



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

PARTNER SUMMARY REPORT

January 2023

Department of Education

Office of Early Learning & Development – Patti Oya

- Awarded Preschool Development Grant Birth through 5:
 - \$10 million per year for three years (\$30 million total)
 - New positions to support the work of the activities
 - Upcoming Public Canvas Course to explore projects and activities / Get Involved
 - Continued ECAC partnership and collaboration
 - ***Grant Activities Outline***
 - Update Needs Assessment
 - Collaborate with ECAC to update strategic plan and support subcommittee work plan development
 - Family Engagement in the B-5 system
 - Support Early Childhood Workforce
 - Support Quality improvements
 - Subawards/Projects
 - Early Head Start Home Visiting, Pyramid Model, Pilot Expanded Eligibility for NR!PK, Support for Children Experiencing Homelessness, Rural Innovation and Networking, Specialized Professional Development
- Nevada Pre-Kindergarten Standards Revision 2023
 - Upcoming stakeholder input opportunity to review the draft revised standards (early March)
- Developmentally Appropriate Practice Kindergarten Policy Statement
 - Presented to Nevada State Board of Education, January 12, 2023
 - coming soon...B-3 Toolkit & Implementation Resources for DAP K
- Early Learning Institute 2023

Early Childhood Special Education

- No update provided

Office of Student & School Supports – Alberto Quintero

- No update provided

Department of Health and Human Services

Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Child Care Development Program –
Karissa Loper

- Effective November 1, 2022, the State of Nevada, Child Care and Development Program (CCDP), in partnership with The Children’s Cabinet, The Las Vegas Urban League, and Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) launched the Infant/Toddler Slots Pilot Program. During the initial phase licensed providers, operating within the identified promise zones across Nevada, were invited to participate in a Nevada Registry approved training to learn more about the program, eligibility requirements, and additional grant funding. As a result a total of 6 slots were awarded to providers in the promise zones.
- The availability of this pilot program expanded statewide on Friday, January 6, 2023. All licensed providers were notified, via email, about the program and its expanded availability. Since then, the CCDP email inbox has been flooded with interest from the community with questions, application request, and grant request. As a result, we currently have received thirty (30) infant slot request and one-hundred and forty-two (142) toddler slot request. Originally, the goal of the Infant/Toddler Slots Pilot Program was to increase capacity by two hundred (200) total slots statewide, however, given the vast interest just within the last week, that number could potentially increase based on funding. This pilot program is currently funded with ARPA Discretionary Funds.
- Any additional questions or inquiries can be sent to CCDP@dwss.nv.gov please include the phrase “Infant/Toddler Slots” in the subject line.

Division of Child and Family Services, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health – Rhonda Lawrence

- No update provided

Department of Public and Behavioral Health, Child Care Licensing – Latisha Brown

- No update provided

Department of Public and Behavioral Health, Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health – Vickie Ives

- **Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health** - Tami M. Conn, MPH, Section Manager
 - The Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Section (MCAH) has been participating in the Strong Start Health and Wellbeing Workgroup with the Children’s Advocacy Alliance.
 - The MCAH Section has a new Maternal and Infant Health Program Coordinator, Tasha Cadwallader
 - The MCAH Section and Nevada State Immunization Program collaborated on a sensory friendly vaccine kit, designed for kids and adults with disabilities. Items provide distractions and pain relief during shots.
 - MCAH has a partnership with REMSA to provide safe sleep education and cribs and car seats. MCAH provided additional funding to REMSA to support outreach to underserved populations. The goal is to reduce infant mortality and increase awareness of safe sleep and child passenger safety among populations with racial/ethnic health disparities and those disproportionately affected by infant mortality.
 - Nevada Home Visiting federal ARPA funded efforts continue with local implementing agencies
 - MCAH Data Dashboard:
<https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjoiTmY2Y0OTgtOGFiOS00OTEyLWFFkM2QtNmQ2NTI1YjI5YjgzIiwidCI6ImU0YTtM0MGU2LWI4OWUtNGU2OC04ZWFFhLTE1NDRkMjcwMzk4MCJ9>
- **WIC** – Andrea Rivers, MS, Section Manager
 - The temporary increase of available Cash Value Benefit (CVB) remains included in the current Continuing Resolution (CR) through December 16, 2022, for WIC families to purchase fresh, canned and frozen fruits and vegetables. An increase to the CVB amounts (originally \$9 and \$11 dollars per month) has been available to eligible WIC participants since June 1, 2021. CVB

to purchase fruits and vegetables is redeemed by nearly 80% of WIC participants monthly. There are many advocacy efforts through the National WIC Association (NWA) imploring Congress to maintain the increase for families in future funding cycles.

- The current funding levels per WIC participant:
 - Children \$25/month
 - Pregnant/Postpartum Women \$44/month
 - Fully/Partially Breastfeeding Women \$49/month
 - Fully/Partially Breastfeeding Multiples Women \$73.50/month
- **Nevada State Immunization Program** - Kristy Zigenis, Section Manager
 - The Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program was created as part of the federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, Section 1928 of the Social Security Act, in August 1993. The goal of this federally funded program is to improve vaccine availability nationwide by providing vaccines at no cost to VFC-eligible children through public and private providers enrolled in the program. The program is regulated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and National Immunization Program (NIP). The VFC program is now operational in all 50 states, Washington D.C., and eight territories including the U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and Guam. Nevada began its VFC program in October of 1994.
 - VFC vaccines are purchased under CDC contract and are supplied to enrolled providers at no cost. VFC enrolled patients may not be charged for the cost of the vaccine. Office visits may be charged, and Medicaid and Medicaid Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) may be billed for vaccine administration fees. Families not covered by Medicaid or Medicaid HMOs may be charged a vaccine administration fee. This administration fee should not exceed the fee cap of \$22.57, which is established by the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA). This fee may be adjusted based on the family's ability to pay.
 - The objective of the Nevada State Immunization Program is to increase the immunization levels of children by eliminating the cost barrier that has prevented some private health care providers from immunizing children whose parents could not afford the vaccine. It also helps ensure that every VFC eligible child does not contract a vaccine preventable disease. The Nevada Immunization Program works closely with Local Health Districts and the community to help develop and implement systems to assess immunizations levels statewide.
 - Patients who qualify for VFC vaccines are as follows:
 - Ages 0-18 years
 - Medicaid eligible or enrolled
 - Uninsured
 - Native American or Alaskan Native - As defined by the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1603)
 - Underinsured
- **Oral Health** - Jannette Gomez
 - The Nevada Oral Health State Plan 2022-2032 was recently developed and will be published on the Nevada Oral Health Program website soon. Through the research for the state plan, the Nevada Oral Health Program found that oral health disparities exist in Nevada children. Nevada children had higher rates of decayed teeth or cavities compared to the U.S. 20% of Hispanic children have decayed teeth or cavities, compared with 11.5% of White children. In addition, 25 % of non-English speaking households have children with decayed teeth or cavities, compared with 13.5% of English-speaking households. 8.3% of 3-5-Year-Old Head Start enrollees did not receive needed dental treatment. The Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) includes results that describe the oral health care of pregnant and perinatal people. PRAMS data show that approximately 35% of women had their teeth cleaned before pregnancy; 34 % had their teeth cleaned during pregnancy; while 73.4% had insurance to cover dental care during

pregnancy in 2020. Poor oral health during pregnancy can lead to poor health outcomes for the parent and baby. Improving oral health for pregnant people is one way to prevent cavities in young children, as pregnancy may make people more prone to periodontal disease and cavities. Therefore, oral health is considered an important part of prenatal care.

- The Nevada Oral Health Program will be using this data as a guide to increase oral health education and awareness for children and pregnant people.

Director’s Office, Aging and Disability Services, Part C and NEIS – Dr. Lori Ann Malina-Lovell

- No update provided

Pyramid Model Update – Janice Lee

- No update provided

NevAEYC Update – Carrie Paldi

- No update provided

Nevada Child Care Provider Action Committee – Carrie Paldi

- No update provided

Pritzker PN3 Initiative and Early Childhood Policy Update – Jamelle Nance

- No update provided

Strong Start Update – Annette Dawson-Owens

- No update provided

HRSA Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Health Integration Grant – Denise Tanata

- The NV HRSA ECCS Systems Asset and Gap Analysis (SAGA) has been completed in draft form. Revisions are currently being made to the document, which will be shared publicly soon.
- The Children’s Cabinet has hired Tiffany Olivas as the new HRSA ECCS Manager II to support the ongoing and continuous work of this project. Tiffany’s email is tolivas@childrencabinet.org.

ECE Workforce Plan – Marty Elquist

- Each working group of the Workforce Framework has met once. working groups are:
 - Professional Development & Pathways
 - Workforce Conditions & Supports
 - Compensation & Financial Incentives
 - Workforce Data
 - Leadership/Steering
- Each workgroup identified current challenges and successes
- Each workgroup will meet up to four more times.
- Leadership/Steering group reviewed the challenges/success for each workgroup area and added an additional area for Systems to address systems-level challenges that are impacting the workgroup areas like background checks.
- SRI is currently scheduling next round of workgroup meetings.

NV Early Childhood Family Leadership Council – Ashley Dines

- No update provided

Research and Needs Assessments – Dr. Amanda Haboush-Deloye

- A comprehensive and updated list of Needs Assessments, Feasibility Studies, Reports and other documents can be found on the Nevada ECAC website at: <http://nvecac.com/ecac-reports-documents/>

New or Potential Grants and Funding – All

- [HRSA-23-070 – Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics Training Program](#) – Closing Date: January 19, 2023
 - This notice announces the opportunity to apply for funding under the Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics (DBP) Training Program. By expanding the DBP workforce, children with a wide range of developmental and behavioral concerns will have increased access to evaluation and services that address medical and psychosocial aspects of development. Through this award, programs will:
 - Prepare DBP fellows and other long-term trainees (LTTs) for leadership roles as teachers, investigators, and clinicians.
 - Build workforce capacity to evaluate for, diagnose or rule out developmental disabilities (DD), including autism, and other behavioral health concerns.
 - Prepare trainees to participate in clinical care and research training across the broad range of behavioral and developmental health concerns.
 - Provide pediatric practitioners, residents, and medical students with essential psychosocial knowledge and clinical expertise.
 - Provide technical assistance (TA) to strengthen systems of care for children who may have autism/DD and their families. TA recipients may include state Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant agencies and community agencies.
 - Each recipient will accomplish this purpose through five overarching objectives:
 - Objective 1: Recruit and train 10 LTTs, including 5 DBP fellows and 5 other LTTs, over the 5-year period of performance.
 - Objective 2: Conduct one activity per year to address equity and improve access to DBP services.
 - Objective 3: Provide training to a minimum of 200 short- and medium-term trainees per year.
 - Objective 4: Train a minimum of 150 practicing providers through continuing education per year.
 - Objective 5: Provide a minimum of 10 technical assistance (TA) activities per year to strengthen systems of care for children who may have autism/DD and their families.
- Caplan Foundation for Early Childhood – earlychildhoodfoundation.org – LOI Due: January 31, 2023
 - The Caplan Foundation for Early Childhood is an incubator of promising research and development projects that appear likely to improve the welfare of young children, from infancy through 7 years, in the United States. Welfare is broadly defined to include physical and mental health, safety, nutrition, education, play, familial support, acculturation, societal integration and childcare.
 - Grants are only made if a successful project outcome will likely be of significant interest to other professionals, within the grantee's field of endeavor, and would have a direct benefit and potential national application. The Foundation's goal is to provide seed money to implement those imaginative proposals that exhibit the greatest chance of improving the lives of young

children, on a national scale. Because of the Foundation's limited funding capability, it seeks to maximize a grant's potential impact.

Training & Professional Development Opportunities – All

- Register to attend the **Nevada Association of Positive Behavior Support (Nevada APBS) Network Conference** at Suncoast Hotel in Las Vegas Feb. 9-10, 2023. Information and registration: <https://bit.ly/3EV9QhS> (from Janice Lee, Nevada Pyramid Model Partnership)
- **Nevada Early Learning Institute** (Virtual) – February 25th through March 10th, 2023 – Contact Patti Oya (poya@doe.nv.gov) or Dr. Linda Young (linda@villagestarfish.org)
- **Nevada Afterschool Network 2023 Afterschool Showcase** – March 9th-10th, 2023 - <https://www.nevadaafterschool.org/2023afterschoolshowcase.html>
- **Children's Week at the NV Legislature** will take place March 13-16, 2023 in Carson City, NV, at the Nevada State Legislature. For more information, visit the following link: <https://nic.unlv.edu/childrensweek.html>. If your organization is interested in getting involved, please complete the Children's Week Involvement Survey (bit.ly/CW23GetInvolved). Parents and families interested in riding the bus from Las Vegas to Carson City to attend Children's Day on Monday, March 13, 2022, should complete the Bus Registration Survey (bit.ly/CW23BusRegistration)
- Registration is full (with a wait list option) for the **National Training Institute (NTI) on Effective Practices: Addressing Challenging Behavior**. NTI brings experts from around the country to provide an in-depth learning experience built around the Pyramid Model. April 11-14, 2023 in Tampa, FL, <https://web.cvent.com/event/ed2d5850-15b2-4c94-8ea8-4af19fdc4101/summary> (from Janice Lee, Nevada Pyramid Model Partnership)
- **NevAEYC Conference** – Las Vegas – May 18th-20th, 2023 - <https://nevaeyc.org/events/state-conference/>
- **National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) Annual Conference** – Atlanta, GA - <https://nafcc.org/news-events/>
- **Provider Success Series** - Monthly series through September: All sessions start at 6pm: <https://dpbh.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/dpbh.nv.gov/content/Reg/childCare/Folders/Training/ProviderSuccessSeries.pdf> Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/provider-success-series-1461959> (not all sessions are available for registration yet).