



Nevada Early Childhood
Advisory Council

Local ECAC Update Summary

SEPTEMBER 2022

Elko/Northeastern NV ECAC

Primary Contact: Lisa Calder – lcalder@ecsdnv.net

Update: First meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 14th. We will be discussing our plans to bring presenter, Gerry Brooks, to Elko. We are still working on the plans and can provide additional details after the meeting. We are also working with Lynette MacFarlan at Great Basin College to help her with an event in November to bring in The Learning Station.

Southern Nevada ECAC

Primary Contact: Dr. Amanda Haboush-Deloye – Amanda.haboush@unlv.edu

Overview: During the course of 2022, the Southern Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council (SNECAC) has met 5 times, with a 6th meeting scheduled to occur on October 19, 2022. The first four meetings of this year were held virtually, while the 5th (August 17, 2022) was held at the East Las Vegas Library, with a hybrid option for people to join virtually as well.

- [Step Up for Kids](#) 2022 – October 8, 2022 – 10am to 1pm – East Las Vegas Library
 - Paid advertising for the event will begin during the third week of September.
 - Elections for Clark County Youth Mayor will take place during the event. Applications are due September 9th, with notification of candidates scheduled for September 13th. NICRP will work with candidates to provide campaign rules and materials.
 - Additional activities planned to take place at this year's event:
 - Farmers' Market, hosted by UNR Extension
 - Live Music
 - Face painting
 - Petting Zoo
 - Food truck – free food will be provided to the first 300 attendees
 - Tour of the East Las Vegas Library

- Screen-Free Zone – youth and families are encouraged to participate in activities that do not use a screen to help promote screen-free time
- Raffle – vendors are again asked to donate raffle prizes
- All tabling vendors are required to have some kind of activity for youth at their table to help them stay engaged and encourage visiting each organization
- Afterschool & Out of School Time Programming
The [Nevada Afterschool Network](#) (NAN) will soon begin a project to align Nevada’s current Early Childhood QRIS system with a similar quality improvement system for school-age programs. NAN will solicit feedback from SNECAC members on the development and pilot testing of this system to ensure compatibility with existing requirements for childcare centers that serve school-age youth.

Meetings: The next and final meeting for 2022 will be held in person (with a virtual option) at the Childcare Resource Center on October 19, 2022, from 12-2pm.

Meetings for 2023 have not yet been confirmed. During the October 2022, meeting SNECAC members will review the proposed dates provided below, confirm the schedule, and determine whether meetings will be held virtually, in-person, or hybrid.

Proposed 2023 Meeting Dates

- January 18
- March 22
- May 17
- June 21
- August 16
- October 18

Tribal ECAC

Primary Contact: Ashleigh Baker – abaker@itcn.org

Update: The Tribal ECAC is pleased to announce that we have been awarded ARP Act Grant funds for FY23. The Tribal ECAC will use these funds to better support tribal early childhood educators with health and wellness needs. Many tribal communities often lack resources and access to mental health supports. In addition, funds will be used to increase member participation and outreach initiatives. Outreach and membership activities will include: attendance at informational events such as community pow wows, tribal events, resource fairs, and various conferences that support early education for Native American communities (ex: NevAEYC, National Indian Child Care Association, Zero to Three Conference, NICWA (National Indian Child Welfare Association)).

These two goals will be priority benchmarks for the Tribal ECAC organization and its members over the course of the FY 2023 year, and will align with the NECAC Strategic Plan in accordance with Goal 2 and Goal 3:

Goal 2: Increase coordination and alignment between systems of care for children and families.

- The Tribal ECAC will continuously conduct needs assessments to understand the disparities occurring in various tribal communities and use the information to integrate cross sector (mental health) to improve access and align services for Native American early educators.

Goal 3: Increase capacity to equitably connect families with early childhood system of continuum of care and community at large.

- The providers participating in the Health and Wellness Program under the Tribal ECAC will be given the resources and education to promote social and emotional well-being for themselves, which will further enable them to better care for Native American children and families to best identify strategies that align with the communities they serve.

While the Tribal ECAC is a newly reestablished group, we hope to effectively build an organization that reaches all Native American communities with the services and resources they need to best support the children and families in their cultures.

Washoe ECAC

Primary Contact: Kacey Edgington – kedgington@washoeschools.net

Update: On September 30th from 4-6pm, the Washoe ECAC will host a membership social focusing on committee work around the topic of transitions to kindergarten. Our goal is to have 50 participants from the PreK and Kindergarten communities. Each committee will be awarded mini-grants to complete their work throughout the year.

Carson/Douglas ECAC

Primary Contact: Tiffany Olivas – tolivas@doe.nv.gov

Updates:

- Gift cards for Lakeshore Learning Materials in the amount of \$570 were awarded to local ECE programs to recognize their work and further quality in their programs. Fourteen programs were gifted from Carson, Minden and Gardnerville.
- We have invited guest speakers to attend our meetings, including representatives from Candelen (in August), and Wonderschool (planned for Oct) in the hopes of bring these valuable services to our children, families, and ECE providers.

- We are in the mist of planning our 2022 Fall Conference. It will be held at Western Nevada College on Saturday October 22. The theme for this year is **Better Together...** because in our community we believe that working strategically with our school district and creating strong partnerships between Carson and Douglas ECE Communities make us better and stronger advocates for our youngest children. We still have training opportunities and vendor table availability! Please reach out to Ali Cooper to discuss. (ali@smallblessingsumc.org).