



QUARTER 6
PIP 5.1.5
Clark



Department of Family Services

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Lisa Ruiz Lee, Director • Paula Hammack, Assistant Director

June 1, 2012

Dear Foster Parents:

Clark County Department of Family Services (Department) recognizes that foster parenting is filled with many challenges and opportunities while you are providing a safe and secure home for a child and navigating a complex foster care system. We also know that many foster parents have become skilled, valued partners who parent, nurture and advocate for children in their care, and who mentor and support the child's birth parents. These foster parent champions are an excellent resource for new and existing foster families to support them in their role and assist them in the development of their care and advocacy skills.

In an effort to provide support to licensed foster parents, the Department has created a designated e-mail address to make it easy for you to ask questions and have an answer from our foster parent support network as soon as possible. A foster parent champion will answer your e-mailed questions about foster parent roles and responsibilities and how to work collaboratively within the foster care system. If a computer is not available, you may also call the foster parent support network's phone line to leave a message and a foster parent champion will call you back during normal business hours.

E-mail Us Your Questions
dfs.ccfp.support@ClarkCountyNV.gov

Call & Leave Us A Message
 (702) 455-1149

The child's case manager will continue to be your primary contact for your foster child's safety, permanency and well-being needs or in the event of a crisis. We are pleased to be able to provide these supportive network services and hope you will find them beneficial in your foster parent role.

Sincerely,

Lisa Ruiz-Lee
 Director



QUARTER 6
PIP 5.1.5
Washoe

Report #5
Washoe County Department of Social Services
Resubmitted Action Item

5.1.5 Identify foster parent champions and disseminate contact information to foster parents

Sierra Association of Foster Parents (SAFF) Executive Director, Joseph Galata, responded to a request for information and reported the following foster parents received training and have provided mentoring services through SAFF. Mr. Galata further reported some of the identified foster parents (indicated by *) received compensation through a grant from the Nevada Supreme Court to provide mentoring services. Mr. Galata informed WCDSS that each person listed was contacted and approved release of their phone numbers in this report. Mr. Galata is an active participant in our Model Court meetings and program policy development across the Division.

Mr. Galata actively reaches out to foster parents through previously described newsletter and works with WCDSS to identify new foster parents. Local community sponsors such as the Reno Rodeo Association provide "incentives" for foster parents to gather including a denim drive providing jeans, underwear and socks to foster children, holiday parties, and fun events further providing Mr. Galata an opportunity for SAFF to meet foster parents and encourage active involvement in SAFF.

(All area codes are 775 unless otherwise noted.)

FP Name	Phone Number	Comments
Rose Santos*	546-1051	
Dianne Wissman	742-4368	teen girls
Yvette Clark	972-5164	working with birth parents
Anicia Beckwith	342-9059	
Cindy Johnson*	359-5309	
Frank & Nancy Irwin	230-0092	grandparents fostering grandchildren
Jody Steen	636-1190	single parents and head of households
Mark Gallegos	971-9051	gay men fostering children
Patty Steen	626-6912	
Dee Klyman	972-8866	disabled children
Gilberto Ramierez	376-4475	Spanish speaking parents
Marvin Otzay	232-9913	African American parents
Tina Atkinson*	846-1629	

In addition, the Department also has 2.5 FTE Foster Parent Training and Support Specialist positions and 3 FTE Foster Parent Liaison positions. These positions function to provide direct support and communication to individual foster parents specific to challenges they are experiencing to address prevention of disruption to meet the individual needs of children in placement. The positions provide overall communication specific to the Division and their roles as foster parents and response for in home services to include clinical assistance and specialized training.