



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

# NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)

## PUBLIC MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2019 • 9:00 AM

*“Nevada’s children will be safe, healthy, and thriving during the first eight years of life, and the system will support children and families in achieving their full potential.”*

### Meeting Locations:

Office	Address	City	Meeting Room
The Children’s Cabinet	5905 S. Decatur Blvd, Ste 13	Las Vegas, Nevada	Training Room
Nevada Department of Education	700 E. Fifth Street	Carson, Nevada	Silver Ore
Early Childhood Professional Development Center	240 Rock Blvd	Reno, Nevada	Conference Room

## SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

(VIDEO CONFERENCED)

### 1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, AND ROLL CALL

Marty Elquist, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Chair called the meeting to order, 09:29 AM. Quorum is met.

#### Council Members in Attendance:

##### In Las Vegas:

- Patrice Gardner, NDE – Office of Early Learning and Development
- Daina Loeffler, Nevada Department of Education, Part B Office of State 619 Coordinator
- Heike Rudenauer-Plummer, Other member as the Governor determines appropriate (NEIS)
- Angela Triche, Sunrise Children’s Foundation
- Lori Ann Molina-Lovell, Other member as the Governor determines appropriate (IDEA Part C)

##### In Reno:

- Marty Elquist, The Children’s Cabinet
- Megan Wickland, Aging and Disability Services Division, Nevada Early Intervention Services
- Sherry Waugh, University of Nevada, Reno – Child and Family Research Center
- Anna Severens, NDE – Office of Early Learning and Development
- Tina Springmeyer, Washoe County School District

##### Via Phone:

- Dolores Hauck, Southern Nevada Non-Profit

#### Public in Attendance:

##### In Las Vegas:

- Angela Rose, City of Las Vegas
- Stacey Joyner, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning & Development
- Jon Bell, Lakeshore



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- Scott Jones, Lakeshore
- Mia Pace, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning & Development
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy
- Brittnee Schuyler, Discount School Supply
- Julie Houchins, United Way of Southern Nevada
- Kaitlin Lewallen, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Emily Champlin, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Denise Sidney, College of Southern Nevada
- Mary Regan, Las Vegas Urban League Early Childhood Connection

#### **In Reno:**

- John Cregg, Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children
- Rachel Breithaupt, Nevada Department of Education of Education , Preschool Development Grant B-5 Systems
- Sara Moritz-Enos, United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra
- Kelly Stevens, United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra
- Pricilla Acosta, Intertribal Council of Nevada
- Perry Smith, Nevada Early Hearing Detection
- Pam Johnson, Rural Children's Mental Health Coalition

#### **In Elko:**

- Lisa Calder, Elko County School District

#### **In Carson City:**

- Tiffany Olivas, Nevada Department of Education Office of Early Learning and Development

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

No Public Comment regarding any item appearing on the agenda at this time.

No Public Comment on any matter within the Committee's jurisdiction, control or advisory power at this time.

The Committee moves on to item #3.

## 3. APPROVAL OF FLEXIBLE AGENDA

#### **Motion:**

- Sherry Waugh moved for the approval of flexible agenda.
- Dolores Hauck seconded the motion.
- All were in favor.
- Motion carried. Flexible agenda approved.

## 4. ITEM A: MINUTES FROM AUGUST 28, 2019

Tina Springmeyer identified that a correction was needed to her agency and to strike the word "Trustee" from Washoe County School District Trustee.

#### **Motion:**

- Sherry Waugh motioned to approve the minutes with the correction noted.
- Dolores Hauck seconded the motion.



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- All were in favor.
- Motion carries to approve minutes with the correction noted.

#### 5. ITEM B: RURAL MENTAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM UPDATE

**Pam Johnson, RMCH Chair, provided an overview of the RMHC and provided an annual progress report. Presentation available on the ECAC website (<http://nvecac.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Rural-Children%E2%80%99s-mental-health-consortium-Update.pdf>)**

- Ms. Johnson emphasized that the RMHC does not provide services. Each rural community has their own unique culture and the RMHC provides recommendations to ensure children's mental health needs are being met in individual rural communities.
- RMHC wants to collaborate with all groups who serve children and families in rural communities and document the needs, why and budgetary implications of the need. Focused on how maintain and grow services and prevent loss of much needed services in the rurals.

#### 6. ITEM C: NEVADA EARLY HEARING DETECTION AND INTERVENTION (EHDI) PROGRAM

**Perry Smith, EHDI Coordinator, provided an overview of the EHDI program and progress. Program overview flyer available on the ECAC website (<http://nvecac.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Official-NV-EHDI-Overview-handout-2017.pdf>)**

- Mr. Smith reviewed the purpose of the EHDI Program to ensure all children in Nevada are screened for hearing loss at birth and those identified with hearing loss receive timely and appropriate audiological, educational and medical intervention.
  - 97.9% of newborns in Nevada receive newborn hearing screening. Those that do not pass the screening are referred to audiology. EHDI tracks those referred to get the results from audiology. Those that are identified as Deaf or Hard of Hearing are referred to NEIS.
  - Difficult to track home births, but EHDI is working with key midwives and equipping them with screening equipment. Do not have enough screening equipment for all midwives in Nevada, but are actively working with midwives to find a solution.
  - Also difficult to provide pediatric audiology in Rural areas of Nevada, but are working with pediatric audiologists to overcome this challenge to make screening available and get timely results.
  - Standard is 1-3-6:
    - 1-Screening for all babies before ONE month of age.
    - 3-Before THREE months of age, diagnostic audiology if the baby did not pass hearing screening.
    - 6-Before SIX months of age, early intervention if baby is diagnosed with a hearing loss.
  - Cytomegalovirus (CMV) is one of the 8 herpes viruses and is the leading cause of non-hereditary hearing loss in infants. CMV is generally not an issue for the larger population, but if an expectant mother contracts CMV for the first time while pregnant, her fetus is exposed to CMV and is at risk. There is a new resource to raise awareness: <https://www.nationalcmv.org/>

***Marty Elquist, ECAC Chair, took agenda items out of order. Numbers and agenda items correspond to original 10.23.2019 agenda.***



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#### 16. ITEM M: NEVAEYC UPDATES

##### **John Cregg, NevAEYC Executive Director presenting.**

- Nevada AEYC is accepting nominations for the Governing Board. There are a number of vacant seats available for 2020. All nominations and applications are due 10/31/2019. Ballots will be sent out in November and announcement will be made in December. Contact John Cregg for more information.
- State conference will be April 16-18, 2020 at the Nugget in Sparks, NV. Call for presenter proposals will be available by the end of this week. Proposals will be accepted January 6-January 31, 2020.
- Working with Strong Start Parent Ambassadors and looking for at least 10 parents statewide.
  - Amanda Haboush-Deloye emphasized that parents across Nevada are needed and that parents from rural communities might need additional support from local agencies to participate.
- TEACH Early Childhood applications are now being accepted for the 2020 semester.

#### 14. ITEM K: QRIS UPDATE

##### **Emily Champlin, QRIS Administrator presenting**

- Ms. Champlin welcomed Mychelle Weart to the NDE QRIS team.
- Ms. Champlin recognized Tiffany Olivas for the outstanding efforts with the first Carson-Douglas ECAC conference where QRIS played a central role.
- There are two new Steps to Stars cohorts starting.
  - Southern NV – November 2 cohort meeting introduction
  - Northern NV – Date TBD cohort meeting introduction
- The QRIS website continues to serve as the temporary hub for the state's Consumer Education website. Monitoring and compliance visits for Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN) and Out-of-School Time providers will be posted on this site.

#### 15. ITEM L: LOCAL ECAC UPDATES

##### **Southern Nevada – Amanda Haboush-Deloye presenting**

- Step Up for Kids event will be held November 9, 2019 and working on supporting businesses and providers with breastfeeding. Will have a full update in December.

##### **Northeastern Nevada – Lisa Calder presenting**

- Held training with Eric Litwin, author of *Pete the Cat*. 60 teacher participants at the training and over 500 community members that attended the Community Concert that evening. Group will meet next week to figure out what the focus will be on for the spring.

##### **Washoe County – Sherry Waugh presenting**

- Transitioning from PDG B-3 work and now figuring out how to move B-3 forward without grant funding, but still planning B-3 work should Nevada get the next round of PDG B-5 funding.

##### **Tribal – Marty Elquist asked Pricilla Acosta if she could provide an update**

- Tribal ECAC has not had a meeting lately. There is a new commissioner for the Nevada Indian Commission. It is on our radar. Waiting for her to settle in her new role and then will set up a meeting to see if she can help revitalize the Tribal ECAC. There has been communication with Stacey Joyner to receive support from the PDG:B-5 grant.

##### **Carson-Douglas – Tiffany Olivas presenting**

- CA-DO ECAC held their first ECAC mini-conference on October 12. Nevada AEYC sponsored the event at Western Nevada College who provided the space at no cost. There were several different tracks and there were 35 participants. They made \$500 which will go toward a provider appreciate – TBD.



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Churchill County – Not in attendance

Lyon, Storey, Mineral – Not in attendance

Nye County – Not in attendance

#### 7. ITEM D: PDG:B-5 NEEDS ASSESSMENT ALIGNMENT TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN

##### Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Nevada Institute for Children's Research & Policy presenting

- Ms. Haboush-Deloye provided a general review of the *Alignment & Gaps* crosswalk document that was created to help us align the parent needs assessment with the ECAC strategic plan and the three subcommittee action plans.
  - The ECAC reviewed the *Alignment & Gaps* cross walk ([http://nvecac.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/PDGB5-ECAC-Cross-Reference\\_10.21.19.pdf](http://nvecac.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/PDGB5-ECAC-Cross-Reference_10.21.19.pdf))
  - Ms. Haboush-Deloye recommended that the Council agree to general concepts today and to not try to wordsmith exact wording for additions needed to the strategic plan.
  - After review, the ECAC identified one strategy modification needed to address parent needs identified in the focus groups: Family & Community section Strategy 4.4.
    - Parents need more activities to do with their children, especially in rural communities.
    - Strategy language must be modified to address *expansion* of services and activities offered by agencies during non-traditional hours.
    - Ms. Stacey Joyner stated that the ECAC plan and the action steps must be modified and approved by December 31, 2019.
    - Exact wording of modification will be proposed by Ms. Haboush-Deloye at the December meeting for ECAC approval.
  - The ECAC agreed that all other parent needs identified in the needs assessment (including the overarching recommendation summary by committee area) could be addressed by adding specific action steps in the three committee action plans.
    - Ms. Haboush-Deloye agreed to provide suggested modifications and additions to the subcommittee action plans.
    - Ms. Elquist will send the latest version of each subcommittee action plans to each committee chairs to ensure that Ms. Haboush-Deloye make the revisions to the most recent documents.
    - Subcommittee chairs will share the next committee meeting dates with Amanda.
    - Amanda will make recommendations to present to each of the individual subcommittees.
    - Ms. Elquist stated that there are specific policy actions discussed in the Pritzker Pre-natal the Three planning grant that should be incorporated as action steps and will provide those action steps to Ms. Haboush-Deloye.
- Key Definitions - Ms. Rachel Breithaupt and Ms. Joyner emphasized key language that must apparent in our definitions: transitions, vulnerable populations and avoiding duplication of efforts. The *Definition of Key Terms* document was reviewed (<http://nvecac.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Definition-of-Key-Terms.pdf>)
  - Quality Early Childhood Care and Education – Ms. Haboush-Deloye stated that coming up with a succinct definition of quality is very difficult. There are multiple indicators of quality that must be addressed and defined. A simple definition cannot be found. The QRIS Learning Network had the shortest description, but in the description listed multiple indicators that parents might not fully understand, but all the indicators are important for quality.
    - Ms. Rachel Briethaupt asked how we would explain quality to parents? A quick “elevator talk.”



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- Lori Ann Molina-Levell agreed that we need to make it succinct and think about a young parent who might be looking to make a decision between a couple of programs.
- Ms. Emily Champlin volunteer to work with the QRIS team to take the above approach with the quality indicators and recommend a definition to present to the ECAC at our December meeting.
  - Amanda stated that would be great and that they would use the expanded needs assessment definition for the application and then we could review the recommended definition for including in the ECAC strategic plan.
- Ms. Elquist stated that it is important to work with R&R and recommend that Ms. Champlin work with Mary Regan from the Las Vegas Urban League and with R&R from The Children’s Cabinet to come up with a definition as both agencies work with parents and explain quality every day.
- Ms. Haboush-Deloye stated that it would be great if we could have parents review the definition and get their thoughts on what it means to them. Ms. Elquist stated that the draft definition could go in The Children’s Cabinet’s upcoming parent survey to get parent feedback on the definition and what it means to them.
- Availability of Early Childhood Education and Care
  - Ms. Elquist recommended that the first definition be revised to read, “Availability of early childhood education and care means that all counties have settings that provide families with equitable access to affordable and high-quality early childhood education.”
- Vulnerable or underserved children
  - There were no recommendations for change and the ECAC felt that all circumstances that would lead to a child being vulnerable or at-risk for being underserved.
- Children in rural areas
  - The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy’s four levels of frontier did not fit with some towns that are considered rural to those living in Nevada, but not according to the FORHP definition.
  - Ms. Heike Rudenauer-Plummer recommended that since we are having a hard time defining rural, but we know what is not, why don’t we define the cities/areas that are urban areas and that everything else is rural.
  - Ms. Haboush-Deloye stated that Las Vegas, Henderson, North Las Vegas, Reno, Sparks would be considered Urban and asked about Boulder City. Multiple ECAC members said, “no, urban.” Ms. Sherry Waugh stated that we need also to add Carson City to Urban.
- Description of the Nevada Early Care and Education System
  - Ms. Elquist stated that the “Ready Families, Ready Schools, etc.” is not our definition, but our result. Ms. Waugh and Ms. Severens asked if they are asking for our current description or definition? Ms. Haboush-Deloye clarified that we can define and then add the figure as our current system.
  - Ms. Elquist stated that she will send the definition from the BUILD Early Childhood System as that is what we used to restructure our ECAC.
  - Ms. Joyner stated that figure 2 looks more like our governance structure and that a system has more to it than that. Ms. Elquist agreed that figure 2 is just the description of our current early learning sector of our early childhood system and that our system is graphic in the strategic plan, which is the same graphic used in the BUILD Early Childhood Systems Working Group document. Ms. Elquist continued that the definition of the sectors are in our bylaws.
    - Ms. Elquist agreed to send Ms. Haboush-Deloye the definition from the build document as well as the sector definitions in the ECAC Bylaws.



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- Descriptions will be revised and updated based on today's conversation to be presented to the ECAC at the December meeting for adoption and inclusion in the ECAC Strategic Plan.

## 8. ITEM E: SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

### Health – Megan Wickland presenting

- Last meeting was October 4<sup>th</sup>. Only had one person show up to the meeting. Previous meeting was August 30<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Wickland reported having difficulty getting engagement.
- Ms. Wickland announced that she has accepted a new position with Aging and Disability Services on the Developmental Services Quality Assurance side and as a result is resigning her seat on the ECAC.
- There is currently not another Health committee meeting schedule and Yah-ner Walker is currently on leave who is the other subcommittee co-chair.
- Ms. Elquist stated concern getting the action steps incorporated. Ms. Wickland stated that there are two here that are on the subcommittee and that Lori Ann Molina-Levell is an official ECAC member. Ms. Molina-Levell offered to serve as an interim chair for Health so we can proceed with the action plan through November. Ms. Elquist asked if she is interested in appointment as the official chair; however, Ms. Molina-Levell asked if she can serve in the interim role for November's meeting and then we can have a conversation after that point.

### Family & Community – Dolores Hauck & Angela Triche presenting

- Ms. Triche reported that the last meeting was held last week. The committee became more comfortable with On Strategy and was able to go through the goal cascade and assign ownership and identify a few additional gaps. The committee had a discussion on what our KPIs should be and then scheduled our next meeting for November 13.
- Ms. Hauck stated that the committee has struggled in the past with engagement due to turnover, but have engaged new partners and are moving forward. Multiple committee members have ownership for action steps in OnStrategy.

### Early Learning – Anna Severens & Tina Springmeyer presenting

- Tina Springmeyer reported that the last meeting was on September 24 and had great facilitation with OnStrategy. Committee is eager to get the plan completed. Not everyone has access to On Strategy, just the chairs.
- Anna Severens reported that they have identified 5 potential KPIs and asked if we will present the KPIs to the Council.
  - Ms. Elquist reported that the same question came up in Families & Communities subcommittee and we discussed that KPIs could overlap between sections and that we might have 5-6 overarching KPI for the entire plan. Ms. Elquist reported that in the Family & Communities workgroup, Ms. Rudenauer-Plummer recommended that Amanda Haboush-Deloye be consulted as to what KPI she sees as overarching measures. Ms. Elquist stated that she will follow-up with Ms. Haboush-Deloye to discuss potential KPIs to present at the December's ECAC meeting.
  - Ms. Springmeyer inquired about the timeline due to the LCB report. Ms. Elquist stated that we do not have to have all our KPIs identified and in OnStrategy for the LCB report and that the report is on the progress of the ECAC. Ms. Elquist reported being very comfortable reporting on the progress and process of the ECAC and still running the report out of OnStrategy to show where the ECAC is in the implementation and what our reporting will look like in the future.
  - Ms. Hauck requested that any KPIs be shared so chairs can get an idea of what other committees are considering. Ms. Elquist replied that we will have an item on December's agenda so we can review and that it *might* be 5-6 KPIs that overlap with all areas and we could have one KPI that is connected to each action plan for all committees.

## 9. ITEM F: FACEBOOK PAGE

### Anna Severens presenting



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- We currently have 256 followers within 28 days.
- The highest engagement area (over 500) was regarding inclusion institutes.
- Council members are encouraged to submit potential posts to Anna.

#### 10. ITEM G: CHILD CARE LICENSING UPDATE

**Yah-ner Walker not available to give updates.**

#### 11. ITEM H: LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATES AND 2020 CENSUS

**The Children's Advocacy Alliance was not available to give updates.**

#### 12. ITEM I: STRONG START UPDATES

**The Children's Advocacy Alliance was not available to give updates.**

#### 13. ITEM J: NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION UPDATES

**Stacey Joyner reported that there are no additional updates from NDE.**

#### 17. ITEM N: 2020 ECAC CALENDAR

**Marty Elquist presenting**

Ms. Elquist reported that the 2020 Calendar is on the ECAC website and there are some dates that are not on our regularly-scheduled meeting pattern due to room availability. Ms. Elquist requested that all Council members visit the website and put the dates in their calendars.

#### 18. ITEM O: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

**The Council discussed what items they would like to see in future agenda items.**

Items for December's agenda include:

- ECAC Strategic Plan revision (includes definitions and strategy 4.4) and Action Plan updates.
- Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- Appointment of ECAC Health Committee Chair
- Send any additional items to Marty for December meeting.

#### 19. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

No public comment.

#### 20. ADJOURNMENT

**1:20 PM**