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Nevada Institute For Children's Research & Policy

NICRP

Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy
Quarterly Newsletter

Spring 2009

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Spring 2009 edition of the NICRP newsletter. I wanted to take just a moment to remind everyone that the 2009 Legislative Session is still in progress. With only a few weeks left in the session, which is scheduled to end on June 1st, it is still important for you to stay involved. NICRP continues to track children's bills on a weekly basis and updates are posted to our website at <http://nic.unlv.edu>. You can also sign up to receive notifications of upcoming hearings for all bills on our tracking list. For the most up to date information, please visit the State Legislature website at www.leg.state.nv.us. Remember to contact your legislators and speak up for the issues that matter most to you. If you have any questions, or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at denise.tanata@unlv.edu.



Thank you,
Denise Tanata Ashby
Executive Director
NICRP

SAVE the DATE: 2nd Annual Step Up for Kids Week October 5th-9th

This is the second year that Every Child Matters in Nevada and the Every Child Matters Education Fund is sponsoring this special, non-partisan, nationwide event to highlight the status of our nation's children and to show widespread support for a shift in spending priorities towards children and families. To be involved in planning specific statewide events, please contact our office ASAP.

WE NEED 50 Co-sponsors by June 1st- NO FINANCIAL COMMITMENT NEEDED!

All co-sponsors will be listed on the event web site for our state. It simply takes a signature from an authorized employee at a

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Upcoming Reports

2008 Child Death Review Report

Evaluation of Child Care Health Consultants Pilot Project

Nevada State Early Childhood Data Tracking Planning Report



HEALTH SCIENCES
School of Community Health Sciences

business or organization that cares about the status of children, along with a name, phone number, and e-mail address of a designated contact person. ***There is no obligation to take on any specific tasks associated with coordinating the event, although there are numerous ways in which co-sponsors can be involved if they wish.*** If we reach our goal, we will receive \$1,000 from the National office which will be spent on activities during the week. Please help us reach our goal by completing this [FORM](#) and faxing it to 702-895-2657.



Senator Harry Reid Sponsors Nevada Nonprofits Children's Summit at UNLV



On April 14th 2009 Senator Harry Reid's Office collaborated with the Children's Advocacy Alliance and the Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy to hold the first Nevada Nonprofits Children's Summit. The summit was organized to bring local nonprofit agencies together with federal organizations to discuss the major issues facing children and families today, both locally and nationally. The Summit focused on three major substantive areas; Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice and Youth Homelessness. The Summit had presentations about talking to the media, nonprofits management, as well as substantive breakout sessions for each of the three focus areas. Senator Harry Reid addressed the group and presented NICRP Executive Director, Denise Tanata Ashby, with an American flag. During the Summit Senator Reid expressed his great interest in creating an office for children within the White House and asked for participants in the summit to provide him with feedback about what is needed and how the federal government can assist. The Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy is coordinating the creation of this summary paper and is working with Summit attendees to create a cohesive statement from Nevada. Summit attendees have been contacted to provide feedback via email submissions and teleconferences will be held in the coming weeks to discuss the issues and solidify the recommendations. Once the summary paper is complete it will sent to Senator Reid's Office and will be available for review at the NICRP website.

WIC Immunization Linkages Project Evaluation

The Nevada institute for Children's Research and policy is working with the Southern Nevada Immunization Coalition (SNIC) on a process evaluation of their WIC Linkages project. The WIC Linkages Project is a collaboration between nine local WIC office locations and SNIC to provide parents education about immunizations and no-cost immunization clinics for WIC recipient children. The SNIC WIC Linkages project is one of a number of projects implemented by SNIC in an effort to raise Nevada's immunization rate of 19 to 35 months old children to 75%. NICRP is currently collecting data for a process evaluation of the project.

The process evaluation will examine the implementation of the project, identify specific successes and barriers in the process, and examine the perceived effectiveness of the project from the participants' and staff's perspective. The project is expected to be completed in December 2009.

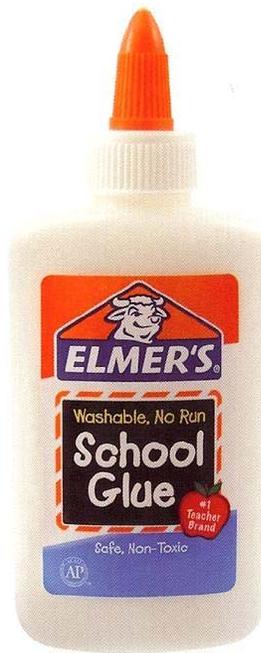


Locating Immunization Providers in Nevada

NICRP has been working with the Southern Nevada Immunization Coalition to map locations of all childhood immunization providers in Nevada. NICRP obtained several lists of providers including; a list of all physicians licensed in Nevada as pediatricians or general practitioners, list of VFC providers, immunization providers as listed on Nevada 211 and all pharmacy clinics offering immunizations. This list was then screened for duplicates and all locations were contacted via telephone and asked a series of questions regarding immunization practices. The final list of confirmed childhood immunization providers consisted of 310 locations. These locations were then geocoded and placed on a map through the help of VTN services. These maps were presented at the Immunization Forum held in Las Vegas on April 7th and the report is available on our website.



Communities in Schools of Nevada Evaluation Report



In 2003, the national Communities in Schools (CIS) organization established a local presence in Nevada. Programming for CIS is designed to improve academic achievement and prevent school dropout through meeting students' basic needs. CIS of Nevada connects students with free social, emotional, health and enrichment initiatives and provides schools and service partners with strategic and tactical expertise in effective program coordination. CIS of Nevada collaborates with community agencies to bring food, medical/dental services, mental health services, clothing, mentoring programs, intensive supplementary instruction, interagency case management, parent/teacher education, birthday parties for children, and career exploration days to youth in partner schools. During the 2007-2008 CIS of Nevada served 19 schools in Southern Nevada (including 2 elementary schools directly across the Colorado River in Bullhead City, AZ) and two schools in Northeastern Nevada in the 2007-2008 school year. In addition to school sites, CIS of Nevada served youth at Nevada Partners in Clark County and also youth at Elko County Juvenile Probation.

Nevada Institute for Children conducted an outside evaluation to track and summarize the services provided to students and families in the schools involved with CIS of Nevada as well as to assess the effect that these services have had on selected outcome measures within participating schools. CIS staff will use this evaluation to pinpoint areas for improvement or expansion as well as to note areas where the organization is most effective. Additionally this evaluation presents the information regarding the costs associated with these initiatives to illustrate the value of services being received by the schools and families through generous donations coordinated through CIS of Nevada. Some findings from this report suggests that from a financial standpoint, CIS of Nevada has proven to provide a substantial return on investment, and programs have been found to improve individual student's academic achievement and attendance rates. Although current results are promising, specific individual data to measure this is limited and should be expanded for more valid results in the future. The 2007-2008 Evaluation Report and findings is available on our website at <http://nic.unlv.edu>.

Funding

For more information about how to sponsor a project, collaborate with NICRP or make a donation or gift, please contact our Executive Director, Denise Tanata Ashby, at (702) 895-1040 or via email at denise.tanata@unlv.edu. You can also donate directly to NICRP online by clicking on the link below and selecting Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy from the drop down menu.

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE TODAY](#)

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