

Developing a Nevada County Children's Bill of Rights
DRAFTS 1 & 3
for CSN Partners Meeting ~ October 1, 2014

(Draft 2 captured some additional ideas that are now incorporated into Draft 3.)

DRAFT 1

**Community Support Network of Nevada County
Brainstorming Language for a Children's Bill of Rights – Grouping Ideas**

DRAFT 1 – BRAINSTORMING – No changes in language from source documents, beginning to group ideas together.

12 all children have the right to live in a community that demonstrates daily that all of its children are its #1 priority as evidenced through its commitment of time, money, effort, & unified support

27 To know where to go for support & resources

15 Parents are knowledgeable about resources and how to connect with them. To achieve this, we will increase and develop more access points/community connections

14 Children live in a community where parental & family resilience is valued and supported. This means the community provides access to mental health, physical health, food, housing, medical care, education, community connections

17 Proactively provide parents, mentors, and caring adults with the tools they need to help children learn, grow and thrive

13 Our community supports different paths to success: youth receive guidance in preparing for employment, higher education, healthy relationships, engagement in the community and responsibility for their own futures.

30 Leadership skills

11 all children have the right to be encouraged to “dream big” to be challenged and to live their lives with hope and inspiration

10 Preparing youth for independent living by exploring goals, dreams, plans for the future.

6 More opportunities to develop social consciousness

33 Be included – have a voice when it may affect them

28 Exposure to different cultures (subcultures) to break down the –isms, lessen fear, open doors

24 Be protected from discrimination

8 Stewardship of our environment & community; developing a sense of responsibility

26 Learn the value of service to others

- 16 Live in a community where families have the right to clean & healthy environment
- 22 Healthy traditions & routines
- 1 Development of positive social interaction skills
- 2 Opportunities to socialize with other children outside the classroom
- 3 Cultivate emotional intelligence
- 4 Self-awareness & of other people, self-esteem, motivation
- 5 Teaching children how to effectively communicate their feelings
- 7 Create opportunities for children to interact with adults on meaningful endeavors, e.g. mentoring, volunteering
- 9 Fostering shared experiences/peer support network
- 18 Caring, safe places where children can go to socialize face-to-face, develop social skills with other children & adults (multigenerational)
- 19 Learn socially acceptable norms, so they can be successful
- 21 Have healthy activities to engage
- 23 Have a right to be myself/express myself & have places where they can
- 25 Learn friendship skills
- 29 How to develop coping skills
- 31 Boundaries & accountability
- 32 Trusting role models who foster appropriate boundaries and accountability

DRAFT 3
Community Support Network of Nevada County
Brainstorming Language for a Children’s Bill of Rights – Draft with Parallel Language

DRAFT 3 – MORE BRAINSTORMING – Beginning to change language from source documents, and continuing to group ideas together.

We, the undersigned, are committed to building and sustaining a community which demonstrates daily that all of its children are its #1 priority as evidenced through its commitment of time, money, effort, & unified support.

Furthermore, we are committed to:

All families in Nevada County having ready access to a well-integrated and coordinated support network that:

has multiple community access points because of excellent community inter-connections;

proactively provides parents, mentors, and caring adults with the tools they need to help children learn, grow and thrive;

values and supports parental & family resilience by providing access to mental health care and supports, physical health care and supports, food, housing, education, training and community connections.

Our community supporting different paths to success: youth should be encouraged to “dream big” through exploring goals in preparation for independent living. They should receive guidance in preparing for employment, higher education, healthy relationships, engagement in the community and responsibility for their own futures, including opportunities for developing leadership skills.

Children and youth being taught stewardship for our community and our environment, developing a sense of responsibility for both; this includes:

Having opportunities to be of service to others;

Having a voice in matters that may affect them;

Being exposed to different cultures and subcultures in order to break down prejudices and open doors, and in order to protect children from discrimination.

Our community fostering the healthy social-emotional development of our children and youth through:

Opportunities for children to interact with adults and children face-to-face on meaningful endeavors, such as mentoring or volunteering; this includes providing caring, safe places outside of classrooms where children can go to socialize and develop positive social skills with other children & adults;

Providing trusted role models who foster appropriate boundaries and accountability;

Providing opportunities to increase children’s self-awareness, self-esteem, emotional intelligence, friendship skills, coping skills, and teaching children how to effectively communicate and manage their emotions.