



## January 2018 Featured Agency of the Month

### Sierra Nevada Children's Services



Sierra Nevada Children's Services (SNCS) is a private, community-based nonprofit child care resource and referral agency that has served families, early care and education professionals and the community since 1978. Our mission is to enrich the community by supporting quality child care and empowering families to aspire to lifelong success.

SNCS administers multiple programs to support parents, caregivers, and childcare providers in Nevada and Sierra Counties.

- SNCS administers several programs to **help eligible families pay for childcare services** while they work, look for work, attend school or recover from incapacity. Families can enroll through CalWORKs, Alternative Payment Program (CAPP), or Family Child Care Home (FCCHEN).
- SNCS assists parents with childcare referrals, including consultation, support and assistance in **finding a childcare provider that will meet the families' needs**. Families can also find out about community resources through SNCS.
- The **Children's Community Chest Program** provides a discretionary fund to meet the needs of children in Nevada County when there are no other community resources available. Typical requests include avoiding eviction, restoring power, family car repair and more.
- **Playgroups help parents, caregivers and children** learn new skills by participating in activities with a trained facilitator who guides parents on the value of interactive play with their infants, toddlers and preschoolers.
- The Learning Center (TLC) contains a **Lending Library and Play Space**. Parents and childcare providers can choose from a variety of developmentally appropriate toys and materials for children of all ages. The Play Space is a popular community resource for families when not in use for Play Groups.
- SNCS is active with offering **community events**, including quarterly **Family Socials** and Parent Advisory Café, Family Appreciation, and Provider Appreciation Day.
- **SNCS improves the quality and capacity of childcare in Nevada County** by offering professional development workshops to providers. Through the Child Care Initiative Project, Family Child Care Providers receive financial support with licensing costs, start-up expenses and incentives according to their training hours.
- Through the California Preventive Health and Safety Program, **SNCS offers trainings, technical assistance, financial assistance, and health and safety incentives** to all childcare providers in eight counties, including Nevada and Sierra counties.

