DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES Aging and Disability Services Division

Aging and Disability Services Division
Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



Dena Schmidt

Welcome to Nevada Early Intervention Services



"We are committed to building collaborative partnerships that support caregiver's nurturing relationships with their child."

Who we are: Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS), is the state program that works with children who demonstrate developmental delays or disabilities from age birth to three. We provide services, supports, and resources that meet the changing needs of children and their families. This can include physical therapy, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, vison services, audiology services, feeding supports/nutrition, specialized instruction, diagnostic assessments, social work, psychological developmental counseling, and medical services for diagnostic evaluations. Early intervention is a voluntary program.

Your role: Each family's priorities, values, hopes and diversity are honored.

Families are partners and decision-makers in all aspects of services and provide the expertise for each child and family's individual needs. For families to receive the maximum benefit from early intervention services, it is important to participate and partner in all services and supports. Collaboration in the implementation of the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), and activities will optimize each child's ongoing learning and development.

Our role: Service providers across all disciplines will assist in designing and carrying out strategies that build on family's strengths. Using family coaching techniques within the Pyramid Model for supporting social emotional development and increasing families' confidence and competence. NEIS does this by partnering with families to share knowledge and skills related to responsive caregiving and nurturing relationships.

"Research shows that a strong social and emotional foundation in early childhood powerfully impacts children's later positive attitudes and behaviors, academic performance, career path and adult health outcomes!" (*)

^{*}Jones et al (2015). Early social-emotional functioning and public health: The relationship between kindergarten social competence and future wellness. American Journal of Public Health. 105(11), 2283-2290.