NICRP Summer Newsletter

June 2014

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Summer 2014 issue of the NICRP Newsletter. NICRP works to provide community reports on issues that impact Nevada's families as well as information on events that benefit children and families.

In this issue we provide an update on a few of NICRP’s activities over the past several months. As the state chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America, NICRP collaborated with community partners statewide to bring awareness to child abuse and neglect in April, National Child Abuse Prevention Month. In June, we released the 2013-2014 Health Status of Children Entering Kindergarten Report. Finally, this issue also introduces our newest staff member, Carrie Gaxiola.

These are only a few of the projects that NICRP is working on and we encourage you to take a look at our website for more information on these and our other projects and initiatives.

Sincerely,

Tara Phebus, MA
Interim Executive Director, NICRP

Kindergarten in Nevada

Each year, NICRP works with the Nevada State Health Division and the local school districts to disseminate a survey to the parents of incoming kindergarten students across the State. The 2013-2014 Kindergarten Health Survey report was released in early June. The survey was distributed to all 17 school districts in Nevada. The survey had a 29.1% response rate, with data collected from 7,330 participants. Parents were asked to answer demographic questions about themselves and their child and questions about health care access, physical and mental health, and general behaviors.

Responses from this year’s survey indicate that children are engaging in healthier behaviors than in previous years. Specifically, the number of underweight children decreased and the number of children with healthy weights has increased. In addition, children are consuming less non-diet soda per day. However, there are a few negative changes. First, children are engaging in more video and computer game play. Secondly, there has been a small increase in the number of overweight children.

Links to 2013-2014 report can be found below.

Full Report  Summary

This report, along with reports from previous years, can also be found on our website at http://nic.unlv.edu/reports.

For any questions regarding this report please contact Amanda Haboush-Deloyeat 702-895-1040

Pinwheels for Prevention: National Child Abuse Prevention Month Awareness Activities

This year’s "Pinwheels for Prevention" activities were a statewide success! Overall, 9 counties reported their participation in about 17 Pinwheels for Prevention events. These events including planting pinwheels in parks or courthouse lawns and involving school teachers, children and parents in the festivities.

Pinwheel organizers got their local community members involved by displaying pinwheels in local businesses, and engaging local policy makers and public figures. They also collaborated with statewide service providers to build awareness of preventative measures that can be used stop child abuse and neglect before it ever happens through community resource fairs, press conferences, and tabling at other events statewide.

You can find a detailed summaries of this year’s "Pinwheels for Prevention" events in our 2014 Statewide Summary Report.

See the full report HERE
Staff Update

Carrie Gaxiola, MS
Assistant Research Analyst

Please help us welcome NICRP’s newest team member, Carrie Gaxiola! She earned her Master of Science in Information Science from the University of North Texas, Denton and also has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Prior to joining NICRP, she worked for the UNLV University Libraries as a Data Analyst to assist in improving patron services using data-based decision support practices. She is a Nevada native and is very excited to use her research and analysis skills to contribute to the quality of life, health and well-being of Nevada’s children, youth, and families.

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