

News From the Front Lines

A Quarterly Publication

ISSUE 8

FALL 2007

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A Message from the Program Coordinator

Welcome to the latest issue of *News from the Frontlines*. I'm excited this month because the Registry has just unveiled a refreshed website. If you've come to our site over the last several weeks expecting to find what is familiar and comfortable, you may have been surprised by our new look. The good news is that the information you have come to know and expect over the last several years is still there – we've just given it a bit of a face lift.

The new and improved site is packed with more information, improved navigation and a fresh look that will make it easier to get around. You'll find the same information that was housed on our previous website but now there's even more - more links, more resources, and more pages chock-full of great information to support you as an Early Care and Education professional! Take a look at some of the new features you'll find:

will be updated as new information is made available.

Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE)

Higher education is the foundation of the Career Ladder. To help prospective students navigate the higher education system, the Registry has partnered with each of the major universities and community colleges in the state to create resource pages highlighting ECE programs/degree options, unique features, new developments related to programming/coursework, and other pertinent information that might make the leap into higher education easier to approach and less intimidating. These pages will be updated by the schools on

(continued on page 3)

NEW!

Child Care Licensing

Navigating through the Nevada Administrative Code related to child care regulations can be a bit overwhelming and confusing, to say the least. In an attempt to demystify those regulations and get the early childhood community connected to what is happening on a regulatory level, the Registry has partnered with statewide Licensing entities to create a resource page dedicated solely to Licensing-related information. Here you will find important announcements related to Licensing (upcoming Child Care Board meetings, regulation changes, etc.), answers to commonly asked questions, learn about your role as a mandated reporter of child abuse and neglect and locate your Licensing surveyor by accessing the statewide contact list at the bottom of the page. You can access this page by visiting the *Resources* page of the new website. Be sure to check back frequently as this page



Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail. Muriel Strode



Nevada is one of 33 states with a Registry system!
 The National Registry Alliance
www.registryalliance.org

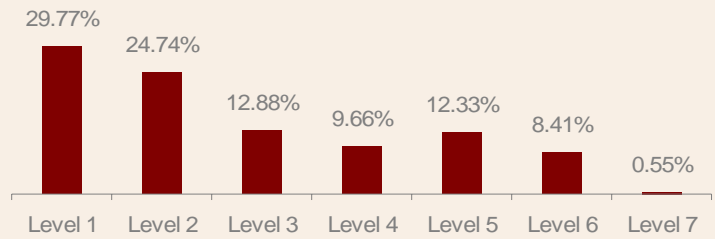
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- Colorado
- Delaware
- Florida
- Hawaii
- Illinois
- Iowa
- Idaho
- Kansas
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- New Jersey
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah
- Vermont
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming

Program STATISTICS

Career Ladder Participation

- 1,273 active participants
- Number of Participants by Level:
 - Levels 1: 379
 - Levels 2: 315
 - Levels 3: 164
 - Levels 4: 123
 - Levels 5: 157
 - Levels 6: 107
 - Levels 7: 7
 - Level TBD*: 21

**Individuals who have applied and will place once the minimum 1,000 hours of direct experience requirement is satisfied.*



Registry Participants are on the Path to BRIGHTER FUTURES!

As reported in the Spring 2007 issue of *News From the Frontlines*, the Registry is currently developing an internal mechanism to easily track increases in Career Ladder levels. While this component of our system is still being perfected, we are already able to see that **OVER 900 PARTICIPANTS** have had an increase in their Career Ladder level!! No matter where you are at on your career path, we'd like to congratulate you for your accomplishments and dedication to professionalism! Thank you for making a difference in the lives of Nevada's children and for taking an active role in pursuing and achieving your academic and professional goals.

Training Approval

- 579 Registered Trainers
- Over 9,500 Approved Trainings

The Nevada Registry thanks you for your support in helping us serve ECE professionals across the state!

News From the Front Lines

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News From the Front Lines is published quarterly by The Nevada Registry, 680 South Rock Blvd, Reno, NV 89502.

Letters to the Editor

Do you have a compliment, success story, concern, frustration or general feedback for the Registry? Let your voice be heard by submitting a letter to the editor! *Please send comments to The Nevada Registry at nevadaregistry@washoe.k12.nv.us.*

Registry Staff



Shelly Nye
 Program Coordinator



Stephanie Simpson
 Program Assistant

Online: www.nevadaregistry.org
 Email: nevadaregistry@washoe.k12.nv.us
 Address: 680 South Rock Blvd., Reno, NV 89502

A Message from the PROGRAM COORDINATOR

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(A Message From the Program Coordinator continued...)

an as-needed basis, so be sure to check back often for the latest news related to your school. This page can also be accessed by visiting the *Resources* page.

Scholarship Opportunities in Nevada

Several scholarship opportunities are available on a continual basis to support ECE professionals in the pursuit of higher education and ongoing professional development. Access this information from the *Resources* page and learn more about T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood ® Nevada, the Child Care Apprenticeship Program, and a variety of other scholarship programs offered by the Child Care and Development Program. Event-specific scholarship information (state conference registration scholarships, etc.) will be available from time to time, so be sure to check back frequently!

NEW and IMPROVED!

Several of the page headings have been modified to more accurately depict the page content and to ease navigation throughout the entire site. This is what you'll notice:

General Information has been changed to *About The Nevada Registry*. Visit this page to learn more about the history, vision, mission, and goals of the Registry. You can also learn more about the Advisory Committee, view program statistics, and download copies of previous issues of this newsletter by selecting those options from the drop down menu.

Recognition System has been changed to *Career Ladder*. Find answers to all of your Career Ladder-related questions here; the purpose, how to apply or renew, and information on Nevada's Core Knowledge Areas, Core Competencies and more!

ECE Updates has been changed to *News* (now located within the *Resources* page). This page is reserved for the announcement of new professional resources and developments.

Early Childhood Links has been changed to *Resources*. Information on the *Resources* page has been broken down into broad categories. In addition to the new pages outlined previously, you'll also find links to *Accreditation*, *Information for Parents*, the *Resource Directory* (links to state and national sites of interest) and a new *Community Bulletin Board* (coming soon).

Parent's Page has been changed to *Information for Parents* and contains even more great information organized by Child-Care, Health and Education-Related resources for quicker access to sites of interest.

Program Forms has been changed to *Downloads*. Same quick access to all of the Career Ladder and Training Approval system-related forms – just a new name!

TECHNOLOGY Tip....

Our new website includes some FLASH features. What this means is that there are now various interactive components that require the use of a Flash Player to display and function



correctly. If you do not have a flash player installed, you might experience some display issues, especially if you are accessing the Internet using an older computer and/or operating system. You'll be able to easily determine whether you have a flash

player installed when you come to the home page. With Flash, the leaves of the tree will appear to grow and there will not be any roll-over images (pictures) as you move your cursor across the leaves. No worries! Simply click on the white headings on the leaves and off you go! To optimize this site, you can also download a free version of *Adobe® Flash Player 9* by visiting <http://www.adobe.com/products/flashplayer/>. To determine if your system will support the Flash Player, go to: <http://www.adobe.com/products/flashplayer/productinfo/systemreqs/>.

I hope you enjoy our site makeover! I invite you to take a few minutes to get to know the site - explore the many pages and dig deep into the numerous aspects of the program. The Registry is hopeful that, now and in the future, you will find what you are looking for and quite possibly even more! Please continue to watch as we grow and thank you for being a part of the ever-evolving process!

Sincerely,

Shelly Nye
Program Coordinator
The Nevada Registry

Making the Most of the Registry's JOB BOARD

The Nevada Registry's Job Board has been active since March 1, 2007. Since then, over 165 jobs have been posted and over 100 different agencies/organizations have utilized this free service! We'd like to extend an invitation to all of the employers that have utilized the Job Board to provide feedback by completing a fast and easy ONLINE SURVEY. Simply log in to the Employer section of the Job Board and click on the link to the survey on the employer log-in page. Your feedback helps us determine how we

can better meet the needs of employers - we strive to continuously make updates that maximize our services to the ECE community!

COMPLETE AN ONLINE SURVEY TODAY!

Visit The Nevada Registry JOB BOARD at

www.nevadaregistry.org

Your VOICES: *Program participants and trainers share their thoughts with the Registry.*

Over the past several months our office has received comments and feedback from many of you. Take a look at a couple of our favorites!

Dear Nevada Registry,

I am so impressed with the Nevada Registry Renewal packet. You made renewal quite easy and then rewarded me with a beautiful certificate, a list of trainings, a Registry card, and other useful material.

This is a great resource for early childhood professionals, a model for other states, and respectful to the profession.

Kudos to the whole team.

All the best,

Leah Sanders, CFRC-UNR

Dear Nevada Registry,

Our group, the Northern Nevada Asthma and Food Allergy Parent Education Group, (AAPE for short), provides a workshop outlining strategies for managing food allergies in a child care setting. When a facility calls us for a workshop, they are often in "panic" mode since one of their children has just been diagnosed with this very confusing and serious disease that doesn't have any medications to take, but only systems of avoidance and education to follow.

Needless to say, we rush to try to provide them with information that could be life saving.

The only reason we are truly able to get this critical education out there is due to the amazing staff at the Nevada Registry. They realize the need in our community and work quickly and efficiently to get these workshops in motion. They understand the real needs of the children being served and they serve them! Our organization never is caught up in paper work or folks being unavailable due to internal issues. The fantastic staff has always responded to our needs professionally and immediately. This has honestly been the only government agency we have dealt with that moves at lightening speed to truly serve those in need. We absolutely love our relationship with the Nevada Registry and hope they never change and only continue their positive growth. Thank you for EVERYTHING!

Caroline Moassessi, President

Northern Nevada Asthma and Food Allergy Parent Education Group

Thank you for taking time to provide your thoughts, support and encouraging words - your feedback helps us help you!

Obtaining an ECE ENDORSEMENT

The following information is being provided for informational purposes only. The Nevada Registry is not affiliated with the Nevada Department of Education. Please direct all teacher licensure-related questions to the Nevada Department of Education.

If you are an ECE professional exploring possible avenues to continue down the path of professional development, you may want to consider obtaining a special license or endorsement specific to Early Childhood Education on your State of Nevada Teaching License. An ECE endorsement (either birth through kindergarten or birth through second grade) may not only be required by some employers (school districts, etc.), but it could also help ECE job seekers qualify for a broader range of teaching positions. Adding an ECE endorsement to your professional repertoire not only



demonstrates that you are a professional, it makes a statement that Early Childhood Education is a legitimate occupation that is on an equal playing field with Elementary and Secondary Education. Moving towards licensure promotes the “professionalization” of ECE that *The Nevada Registry* and other state and national professional development programs are striving towards.

I am interested in obtaining an ECE endorsement, where do I begin?

A good place to begin the process of either obtaining your teaching license with a special endorsement, or simply adding the special endorsement to your existing license, is to browse through the Nevada Department of Education Office of Teacher Licensing webpage at www.doe.nv.gov. This site contains a plethora of information related to teacher licensure.

What will I need to apply?

The following checklist (as of October 2007 at www.doe.nv.gov) will give you a general idea of what is

required in the application process. Please visit the Nevada Department of Education’s website to download an application packet and carefully review the requirements.

- ❑ Completed application packet, signed and notarized (type the following link into your browser to link directly to the application packet: <http://www.nde.state.nv.us/licensing/endorsements/elementary.attachment/304480/EarlyChildhood.pdf>).
- ❑ Official transcripts for **all** post secondary institutions you list on your application.
- ❑ Initial application fee of \$155 (must be paid prior to evaluation, is non-refundable and valid for one year; check or money order only).
- ❑ Two completed FBI fingerprint cards signed and the *Fingerprint Authorization* form (can be found within application packet) signed and dated.
- ❑ Completion of mandated *Child Support* form (can be found within application packet) with ONE box checked, signed and dated.

AS APPLICABLE

- ❑ Completed *Verification of Teaching, Work Experience and/or Program Completion* form/s (can be found within application packet).
- ❑ Copies of valid teaching credential/s (refer to the *Interstate Agreement* section of the application packet). Verification of student teaching (page 2 of application packet), school counseling practicum grade level, or school psychology internship.
- ❑ Copies of all competency testing scores and State-required test results.

How do I contact the NV Dept. of Education?

Carson City Office
700 E. 5th Street, Suite 105
Carson City, NV 89701
(775) 687-9115

Las Vegas Office
1820 E. Sahara Ave., Suite 205
Las Vegas, NV 89104
(702) 486-6458

Online: www.doe.nv.gov

The Nevada Registry ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Special thanks to all of *The Nevada Registry's Advisory Committee* members who volunteer their time to help raise the status of the ECE profession and make a difference in the lives of Nevada's children! A wide variety of professional agencies from across the state are represented among the membership of The Nevada Registry Advisory Committee:

Ron Barakat, *Nevada Child Care & Development Program* • Marci Behmaram, *Campus Child Care Connections* • Cheryl Brecheisen, *Community College of Southern Nevada* • Melissa Burnham, Ph.D., *University of Nevada, Reno* • Margot Chappel, *Nevada Head Start State Collaboration Office* • Joanne Everts, Ph.D., *Washoe County School District, ECE Dept.* • Melissa Faul, *Bureau of Services for Child Care* • Cindy Johnson, *Office of Early Care and Education, North* • Bette Katz, *The Children's Cabinet* • Whitney Leathers, *T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood@NEVADA* • Alice LeDesma, *Washoe County Social Services* • Christine Matiash, *Office of Early Care and Education, South* • Carol Meyer, *City of Las Vegas Licensing* • Patricia Peal, *Clark County Child Care Licensing* • Tina Springmeyer, *Nevada Child Care Apprenticeship Program* • Crystal Swank, *Truckee Meadows Community College* • Mona Timmons, *St. John's Room to Grow, Fallon* • Daniel Voges, *Nevada Child Care & Development Program*

For more information regarding *The Nevada Registry Advisory Committee*, please visit the Registry's website at www.nevadaregistry.org.

A Word From The Nevada Registry Advisory Committee



Christine Matiash, Office of Early Care and Education

Christine Matiash is a Child Development Specialist in the Office of Early Care and Education and will celebrate her ten year anniversary with the State of Nevada this December. She has a Master's degree in Early Childhood/Special Education and a BS in Developmental Psychology.

Christine is an adjunct professor at the College of Southern Nevada, the current president of NevAEYC, past-president of SNAEYC and on the board of directors for Family to Family Connection. Christine was involved in writing Nevada's Pre-K Standards and ECE Core Competencies and has chaired the NevAEYC Early Childhood Conference. She has been on the Registry Advisory Committee since its inception in 2003. Here are her thoughts on a professional development system.

"A professional development system is imperative to increasing the professionalism of the Early Childhood

Education field. Working in ECE is one of the most important jobs around, and it is our responsibility to make our society more aware of this fact, including policymakers. Research has shown that high quality early childhood experiences have an overall positive impact on children and that teachers with higher education levels provide higher quality care. The Nevada Early Care and Education Professional Career Ladder helps to support this by acknowledging early childhood professionals for their education and experience, while also encouraging them to advance to higher levels. It is the trickle down theory in the best possible scenario; the more educated a provider is, the higher quality care a child will receive. A positive early childhood experience for every child in Nevada is the ultimate goal. The Registry Advisory Committee is comprised of individuals focused on achieving this goal. I am proud to be part of such an important and growing program and look forward to being involved in future endeavors."

Important REMINDER



As of February 2007, all Caring 4 Kids Child Care Training Series modules are being processed by the Office of Early Care and Education - *no longer by The Nevada Registry*. **Please mail your completed modules to: Connie Zeller • Office of Early Care and Education • 1020 Ruby Vista Drive, Ste. 101 • Elko, NV 89801.** If you have a module-related question, please email Connie Zeller at czeller@dwss.nv.gov. *Please keep in mind that the Registry is no longer able to answer module-specific questions.* Modules mailed to the Registry will be forwarded to the Office of Early Care and Education and will result in a delay in processing of your module. Thank you for your patience and cooperation!

TRAINER CRITERIA

In an effort to continue to build a comprehensive training approval system that increases the consistency of training content and trainer qualifications across the state, the Registry has been charged with the task of creating a second set of training approval criteria for trainers. What this means is that in the future, in addition to meeting the established training approval criteria for CONTENT, trainers will also be required to meet pre-determined TRAINER criteria (based on the education and experience of the trainer). This criteria will be developed over the course of the next several years. Please stay tuned to the Registry's website for the latest details regarding the development of trainer criteria.

Attention REGISTRY PARTICIPANTS

NEW Scanning System

In an effort to prepare for future program growth, Registry staff began the process of scanning all Career Development files in June 2007. As a result, Career Ladder participants may be contacted if higher quality copies of documentation are needed. The next time you renew, please be sure to submit quality, legible documentation to our office. Thank you!

What's My Registry ID#?

Each Career Ladder participant is issued a unique identifying number - a Registry ID# - upon initial application with the Registry. This number can be located at the bottom of your *Certificate of Achievement* and is also printed on your Membership Card. *Registry ID numbers are not Career Ladder levels!* Your ID number verifies that you are a participant of the Registry; your certificate expiration date indicates whether you are an *active* member.

To show our thanks for being a part of the Registry, we have randomly selected the Registry ID numbers below that belong to participants who have current *Certificates of Achievement*. If your Registry ID number is listed, you must call the Registry office at 800-259-1906 or 775-448-5275 **by November 15, 2007** to claim a free gift - a box of classroom materials valued at approximately \$50 each! We thank all of you who have remained active with the Registry. Your participation makes our program successful!

Congratulations to the following individuals!

Registry ID#s: 390, 919, 1139, 1167, 1363

Make sure your certificate doesn't expire. Your number could appear in the next newsletter!



Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. Albert Einstein



Contact Information

680 S. Rock Boulevard

Reno, NV 89502

Phone: (775) 448-5275

Toll Free: (800) 259-1906

Fax: (775) 448-5279

Email: nevadaregistry@washoe.k12.nv.us

Visit us on the web!
www.nevadaregistry.org

Fall 2007 Membership Newsletter

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Reno, NV 89502

