

NICRP



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NICRP Summer Newsletter

June 2011

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Summer 2011 edition of the NICRP newsletter. NICRP provides community reports on issues affecting children in Nevada to help YOU determine what changes need to occur and to stay informed about efforts to improve the lives of our children and their families.



As many of you know, in January 2011 I accepted a new role as one of four Senior Resident Scholars for The Lincy Institute at UNLV. The Lincy Institute was established in 2009 at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) through a grant from The Lincy Foundation. Our mission is to conduct and support research that focuses on improving Nevada's health, education, and social services. This research informs and improves public policy and practice, builds and enhances the capacity of our public and private community partners, and helps secure external financial resources to support and sustain services in greater Las Vegas.

To assist in facilitating this transition, I am proud to also announce the promotion of Tara Phebus as the Associate Director of NICRP. Tara has been with NICRP since 2004 and was most recently the Senior Research Analyst. Please join me in welcoming Tara to this new position at NICRP.

We appreciate your continued commitment to children's issues and look forward to working with you to make our state and our communities places where children can thrive.

Sincerely,

Denise Tanata Ashby, JD

Executive Director, NICRP
Senior Resident Scholar, The Lincy Institute

**NICRP is the new
Chapter of Prevent
Child Abuse America**

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New Projects

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program Evaluation



NICRP has been contracted by the Southern Nevada Health District to conduct an outcome evaluation for a new 5 year teen pregnancy prevention grant. This evidence based program seeks to reduce teen pregnancies and births as well as prevalence of sexually transmitted infections in adolescents in Clark County. NICRP's role as an external evaluator will allow us to collect data and measure the effectiveness of this program with high-risk youth in juvenile justice and foster care systems. For more information about this project please contact Tara Phebus at tara.phebus@unlv.edu.

Coming Soon!

The 2011 Legislative Session: Impact on Children and Families

Now that the legislative session has officially come to a close, NICRP will take the next few months to analyze how the decisions made during the session will impact children and families in Nevada. In the mean time, you can reference our updated Bill List which includes all results from the session for bills related to children and families.

[NICRP Children's Issue Bill List](#)

Pilot Testing for the Nevada Children's DataCenter

The Nevada Children's DataCenter will be a website that provides information about Nevada's children, with an emphasis on children ages 0-8 years. The website will include information on multiple topics including basic demographics and health status, for use by grant writers, providers, and the public. We will be piloting this website soon. If you would like to provide feedback during our pilot phase, please contact Amanda Haboush at amanda.haboush@unlv.edu.



NICRP Staff Update

NICRP is proud to announce several staff promotions:

Tara Phebus has moved into the the position of Associate Director for NICRP. Tara has worked for NICRP since 2004 and during that time, she has served as the lead researcher, evaluator, and primary author for a number of NICRP's research and evaluation projects including; child death review, teen pregnancy prevention, Nevada kindergarten health survey, an audit of Nevada's child welfare system, a needs assessment for girls in juvenile justice, as well as several other projects related to early childhood education, children's health and well being. Tara is looking forward to serving in this new role at NICRP and continued collaboration with community partners.



We would like to welcome Samantha Beecher as our new Assistant Research Analyst. Samantha received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in May of 2007. She received her Master of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in May of 2009. Her research interests include environmental criminology, juvenile justice, and public policy.



We would also like to welcome Sarah Zenhari as our new Administrative Assistant. Sarah received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Studies with an emphasis in Mass Media Communication and Tele-broadcasting from UNLV in May of 2005. She has worked in marketing and has produced a wide range of collateral material. Since then, Sarah has worked in the social services arena as a Workforce Services Counselor where she specialized in assisting dislocated workers, ex-felons, and the homeless with job placement. She is currently working on her post-graduate studies.



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