

StepUp for kids

Nevada 2015 Summary



Each year Step Up for Kids brings together thousands of people across the country to show widespread support for investments in children and families. Participants include child advocates, politicians, parents and kids. Events held across the country raise awareness among voters and political candidates regarding the issues American children face such as access to early care and learning and after-school programs, poverty, child abuse and neglect and health care. This year, events were organized in Las Vegas, Reno, and Carson City.

Step Up for Kids Day Event in Las Vegas



In Las Vegas the Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy, the Children's Advocacy Alliance, and the Southern Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council, hosted the 8th Annual Step Up for Kids event on Children's Day in Nevada, Monday, September 28, 2015.

The event began with a press conference at the Head Start Reach Out Center. Guest speakers included First Lady Kathleen Sandoval, Mayor Carolyn Goodman, and Terri Janison from United Way of Southern Nevada. The press conference focused on United Way of Southern Nevada's "Champion for Children" launch that will bring community leaders together to promote quality early education for the most vulnerable population during the formative years of learning so children begin school ready to learn.

The events of the day continued at Springs Preserve from 3 – 7pm, where the public received free admission to the park and the first 200 people were given free tickets to visit the museums. Families also enjoyed free hot dogs, fruit from Whole Foods, cupcakes from Freed's Bakery, Strong Start for Nevada's Children t-shirts, and ice cream from Meadow Gold. Around 4:15, Boy Scout Troop 37 presented the American Flag and led the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance. Directly following, Deputy Superintendent Kim Wooden and First Lady Kathleen Sandoval briefly spoke about the importance of making investments in our children especially in quality early learning experiences, and then Senator Joe Hardy, Senator Joyce Woodhouse, and Assemblyman Stephen Silberkraus, presented the Children's Day proclamation from the Nevada State Legislature. Representatives from Congressman Joe Heck's office and Congresswoman Dina Titus's office also presented certificates in recognition of the event. Throughout the event, families also had the opportunity to interact with over 50 community organizations (listed below) that were dispersed throughout Springs Preserve, enjoy a petting zoo, performances such as trapeze artists, live music, and dance instruction. Children at the event also got to help Channel 3's weatherman, Kevin Janison, report the weather live during the evening newscasts. Finally, several fun items, donated by sponsors listed below, were raffled off each hour to families in attendance. This year's event was a huge success with over 678 attendees.



Step Up Las Vegas Community vendors included: Department of Family Services Community Partnership, Discovery Museum, Eagle Quest, East Valley Family Services, Entravision - Tricolor Live Radio Station, Family Ties, Family to Family Connection, Financial Guidance Center, Foster Kinship, Foundation for Positively Kids, Girl Scouts of Southern Nevada, Immunize Nevada – Walgreens, Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc. , LV Urban League Early Childhood Connection, Las Vegas Clark County Library District, Metro Volunteer Program , Mosaic Mental & Behavioral Health Services, Nevada Child Seekers, Nevada PEP, Nevada School Choice Partnership, New Discoveries Behavioral Health & Family Services, Nevada Early Intervention Services, Office for Consumer Health Assistance , Olive Crest, Outside Las Vegas Foundation, Prevent Child Abuse Nevada, Rape Crisis Center, Reflections Dance Center, Safe Nest, Southern Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children, Southern Nevada Child Drowning Prevention Coalition, Southern Nevada Health District , Sunrise Children's Foundation, The PRACTICE, The Public Education Foundation, The Stop It Foundation, Trapeze Las Vegas, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, and Whole Foods.



Step Up for Kids Day Event in Carson City



In Carson City, the Children’s Cabinet, with some assistance from the Children’s Advocacy Alliance, and the Nevada Institute for Children’ organized the Step Up for Kids event which took place on Tuesday September 29 at the Children’s Museum from 10am – 2pm. The Children’s Cabinet invited local providers and other vendors to table at the event and families in the community to attend.

All vendors brought material to share with teachers and parents at the event, along with an activity the children could do. The children got to decorate book bags and pick out a book on behalf of the Children’s Cabinet and were able to paint rocks on behalf of Lyon County Resource Center. The Ron Wood Resource Center had a raffle for a car seat and a beanbag game for the children. The event was very successful with about 40-45 children and 15-20 parents/teachers in attendance. Parents and teachers enjoyed learning about all the information that was made available to them.

Step Up for Kids Day Event in Reno

In Reno, the Children’s Cabinet, with some assistance from the Children’s Advocacy Alliance, and the Nevada Institute for Children’ organized the Step Up for Kids event which took place on Wednesday September 30th at the Terry Lee Wells Nevada Discovery Museum from 10am – 6pm. An estimated 75 attendees were present between 10am-6pm. After 4pm The Children’s Cabinet had access to 80 prepaid vouchers to offer to families.



Vendors set up in the museum, greeted parents and children, and provided them with information about their services. The vendors included Strong Start Nevada, Children’s Cabinet, Washoe County CPS/Foster Care, Immunize Nevada, RAVE, and Safe Kids Reno. The Children’s Cabinet continued to have the children make book bags and pick out a book, Safe Kids Reno had Halloween crafts, Strong Start Nevada had coloring pages and temporary Strong Start Nevada Tattoos, Washoe County CPS/Foster Care, Immunize Nevada, and RAVE.

We would like thank our sponsors and community supporters who made these events possible.

Community Co-supporters: Acelero Head Start Clark County, Baby’s Bounty, Bikers Against Child Abuse, Children’s Advocacy Alliance, Clark County Department of Family Services, DFS Parenting Project, Dignity Health St. Rose Dominican, Discovery Children’s Museum, Eagle Quest, East Valley Family Services, Entravision, EXA 94.5FM Radio Station/Eric Palacios, Family Services Parenting Project, Girl Scouts of Southern Nevada, Family to Family Connection, Financial Guidance Center, Foster Kinship, Foundation for Positively Kids, Immunize Nevada, Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada Inc., Las Vegas Urban League - Early Childhood Connection, LVCCCLD, Lyon County Human Services, Metro Volunteer Program, Mojave Max, Nevada Early Intervention Services, Nevada Children’s Center, New Discoveries Behavioral Health & Family Services, Nevada Child Seekers, Nevada Department of Education - Office of Early Learning & Development, Nevada PEP, Nevada PTA, Olive Crest of Nevada, Outside Las Vegas Foundation, Pahrump Honey Company, Parents as Teachers, Prevent Child Abuse Nevada, Reflections Dance Center, SAFE House, SNAEYC, Southern Nevada Health District, Sunrise Children’s Foundation, The Children’s Cabinet, The PRACTICE, The Stop It Foundation, Trapeze Las Vegas, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension – Partners in Parenting, and Whole Foods.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!!!!