

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES



**Tex Ritter, Director
Sierra Nevada Regional
Department of Child
Support Services**

Child Support... An Investment in the Future of Our Children



The Need for Child Support

One quarter of the nation's children receive child support services

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- Three quarters of single parent families with incomes below 200% of poverty receive child support services
- Support payments play a stabilizing role during economic downturns, helping families get from paycheck to paycheck

HEALTHY FAMILIES

- Health insurance to promote healthy children
- Has a positive effect on children's achievement in school
- Access to medical records and survivor benefits

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Child Support Is:



- The money paid by one or both parents to meet the needs of their children
- The second largest source of income for poor families
- The backbone of a family's budget

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Child Support Provides

- Direct benefits to families
- Cost avoidance for other public assistance programs
- For healthier, more self sufficient families



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How Child Support Benefits Families



■ Children with the increased stability of regular child support payments are more successful in school.



■ Parents who pay support are more likely to visit their children regularly and build stronger relationships with them.



■ Consistent child support payments decrease conflict between parents and reduce the stress on children.

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What is the Child Support Program?



- Rated by the Federal Office of Management and Budget as the best managed, most effective Social Services program
- A federally (66%) and state (34%) funded program that encourages families to become self-sufficient
- A multi-disciplinary program working in collaboration with other county departments, such as Social Services, Probation, and others

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Services Provided

Child Support Services aids families in meeting their responsibilities to their children by providing:

- Establishment of parentage
- Establishment and modification of court orders for child support and health insurance
- Payment collection and distribution services
- Locate services

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Collaborations and Other Services

- Regionalized office providing services for the residents of Sierra and Nevada counties.
- Operate as a call center for Plumas county Child Support Services.
- Prepare and serve all one-time lump sum wage garnishments of employer paid bonuses for the entire state.
- Complaint resolutions services for Inyo and Mono counties
- Annual free tax preparation for low to moderate income families

Sierra Nevada Collections

In FFY 15/16, Sierra Nevada collected:

■ Nevada County:	\$6.94 Million
■ Sierra County:	\$222 Thousand
■ Total Collections:	\$7.16 Million



Sierra Nevada Statewide Ranking

Federal fiscal year 15/16 performance in comparison to other California counties:

■ Sierra Nevada:	2
■ Placer County:	8
■ El Dorado County:	21
■ Sutter County:	28
■ Sacramento County:	44



THANK YOU

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