



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) POLICY AND FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE **PUBLIC MEETING** **THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2023** **1:00 PM**

“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 Teams videoconference.

SUMMARY MINUTES

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call

Denise Tanata, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:03pm.

Members in attendance:

- Denise Tanata
- Julie Houchins
- Patti Oya
- Lela Arney
- Ashley Dines
- Katarina Jackson
- Anna Marie Binder

Public in attendance:

- Tiffany Olivas
- Mary Regan
- Elyse Monroy-Marsala
- Jamelle Nance
- Dr. Linda Young

2. Public Comment #1

No public comment

3. Approval of a Flexible Agenda

Patti Oya motioned for approval of a flexible agenda.

Julie Houchins seconded the motion.

All members voted in favor, motion passed.



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4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 8, 2022

Julie Houchins motioned to approve the minutes, as presented, from the December 8, 2022 meeting.

Ashley Dines seconded the motion.

All members voted in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Discuss Subcommittee Workplan

- Denise Tanata mentioned that all of the subcommittee workplans are going to be kept in one document to support communication on updates between the subcommittees.
- Denise Tanata reported that the ECAC will begin using OnStrategy again this year, so it will be important to develop metrics for the workplan activities that can be entered into that system.
- Objective 4.1 – Fiscal Analysis – The Children’s Funding Project is the contractor working on this project. They are still in the process of collecting data with state agencies to verify accuracy of the budget information. For this subcommittee, we will need to start thinking about what the financial need is for the early childhood programs and services. Currently, there are projects to conduct cost modeling for child care subsidy and Nevada Ready! PreK, but need to start looking at what actual or needed costs are for the other programs in the early childhood system.
 - Denise Tanata recommended that we include this work into our work plan.
 - Patti Oya agreed, recognizing that there are a lot of projects going on right now, but we need to think about the fiscal impacts moving forward. This should include the infrastructure projects, such as data systems.
 - Lela Arney asked if the plan is to use those cost modeling projects to contribute to what funding is needed as part of the fiscal mapping project.
 - Denise Tanata responded by providing an overview of the fiscal mapping project, starting with an analysis of what funding currently exists, then looking at how much funding is needed to support the programs. The analysis of what funding is needed should include true or actual costs – what is needed to adequately support our early childhood system to serve all eligible populations.
 - Lela Arney mentioned that it will be important to include the workforce data as well.
 - Denise Tanata proposed the following activity to be added to the workplan document:
 - Identify all projects and analyses currently taking place or needed to estimate the actual or needed costs for all early childhood system, program, service and infrastructure needs.
 - Denise Tanata will draft some sub activities to include with this, including reaching out to other organizations about activities and analyses currently taking place.
 - Patti Oya asked how we are going to expand it out to the other programs and services, outside the scope of the members of this subcommittee.
 - Denise Tanata referenced that there is a meeting taking place in February to include leadership across the early childhood system to identify a unified vision and hopes that we can engage those partners in this process by asking them what funds they need to fully implement their specific programs.
- Objective 4.2 – Policy and Fiscal Changes Needed
 - Denise Tanata conducted a search of relevant bill draft requests in the upcoming legislative session. A list was provided to the subcommittee as part of the meeting materials.
 - BDR 788 sponsored by Assemblywoman Thomas makes revisions to the Nevada ECAC and is likely the recommended changes made by the ECAC in our 2022 annual report.
 - Denise Tanata asked if the Children’s Advocacy Alliance has any additional updates on relevant bills.
 - Jamelle Nance responded that they will review the list and get back to us with any details.
 - Patti Oya mentioned that a bill regarding kindergarten entry age is anticipated, but she is not sure of the bill draft number or sponsor at this time.
 - Denise Tanata asked if any other lists of relevant bills is available, as we do not want to duplicate efforts.



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- Denise Tanata recommended the following key activities under Objective 4.2 for 2023:
 - Maintain a list of relevant bills going through in the 2023 Nevada Legislative Session that impact the early childhood system
 - Work with Communications to keep our members and partners informed
 - Develop a list of additional policy changes that are needed to improve our early childhood system – specific list of policies developed by the end of the calendar year.
 - Develop a process to gather this information and synthesize the information to provide to our advocates and policy experts.
 - Develop a list of key champions for early childhood system issues.
- Denise Tanata discussed efforts to share issues or barriers that might need to be addressed through other subcommittees or efforts.
 - Patti Oya asked if this would come out of the Systems Subcommittee
 - Denise Tanata referenced that this issue is probably larger than just the ECAC and gave an example of the Early Childhood Community Health Worker Program identifying system issues – how do they relay that issue to the right person or organization to address.
 - Lela Arney referenced similar issues with the Child Care Provider Action Committee – having a place to take potential issues to be acted on.
 - The group discussed needing to establish a systemic approach to identifying barriers that need to be addressed.
 - Jamelle Nance if Children’s Advocacy Alliance might serve in a role to support receiving information, potentially establishing a portal or system for collecting information and sharing the issues out with the appropriate entities.
 - Elyse thanked the group for this conversation as she didn’t realize the early childhood system didn’t have these structures in place that exist in other systems in Nevada.
 - Patti Oya referenced that having an entity that can put the information together, such as drafting bill language ready to edit, is needed.
 - Denise recommended adding an activity in the workplan, as follows:
 - Establish system for sharing policy issues/priorities impacting the early childhood system that is equitable, accessible and sustainable including processes for follow up and implementation.
- Denise Tanata asked the group if we need to add any activities related to talking points for the ECAC bill draft request, Children’s Week or other related activities.
 - The group recommended adding an activity in the workplan, as follows:
 - Develop talking point or key messaging for identified policy priorities.
- Denise Tanata will update the workplan document, including key metrics, to share and discuss at the next meeting in February.

6. Update and Discussion on Fiscal Mapping Project

- No additional updates from what was discussed in the previous agenda item.

7. Discuss Policy Priorities

- No additional updates from what was discussed in the previous agenda item.

8. Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Discuss updates on policy issues – Jamelle with invite someone from Belz & Case to provide updates



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- Children's Week at the Legislature – Invite Amanda or someone from NICRP to discuss activities and how we can get involved.
- Workplan document revisions

9. Public comment #2

- Anna Marie Binder mentioned the Behavioral Mental Health meeting was yesterday and it came up that the state does not prioritize birth to 12 years old for behavioral health and it will be discussed at the next meeting. Anna has also been appointed as chair of legislative subcommittee, so would like to collaborate.

10. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:09pm