under 16°C



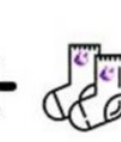
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From the AAP:

- Do not let your baby get too hot. This helps reduce the risk of SIDS.
- Keep the room where your baby sleeps at a comfortable temperature.
- In general, dress your baby in no more than one extra layer than you would wear. Your baby may be too hot if she is sweating or if her chest feels hot.
- If you are worried that your baby is cold, use a wearable blanket, such as a sleeping sack, or warm sleeper that is the right size for your baby. These are made to cover the body and not the head.
- Avoid covering the infant's head.

Source: Adapted from *Safe Sleep and Your Baby: How Parents Can Reduce the Risk of SIDS and Suffocation* (Copyright © 2011 American Academy of Pediatrics, Updated 10/2016)

*SleepSack picture courtesy of Halo

Benefits of Nighttime Routines:

- Helps your baby fall asleep faster and have fewer instances of night waking
- Helps your baby establish a sleeping pattern and regulate their body clock
- Helps your baby learn health sleep habits
- Helps you relax and spend special quiet time with your baby
- Reinforces baby's natural circadian rhythms and helps them prepare mentally for bedtime.



Additional Resources can be found at CribsforKids.org by scanning the QR code. Check out:

- Safe Sleep Academy (free program)
- Developmental Milestones for your baby
- American Academy of Pediatrics Recommendations... and MORE!





Reno Rodeo graciously donates funds for our children who have entered foster care. When a child enters your home, your SPARK worker will reach out to schedule a shopping date with you. The SPARK worker will then meet you at the register to check out and purchase the approved items.

The following are approved items:

Clothing articles including pants, shirts, shorts, PJ's, shoes, boots, belts, hats, gloves, coats, socks, bathing suits, infant blankets, diapers, wipes, and formula. Hygiene items include diaper rash ointment, toothpaste, toothbrush, body wash, floss, q-tips, body and face soap, deodorant, menstruation products, athlete's foot spray or powder, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, brush, comb, and hair ties.

These items are child specific and must travel with the child at the time of transition.

Not allowed items include:

Condoms, makeup, prescription medication, over the counter medications, razors, nail polish, mousse, hair spray, hair color, hair styling tools, lashes, cologne, perfume, jewelry, watches, swim gear (goggles/floaties), home décor, bedding, pillows, towels, toys, school supplies, electronics, luxury clothing, vitamins or supplements, and food or beverages.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your SPARK worker!

Reno Rodeo amablemente dona fondos para nuestros niños que han entrado en hogares de acogida. Cuando un niño entre a su casa, su trabajadora de SPARK se pondrá en contacto para programar una cita de compras con usted. La trabajadora de SPARK se reunirá con usted en la caja registradora para comprar los artículos aprobados.

Los siguientes son artículos aprobados:

Artículos de ropa que incluyen pantalones, camisetas, pantalones cortos, pijamas, zapatos, botas, cinturones, sombreros, guantes, abrigos, calcetines, trajes de baño, mantas infantiles, pañales, toallitas y fórmula. Los artículos de higiene incluyen ungüento para la dermatitis del pañal, pasta de dientes, cepillo de dientes, gel de baño, hilo dental, bastoncillos de algodón, jabón para el cuerpo y la cara, desodorante, productos para la menstruación, aerosol o polvo para el pie de atleta, loción, champú, acondicionador, cepillo, peine y cintas para el cabello.

Estos artículos son específicos para cada niño y deben viajar con él en el momento de la transición.

Los artículos no permitidos incluyen:

Condomes, maquillaje, medicamentos recetados, medicamentos de venta libre, rastrillos, esmalte de uñas, espuma, laca para el cabello, tinte para el cabello, herramientas para peinar el cabello, pestañas, colonia, perfume, joyas, relojes, equipo de natación (gafas/flotadores), decoración del hogar, ropa de cama, almohadas, toallas, juguetes, útiles escolares, productos electrónicos, ropa de lujo, vitaminas o suplementos y alimentos o bebidas.

Si tiene alguna pregunta, por favor comuníquese con su trabajador de SPARK!

Respite Reminder!

As we approach the end of the fiscal year, we wanted to remind you of the availability of respite funds. Eligibility for paid respite or babysitting reimbursement is dependent on funding through June 30, 2025 and is not guaranteed. Get your requests in sooner rather than later!

- 14 days are available per family as of 7/1/24 (except for families licensed for adoption only), and the daily reimbursement amount is \$40/day.
- Funding will be dispersed on a first come, first serve basis and therefore not guaranteed. Paid alternative care days not taken by June 30, 2025 are not carried over and will be forfeited. The ongoing availability of this reimbursement program will be dependent on funds being available.
- Inclusive respite (previously known as vacation reimbursement) has not changed, and is still an option to utilize, also reimbursed at \$40/day.
- Alternative care providers (licensed or unlicensed for respite) need to be aware of the information provided, especially in regards to taxable events.
- Respite provided by alternative care providers (licensed or unlicensed) needs to be approved **in advance** by your as well as their licensing worker, **PRIOR** to submitting your request for funds.

If you would like to submit for respite/vacation funds, please use this web link:
<https://forms.washoecounty.us/f/HSACS534>.

- You will get an email confirmation that your request was received, funds will be processed in the next month, and we will reach out if we have any questions.
- If you have taken a family vacation or utilized respite in the last 6 months, please still submit your request.



Recuerdo del Respiro!

Notas sobre los fondos de respiro:

- A partir del 1 de Julio de 2024, hay 14 días disponibles por familia (excepto para familias autorizadas solo para adopción) y el monto de reembolso diario es de \$40 por día.
- Los fondos se distribuirán por orden de llegada y, por lo tanto, no están garantizados. Los días de cuidado alternativos pagados que no se utilicen antes del 30 de Junio de 2025 no se transferirán y se perderán. La disponibilidad de este programa de reembolso dependerá de que haya fondos disponibles.
- El respiro inclusivo (anteriormente conocido como reembolso de vacaciones) no ha cambiado y sigue siendo una opción para utilizar, también reembolsada a \$40 por día.
- Los proveedores de cuidado alternativos (con licencia o sin licencia para respiro) deben conocer la información proporcionada, especialmente en lo relativo de impuestos.
- El respiro proporcionado por proveedores de cuidado alternativos (con licencia o sin licencia) debe ser **aprobado previamente** por su trabajadora de licencias, **ANTES** de enviar su solicitud de fondos.

Si desea solicitar fondos para respiro/vacaciones, por favor utilice este enlace web: <https://forms.washoecounty.us/f/HSACS534>.

- Recibirá una confirmación por correo electrónico de que su solicitud fue recibida, los fondos se procesarán el próximo mes y nos comunicaremos con usted si tenemos alguna pregunta.
- Si ha tomado vacaciones familiares o ha utilizado tiempo de respiro en los últimos 6 meses, por favor envíe su solicitud de todos modos.



QPI Shoutouts/Gritos de QPI!

Nuka Atu & the Cornerstone Team

“In December 2023, a 4-year-old was placed in the home of Nuka Atu and since that time Nuka and Cornerstone have ensured that the child feel loved and have assisted him greatly in learning how to manage his emotions and feel secure. During that process, they have also helped the child’s biological family feel secure in knowing that they are caring for their child while also wishing them to succeed. The child will be reunifying soon, and Nuka and the Cornerstone family have offered ongoing support to the child and their family, offering to assist with daycare and offering to assist with providing the family a break, when needed. The support Nuka Atu and the Cornerstone family have provided will have a lasting impact on the lives of the youth and the entire family!”

Thank you Nuka Atu and the entire Cornerstone Team!”

“En diciembre de 2023, un niño de 4 años fue ubicado en el hogar de Nuka Atu y, desde entonces, Nuka y Cornerstone se han asegurado de que el niño se sienta querido y le han ayudado enormemente a aprender a gestionar sus emociones y sentirse seguro. Durante ese proceso, también han ayudado a la familia biológica del niño a sentirse segura al saber que están cuidando a su hijo y al mismo tiempo deseando que tenga éxito. El niño se reunirá pronto, y Nuka y la familia Cornerstone le han brindado apoyo continuo. Se han ofrecido a ayudar con la guardería y a brindarles un descanso cuando lo necesiten. El apoyo que Nuka Atu y la familia Cornerstone han brindado tendrá un impacto duradero en las vidas de los jóvenes y de toda la familia!”

Gracias Nuka Atu y todo el equipo de Cornerstone!”

Robyn & Scott Johnson

“Robyn and Scott have supported a child in their care for over 2 years now. During this time they have gone above and beyond to meet the increasingly needs of the child. It is very evident that they are very committed to her future and success; Robyn is a strong advocate in ensuring the child’s needs are met and that she is set on a positive trajectory with services and finding her forever home. In addition, Robyn goes above and beyond to help with respite for other caregivers when able to, as she knows how valuable respite is to a caregiver’s ability to maintain children in their homes, which is not only a large support for other resource parents, but also provides a positive impact for other children in care in offering them consistency and often decreasing disruptions in other homes.”

“Robyn y Scott llevan más de dos años cuidando a un niño. Durante este tiempo han ido más allá para satisfacer las crecientes necesidades del niño. Es muy evidente que están muy comprometidos con su futuro y su éxito; Robyn es una firme defensora a la hora de garantizar que se satisfagan las necesidades de la niña y que esté encaminada hacia una trayectoria positiva con los servicios y la búsqueda de un hogar permanente. Además, Robyn se esfuerza al máximo para brindar respiro a otros cuidadores cuando es posible, ya que sabe lo valioso que es este servicio para que los cuidadores puedan mantener a los niños en sus hogares. Esto no solo representa un gran apoyo para otros padres de acogida, sino que también tiene un impacto positivo en otros niños bajo cuidado, ofreciéndoles constancia y, a menudo, reduciendo las interrupciones en otros hogares.”

Aquilla Brand

“Shout out to our amazing resource parent Aquilla Brand. She was licensed previously with the agency and came back to provide care again in 2022. She has been a huge asset to the agency since she was relicensed. She has taken a difficult age group on of young boys. She has successfully cared for 11 boys and one girl all ages 10-13 years. She currently has five teen and pre-teen boys her care. She has an amazing ability to connect with her foster placements and provide them support and encourage their growth while in her home. As a single resource parent that works full time, she has still managed to encourage and support the children in her home to engage in school sports and extracurricular activities while encouraging their engagement. They spend every weekend doing group activities. Aquilla has a unique ability to support without judgement and really connect with her placements. Some of her placements have been on the higher needs side behaviorally and she has accepted them and guided them to become good students and fully engaged young teens and pre-teens who now show interest in engaging with each other and with others in our community. They really feel like part of something when they are under her care. Our sincere gratitude to Aquilla for the commitment she has made to this often difficult to place group of adolescents.

We appreciate you so much!”

“Un saludo a nuestra increíble madre de recursos, Aquilla Brand. Anteriormente tenía licencia en la agencia y regresó para brindar atención nuevamente en 2022. Ella ha sido un gran activo para la agencia desde que obtuvo su nueva licencia. Ella ha acogido a un grupo de edad difícil formado por niños pequeños. Ha cuidado con éxito a 11 niños y una niña de edades comprendidas entre 10 y 13 años. Actualmente tiene cinco niños adolescentes y preadolescentes a su cuidado. Ella tiene una increíble habilidad para conectarse con sus hogares de acogida y brindarles apoyo y alentar su crecimiento mientras están en su hogar. Como madre soltera que trabaja tiempo completo, ha logrado alentar y apoyar a los niños de su hogar para que participen en deportes escolares y actividades extracurriculares, al mismo tiempo que fomenta su participación. Pasaron cada fin de semana realizando actividades en grupo. Aquilla tiene una habilidad única para brindar apoyo sin juzgar y realmente conectarse con sus colocaciones. Algunos de sus colocaciones han tenido necesidades conductuales más altas y ella los ha aceptado y guiado para que se conviertan en buenos estudiantes y jóvenes adolescentes y preadolescentes plenamente comprometidos que ahora muestran interés en interactuar entre ellos y con otros en nuestra comunidad. Realmente se sienten parte de algo cuando están bajo su cuidado. Nuestro más sincero agradecimiento a Aquilla por el compromiso que ha asumido con este grupo de adolescentes a menudo difícil de ubicar.

La agradecemos mucho!”

Foster Kinship

Foster Kinship is located in Las Vegas and focuses on supporting relative and fictive kin caregivers, but also extend their support to all caregivers. They have a satellite office in Reno and service Northern Nevada. They offer several in-person support groups at their Las Vegas location, with some available via Zoom as well. The "Trauma-Informed Parenting Strategies" and "Managing Difficult Behaviors" programs have been particularly helpful for many. You can use the QR code provided to sign up for a group. Please see the attached flyer for more information. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out! Their website is linked below:

[Foster Kinship - Help Keep Home in the Family](#)

Parentesco adoptivo

Foster Kinship está localizado en Las Vegas y se enfoca en apoyar a familiares y cuidadores ficticios, pero también extiende su apoyo a todos los cuidadores. Tienen una oficina satélite en Reno y brindan servicios al norte de Nevada. Ofrecen varios grupos de apoyo presenciales en su local de Las Vegas, y algunos también están disponibles a través de Zoom. Los programas "Estrategias de crianza basadas en el trauma" y "Manejo de conductas difíciles" han sido

particularmente útiles para muchos. Puedes utilizar el código QR proporcionado para inscribirte en un grupo. Consulte el folleto adjunto para obtener más información. Si tienes alguna pregunta, no dudes en contactarnos!

Su sitio web está enlazado a continuación:

[Foster Kinship - Help Keep Home in the Family](#)



The flyer is titled "MONTHLY SUPPORT GROUPS" with the Foster Kinship logo. It lists eight support groups in a 4x2 grid. Each group entry includes the group name, frequency, time, location, and a QR code for sign-up. The groups are: Kinship Morning Meetup, The Connected Caregiver, Caregiver 2 Caregiver, Grupo de Apoyo en Español, Kinship Caregivers, Family Forward Peer Parent, T.I.P.S. Trauma Informed Parenting Strategies, and Managing Difficult Behaviors. The flyer also features a photo of a family and a QR code for general information.

Group Name	Frequency	Time	Location	QR Code
KINSHIP MORNING MEETUP	Every First Tuesday of the Month	9-10:30am	Foster Kinship, 8691 West Sahara Ave. Las Vegas, NV	Yes
THE CONNECTED CAREGIVER	Every First Thursday of the Month	12:30-1:30pm	Scan or Click the QR Code for the Zoom Link (PW: kinship)	Yes
CAREGIVER 2 CAREGIVER	Every Second Thursday of the Month	6-7:30pm	Whitney Ranch Rec. Center, 1575 Galleria Dr. Room C Henderson NV	No
GRUPO DE APOYO EN ESPAÑOL	Tercer Martes de Cada Mes de 1 a 2pm		Foster Kinship, 8691 West Sahara Ave Las Vegas, NV	No
KINSHIP CAREGIVERS	Every second Tuesday of the Month	6-7:30pm	Canyon Ridge Church, 6200 W Lone Mountain Rd, Las Vegas Info Center	No
FAMILY FORWARD PEER PARENT	Every other Saturday Bi-Monthly	2-3:30pm	Foster Kinship, 8691 West Sahara Ave Las Vegas, NV	No
T.I.P.S. TRAUMA INFORMED PARENTING STRATEGIES	Every Third Thursday of the Month	6-7pm	Foster Kinship, 8691 West Sahara Ave Las Vegas, NV	Yes
MANAGING DIFFICULT BEHAVIORS	Every Fourth Tuesday of the Month	6-7pm	Scan or Click the QR Code for the Zoom Link (PW: kinship)	Yes

THE SPARK TEAM
WOULD LIKE FOR YOU TO JOIN US AND GET OUTDOORS!

Nature Walk Oxbow Nature Park

3100 DICKERSON RD. RENO 89503

THURS **12** JUNE
11:30 AM TO 1:30 PM

All Foster Families!

Please join us over Summer Break!

We will be hosting a nature walk!

We will meet at the picnic tables at the entrance of the park and
then take a stroll through this nature space.

**BRING YOUR WATER BOTTLES AND
WE WILL BRING SNACKS!**



¡AL EQUIPO SPARK LE GUSTARÍA QUE SE UNIERA CON
NOSOTROS Y DISFRUTARA DEL AIRE LIBRE!

Paseo Por la Naturaleza Oxbow Nature Park

3100 DICKERSON RD. RENO 89503

JUEVES 12 JUNIO

11:30 AM A 1:30 PM

¡A todas las familias de crianza!

¡Únanse con nosotros durante las vacaciones de verano!

¡Organizaremos un paseo por la naturaleza!

Nos reuniremos en las mesas de picnic a la entrada del parque
y luego daremos un paseo por este espacio natural.

**¡TRAIGAN SUS BOTELLAS DE AGUA Y LES
TRAEREMOS APERITIVOS!**



THRIVING THROUGH TRANSITIONS FOSTER PARENT SUPPORT GROUP



Opening your home and heart to a child in need can be a challenging call to answer, and you answer it valiantly.

When it's time to say goodbye to a child,
for whatever reason that may be,
and the emotions of it all come to your door;
who answers your call?

Our goal is to help create a space for foster parents to process and discuss various topics that may come up with being a foster parent at our agency, including the grief that may occur when a child leaves your home.



Grief & Loss Support Disruptions
Transitions Community

When: Join us monthly via zoom. Next sessions will be held March 13th, 2025, at 12 pm.

How to Join: Email or Call Tara Gonzales or Danielle Viquez to learn more on joining.

Contact Info:

Tara Gonzales: 775-842-5549 or
tgonzales@washoecounty.gov

Danielle Viquez: 775-225-5322 or
dviquez@washoecounty.gov

MONTHLY

LUNCH BUDDIES



Calling all relative, resource, flex & adoptive parents... bring your lunch, thoughts, struggles, and support for others! Lunch Buddies is a safe group where you can share your experience and seek/provide peer support.

JOIN US!

First Friday of every month
12:00-1:00 pm via ZOOM

For more information please reach out to

sespino@washoecounty.gov or

kproctor@washoecounty.gov



ENTRE AMIGOS!

GRUPO DE APOYO EN ESPAÑOL
PARA PADRES DE CRIANZA EN
EL CONDADO DE WASHOE

Tercer Jueves del mes 1:00 pm- 2:00 pm

350 S. Center Street-

Sala de conferencias en el primer piso o via zoom

Para más informacion comuniquese con

Sandra Espino o Brenda Silis



HELP A CHILD FIND THEIR FOREVER FAMILY!

DeMarco, age 13

100% free

Are you an active family who loves exploring and learning new things? Then do we have the kid for you! This sweet, adorable little boy with the cheesy, infectious grin is a people pleaser for sure! DeMarco loves to share and help others. He thrives from one-on-one attention, enjoys conversing and generally relishes connecting with others.

Now that DeMarco has the opportunity, he is exploring every sport and outdoor activity he can try. He loves his bike, his scooter, hiking, soccer and football. If that's not enough, he also loves swimming. Well, really anything to do with water play. DeMarco is looking for an active family who will keep up with all his newly found interests while allowing him the opportunity to continue discovering. Oh, and do not forget about Mine Craft. If you can check off all those boxes, you might just win DeMarco's heart.

Check out his Have a Heart episode here:

<https://www.kolotv.com/video/2023/03/07/have-heart-meet-demarco/>

If you'd like to learn more about this exuberant, active little boy please reach out to: Kate Alvarez at kalvarez@washoecounty.us



Josiah, age 12
Legal Risk - 50% free

Meet Josiah, a young man that loves to travel and dreams of a life in Los Angeles.

Josiah is described as an easy and adventurous traveler that finds joy in new places and experiences while enjoying every minute of it! He is outdoorsy, loves to ride bikes, play basketball and trampoline parks are a must. Josiah loves Christmas, video games, is a great reader and enjoys listening to music that touches the soul. He is kind, goofy, helpful, and enjoys doing his chores.

Josiah loves sweets, pizza, McDonald's and ice cream, but needs encouragement when it comes to healthier food options. He would love a pet, especially a dog. He is a happy and smart young man that does well in school when he sets his mind to it and gets along well with others both in school and at home. Josiah wants to be adopted; he is a kiddo that enjoys family time and wants to have a permanent family.

Josiah's ideal family is one that will love, support him and be by his side, while providing him with routine, structure and stability...and if they live in Los Angeles that is a plus! He will thrive in a family that has an understanding of trauma and can support him in his journey to continue to grow into the wonderful individual that he is.

If you'd like to learn more about Josiah please reach out to
Brenda Silis at Bsilis@washoecounty.gov



Alyx age 6, Saphyra age 4, & Kaydance "KK" age 3

Alyx, Saphyra and Kaydance are fun, amazingly intelligent youngsters with an extensive vocabulary. They are eager to comply and express remorse and a desire to "do better next time" when they make a mistake. This precious trio have experienced more life than many adults and have come out with an incredibly strong sibling bond that must not be broken. They love hugs, kisses and a set schedule with a consistent routine. This precocious sibling set requires a family who will provide them with the unconditional love they deserve while utilizing firm, but gentle and consistent parenting. They get to travel regularly with their foster parents and are wonderful little travelers. During their travels they have each found a love for all things Disney. The children have low needs and are well adjusted.

Alyx is a sweet, funny, articulate kid who listens well and will talk your ear off! He is protective of his siblings, always wants to help and goes above and beyond to do so. He likes to play with Play-Doh, on his tablet and cooking in his play kitchen to make pretend food for his foster siblings. He also finds joy in doing his schoolwork with his foster family.

Saphyra is sweet, caring, helpful and friendly with everyone. She loves helping the adults in her life and is called the teacher's pet in day care. She is an excellent advocate for herself and will politely tell you when she needs her space. Saphyra loves playing with her barbie dolls, combing her own hair, cleaning and pretending in her play kitchen.

Kaydance is a sweet, cuddly toddler who is very smart and loves dessert. He likes playing outside, riding his tricycle at school and watching Disney shows and movies.

If you would like to learn more about this precious sibling set, please reach out to Kate at kalvarez@washoecounty.us.



¡AYUDA A UN NIÑO A ENCONTRAR SU FAMILIA PARA SIEMPRE!

DeMarco, age 13
100% Libre

¿Son una familia activa a la que le encanta explorar y aprender cosas nuevas? ¡Tenemos al niño perfecto para ustedes! Este dulce y adorable niño con una sonrisa contagiosa y tierna es, sin duda, un verdadero placer para todos. A DeMarco le encanta compartir y ayudar a los demás. Le encanta la atención personalizada, disfruta conversando y, en general, conectando con los demás.

Ahora que DeMarco tiene la oportunidad, está explorando todos los deportes y actividades al aire libre que puede probar. Le encanta la bicicleta, el patinete, caminar, el fútbol y el fútbol americano. Por si fuera poco, también le encanta nadar. Bueno, en realidad, todo lo que tenga que ver con juegos acuáticos. DeMarco busca una familia activa que se mantenga al día con todos sus nuevos intereses y le permita seguir descubriendo. Ah, y no se olviden de Minecraft. Si cumplen con todos esos requisitos, ¡podrías ganarte el corazón de DeMarco!

No te pierdas su episodio "Have A Heart" aquí:

<https://www.kolotv.com/video/2023/03/07/have-heart-meet-demarco/>

Si quieres saber más sobre este niño entusiasta y activo, contacta con Kate Alvarez en kalvarez@washoecounty.us



Josiah, age 12
Riesgo Legal - 50% Libre

Conoce a Josiah, un joven que ama viajar y sueña con una vida en Los Angeles.

Josiah es un viajero tranquilo y aventurero que encuentra alegría en nuevos lugares y experiencias, ¡y disfruta cada minuto! Le encanta el aire libre, montar en bicicleta, jugar al basquetbol y los parques de brinca son imprescindibles. A Josiah le encanta la Navidad, los videojuegos, es un gran lector y disfruta escuchando música que llega al alma. Es amable, travieso, servicial y disfruta haciendo sus tareas.

A Josiah le encantan los dulces, la pizza, McDonald's y el helado, pero necesita que le animen a comer más sano. Le encantaría tener una mascota, especialmente un perro. Es un joven feliz e inteligente que le va bien en la escuela cuando se lo propone y se lleva bien con los demás, tanto en la escuela como en casa. Josiah quiere ser adoptado; es un niño que disfruta del tiempo en familia y quiere tener una familia permanente.

La familia ideal de Josiah es una que lo ame, lo apoye y esté a su lado, brindándole rutina, estructura y estabilidad... ¡y si viven en Los Ángeles, es una gran ventaja! Él prosperará en una familia que comprenda el trauma y pueda apoyarlo en su camino para convertirse en la maravillosa persona que es.

Si desea obtener más información sobre Josiah, comuníquese con Brenda Silis en Bsilis@washoecounty.gov



Alyx age 6, Saphyra age 4, & Kaydance "KK" age 3

Alyx, Saphyra y Kaydance son pequeños divertidos e increíblemente inteligentes con un vocabulario extenso. Están deseosos de obedecer y expresar su arrepentimiento, así como de "hacerlo mejor la próxima vez" cuando cometen un error. Este precioso trío ha vivido más que muchos adultos y ha forjado un vínculo fraternal increíblemente fuerte que no debe romperse. Les encantan los abrazos, los besos y una rutina fija. Este precoz grupo de hermanos necesita una familia que les brinde el amor incondicional que merecen, con una crianza firme, pero a la vez tierna y constante. Viajan regularmente con sus padres de crianza y son pequeños viajeros maravillosos. Durante sus viajes, cada uno ha descubierto su pasión por todo lo relacionado con Disney. Los niños tienen necesidades básicas y están bien adaptados.

Alyx es un niño dulce, divertido y elocuente que escucha con atención y te hablará sin parar. Protege a sus hermanos, siempre quiere ayudar y se esfuerza al máximo para hacerlo. Le gusta jugar con plastilina, en su tableta y cocinar en su cocina de juguete para preparar comida de mentira para sus hermanos de crianza. También disfruta haciendo las tareas escolares con su familia de crianza.

Saphyra es dulce, cariñosa, servicial y amigable con todos. Le encanta ayudar a los adultos y en la guardería la llaman la favorita de la maestra. Es una excelente defensora de sí misma y te dirá amablemente cuando necesita su espacio. A Saphyra le encanta jugar con sus muñecas Barbie, peinarse, limpiar y jugar en su cocina de juguete.

Kaydance es un niño pequeño dulce y mimoso, muy inteligente y amante de los postres. Le gusta jugar al aire libre, montar en triciclo en la escuela y ver series y películas de Disney.

Si quieres saber más sobre estos preciosos hermanos, contacta con Kate en kalvarez@washoecounty.us.



WCHSA Directory/Directorío

In case you have an emergency that occurs after hours, please call:

En caso de que tenga una emergencia que ocurra fuera del horario de atención, llame:

Center Street Front Desk: 775-785-8600

Emergency After Hours number: 1-833-900-7233

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

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 - KPruitt@washoecounty.gov

Licensing Team

Supervisor Melissa Coates - MCoates@washoecounty.gov

Codi Soap - CSoap@washoecounty.gov

Barbara Jaime - BJaime@washoecounty.gov

Jessica Shepherd - JShepherd@washoecounty.gov

Anastasia Cooper - ACooper@washoecounty.gov

Tracey Rodriguez - TRodriguez@washoecounty.gov

Placement Support

Supervisor Lindsey Prudden - LPrudden@washoecounty.gov

Heather Wenker - HWenker@washoecounty.gov

Katie Proctor - KProctor@washoecounty.gov

Jamie Pugh - JPugh@washoecounty.gov

Katie Nichols - KNichols@washoecounty.gov

Sandra Espino - SEspino@washoecounty.gov

