



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) POLICY AND FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE **PUBLIC MEETING** **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 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

Julie Houchins, Subcommittee Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 1:06pm. Quorum was achieved with 8 of 11 members present.

Member Roll Call:

- Julie Houchins, Co-Chair - Present
- Denise Tanata, Co-Chair – NOT Present
- Marty Elquist, SEED Director, The Children’s Cabinet - Present
- Patti Oya, NDE OELD, Director - Present
- Lela Arney, ARP Project Manager, The Children’s Cabinet - Present
- Brianna Cambra, Quality Manager, The Children’s Cabinet - Present
- Ashley Dines, Parent Leadership Coordinator, The Children’s Cabinet - Present
- Katarina Jackson, Provider Representative - Present
- Brian Cullen, DWSS CCDP – Not Present
- Nicole Martin, DWSS CCDP – Not Present
- Anna Marie Binder, Parent Representative - Present

Public in Attendance:

- Amanda Haboush Deloye, NICRP
- Rachel Stepina, NDE OELD
- Annette Dawson Owens, CAA

2. Public Comment #1

No public comment was provided.

3. Approval of a Flexible Agenda

- Anna Marie Binder motioned for a flexible agenda.



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- Marty Elquist seconded the motion.
- Motion approved.

- Julie Houchins moved to agenda item number 7, Discuss Policy Priorities, to accommodate schedules.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 12, 2023

- Anna Marie Binder motioned to approve the minutes from January 12, 2023 as drafted.
- Patti Oya seconded the motion.
- Marty Elquist and Brianna Cambra abstained from the vote since they were not present at the meeting.
- All other members voted in favor of the motion.
- Motion passed.

5. Discuss Subcommittee Workplan

- Julie Houchins shared the Subcommittee Workplan document with the subcommittee and provided an overview of the status of key activities.
- Section 4.1 Revisions – Identifying other efforts to review costs
 - Anna Marie Binder asked how this might align with the work of the Data Subcommittee which is compiling a list of data sources for all of the early childhood systems programs.
 - Marty Elquist, Chair of the Data and Evaluation Subcommittee commented that the list is still in the process of being developed.
 - Anna Marie Binder suggested that these efforts be aligned to ensure coordination and alignment.
 - Marty Elquist commented that they would need about three to four months to complete this work.
- Julie Houchins asked if there was anything to add to the Intersections/Barriers section of the workplan. Do we need to have anyone else at the table for these discussions?
 - Marty Elquist responded that we definitely do not have everyone here, but will be hard during legislative session to get all of the right people here at the table
 - Participants referenced needing to have representatives from DWSS (already serving on this subcommittee, but not present today), Maternal and Child Health is another group that should be represented here.
 - Julie Houchins mentioned that Denise Tanata asked if anyone might be available to assist with compiling fiscal notes or bill draft reviews?
 - Anna Marie Binder offered to assist with conducting reviews and will also work with CAA on this.
 - Marty Elquist suggested that Children’s Advocacy Alliance have a representative on this committee. This subcommittee is too Children’s Cabinet heavy and needs more diverse representation.
 - Annette Dawson Owens agreed to serve since she attends already.
 - Lela Arney referenced that she is attending in her role as VP of Public Policy for NevAEYC in addition to her role with The Children’s Cabinet.
- Julie Houchins referenced that they had discussed the policy sections in Item 7 discussion.

6. Update and Discussion on Fiscal Mapping Project

- Julie Houchins provided the update that the project is still in progress and there are no new updates from the last meeting. They are still verifying information from the state agencies.



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7. Discuss Policy Priorities

- Julie Houchins introduced the discussion, referencing two bill introductions relevant to the Nevada ECAC, AB113 (establishing a Governor's Office for Early Childhood Systems) and AB114 (revising purpose and membership of the Nevada ECAC), both introduced by Assemblywoman Thomas.
- Amanda Haboush Deloye provided a brief update on Children's Week at the Legislature, scheduled for the week of March 13th. Monday, 3/13 will be Children's Day, focused on education and early learning, Tuesday will focus on mental wellness, Wednesday on physical wellness and Thursday on safety. We expect the largest attendance on Monday, with a press conference scheduled for 10:00am. The press conference will be preceded by an overview of the NV Afterschool Network and the Bears on Parade event. Participants will also be able to sit with their representatives on the floor. Amanda mentioned there are 48 people signed up for the bus, so there are a few seats remaining if anyone else is interested. If you are planning to attend, please complete the attendance survey. Amanda mentioned that they are also still collecting testimonials and artwork for the event. All information, including survey links and information on submitting testimonials is available on the Children's Week website at: <https://nic.unlv.edu/childrens-week/>. The site also includes a bill tracker list, which will be updated soon through a new service from Children's Advocacy Alliance in the next few weeks.
- Anna Marie Binder asked if there are any complimentary activities planned for Grant Sawyer in Las Vegas for parents who are not able to travel to Carson City. Amanda responded that there are no activities planned for Las Vegas at this time, but open to discussing this for future events.
- Annette Dawson Owens shared the bill tracking spreadsheet. She referenced AB113 and AB114. Annette referenced several additional bills:
 - AB65 – Restorative justice practices
 - Health bills – there will be a bill for presumptive eligibility, changing language for fetal alcohol spectrum
 - Child Care – working on bill to change HOA and zoning regulations
 - Safety – also working on some child welfare bills
- Annette mentioned that CAA is also working with a group to setup the bill tracker, which will be available soon and they are starting the weekly legislative updates on Tuesdays at 11:30am.
- Julie asked Patti if there were any updates on AB113.
- Patti responded that the bill is moving forward and that there is a recommended amendment to require the NV ECAC to recommend three individuals to the Governor for consideration for the position. Patti also discussed AB114, indicating that the NV Department of Education has always been associated with the NV ECAC, but there has never been fiscal support. As such, NDE has included a fiscal note to the bill to provide ongoing support for the NV ECAC. This funding is currently included in the PDG B5 grant, so would not impact the upcoming biennial budget.
- Patti also referenced AB65. This is a large bill that covers many topics, including the Kindergarten cutoff date. The language moves the cutoff date from the first day of school to August 1st. Since Kindergarten is not mandatory, this bill also addresses students who may start later, for example ensuring that a seven year old does not get placed into a Kindergarten classroom. Patti also referenced there is a lot of confusion by parents and it's important to ensure they are aware of cutoff dates and can plan accordingly.
- Rachel Stepina asked if parents who are impacted should participate in the bill hearing. Patti responded that anyone can provide comment and Patti has prepared an overview email that she will share with the group, which each person can edit with their own contact information.
- Julie asked if there were any other policy issues that need to be addressed?
- Anna Marie Binder mentioned OSEP and the need to coordinate with the NV ECAC and this subcommittee. We'd like to make sure the special education, early education and disabilities councils are coordinating.
- Julie Houchins moved back to Item Number 4.



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8. Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Julie Houchins asked the group if there were any items they would like included on the March 9th agenda. Julie mentioned a couple items requested by Denise Tanata:
 - Update on priorities in the 2023 session
 - Subcommittee membership
 - Develop list of running/ongoing policy issues for 2025 session
 - Brianna Cambra asked what format that be kept in. Will it be something that can be shared with the group? Julie mentioned that Denise had created a list, so she wasn't sure if a system had been created.
 - Lela Arney mentioned there is a group of providers who are putting together a presentation on NABS to be given at Children's Week, in case there is interest from this group.

9. Public comment #2

- Marty Elquist – The 2022 Demographics Report has been complete and is posted online at:
<https://www.childrencabinet.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/2022-Demographics-Report-FINAL.pdf>

10. Adjournment

- Julie Houchins adjourned the meeting at 1:52pm.