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State of Nevada  
Department of Health and Human Services

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**Nevada Developmental Services**

Aging and Disability Services Division  
Dena Schmidt, Administrator





# SIERRA REGIONAL CENTER

## Aging & Disability Services Division (ADSD)

Sierra Regional Center is a State agency that provides support and services to individuals of all ages with an Intellectual or Developmental Disability. Through the services and supports we offer individuals have the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to live a more independent, dignified and meaningful life.

# Nevada Regional Centers

An individual, or a member of their support network can contact their local Regional Center Intake Department to apply for services.

- **Sierra Regional Center** – covering Washoe County
- **Rural Regional Center** – covering all of rural Nevada, with office locations in:
  - Carson City
  - Elko
  - Fallon
  - Fernley
  - Gardnerville
  - Winnemucca
  - Mesquite
  - Pahrump
- **Desert Regional Center** – covering Clark County







# How to Apply for Services

- ❖ Intake enquire can be done by Telephone, Email, Fax, Walk –In, PR/Application Events, Mail or Web Inquires
- ❖ The Intake specialist assists the applicant to gather information to determine if the individual meets eligibility requirements. Individuals apply at a regional center based on the area in which they live.
- ❖ Once the information is gathered, it is reviewed by an Eligibility Committee.
- ❖ If needed, psychological testing and assessment can be done by the Regional Center to inform eligibility.



# Eligibility Criteria for Developmental Services in Nevada



**ELIGIBILITY** - A person may qualify for Developmental Services from the State of Nevada if she or he is a legal resident of Nevada and has a confirmed diagnosis of:

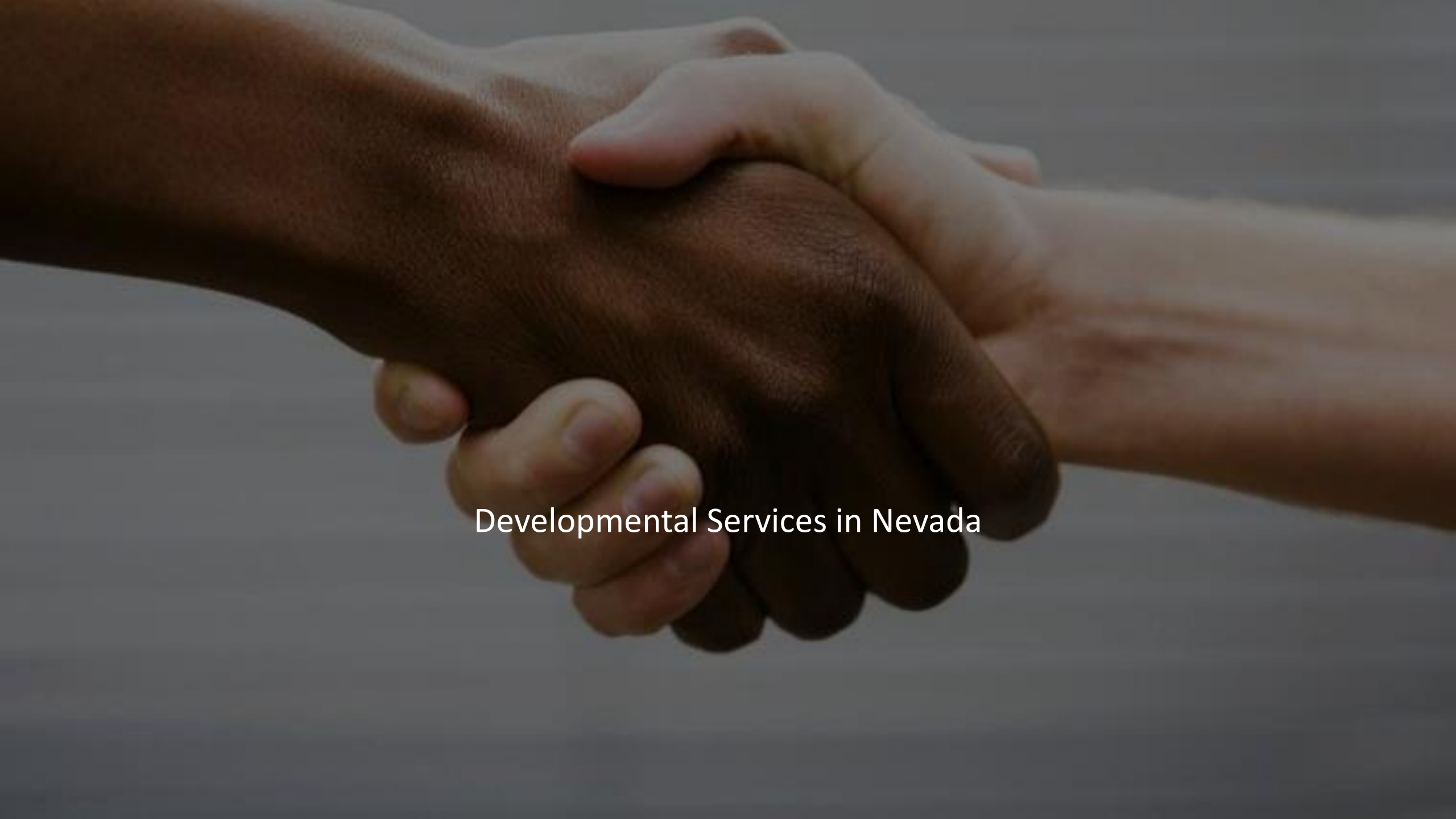
- **Developmental Delay (under 6 years of age)**
- **Developmental Disability e.g.:**
  - Autism Spectrum Disorder**
  - Cerebral Palsy**
  - Down Syndrome**
  - Genetic/Neurological**
  - Fetal Alcohol Spectrum**
- **Intellectual Disability**



# Substantial Functional Limitations

- Determination of substantial functional limitations is based on the result of an assessment of adaptive behavior
- Substantial functional limitations must occur in the following areas of major life activity:
  - Self care
  - Understanding and use of language
  - Self direction
  - Mobility
  - Learning
  - Capacity of Independent Living



A close-up photograph of two hands shaking. The hand on the left is dark-skinned, and the hand on the right is light-skinned. They are firmly grasped in a handshake, symbolizing agreement or partnership. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

Developmental Services in Nevada



# Services Available

Service Coordination / Targeted Case Management (TCM)

Supported Living Arrangements (SLA) / Transportation

Jobs and Day Training (JDT)

Quality Assurance (QA)

Family Preservation Program (FPP)

Respite

Purchase of Service (POS)

Self-Directed Family Support Arrangement (FI)

Psych Services

Nursing Services

# Service Coordination

- Everyone is assigned a Service Coordinator. The role of the service coordinator is to provide ongoing comprehensive assessment, monitoring (health, safety, and welfare), planning, advocacy, linkage, and referral to community resources.
- One of the most important roles is to help identify a person's hopes and dreams and create a person-centered plan that is based on the individuals' own skills, interests, and abilities. This process ultimately leads to greater inclusion as valued members of both community and society.





# Supported Living Arrangements

- Supported living arrangements offer habilitative and skill building supports to individuals designed to maximize independence in the community and by assisting in the acquisition, retention, and improvement of skills necessary for the person to successfully live in their community.





- Intermittent SLA
  - Provided to individuals while living in a home or apartment by themselves, with a roommate, or with family.
- 24 Hour SLA
  - An individual requires maximum support services where staff are present whenever there are individuals at home.
  - Individuals live in a home with roommates in a community neighborhood and share support services from the provider.
- Shared Living Homes
  - Individuals who desire or need a family living situation receive services from a Shared Living Provider who includes the individual in their family life and daily activities.

#### Habilitative Training

- Money Management, Shopping, Recreation & Socialization, Health & Fitness, Cooking, Laundry, Home Management, Transportation, Behavioral Consultation, Training & Intervention. Shopping, Recreation & Socialization, Health & Fitness, Cooking, Laundry, Cleaning, Transportation, Behavioral Consultation, Training & Intervention.



## ROOM & BOARD MONIES

- For individuals living outside of their family home, Developmental Services can provide a monthly amount for room & board to supplement the individual's income
- Any income received by the individual (SSI, RSDI, SSDI, employment income, food stamps, etc.) is used in full before any state dollars are authorized
- This money is paid to the SLA provider. There are standardized amounts for food & personal needs and limits for max rent & utilities
- One-time cost monies also available to assist with various needs (e.g. deposits, furniture, damages to the home, etc.)





## Jobs and Day Training

- Jobs and Day Training (JDT) services provide activities and environments designed to foster the acquisition of skills necessary to perform a job task, or to provide necessary supports so individuals can maintain a job or ensure that the individual engages in meaningful activities that enhance their lives within their communities.





# Day Habilitation

- Regularly scheduled activities in a non-residential setting that assist with the acquisition, retention or improvement in self-help, socialization and adaptive skills including performing activities of daily living and community living.
- Services focus on enabling the participant to attain or maintain his or her maximum potential.
- Services are not vocational in nature (for the primary purpose of producing goods or performing services).
- May be used for meaningful retirement activities in the community.



## Prevocational Services

- Provides for learning and work experience, including volunteer work, where an individual can develop general, non-job or task-specific strengths and skills that contribute to employability in paid employment within integrated community settings.
- Services are intended to develop and teach general skills that will optimally lead to integrated community employment at or above minimum wage.
- Individuals may be paid at special minimum wages (less than minimum wage) while receiving pre-vocational services if the provider has been certified by the U.S. Department of Labor to pay special minimum wages.



# Individual Supported Employment

- Provided to individuals that need intensive, ongoing supports to obtain (job development) and maintain (job coaching) a job in a competitive integrated community work setting for which the individual is compensated at or above minimum wage.
- Customized Employment is one way to provide Individual Supported Employment in which the provider focuses on the strengths of the individual and works with potential employers to customize a job that will benefit both the employer and the employee.
- Outcome is for individuals to have sustained employment, paid at or above minimum wage, in an integrated community setting.







# Career Planning

- Person-centered, comprehensive employment planning and support services that provide individuals with assistance to obtain, maintain or advance in competitive employment or self-employment.
- This service is time-limited (216 hours provided within a 6-month time period each year) and will result in a plan that will guide supported employment services for achieving competitive, integrated employment with pay at or above minimum wage.
- Examples of services include experiential learning opportunities, job exploration, job shadowing, informational interviewing, assessment of interests, and benefits counseling.

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- Each Regional Center has a Quality Assurance (QA) Department.
- QA works with providers and staff to assure that standards are maintained in service delivery, that federal, state, and Division policies and regulations are followed, and that people receive good services.



# Family Preservation Program

- This program offers financial support to families with individuals living in the home, and receiving Regional Center services, diagnosed with Severe or Profound Intellectual Disability.
- Monthly assistance is to help off-set expenses necessary to meet the special needs of the persons with Intellectual Disabilities and to help strengthen and support families, thereby keeping the families intact and limiting the need for out of home placement.
- Family income must be equal to or less than 300% of the current Federal Poverty Guidelines.







### **Respite**

Respite care offers families a break from day-to-day responsibilities of caring for their loved ones. Respite can be provided in the family home, at a recreation program, or community agency.

All providers must initially complete the vendor registration process before services can be provided and reimbursed.

## Family Support Programs



## Purchase of Service (POS)

Purchase of Services offers small grants to assist a family in critical need or during a crisis.

All funding sources and existing resources must be used by the family before POS can be issued to them. Approval of POS is subject to state funds availability.

Examples of critical need include:  
Utility payment to avoid loss of utility services,  
Groceries, Environmental adaptation, Medical/Dental  
expenses not covered by Medicaid



# Self-Directed Family Support Arrangement

This service allows for the Regional Centers to allocate general fund dollars to qualified children (**under 18 years old**) receiving Developmental Services to purchase specialized treatment/skill building and organized programming to assist the individual/family in successful integration into their community.

Services approved for Behavioral training/management

- Social/Recreation
- Daily Living Skills
- Specialized Therapeutic Services



# Psych Services

Each Regional Center maintains a Psychological Department that may provide the following supports:

- Assessments and Testing required for Eligibility Determination
- Individual Counseling
- Psychological and Behavioral Consultation
- Training and Intervention
- Clinical Support





# NURSING SERVICES

Licensed RN's provide  
nursing assessments and  
consultation regarding  
medical issues.





## Katie Beckett Level of Care

- Children who receive Katie Beckett Medicaid have long term disabilities and complex medical needs. All three regional centers collaborate with Katie Beckett to provide a higher rate of funding available for the child's medical needs.
- \$11,558.68 compared to \$45,150.31

# Funding

Services are funded through a variety of sources, including:

- The State of Nevada
- Federal Funds, including Medicaid and Medicaid Waiver Funds
  - County Funds
  - Private Insurance







Sierra Regional  
Center

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