17th Annual Step Up for Kids

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 2024 EVENT SUMMARY

strong start for children
Building Nevada's Future

Each year Step Up for Kids brings together people to show widespread support for investments in children and families. Participants include child advocates, politicians, parents and kids. Events held across the country raise awareness among voters and political candidates regarding the issues American children face, such as access to early care and learning, after-school programs, poverty, child abuse and neglect, and health care. This year, an event took place in Las Vegas, Nevada, to spread the message of making Nevada's children a priority!

On Saturday, October 5, 2024, the Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy, in partnership with the Southern Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council (SNECAC) hosted the 17th Annual Step Up for Kids event. The event was held from 9:00 am-12:00 pm at the Las Vegas Area Council, Scouting America. This year's event had over 200 attendees. Throughout the event, families had the opportunity to interact with over 30 community organizations that provided information about resources, planned fun activities and games for kids, and graciously donated raffle prizes! Families enjoyed free tacos, face painting, a petting zoo, live DJ, costume contest, screen free zone, voter registration and a produce market by UNR Extension with free fruits and vegetables! The audience was also entertained throughout the event by the Las Vegas Cause Players, who dressed up as superheroes, and the Saber Guild, who facilitated Padawan trainings.

Thank you to the Las Vegas Area Council, Scouting America for hosting us!

LAS VEGAS AREA COUNCIL SCOUTING AMERICA NV AZ

Congratulations to our 2024 Clark County Youth Mayor!

RJ Gourrier-Lopez, Jr.

NICRP hosted the Clark County Youth Mayor election to engage children in the electoral process. Fourth and Fifth graders in Clark County were given the opportunity to apply. The finalists were selected to campaign at the event. Finalists, Isabella Vivas, Justyn Boumah, Keaton Bucher, René Guevara, and Ricky Gourrier López Jr. created campaigns about an issue they were passionate about, displayed their campaign materials at the event, discussed their issues with attendees, and gave a 1-2-minute speech on their campaign issues. Since this election was for kids and by kids, only youth 17 years and under could vote for their favorite candidate. The kids in attendance were able to register to vote, enter a voting booth, and cast their ballot. Congratulations to RJ Gourrier-Lopez, Jr. for winning the election!

Thank you to our other candidates and their families!

This event would not have been possible without the help of our community partners:

Act4Kids Nevada, Amore Kidz, Baby & Child Rebel Lab/UNLV, Boys Town Nevada, Chick Fil A, Children's Advocacy Alliance, CSN ECE Lab Programs, Do & Be Arts Academy of Excellence Charter School, Family to Family Connection, Foster Kinship, Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV, LVUL Early Childhood Connection, Mathnasium The Math Learning Center, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council, Nevada PEP, Nevada Strong Start Child Care Services Center, Prevent Child Abuse Nevada, Radical Elevation, Reading with Rella B, Shining Star Community Services, Special Olympics Nevada, Sunrise Children's Foundation, The Children's Cabinet, UNR Extension - Partners in Parenting, UNR Extension's Youth Horticulture Education Program (YHEP).

Costume Contest!

STEM Activities!

Raffle!

Petting Zoo!

Farmers Market!