



**nvaiecmh**  
Nevada Association for Infant  
& Early Childhood Mental Health

Giving children roots to  
grow and wings to fly.

## FEBRUARY 2024 NEWS

February is a month worth celebrating!

February is Black History Month. For us at the Association, we are taking time to question some of the history we were taught and learn new histories in our communities that have been lost or buried or ignored.

To mark Valentine's Day this year, we are celebrating all the emotions we are capable of experiencing. Join us in this celebration by checking out what we are reading and watching this month on page 6.

We are so thrilled to celebrate that Association Membership is now available to all professionals **at no cost** through December 2024! Our Endorsement Kickoff featured a heartfelt keynote address from our dear friend and colleague Alison Peak, LCSW, IMH-E. She highlighted the fact that every single one of us has an important role. Learning about infant and early childhood mental health core competencies prepares us to prioritize early relational health in our work with babies, young children, and their families. Drop in to our **Office Hours** and learn more about where you fit and to ask questions [see page 4 for dates & details].

As you move through the month of February, take time to notice the tiny joy all around us - and celebrate with us. Welcome to the Family.

Jacquelyn Kleinedler, MFT, LADC  
NV-AIECMH Executive Director

**NV-AIECMH**  
**MEMBERSHIP**

**JOIN NOW**



NV-AIECMH Membership is available at **no-cost** to all Nevada professionals in 2024! Endorsement®. Networking. Research. Resources. Training opportunities. And more!

# IECMH ENDORSEMENT® KICK-OFF EVENT



Celebrating Nevada's  
**FIRST** IECMH Endorsed  
Professionals!

◀◀◀ **7** professionals are now  
IECMH Endorsed in  
Nevada. Join us in  
celebrating them.

- Krisann Alvarez - IMH Mentor Clinical
- Melissa Burnham - IMH Mentor Research Faculty
- Maria Jake - IMH Family Associate
- Jennifer Kellogg - IMH Family Specialist
- Ann Polakowski - IMH Mentor Clinical
- Angela Watlington - IMH Family Specialist
- Tricia Woodliff - IMH Mentor Clinical



▲▲ Alison Peak, LCSW, IMH-E from Tennessee, and a Board Member of the Alliance, was the keynote speaker. Her message of "Welcome to the Family" highlighted the importance of relationships in infant and early childhood mental health. It takes **all** of us to do this important work. NV-AIECMH Executive Director **Jacquelyn Kleinedler** looks on.



**112** Professionals from across Nevada joined together in Reno, Las Vegas, and virtual viewing locations on Thursday January 25, 2024 to celebrate Nevada's launch of Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health Endorsement.



## »»» FAMILY VOICES

NV-AIECMH exists to support those who work with families of little ones. The Association intentionally sought families willing to share their experiences, their needs, and their hopes for a stronger future for Nevada's babies and toddlers. At the Endorsement Kick-Off event in January, we connected with 5 families statewide to hear their voices. We asked: "What do you need from us as providers?" Their feedback below will be a guiding voice as the NV-AIECMH Board of Directors and staff continue to build strong roots in Nevada.

- Keep moving forward in growth and sustainability
- Never stop working on communication
- Name and breakdown barriers families experience in accessing care
- Expand our reach to other professionals who aren't in the room
- Engage in awareness and promotion activities for parents and caregivers
- Change the system so families don't have to jump through so many hoops to access care
- Promote trauma informed training and attachment training
- Listen to and value what parents and caregivers have to say about their children
- Bring attention to the gaps in care, like post adoption support and work with our communities to fill those gaps
- Keep building networks of support and care

## COMING SOON ...



### **ECHO Learning**

Coming March 2024: Nevada ECHO for IECMH. ECHO [Extension for Community Health Outcomes] is a virtual learning community for IECMH professionals. ECHO trainings support the implementation of best practices in the field and all training sessions are tied to Endorsement® competencies. Watch for more information and registration details in the coming weeks.

### **Reflective Practice Collaborative**

This learning collaborative includes 6 monthly learning blocks, followed by 6 Reflective Consultation calls. Participants will receive support on RSC techniques and expand their reflective supervision skills. After this learning collaborative, participants will have the skills to provide reflective consultation for others.

**Watch for more details in the March Newsletter!**




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# INFANT/EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH ENDORSEMENT®


The Endorsement for Culturally Sensitive, Relationship-Focused Practice Promoting Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health® is an internationally-recognized credential that highlights and verifies that professionals have specialized training and experience in culturally responsive and reflective skills to promote early relational health, making life better for babies and their families.



**PROMOTION**  
**FAMILY ASSOCIATE**  
Promote the healthy growth and development and strong relationships.



**PREVENTION**  
**FAMILY SPECIALIST**  
Assess the social emotional needs of children and caregiver(s). Provide support & connect to resources.



**CLINICAL INTERVENTION**  
**MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST**  
Provide direct clinical interventions to support interruptions to parent/child relationship.



**LEADERSHIP**  
**MENTAL HEALTH MENTOR**  
Advocate and contribute to program change and professional systems to support workforce development.



**SUPERVISION/CONSULTATION**  
**ENDORSED REFLECTIVE SUPERVISOR**  
Provide qualifying reflective supervision for Family Specialist and/or Mental Health Specialist endorsees & applicants.



**Learn More** 

Join virtual drop-in **Office Hours** to talk with staff about the Association, learn about the journey to Endorsement®, and to explore membership. No registration required.

**Office Hours** 

**WED FEB 21:** 12pm - 1pm  
**FRI FEB 23:** 12pm - 1pm  
**THU FEB 29:** 12pm - 1pm  
**MON MAR 4:** 9am - 10am  
**FRI MAR 15:** 12pm - 1pm  
**THU MAR 21:** 12pm - 1pm  
**WED MAR 27:** 8am - 9am  
**MON APR 4:** 12pm - 1pm

**Join Zoom via this LINK**  
Meeting ID: 657 966 9455  
Passcode: E0M534

**Questions?** 

**Endorsement Coordinator**  
endorsement@nvaiecmh.org



nvaiecmh

**Grow with us by taking these first 3 steps:**

## 1 Become a NV-AIECMH Member:

1. Scan the QR code on the reverse page.
2. Select your membership type: Student/Retiree, Professional, Parent.
3. Enter your contact information.
4. Select NEXT.
5. Complete registration form, billing details, and review accept our terms and conditions. [Note: billing details will remain blank due to introductory offer; membership fees are waived until Jan. 2025!]
6. Press JOIN!
7. Check your email for instructions to create a username and password for the members-only *Info Hub*.

## 2 Connect to the Info Hub:

1. Check your email.
2. Follow the link provided to the NV-AIECMH Info Hub and create your account.
3. Login and look around.
4. Register for Endorsement!

## 3 Register for Endorsement®:

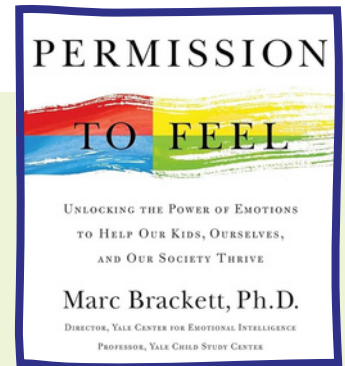
1. Log in to the NV-AIECMH Info Hub; from left menu select **EASy Endorsement System**.
2. Once on the NV-AIECMH EASy website, select "Register" if this is your first time.
3. Select "Submit" to complete your registration; you will be directed to the "shopping cart".
4. Use coupon code "introductory24" to *waive* your registration fee.
5. Within 24 hours, your application will be approved.
6. Check your email for a temporary login.
7. Use temporary login to log into EASy.
8. Begin building your application!



## WHAT WE'RE READING

### **Permission to Feel: Unlocking the Power of Emotions to Help Our Kids, Ourselves, and Our Society Thrive**

by Marc Brackett, PhD



Permission to Feel is like a roadmap for emotional intelligence. This book offers practical tools for understanding and handling our emotions, even the tough ones.

## WHAT WE'RE WATCHING



Disney's animated film **Inside Out** is a favorite of many early childhood professionals. This movie aims to help young people understand and discuss their complex emotions by acknowledging and expressing their feelings. Parents and caregivers can reinforce that each emotion plays a role in shaping who we are, while also promoting empathy and self-awareness.

## WHAT WE'RE WATCHING

### **Stamped from the Beginning [Netflix]**

"Stamped from the Beginning" is a documentary based on the book "Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America" by Ibram X. Kendi. The film examines the history of racist ideas in America, tracing their origins and impact from the colonial period to the present day. It explores how these ideas have been used to justify slavery, segregation, and other forms of racial discrimination, and how they continue to shape American society today. [Viewer discretion required; not appropriate for children]



## HELP US GROW!

Help NV-AIECMH expand our reach to professionals throughout the state.

1

Forward this NV-AIECMH Newsletter to a colleague.  
Sign up to receive eUpdates from NV-AIECMH.



2

Connect with NV-AIECMH on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.  
Like. Comment. Share. Invite Friends.



3

Join NV-AIECMH as a member.

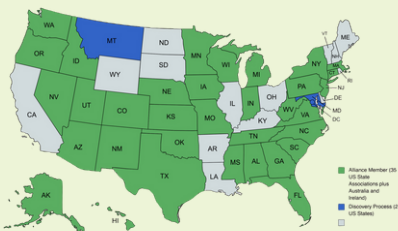


Attend Office Hours to learn more about member benefits & Endorsement.



NV-AIECMH is currently accepting self-nominations for new board members. Contact Jacquelyn Kleinedler, Executive Director at [jkleinedler@nvaiecmh.org](mailto:jkleinedler@nvaiecmh.org) for more information.

## 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 **35** 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](#).