Dear Friends,

We are faced with challenging times in Nevada and it is more important now than ever before to become an active advocate for the children in our community, our state, and our nation. Our state and national leaders are currently making budgetary decisions that will effect the quality and quantity of services to our children in areas of health, education, welfare, and juvenile justice.

NICRP provides community reports on the status of the children in Nevada to help YOU determine what changes need to occur to improve the lives of our children. Please take the time to review our reports and the information on our website, and call, write, and/or email our local and national representatives to voice your opinion on what NEEDS to be done for our children.

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Child Care Tuition Assistance Available!

The United Way of Southern Nevada's SUCCESS BY 6™ initiative is offering tuition assistance at participating child care centers in Southern Nevada.

For more information, contact United Way at 702-892-2309.

Action Alert: Support Federal Juvenile Justice Legislation

Call Senator Reid and other legislators to voice your opinion on bill - S. 678 which supports promotes the
We appreciate your commitment thus far and look forward to working with you to make our state and our nation a place where children can thrive.

Sincerely,

Denise Tanata Ashby, JD
Executive Director, NICRP

Release of the 2009-2010 (Year Two) Nevada Kindergarten Health Survey Report

To gather additional data on the health status of children entering the school system and to better track student health status, NICRP, in partnership with the Clark County School District, Nevada school district superintendents, the Nevada Head Start State Collaboration and Early Childhood Comprehensive Services Office, and the Nevada State Health Division, conducted a health survey of children entering kindergarten in Nevada. In the fall of 2009, NICRP distributed questionnaires to all public elementary schools in the state, with the exception of schools in Esmeralda and Clark counties. Esmeralda County, a rural county with 5 kindergarteners enrolled in the 2009-2010 school year, chose not to participate in the survey, while the Clark County School District requested that only a sample of their schools be included in the survey.

Parents were asked to respond to questions concerning demographic information about their kindergartener and their household, as well as questions about insurance status, access to health care, the physical and mental health of their kindergartener, and general health behaviors such as immunizations and routine check-ups. The survey had an overall response rate of 39.2 percent, with a total of 9,504 surveys received. The full report, as well as a brief Summary of Findings, are now available on the NICRP website.

Community Health Needs Assessment

NICRP, in partnership with Quality Health Care Center and St. Rose Dominican Hospitals, is conducting a community health needs assessment of Clark County. The purpose of the assessment is to collect and analyze data about county residents in the following domains: demographic information; physical and mental health; chronic disease and illness prevalence; levels of physical activity; tobacco, alcohol, and drug use; injury and violence occurrences; mortality rates; and health insurance status and barriers to accessing health care. The project will also gather data on the availability and accessibility of certain health care providers, including a GIS mapping of provider locations. Data will be collected at the zip code-level, whenever possible, and collection efforts will include several methodologies, such as a phone, written, and electronic surveys and focus groups.
GET INVOLVED!!
If you are interested in participating in the electronic survey for this needs assessment, please copy the below link into your web browser. Once you have completed the survey, you will have the opportunity to receive a free exercise class or a free total cholesterol screening, both offered through St. Rose Dominican Hospitals. Survey Link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CommunityHealthSurvey

We are also recruiting residents of North Las Vegas and Henderson to participate in focus groups concerning access to health care in our community. Focus groups will occur in February and March, lasting about two hours. If you know of someone who would be interested in participating, please contact Kari Wolkwitz at 702-895-5053.

NICRP Evaluation for the "One and Only" Campaign for Safe Injection Practices

Nevada has been selected as one of only two states to pilot test and evaluate the One & Only Campaign materials. These materials were designed to help provide education and promote awareness about safe injection practices. NICRP is conducting this evaluation in conjunction with the Nevada State Health Division and we are pleased to have the opportunity to contribute to this groundbreaking initiative. We look forward to your participation and valuable feedback!

How to Get Involved
NICRP is currently recruiting any health care professionals state wide that provide injections to participate in a focus group where they will have the opportunity to review print materials and provide feedback on those materials designed specifically for medical providers.

In addition NICRP is seeking participants from the community to review the materials designed for patients and provide feedback. All participants will be provided with lunch or dinner (depending on location).

Focus groups will be held in Reno, Elko and Las Vegas starting in March. If you are interested in participating in either focus group please contact Tara Phebus at 702-895-1121 or email Tara at tara.phebus@unlv.edu.

Don't Have Time for a Focus Group?
If you can't participate in the focus groups, but still want to provide feedback, please complete the on-line survey available for both patients (https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/safeinjectionsevaluation) and providers (https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/safeinjectionsevaluationprovider).
For more information about the campaign and to stay updated on local activities, please visit www.oneandonlycampaign.org and click on "About the Campaign."