



nvaiecmh
Nevada Association for Infant
& Early Childhood Mental Health

Giving children roots to
grow and wings to fly.

JANUARY 2025 MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

In the quiet of January after a busy holiday season, it can be very common to experience winter blues. As we settle into midwinter and begin a new year, here at the Association, we are making time to breathe deeply, rest when we need to, and attend to our close relationships. We are moving into a time of great uncertainty, and I am reminded of an observation by Dr. Daniel Siegel:

As children develop, their brains 'mirror' their parent's brain. In other words, the parent's own growth and development, or lack of those, impact the child's brain. As parents become more aware and emotionally healthy, their children reap the rewards and move toward health as well.

Every season of challenge, provides us with opportunities to grow. We are looking forward to growing with you.

We are trying something different in 2025. We have a robust newsletter to share with our members (that's you!) and will be taking a deeper dive throughout the year into sharing information and resources with you. If you come across something to share, drop us a line at info@nvaiecmh.org.

Be sure to take a moment to log in to your Info Hub. You can find it from our homepage where it says "login." We will begin archiving these newsletters in the resource tab instead of on the website.

Happy New Year!

Jacquelyn Kleinedler, MFT, LADC
NV-AIECMH Executive Director

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WWW.NVAIECMH.ORG

JANUARY

EVENTS



The Nevada Association for Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health celebrates our 1 year Anniversary on January 25th!

Celebrating  **1 YEAR!**

Thank you for being the BEST part of the Association!

Join US 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



National Maternal Health Day is January 25th, 2025
2025's theme is "Know What's at Stake" emphasizing the importance of understanding the risks and challenges associated with maternal health. The day aims to raise awareness about maternal mortality and morbidity, which remain significant issues in the United States.



Martin Luther King Jr. Day is January 20th, 2025

The holiday recognizes the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr., which is January 15, but commemorated on the third Monday in January every year.

More information and resources click [here](#)

Events and to learn more click [here](#)



FOCUS ON MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

With your Association membership, you always have access to the Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Competency Guidelines®. These Guidelines can give you ideas about where to concentrate on expanding your knowledge and skills. Also included in your membership is the registration fee for I/ECMH Endorsement® (processing has a separate cost). Be sure to log in to the Info Hub (from our homepage) to learn more.

COMPETENCY GUIDELINES SPOTLIGHT

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 **Direct Service Skills**.

Direct service skills are vital for infant and early childhood mental health professionals because they enable effective intervention, build trusting relationships, ensure accurate assessment, and provide individualized support. These skills also help in crisis management, parental guidance, and early detection and prevention of mental health issues, all of which are essential for promoting the well-being of children and their families.

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- Competency Areas:
- Life Skills
 - Observation and Listening
 - Responding with Empathy
 - Advocacy
 - Developmental Guidance
 - Intervention/Treatment Planning
 - Reflective Supervision
 - Safety

**MEMBERS ONLY ACCESS
COMPETENCY GUIDELINES**

CLICK HERE



WHAT WE'RE READING

Winter's Gifts by Kaitlin B. Curtice

The tale of a young Potawatomi girl named Dani whose family celebrates the darkest season of the year by treasuring the slowness that winter brings. Dani's schoolmates think it's silly to think that Earth gives us presents, but on a magical snowy day, her family and Creator give Dani the courage to teach her friends about the gifts of winter—resting, remembrance, and gratitude.



FOR READING TOGETHER

The Lights That Dance in the Night by Yuval Zommer

From tiny specks of dust to gleaming rays in the dark, the northern lights travel across the Arctic, uniting every creature in a celebration over land and sea. This story is a wonderful way to explore and learn about the Northern Lights that appear during the winter season. With its heartfelt themes of kinship, curiosity, and the wonders of nature, it's a perfectly cozy story for families to read together.

MOMENTS OF CONNECTION

A World of Differences: The Science of Human Variation Can Drive Early Childhood Policies and Programs to Bigger Impacts

Source: Center on the Developing Child - Harvard University

It is widely accepted that investing in early childhood helps build the foundations of a healthy, productive, and equitable society. Guided by that knowledge, a range of broad-based programs and targeted services make a significant difference for millions of children, yet a closer look at outcome data shows that some benefit greatly, some benefit less, and some not at all. Within this variation lies opportunity. Increasing effects for all children—especially those who currently benefit the least—may be the key that unlocks greater impacts at scale.



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

University of Nevada Reno Research

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 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.

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 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.

Our 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





Supporting Healthcare Providers **Who Care for Nevada's Underserved**

What is Nevada HEAL?

The Nevada Health Equity & Loan Assistance (HEAL) Program was launched by the Nevada Treasury in 2025 to reward healthcare providers who choose to practice in Nevada. The Nevada HEAL Program provides student loan repayment up to \$120,000 to providers who commit to at least 5 years of clinical practice in an eligible Nevada community. See www.NevadaTreasurer.gov/HEAL for details.

Who qualifies?

- Those who work in an eligible healthcare profession
- Providers licensed/certified/registered to practice in Nevada
- Those who commit to practicing in Nevada's underserved communities for at least 5 years

How to apply?

For program details, eligibility and application instructions, visit [**www.NevadaTreasurer.gov/HEAL**](http://www.NevadaTreasurer.gov/HEAL)

How are payments made?

- Total amount of loan repayment will range from \$15,000–\$120,000, depending on provider type
- Payments are made after the completed year of service and disbursed in equal installments over 5 years
- Payments go directly to the servicer of a provider's student education loans (the program will not pay for educational loans that have been paid off)
- Funds are limited

Funding prioritized for:

- Primary care, sexual/reproductive health and behavioral health providers
- Providers serving patients on Medicare, Medicaid or CHIP
- Providers serving patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Bilingual providers

What is an underserved community?

- Rural counties (all but Washoe and Clark in Nevada)
- Qualified low-income census tracts
- Census tracts that score high on the CDC's Social Vulnerability Index
- Communities with 20%+ of households non-English proficient
- Tribal communities (colonies and reservations)
- Areas that have been subjected to historic redlining, segregation and other discriminatory practices.



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

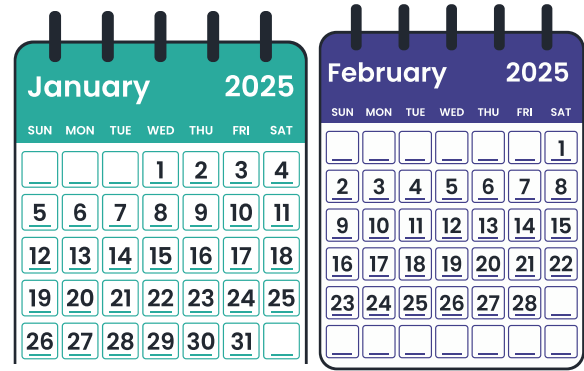


SCAN ME



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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES



DATE	PROGRAM	HOSTED BY
JAN 22	NV-AIECMH Office Hours Endorsement & Membership	NV-AIECMH
JAN 24	Reflective Journey Part 1: Getting Started in RSC	Alliance for the Advancement of Infant Mental Health
FEB 5	NV-AIECMH Office Hours Endorsement & Membership	NV-AIECMH
FEB 20	NV-AIECMH Office Hours Endorsement & Membership	NV-AIECMH
FEB 21	Free Webinar Endorsement: Capturing Your Expertise & Advancing Your Impact	Alliance for the Advancement of Infant Mental Health
ONGOING	ACEs, Resilience, & Secondary Traumatic Stress for Helping Professionals(self paced online)	CASAT Learning School of Public Health, UNR
ONGOING	Free Online IECMH Modules	Virginia Commonwealth University
ONGOING	DCFS: Early Childhood Service Intensity Instrument (ECSII)	CASAT Learning School of Public Health, UNR
<u>MEMBERSHIP</u> <u>BENEFIT!</u>	AIMHs Competency-Informed Training Hub	Alliance for the Advancement of Infant Mental Health

CLICK HERE

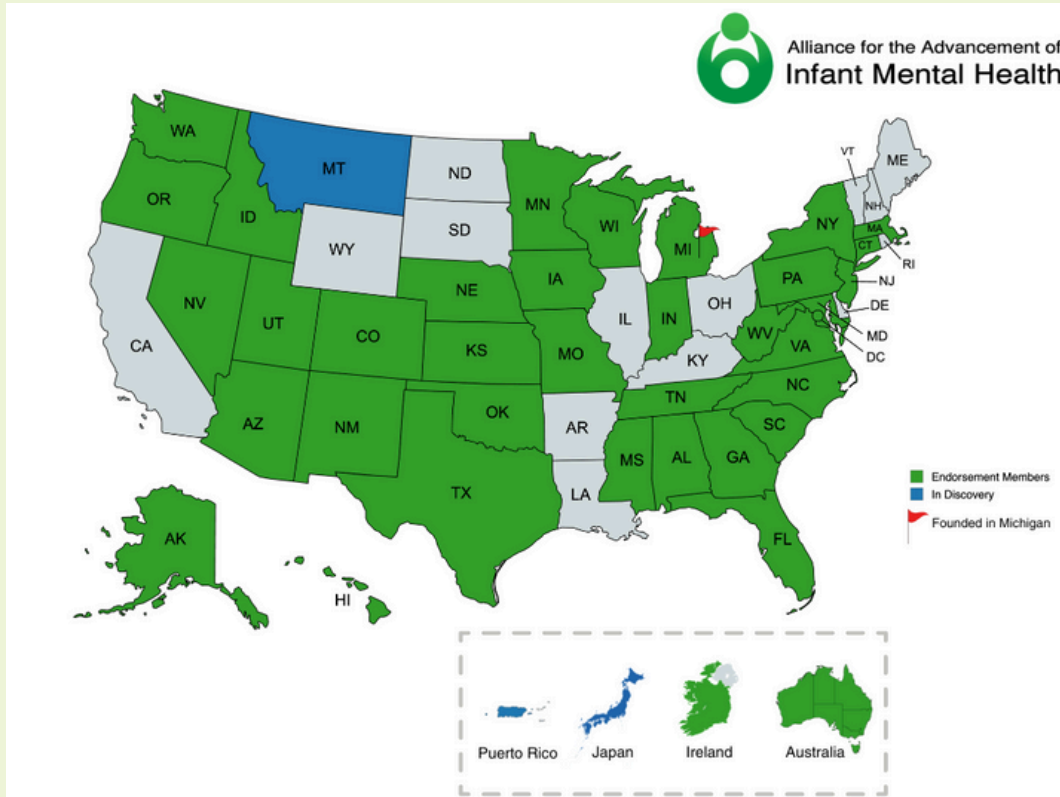


Click the date for more information and registration details for each program.



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ABOUT NV-AIECMH



- 36 Associations for IMH.
- 3 Associations joining

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](#).