



Nevada Early Childhood  
Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)

CHILD AND FAMILY HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2020**

**1:00 P.M.**

*“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 Location:**

This meeting was held via videoconference through Microsoft TEAMS and via teleconference through Conference Number: (775) 687-0999 or (702) 486-5260, Participant’s Collaboration Code: 70533#

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
(TELECONFERENCED)

**1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call**

Lori Ann Malina-Lovell, Child and Family Health Subcommittee Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm, quorum met with 9 of 11 active members in attendance, an additional member joined following the call to order for a total of 10 active members in attendance.

Members in attendance:

Reno/Carson City

- Linda Lang, NSCP (Nevada Statewide Coalition Partnership)
- Andrea Rivers, WIC
- Evelyn Dryer, Nevada Home Visiting, Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness

Las Vegas:

- Lori Ann Malina-Lovell, IDEA Part C
- Denise Tanata, United Way
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Nevada Institute for Children’s Research Policy
- Patrice Gardner, NDE Office of Early Care and Learning
- Andrea Rivers, WIC
- Ann Polakowski, DCFS Early Childhood Mental Health
- Beverly Matthis, Public Education Foundation

Public:



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

- Marty Elquist, Children's Cabinet

### 2. Public Comment #1

- None

### 3. Review meeting minutes from 12/13/19

- Motion accepted and carried to approve minutes from the Child & Family Health Subcommittee meeting on 12/13/19 (*Patrice motioned; Beverly 2<sup>nd</sup>*)

### 4. Subcommittee members sharing of updates

- Lori Ann shared that the Early Intervention (EI) system began a moratorium of face-to-face services in March 2020, with limited in-clinic visits for specialty services allowed in September 2020; presently, the moratorium remains in effect for face-to-face visits in the home and community; children may be accessing private community therapies in person which may not be a part of EI as a multi-layered system is needed to serve families. Denise asked whether EI is mentioned in the strategic plan. Lori Ann answered that there are nuances of EI in the plan but EI system is not very prominent in the plan at this time and there may be a reason for that; Lori Ann stated she has suggestions for future action plans when the time is appropriate.
- Andrea shared that she is excited to be with Nevada WIC; a lot of WIC clinics are not operating face-to-face with a majority of the larger clinics working remotely, but some rural clinics are providing services face-to-face; participation levels are okay; WIC is providing an 'insta-cart' type of service to have WIC items delivered to families' home. Lori Ann asked for more information re: the shopper service; Andrea explained that her program has a WIC Shopper app with a shopper that goes and purchases the food and delivers to WIC recipients; WIC partners with Three Square; the shopper program goes until December; USDA is considering way to have more online shopping ability or pick up and deliver with their vendors.
- Beverly shared that the Public Education Foundation has had the opportunity to work with families with their virtual learning program where families attend twice a week for cohort classes over 3 weeks for a total of 6 times; the families are referred from principals and schools, or can contact PEF from information on flyers; classes cover training on chrome book use, navigate Infinite Campus and Canvas to monitor student progress and class progress and how to access community resources; started in late March an online community group for parents and relatives with groups ranging from 5 families to 27 families, conducted in Spanish and English. Lori Ann asked whether PEF has served grandparents; Beverly replied that yes, they have served grandparents and great grandparents, with courses at 10 am and 4 pm. Lori Ann expressed appreciation for PEFs work with grandparents as they may be a vulnerable population with challenges of navigating some technology as well as taking care of their families while being at risk for their own health.



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

- Evelyn shared that Home Visiting for all agencies is occurring virtually for their programs; assisted families with challenges of understanding chrome books, distance learning, unreliable internet; they have had some face-to-face visits during nice weather at the park or on a family's front porch; a lot of families are easing into face-to-face home visits; protocol is being developed to cover precautions for these visits; Evelyn offered to share her program's protocol with anyone interested; Lori Ann expressed interest in receiving Evelyn's protocol and will sharing the EI re-entry plans with Evelyn.
- Linda expressed that the Community Coalition has done a huge shift, going virtual quickly, shifting from substance abuse to focusing on mental health, wellness, self-care, with courses virtual; community programs were key in doing the virtual classes and keeping resources flowing especially for rural communities; Division of Public and Behavioral Health partnered with the Coalition to discuss needs, and communities pushed out psychological first aid, using creative ways such as training hair stylists and others; new opportunities for collaboration, for example with the Division of Aging in providing shopping, resources such as safe disposal bags for prescriptions at home and other resources needed; programs are slowly opening in-person; noted that an area which is lacking is youth connection, as this group doesn't always want to do zoom meetings, so creative, fun ways are needed in reaching this group. Lori Ann expressed that youth are a big part of the story for the early childhood population as they are siblings and will soon join the workforce that may serve our population. Linda expressed that other creative ways to reach communities included training barbers. Lori Ann shared origins of public health efforts years ago in L.A. with doctors training barbers to meet the needs of males needing blood pressure checks. Linda expressed that the new and creative efforts are going beyond the normal business 8 to 5 days we do.
- Patrice shared that most of the Head Start providers are open with the exception of Sunrise Children's Foundation in providing 100% virtual services; there has been a challenge with a food vendor. Acelero has taken the lead and will hopefully taking a phased re-opening for in person services; a focus for one of their grant application is health service and mental health service component; they have a collaborative network with NEIS for Head Start teachers and directors to receive training; Patrice is working with Nevada TEACH scholarship to promote equitable ECSE workforce opportunities; partnering with Roseman Nursing school to provide well baby checks and immunization for Head Start, if all goes well in the South, the partnership may expand to the North. Lori Ann requested whether the services from Roseman will be provided at no cost; Patrice expressed that yes, these will like a practicum to provide the services and students will have the opportunity to work with a pediatric population; Patrice mentioned that Roseman's main university in in Utah, and that Roseman wanted to expand their partnership to Nevada. Lori Ann asked re: trainings for personnel; Patrice explained that NEIS provided trainings for Head Start staff, she is hopeful that Head Start may also provide training for NEIS staff. Lori Ann explained that trainer roles are switching as teachers and DSs gain experience with virtual services and will be effective teaching seasoned employees who haven't had the virtual experience, and asked Patrice to share updates in supporting trainings and teachers.



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

- Carol shared that since the pandemic, her program has been working with back to school efforts with children being behind on immunizations; they have helped families in the north and south with getting up to date with vaccines and understanding safety; currently working with flu season education and they are tasked with getting flu shots to as many Nevadans as possible; have 4 workers setting up flu clinics throughout communities which may be set up at companies, faith-based organizations, businesses; if anyone is interested for needed resources, messaging, hosting a clinic, please contact the program; one of the messaging harkens back to World War II with Rosie the Riveter such as to do your part for Nevada. Lori Ann asked whether Carol was able to speak on a COVID vaccine. Carol expressed that there is COVID Task Force and the state is working very hard, with a plan to roll out information in tiers, anyone who is interested, please contact Carol.
- Amanda shared that NV Institute for Children's Research and Policy received CARES funding in the School of Public Health to perform outreach of gaining perspectives from underrepresented community groups on COVID; Amanda's program is seeking to share messaging of safety for these groups and the program is seeing to understand the concerns and parent perspectives of cultural groups; this promotes that groups are represented; Amanda's program hopes to share information with the early childhood field to support these groups in a responsive way. Lori Ann asked re: any other new projects. Amanda shared that the Step Up for Kids event is occurring this weekend in Las Vegas, Reno and Winnemucca, with virtual information, prizes, voting by kids for Strong Start Governor candidates; resource bags are being provided to families in a drive through and families may then go home to join in the virtual events. There will be 2 bags, one for parents and one for kids, with coloring books, hand sanitizer and fun things such as pin wheel materials to go with the virtual events in the afternoon; information is located online under Strong Start, Children's Advocacy Alliance or Children's Institute for Research and Policy.
- Denise shared that United Way is doing emergency support and coordinating legislative efforts and multiple projects; Lori Ann requested information on the emergency work; Denise shared they started emergency assistance and community needs fund related to COVID, deploying just under 2.4 million dollars to 34 different community partners to assist families with rent and mortgage, utility, food assistance and financial hardship; awarded 1.7 from Clark County through their basic needs assistance grant program to provide assistance for child care and assistance to families affected by COVID-19. In process of approving providers.
- Marty discussed that re: the strategic plan, some objectives and plans are not started and may not apply, but the plan does go through 2021; discussed the structure and action steps of the plan, using flexibility; some of the updates shared today may fit in with the plan; we need to ensure that everyone is represented; lots of work is going on with rental assistance, the needs are really severe; doing a lot of work on prenatal H3 grant, work touches on community health workers, home visiting, expanding early learning for infant and toddler slots, lot of intersections with the work done by the members on this committee;



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

- Denise reminded that since the last legislative session, the part that is complete is the health rep that was added to the ECAC; the ECAC must submit a report for legislative session; it's critical to get the strategic plan updated.

### **5. Identify benchmarks to move plan forward**

The group briefly reviewed the action plan, including key performance indicators (KPIs); Denise suggested to focus on the objectives starting with 3.4 Advocate for Increasing Access for Health providers; Lori Ann briefly listed the strategies. The ECAC report to LBC is due Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>. If an action step is not relevant, note the explanation for why we aren't focusing on that action step. The committee agreed to hold another meeting to perform a thorough update. Lori Ann will send out to the committee a few meeting options and the strategies for the committee to consider whether anyone could research or provide input.

### **8. Public comment #2**

Beverly shared that the Statewide Family Engagement Summit on 10/17, 9 am to 3 pm is free, registration is needed; will be virtual. Beverly will send a flyer to Lori Ann to share.

### **9. Meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm**

Lori Ann thanked the subcommittee members for attending.