# Children’s Week at the Legislature

**March 9 - 12, 2015**

## Monday March 9th

**School Readiness**

- **8:00-10:00am** Networking Breakfast  
  *Funded by: W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children, and Southern Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children*
- **8:30-9:00am** Brief Advocacy Training: Overview of the legislative process and advocating effectively for children and families in Nevada.
- **9:00-9:30am** Presentation: Importance of Quality and Data in Early Childhood Education
- **10:00-10:30am** Bears on Parade: Children’s parade through Legislative Building
- **11:00-11:45am** Legislative Tour: meet at building entrance
- **12:00-2:00pm** Networking Lunch  
  *Funded by: McKimmy Electric*
- **12:45-1:30pm** Presentation: Increasing Access to Quality Early Childhood Education
- **2:00-5:00pm** Legislative Hearings

## Tuesday March 10th

**Children's Health: Physical Health**

- **8:00-10:00am** Networking Breakfast  
  *Sponsored by Volunteers in Medicine & Children’s Medical Advocacy Coalition*
- **8:30-9:00am** Brief Advocacy Training
- **9:00-9:30am** Presentation: Access to Health Care
- **10:00-10:45am** Legislative Tour: meet at building entrance
- **12:00-2:00pm** Networking Lunch  
  *Funded by: March of Dimes, Immunize Nevada, Baby’s Bounty, Maternal Health Coalition*
- **12:45-1:30pm** Presentation: Improving Children’s Health: Tobacco Control and Obesity Prevention
- **2:00-5:00pm** Legislative Hearings
- **4:30pm-5:00pm** Assemblyman Araujo speaks about childhood obesity

## Wednesday March 11th

**Children’s Health: Mental and Behavioral Health**

- **8:00-10:00am** Networking Breakfast  
  *Funded by: Healthy Minds*
- **8:30-9:00am** Brief Advocacy Training
- **9:00-9:30am** Presentation: Access to Mental and Behavioral Health Treatment
- **10:00-10:45am** Legislative Tour: meet at building entrance
- **12:00-2:00pm** Networking Lunch  
  *Funded by: Andson & Children’s Medical Advocacy Coalition*
- **12:45-1:30pm** Presentation: Mental Health & Schools Transitioning out of School: Students with Disabilities, Mental and Behavioral Health Needs
- **2:00-5:00pm** Legislative Hearings
- **5:00pm** Address by U.S. Representative Dina Titus  
  *Location: Assembly Chamber*

## Thursday March 12th

**Child Safety**

- **8:00-10:00am** Networking Breakfast  
  *Funded by: Court Appointed Special Advocates, Boys Town Nevada, and Nevada Youth Care Providers*
- **8:30-9:00am** Brief Advocacy Training
- **9:00-9:30am** Presentations: Child Sex Trafficking, Child Sexual Abuse, and CASA Program Overview
- **12:00-2:00pm** Networking Lunch  
  *Funded by: The Children’s Cabinet & Children’s Advocacy Alliance*
- **12:45-1:30pm** Presentation: Child Welfare by Justice Saitta, Nevada Supreme Court and presentations from youth in Independent Living Programs
- **2:00-5:00pm** Legislative Hearings

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*All Children’s Week meals, presentations, and meetings will be held in room 3100 unless noted otherwise.  
** Legislative hearing calendars will be posted in room 3100.*
A Snapshot of Nevada’s Child Serving Organizations

The Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy (NICRP) looks out for Nevada's children. Their mission is to conduct academic and community-based research that will guide the development of policies, programs and services which will enhance the health and well-being of Nevada’s children. For more information, visit nic.unlv.edu.

NICRP is also home to Prevent Child Abuse Nevada, a child abuse prevention organization that believes healthy child development is the foundation for community and economic development. PCANV works to build community commitment to safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments for all children.

The Children’s Advocacy Alliance (CAA) is a community-based nonprofit organization that mobilizes people, resources and reason to ensure every child has a chance to thrive and to make Nevada a better place to live and raise a family. CAA advocates for the well-being of Nevada’s children by bringing people together to build consensus around priorities and to leverage a collective strength toward real changes in policy and practice. CAA believes in building public will through education, outreach, and advocacy to solve expansive and chronic problems facing kids and families. For more information visit caanv.org

Nevada PEP, the statewide Parent Center offers education, empowerment, and encouragement for parents of children with disabilities from birth through 26 years old. Nevada PEP provides a variety of training workshops on special education and disability related topics as well as support groups. Their ultimate goal is to provide opportunities for home, community, and school success for children with disabilities, including those who are at risk or who have serious emotional disturbances, their families and service providers. For additional information, call 702.388-8899 or visit nvpep.org.

The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) is dedicated to improving the well-being of all young children, with particular focus on the quality of educational and developmental services for children from birth through age eight. Local chapters include Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children (NevAEYC), Southern Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children (SNAEYC), Reno Association for the Education of Young Children (RAEYC), and Southern Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council (SNECAC). For more information, visit nevaeyc.org.

The University of Nevada School of Medicine hosts two Child and Adolescent Psychiatry fellowships, one in Reno and one in Las Vegas, to directly address the shortage of Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists in our state. Since its inception 10 years ago, more than half of the graduates from the Reno program have chosen to stay and practice in the local area, and also to 'pay it forward' by teaching current fellows in the program. The Las Vegas program started in July, 2014, and aims to do the same for southern Nevada. In addition to increasing the workforce of Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists for our state, both programs also aim to raise the community standard of care for youth mental health services in Nevada.

The principal goal of Baby’s Bounty is to ensure that every newborn in need has the most essential items to thrive. To date, Baby's Bounty has provided essential items to more than 900 babies. Over 60 diaper bags are distributed per month and dozens of car seats, portable cribs and bathtubs. For more information, visit babysbounty.org

Immunize Nevada is a statewide nonprofit organization committed to improving and protecting the health of Nevadans through increased immunizations. Immunize Nevada offers statewide immunization outreach through continuing education opportunities for healthcare providers; community outreach through media and marketing programs; and advocating for pro-immunization policies at the state level.

The Nevada Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Association, in partnership with local CASA programs, supports and promotes court appointed volunteer advocacy for abused and neglected children so they can live in safe, permanent homes. Nevada CASA Association supports the development, growth, and continuation of CASA programs throughout the state ensuring volunteer court advocacy for abused and neglected children in Nevada. For more information visit at www.nevadacasa.org

Advocates to End Domestic Violence (AEDV) is a private, not-for-profit organization. formed in 1979 by two formerly battered women who saw a need for a domestic violence program in Carson City, Nevada. It has grown from a small two-bedroom apartment, to a full service program that operates a 51-bed shelter and provides a wide variety of services designed to protect and support battered women and their children in the community. Their mission is to provide a safe, supportive environment where domestic violence victims can re-examine their view of themselves and work towards a violence free future. For more information, visit http://www.aedv.org/
A Snapshot of Nevada’s Child Serving Organizations

The Nevada Maternal Child Health Coalition (MCH) is a diverse partnership of dedicated members representing health and childcare organizations, public health and social services agencies, volunteer and community service groups, schools, government, businesses and individuals.

Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth (SAFY) of America is a leading national nonprofit organization providing a full continuum of services for youth in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. Founded in 1984, SAFY provides nationally-recognized family and children services in 28 offices across eight states including Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, South Carolina, Alabama, Oklahoma, Texas and Nevada.

Boys Town Nevada opened its doors in 1991, bringing an innovative approach to child and family care to those in need in the Las Vegas area. The site has five Family Homes, where boys and girls learn valuable skills that give them a foundation for a brighter future. The site’s Integrated Continuum of Care® also offers In-Home Family Services, and Community Support Services. The latter level of care includes Common Sense Parenting® classes and the Boys Town Behavioral Network, an internal team of program professionals who provide individualized care recommendations for children referred to Boys Town Nevada. These services and programs touch the lives of 20,000 children and families in Nevada each year. Learn more at www.boystown.org

March of Dimes is the leading nonprofit organization for pregnancy and baby health. With chapters nationwide, the March of Dimes works to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. For the latest resources and information, visit marchofdimes.com or nacersano.org. For free access to national, state, county and city-level maternal and infant health data visit marchofdimes.com.

In September 1959, a small group of business leaders from Carson City formed the Kiwanis Club of Carson City. The club began its tradition of leadership in community service from its inception. This included the contribution of hands on service and monetary donations to charitable organizations who served children, youth, the elderly and the disabled.

Las Vegas Healthy Communities Coalition (LVHCC), led by United Way of Southern Nevada, uses a collective impact model to coordinate and align efforts of government entities, non-profit agencies, and schools throughout Clark County, Nevada. LVHCC aims to improve community outcomes by fostering collaboration and the sharing of community level data. LVHCC has adopted ten core indicators along the “Cradle to Career” continuum because social problems are complex and require holistic solutions. These core indicators are tracked by LVHCC and reported to the community annually in a Community Report Card.

Since 1985, The Children’s Cabinet’s mission has been to keep children safe and families together by providing services and resources that address unmet needs through a unique and effective cooperative effort between the private sector and public agencies in Nevada. The Children’s Cabinet provides a wide range of crisis intervention services, including Safe Place, a service available 24 hours a day, seven days a week for youth experiencing violence, abuse or exploitation. Programs also include runaway and homeless youth services, substance abuse and gang intervention programming, work experience training, and independent living for former foster care youth.

Fostering Southern Nevada partners with Foster and Adoptive families, the Department of Family Services and associated Community agencies to enhance the Foster and Adoptive experience.

Healthy Minds’ mission has been to change the face of mental health care in Las Vegas and Southern Nevada. As mental health professionals, they contract with Southern Nevada hospitals, courts, government agencies, auditors, schools, universities, non-profit agencies, training programs, and other mental health agencies have come to rely on Healthy Minds’ services.
We would like to thank the Carson Nugget for their support and commitment to Nevada’s youth.

Children’s Week is organized by:

Nevada Institute for Children’s Research and Policy
702-895-1040
nic.unlv.edu

Children’s Advocacy Alliance
702-228-1869
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