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December 10, 2021



Your Support Matters!

Nevada PEP continues to meet the needs of our families. We are hopeful that 2022 will be a better year for all. As we come to the close of 2021 and we approach this holiday season, Nevada PEP is asking for **your support today**.

If you are able, please consider making an end of year contribution.

Your contribution **can help**:

- Empower parents with supports they need to become their child's best advocate.
- The Hand in Hand Together We Can Appreciation Program recognizes individuals who make a difference in the lives of children with disabilities.
- The Youth MOVE and PEP Support Groups helps individuals to connect with

each other and provide support through these unprecedented times.

[Help Us](#) to Help Others, Your Support **Makes a Difference**
[DONATE HERE](#)

What's Up with Attendance - School Attendance in a Pandemic

Regular school attendance is an important key for being successful in school, however regular school attendance can be impacted by a disability, mental healthcare needs, anxiety, or services only available during school. Since the onset of the Pandemic, families have voiced concerns about unclear and inconsistent attendance policies. Nevada PEP has developed this [informational handout](#) on attendance to help families understand the requirements on attendance for public and charter schools including children who are enrolled in virtual learning. For more information contact [Nevada PEP](#).

Big Win in Dyslexia Case

In O.R. v. Clark County School District, a federal judge determined that a school district violated the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, ordered the District to reimburse parents nearly half a million dollars. [Read more](#) Although dyslexia makes learning more difficult, children with dyslexia can learn to read if they have the right instruction.

Talking to Your Kids About Alcohol and Drugs

Having a strong open relationship with your child is important for healthy child development. Communication is the key, it's important to start talking to your children about alcohol and drugs at a young age. To help get the conversation going here are [five conversation goals](#). Because some questions can be difficult to answer, it is important to be prepared, this document has some great tips to help you [answer your child's tough questions](#).

More Choice for Nevadans with Medicaid

Nevada Medicaid is adding one more choice for Nevadans with a fourth Managed Care Organization (MCO) starting January 1, 2022! Nevada Medicaid is required to allocate current members evenly across the four plans. All current Nevada Medicaid MCO recipients in Clark and Washoe Counties will receive notification in December 2021. MCO members have until March 31, 2022 to switch plans if they choose. [Click here](#) to see a comparison chart with value-

added benefits of each plan.

Coping with the COVID Crisis: Importance of Care for Caregivers- Tips for Parents and Teachers

The pandemic is impacting every community in some way. The situation changes frequently causing stress and uncertainty, for children and youth, but also for caregivers who are caring for students at home and in schools. [This article](#) highlights the different types of stress, warning signs and, associated grief the pandemic has caused, it also includes some self-help strategies to manage some of the challenges associated with this pandemic.



What is a Facilitated IEP Meeting?

A facilitated IEP meeting is the same as an IEP meeting, except that a facilitator joins the meeting. The facilitator helps with communication among team members and does not make decisions about the student's IEP. Read more in the Parent's guide IEP Facilitation in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). This [video](#) explains, the benefits of a facilitated IEP, and how to access a facilitated IEP. This [video](#) provides useful tips to get ready for your facilitated IEP meeting. Nevada PEP's has On Demand trainings, the **Introduction to Individualized Education Programs** training has great information right at your fingertips to register go to [On Demand Trainings](#).



Starting the Conversation about Bullying

Sometimes talking about bullying can be a difficult conversation to have with your child. Parents may notice a change in their child's behavior, your child may lose interest in sports, school, or activities that they once enjoyed. Here are some [simple tips](#) that can help parents and caregivers start the conversation. Check out a variety of [videos](#) for parents and children to watch together. Check out our [#SafeAllies](#) on demand trainings and podcast.

PEP Webinars

Great opportunities to learn information to improve education opportunities for your child. Click the links below to get a description and register for these amazing FREE trainings. For a complete list of our on demand webinars [click here](#).

- Presented by Nevada PEP

[Making the Most Out of Your Child's Early Intervention Services](#)

Monday, December 13, 1pm – 2pm

[Understanding 504 and Civil Rights](#)

Tuesday, December 14, 4pm – 5pm

[Considering College? Learn What's Available and How to Get It!](#)

Wednesday, December 15, 5pm – 6pm

[Bullies, Targets, and Bystanders: Responses That Work](#)

Monday, December 20, 3:30pm – 4:30pm

Early Childhood Inclusion

What is Early Intervention?

Early intervention is services and supports for children birth thru 3 who have developmental delays or specific health conditions. If the child is found eligible due to a delay in communication, physical, social emotional, or cognitive skills, an [Individualized Family Service Plan](#) (IFSP) is developed. The IFSP is a plan with goals and services to help an infant or toddler meet their milestones.

Nevada PEP can prepare you for Early Intervention Services, go to [On Demand Trainings](#) and register for **Making the Most out of your Baby's Early Intervention Services**. How your child plays, learns, speaks, acts, and moves offers important clues about his or her development check out the CDC Milestone Checklist in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Puzzle Fuzzle App

Sometimes it's as easy as one and one makes two. Unlock your inner MacGuyver and your inner Picasso and even your inner engineer as you solve puzzles by disassembling pictures and using the pieces to create a brand new object.

-Happy Apping



Puzzle Fuzzle App By: Lion Studios

Suicide Proofing Your Home

The Pandemic has put a lot of stress and anxiety on families. Children are struggling with mental health needs such as depression. According to the Nevada Coalition for Suicide Prevention suicide is the first leading cause of death for Nevadans ages 12-19 and second leading cause of death for ages 20-44. In these stressful times, parents might want to think about Suicide Proofing their home. This brochure is in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) which offers tips and ideas for keeping your family safe.

Youth MOVE Nevada

Happy Holidays from all of us at Youth MOVE Nevada! We are so grateful for all the youth that participate each and every month and are looking forward finishing out 2021 strong! This month we'll be discussing managing mental health during the holiday season and how to plan goals both for the short-term and long-term. For more information about YMNV or to become a member to get involved in future meetings and activities, be sure to check out our [website](#) and don't forget to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

Transition Corner

Transition Planning

Is your child is going to turn 14 soon? Now is a good time to start thinking about a transition plan. The transition plan is based on the student's needs, his/her strengths, preferences, and interests and is written by your child's IEP team. Students are encouraged to attend their IEP to help develop the transition plan, student input is important. Written for parents of youth, this handout, [Parent Tips for Transition Planning](#) has a Question-and-Answer section. This [Transition Services Flowchart](#) will help explain the transition process. Nevada PEP also offers free [On Demand trainings](#), it's quick and easy. Join the Transition Planning: Navigating Your Future training, learn important information instantly.

Statewide Family News

The holiday season can bring about feelings of both joy and pressure for families. Parents of children with behavioral and mental health care needs may need additional [support](#) and [strategies](#) to get through school breaks and holiday

festivities. Using [positive behavioral interventions and supports \(PBIS\)](#) at home, setting expectations, and making time for self-care can help. Contact the [Statewide Family Network](#) for additional support or referrals to community resources.

PEP Support Groups

Join Nevada PEP's support groups, meet other parents, learn about different resources, and make new friends. To register for a support group in English or in Spanish, call and speak to any of our Nevada PEP staff. Parents are a great support to one another; we hope to see you there.

Are You Passionate About Helping Families?

[Apply Here](#) for employment opportunities in Northern, Southern, and Rural Nevada.



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Go to: [AmazonSmile for Nevada PEP](#)



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Helping Nevada PEP is easy!

Simply enroll your rewards card by going to [Smith's Inspiring Donations](#). Once you're successfully enrolled, choose Nevada PEP as your organization of choice. A portion of your purchase will be donated from Smith's. (Does not affect your normal Smith's card rewards!)

Watch a step by step ["How to" video here](#)



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