



nvaiecmh
Nevada Association for Infant
& Early Childhood Mental Health

Giving children roots to
grow and wings to fly.

DECEMBER 2024 NEWS



Here at the Association, we have been busy with behind-the-scenes preparations to bring to our members and supporters in 2025. In January, we will launch

Nevada Early Relational Health Connect:
the NV-AIECMH monthly brief that invites you to connect with us

The new monthly publication will be a more concise version of our newsletter. For our members, we will publish monthly in-depth articles and information. If you haven't yet renewed your membership, now is the time to do so! If you decide not to renew, your membership will end on December 31st, and we will miss you!

Our wish to all our readers is for you to have a **peaceful and joyful holiday season**. We hope you find time to **rest and connect** with the people you love the most. This time of year can become overwhelming for many of us. We hope you remember that all our feelings are important to acknowledge – even the prickly or painful ones. **Seeking coregulation with your closest people** is a great way to work through every emotion that arises during the season. My favorites are a 30 second hug and peppermint candies!

HappyHolidays to All,

Jacquelyn Kleinedler, MFT, LADC
NV-AIECMH Executive Director

**IN THIS
ISSUE**
»»»

**December
Essentials**

**Professional
Development**

**Competency
Guidelines
Spotlight**

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DECEMBER ESSENTIALS



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



The end-of-year holiday season is upon us! The month of December is synonymous with Christmas festivities and Santa Claus for the little ones, but it also includes other major cultural and religious holidays around the world. Here are a few at a glance: (click icons for more info)

St. Nicholas Day (December 6th)- also commonly known as the Feast of St. Nicholas, it's widely celebrated in Europe. To celebrate, have a feast with your family and friends.



Hanukkah (December 7th-15th)- known as the Festival of Lights, it's an eight-day Jewish holiday celebration remembering the tale of the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem.



Yule (December 21st-Jan 1st) - a classic winter festival celebrating the winter solstice and marking the year's shortest day and longest night. Yule is about recognizing nature's cycles and welcoming back the sun's light, symbolizing hope, renewal, and the promise of brighter days.



Kwanzaa (December 26th) - honoring African heritage and African-American culture. Families gather to light the Kinara, with festivities including storytelling, music, dance, poetry, and sharing traditional African dishes. It's a time for families to unite, strengthen bonds, and contemplate the values most important to them and their community.



RING IN THE NEW YEAR

Why do we celebrate New Year's Eve and New Year's Day? The celebration provides us the chance to celebrate having made it through another year. New Year's traditions include everything from toasting with champagne, festive countdown parties, the iconic ball drop at Times Square. and eating foods that bring good luck. Making resolutions is also a widespread tradition on New Year's Eve. Many people take time to reflect on the past year and set goals or make commitments for self-improvement. The New Year is celebrated in many different ways all around the world.

Click [here](#) for more New Year's traditions.



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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES



DATE	PROGRAM	HOSTED BY
JAN 9	NV-AIECMH Office Hours Endorsement & Membership	NV-AIECMH
JAN 13-15	DC: 0-5 Clinical Training	Nevada Division of Child & Family Services
JAN 15	Innovative Approaches to Resilience-Building & Trauma- Informed Youth Interactions	Adam's Place Education & Training Marketplace
JAN 22	NV-AIECMH Office Hours Endorsement & Membership	NV-AIECMH
Opportunity	BeHERE NV	Advanced Scholarship (information on next page)
Opportunity	University of Nevada Reno Research Opportunity	UNR Human Development & Family Science
ONGOING	CARA Trainings	Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health
ONGOING	Free Online IECMH Modules	Virginia Commonwealth University
ONGOING	DCFS: Early Childhood Service Intensity Instrument (ECSII): SELF- PACED ONLINE COURSE	CASAT Learning School of Public Health, UNR

[CLICK HERE](#)



Click the date for more information and registration details for each program.

DC: 0-5 CLINICAL TRAINING

DATES: January 13, 14 & 15, 2025

TIME: 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION: NDA 405 S 21st Sparks, NV 89431

PRESENTERS: Krisann Alvarez, Ph.D., IECMH-E®,
Ann Polakowski, LCSW, IECMH-E® &
Jenna Grant, LCSW, IMH-E®



The DC:0-5™ Diagnostic Classification of Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of Infancy and Early Childhood is the first developmentally based system for diagnosing mental health and developmental disorders in children 0-72 months. The DC:0-5 is designed for use by individuals across disciplines to identify concerns, areas of intervention, and to communicate clinical observations between professionals.

This training is designed for advanced practitioners such as mental health clinicians, psychiatrists, pediatricians, nurse practitioners and early intervention specialists whose work with infants, young children, and their families involves assessment, diagnosis, intervention and treatment.

Participants will learn about the multi-axial system within the DC:0-5 and will be prepared to utilize the manual in their practice.

Registration is limited and will close on January 6, 2025. Please direct any questions to sbaranowski@dcfs.nv.gov



FREE REGISTRATION



CEUs approved for Social Workers, Psychologists, Marriage and Family Therapists and Clinical Professional Counselors. This training meets some of the Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Core Competencies. Access to the Competency Guidelines and I/EC MH Endorsement® is available to members of the Nevada Association for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health. To learn more, visit www.nvaiecmh.org

Important Notice: This training is clinical in nature. While clinical licensure is not required for participation, attendees should understand that completing this training alone does not qualify them to make or submit diagnoses.

THOUGHT ABOUT A MASTER'S DEGREE?



The **BeHERE NV Advanced Scholarship** could help you achieve that next step!



Eligibility for Scholarship

Bachelor's Degree Completed & at least one year post-graduation.



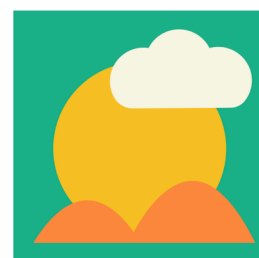
Work Experience in a Behavioral Health role or Setting.*1



Acceptance to an approved Graduate School Behavioral Health Program. *2



Desire to Continue working in Nevada upon completing your Master's Degree.



Criteria for Scholarship

- ***1:** Applicants must have current or previous work experience in Nevada, including (but not limited to): K-12 setting, a State of Nevada department or agency, a federally qualified health center (FQHC), a certified community behavioral health center (CCBHC), Department of Corrections, or behavioral health treatment agency.
- ***2:** A potential scholarship recipient needs to be accepted as a **full-time** student in one of these Master's programs for the 2025-2026 Academic School Year:
 - [UNLV Couple and Family Therapy](#)
 - [UNLV Clinical Mental Health Counseling or School Counseling](#)
 - [UNLV School of Social Work](#)
 - [UNR Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling](#)
 - [UNR School of Social Work](#)
 - [UNR Clinical Mental Health Counseling](#)

*Applicants are responsible for any application costs of the graduate program.

What's Covered?

- One academic year of **tuition and fees**: Fall 2025, Spring 2026, and Summer 2026.
- Each academic program listed above will identify **2** students to receive the BeHERE NV Advanced Scholarship. Note: Not every applicant is guaranteed a scholarship.

Mission: The Behavioral Health Education, Retention, and Expansion Network of Nevada (BeHERE NV) is a new workforce development initiative to increase the number of providers of behavioral health care in Nevada. BeHERE NV will focus on growing a diverse mental health workforce to care for Nevada's diverse population.

Questions? Email us at info@beherenv.org



RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY!

A team of researchers from the University of Nevada, Reno, research level certified in the Parent-Child Interaction Feeding Scale, is conducting a study to explore the relationship between home visit quality and parent-child interaction during feeding.

They are seeking home visitors from all home visiting models to participate in this study.

Participation involves:

1. Completing a short survey.
2. Selecting a family on your caseload with a child aged 2–10 months.
3. Submitting a video in English of a home visit and a video in English of a parent-child feeding interaction.

As a thank-you for your participation:

- Home visitors will receive a \$45.00 gift card.
- Families will receive a \$25.00 gift card.

If you're interested in participating, please click [HERE](#)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

- Oluwatobi Mogbojuri at omogbojuri@unr.edu or 309-997-0026
- Bridget Walsh, Ph.D. at bridgetw@unr.edu or 775-784-7007

Thank you for considering this opportunity. They are happy to set up a Zoom meeting with individuals or programs.

CARA TRAININGS

Nevada's Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) is committed to collaboration that benefits those experiencing substance use disorder and their dependents. The Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) requires a CARA Plan of Care to be developed when an infant has been identified by a health care provider as affected by substance abuse or as having withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure or Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). The purpose of the CARA Plan of Care is to identify the needs and services for the infant and family. DPBH has developed the following training to support implementation of CARA in Nevada.

Training 1: CARA Plan of Care Overview

This training will help you to understand who plays a role in implementing CARA Plans of Care as well as the background and best practices for implementing Plans of Care.

Training 2: Roundtable Discussion

Training 2 addresses common questions when implementing the CARA Plan of Care in Nevada. In a roundtable discussion format based on case scenarios, experts provide their perspectives on questions received from the Perinatal Health Initiative CARA Workgroup.

Training 3: Navigating Resources

The purpose of this training is to assist child welfare, social services, substance use disorder treatment, public health and mental health agencies, hospitals with labor and delivery units, and providers of maternal and child health services to identify services and resources for families impacted by problematic substance use.

Training 4: Completing Plans of Care in Openbeds

This training covers how to enter a Plan of Care into the OpenBeds system.

For more information on Federal Legislation and State of Nevada Regulations on CARA Plans of Care please view the resources and materials linked in the QR Code



SCAN ME

COMPETENCY GUIDELINES

The Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH) competency guidelines are designed to guide and inform a professional's way of thinking, doing, and being with infants, young children, and their families. There are 8 areas of expertise:

- Theoretical foundations
- Laws, regulation, and agency policy
- Systems expertise
- Direct service skills
- Working with others
- Communicating
- Thinking
- Reflection

This month's focus is **Systems Expertise**

Systems expertise is crucial for infant and early childhood mental health professionals as it enables them to provide comprehensive and coordinated care by understanding and navigating the various systems that impact a child's development. It also empowers them to advocate for policy changes, efficiently utilize resources, and collaborate effectively with other professionals and agencies. (MI-AIMH Copyright© 2024)

Competency Areas:

- Service Delivery Systems
- Community Resources

Join
US

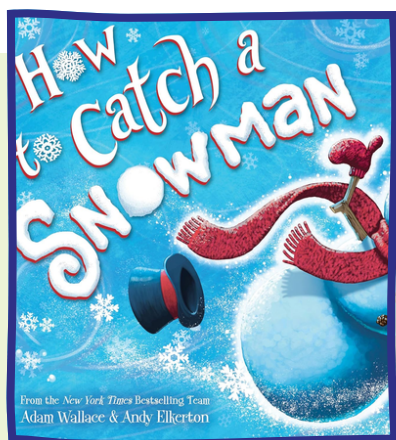
Join us for **Virtual Office Hours!** These drop-in meetings allow you to connect & chat with NV-AIECMH staff to talk about the Association, the journey to Endorsement®, the IECMH Competencies, and membership. Dates & details are available at nvaiecmh.org/events



WHAT WE'RE READING

Imagine A World by Leigha Huggins & Heather Lean

If you let your heart run wild and free, what could you Imagine your world to be? Create, imagine, and explore- it's the book you've been waiting for! Children can contemplate the kind of world they wish to live in. Imagine A World, invites little creators and their caregivers on an inspiring journey to create their own living masterpieces.



FOR READING TOGETHER

How to Catch a Snowman by Adam Wallace & Andy Elkerton

Get ready for snow much fun as you travel through a winter wonderland with running, skating, and bouncing through trap after trap to catch the snowman and claim the winning prize. Will the snowman teach our heroes a lesson they'll never forget? Who snows! Filled with silly rhymes, fun art, and STEAM connections perfect for families to enjoy this winter.

SCIENCE SAYS...

Supportive Relationships and Active Skill-Building Strengthen the Foundations of Resilience

Source: Center on the Developing Child - Harvard University

Science shows that children who do well despite serious hardship have had at least one stable and committed relationship with a supportive adult. These relationships buffer children from developmental disruption and help them develop “resilience,” or the set of skills needed to respond to adversity and thrive. The National Scientific Council on the Developing Child explains how protective factors in a child's social environment and body interact to produce resilience, and discusses strategies that promote healthy development in the face of trauma.

[Learn more in the full article from the Center on the Developing Child here](#)



NVAIECMH MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

NVAIECMH Membership early renewal incentive discount ends December 31st! Don't miss out on your chance to save!

Membership benefits include connection and networking opportunities, information and research, NVAIECMH professional development opportunities at reduced rates and priority enrollments, Reflective Practice, access and use of the Competency Guidelines, and access to Endorsement® Journey.

Starting January 1, 2025, NVAIECMH free memberships provided for 2024, will no longer be valid. Access to your Infohub accounts as well as Endorsement® applications will only be available with an active NVAIECMH membership. Those that are currently Endorsed® must also maintain NVAIECMH memberships to remain valid. NVAIECMH monthly newsletters will also be available to active members.

Through your membership, you help advance the profession of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health in Nevada and around the country.

Membership Fees

Renewal
\$150 by 12/31

Membership Renewal
\$65 by 12/31

Membership Renewal
\$30 by 12/31

3 Year Option

1 Year Option

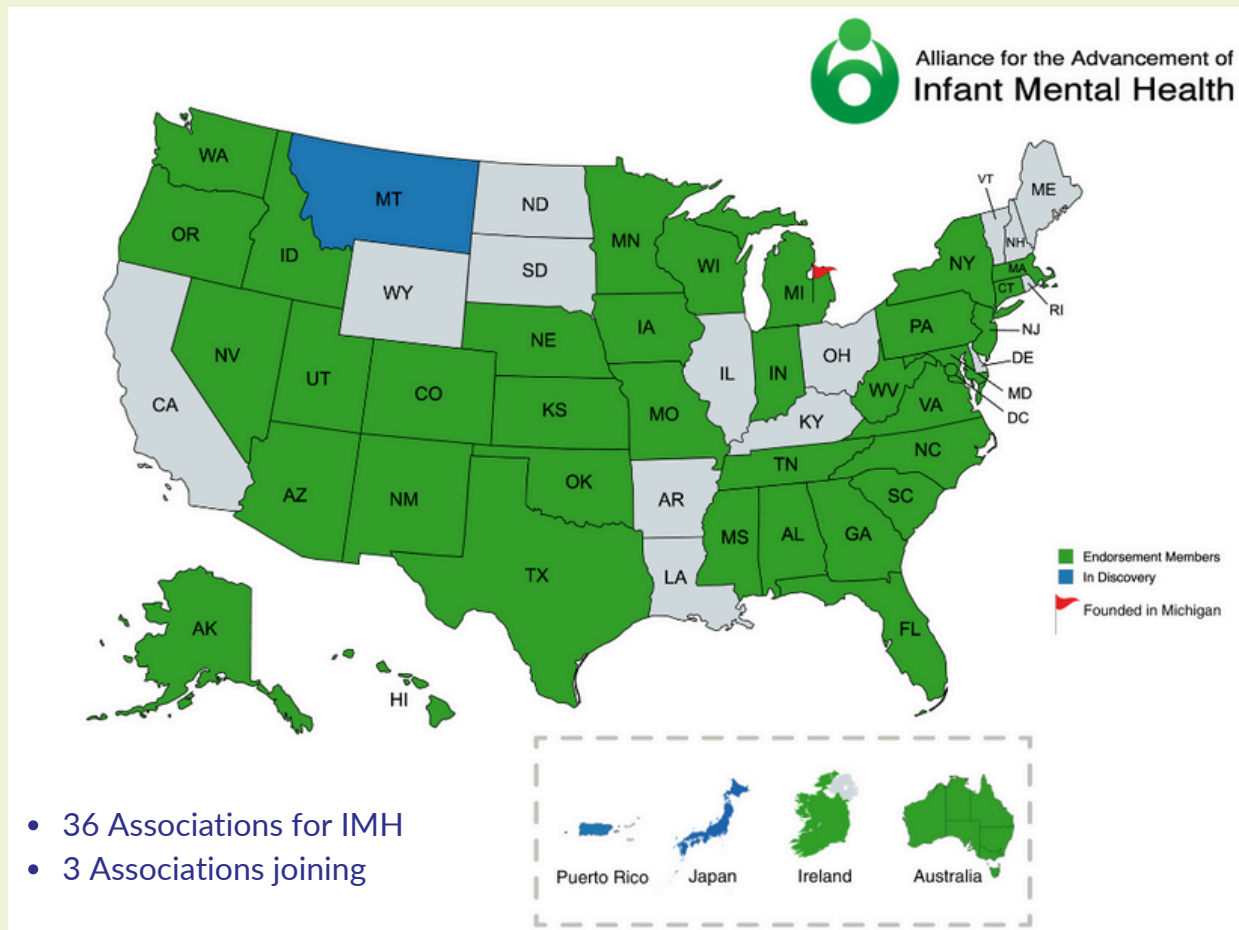
1 Year Option for
Students

New Membership
\$175

New Membership
\$75

Membership
\$45

ABOUT NV-AIECMH



NV-AIECMH is the only statewide professional association that supports, trains, and connects the cross-system workforce that supports and promotes the healthy social emotional development of Nevada's children from the prenatal period through age six.

Nevada is one of **36** state associations in the U.S. to provide the Endorsement for Culturally Sensitive, Relationship-Focused Practice Promoting Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health®. Each association is a member of the Alliance for the Advancement of Infant Mental Health. Learn more about the Alliance [HERE](#).