



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)

PUBLIC MEETING

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH AND 9TH, 2021

“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.”

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING – STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT (IN PERSON IN LAS VEGAS AND VIDEO CONFERENCED)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2021:

1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, AND ROLL CALL

Denise Tanata, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Chair called the meeting to order, 12:03 PM. Quorum is met.

Council Members in Attendance:

- Alberto Quintero, Nevada Department of Education
- Carrie Paldi, Learning Care Group
- Cathleen Rexing, Nevada Department of Education, Part B
- Denise Tanata, Other members as the Governor deems necessary
- Diane Nicolet, Washoe County School District Trustee
- Heike Ruedenauer-Plummer, Other members as the Governor deems necessary
- Jenna Weglarz Ward, Nevada System of Higher Education, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Julie Houchins, United Way of Southern Nevada
- Linda Young, Other members as the Governor deems necessary
- Lori Ann Malina-Lovell, Part C
- Marty Elquist, The Children’s Cabinet
- Patrice Gardner, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning & Development, Head Start State Collaboration Office
- Tina Springmeyer, Washoe County School District

Public in Attendance:

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Nevada Institute for Children’s Research and Policy
- Angela Rose, City of Las Vegas
- Ann Polakowski, Nevada Division of Child and Family Services
- Anna Severens, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning & Development
- Anna Villatoro, Children’s Advocacy Alliance
- Annetee Dawson-Owens, Children’s Advocacy Alliance
- Ashleigh Baker, Intertribal Council of Nevada
- Ashley Dines, The Children’s Cabinet



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- Brianna Cambra, The Children's Cabinet
- Colleen Han, Intertribal Council of Nevada
- Danielle Holmes, The Children's Cabinet
- Emily Champlin, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early learning & Development
- Evelyn Dryer, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Maternal and Child Health
- Glenda Billingsly, Las Vegas Clark County Library District
- Jaime Quiazon, The Children's Cabinet
- Janice Lee, University of Nevada, Reno
- Janna Rightmire, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, CCDP
- Jennifer Butler, Las Vegas Urban League
- Jon Ball, Professionals in Philanthropy
- Kacey Edgington, Washoe County School District
- Kagan Griffin, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Maternal and Child Health
- Kaitlin Lewallen, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning & Development
- Krisann Alvarez, Nevada Division of Child and Family Services
- Lela Arney, The Children's Cabinet
- Lisa Segler, Professionals in Philanthropy
- Mary Buchmann, The Children's Cabinet
- Mary Regan, Las Vegas Urban League
- Maura Snyder, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Child Care Program
- Mia Pace, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Mirna Mejia, Las Vegas Urban League
- Nicole Martin, Division of Welfare & Supportive Services, Child Care Program
- Page Patton, Professionals in Philanthropy
- Patti Oya, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early learning & Development
- Rose Park, Professionals in Philanthropy
- Stacey Joyner, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Stacey Wedding, Professionals in Philanthropy
- Stephanie Dotson, Nevada Division of Child and Family Services, NV Peds Program
- Tara Phebus, City of Henderson
- Tiffany Olivas, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Tiffany Tyler Garner, Children's Advocacy Alliance
- Vickie Ives, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Maternal and Child Health

2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

No public commented provided.

3. WELCOME AND SETTING THE STAGE FOR THE ECAC STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

Denise Tanata and Marty Elquist provided some opening remarks:

- Denise thanked everyone for attending in person and virtually. First time everyone's been together in a while. She thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve as Chair of the NECAC.
- Denise announced the appointment of four new Council members: Diane Nicolet, Cathleen Rexing, Maggie Salas Crespo and Dr. Rebecca Meyers.



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- Because of the nature of the retreat, the 2 days are meant to be open for discussion, like a large public comment. Whether you're an official member of the ECAC or key stakeholder or from the public, everyone has an opportunity to participate.
- No voting will happen in next 2 days.
- Strategic facilitators will take feedback from the next couple of days and will compile into a planning document to be discussed and voted on by the NECAC at the December 15, 2021 meeting.
- Marty and Denise discussed the need to focus on a systems level framework for the Strategic Plan. Marty provided a visual representation of the early childhood system in comparison to building a stable home.

4. PRESENTATION: TITLE V MCH PRIORITIES

Vickie Ives and Kagan Griffin provided a presentation on Title V MCH Priorities:

- Kagan Griffin provided a power point presentation outlining the main performance measures for the Title V MCH Block Grant, with an emphasis on items that align with the early childhood sector.

5. ECAC STRATEGIC PLANNING DISCUSSION AND SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

Denise Tanata introduced Stacey Wedding, the Strategic Plan facilitator and her team, who lead the strategic planning activities for the day.

- Stacey Wedding provided an overview of the Strategic Planning process for the retreat and guidelines for engagement.
- Stacey Wedding led the group in an opening activity where participants were paired to discuss their own early childhood experiences and what made a positive difference in their life.
- Stacey Wedding offered a presentation to lay the foundation for the retreat and the ECAC Strategic Plan which included confirming our vision, mission and values as well as an overview of the Comprehensive Early Childhood Systems Framework.
- Stacey Wedding and Lisa Segler went over the strategic planning process to date, including an overview of the data collection and analysis from surveys and key informant interviews. Results from the data indicate that people are ready to move forward (less talk and more action) and that we need to focus on infrastructure and systems level work versus programmatic level activities. The feedback also indicated that the ECAC needs to focus on goals, objectives and activities within the ECACs control and authority.
- Denise Tanata and Marty Elquist presented the strategic framework and draft goals to the group.
- Stacey Wedding led the group in a small group discussion activity to discuss what they heard in reference to the goals, what it means to the ECAC and system as a whole, and any implications or concerns about they heard. Each group then reported out on their discussions.
- Stacey Wedding led the group in a facilitated discussion to review feedback and address any points of concern presented by the group. She then provided an overview of what to expect for day two of the retreat.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

- Dr. Tyler-Garner: Great discussion. Great planning process. Loved responding to already established goals. Loved the philosophy and principles. Great first day of the retreat.
- Denise Tanata: Thanked everyone for attending and especially two of our new Council members, Cathleen Rexing and Diane Nicolet, who were just appointed last week.

7. ADJOURNMENT

- **4:23pm**



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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2021:

1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, AND ROLL CALL

Denise Tanata, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Chair called the meeting to order, 9:03AM. Quorum is met.

Council Members in Attendance:

- Alberto Quintero, Nevada Department of Education
- Carrie Paldi, Learning Care Group
- Cathleen Rexing, Nevada Department of Education, Part B
- Denise Tanata, Other members as the Governor deems necessary
- Heike Ruedenauer-Plummer, Other members as the Governor deems necessary
- Jenna Weglarz Ward, Nevada System of Higher Education, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Julie Houchins, United Way of Southern Nevada
- Linda Young, Other members as the Governor deems necessary
- Lori Ann Malina-Lovell, Part C
- Marty Elquist, The Children's Cabinet
- Patrice Gardner, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning & Development, Head Start State Collaboration Office
- Tina Springmeyer, Washoe County School District

Public in Attendance:

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy
- Angela Rose, City of Las Vegas
- Ann Polakowski, Nevada Division of Child and Family Services
- Anna Severens, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning & Development
- Anna Villatoro, Children's Advocacy Alliance
- Annetee Dawson-Owens, Children's Advocacy Alliance
- Ashleigh Baker, Intertribal Council of Nevada
- Ashley Dines, The Children's Cabinet
- Brianna Cambra, The Children's Cabinet
- Colleen Han, Intertribal Council of Nevada
- Danielle Holmes, The Children's Cabinet
- Emily Champlin, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early learning & Development
- Glenda Billingsly, Las Vegas Clark County Library District
- Jamelle Nance, Children's Advocacy Alliance
- Janna Rightmire, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, CCDP
- Jennifer Butler, Las Vegas Urban League
- Jon Ball, Professionals in Philanthropy
- Kacey Edgington, Washoe County School District
- Kaitlin Lewallen, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning & Development
- Krisann Alvarez, Nevada Division of Child and Family Services
- Lela Arney, The Children's Cabinet



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- Mary Buchmann, The Children's Cabinet
- Mary Regan, Las Vegas Urban League
- Matthew Hoffman, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Maura Snyder, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Child Care Program
- Mia Pace, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Mirna Mejia, Las Vegas Urban League
- Nicole Martin, Division of Welfare & Supportive Services, Child Care Program
- Page Patton, Professionals in Philanthropy
- Patti Oya, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early learning & Development
- Rose Park, Professionals in Philanthropy
- Sherry Waugh, University of Nevada Reno
- Stacey Joyner, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Stacey Wedding, Professionals in Philanthropy
- Stephanie Dotson, Nevada Division of Child and Family Services, NV Peds Program
- Tara Phebus, City of Henderson
- Tiffany Olivas, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Tiffany Tyler Garner, Children's Advocacy Alliance
- Vickie Ives, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Maternal and Child Health

2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

- Stacey Joyner: As we go through the strategic planning process today, in the back of our mind, we should consider the possibility of getting huge amounts of federal finding for childcare and universal Pre-K. Keep in the back of minds as going through the process—think big rather than being cautious (we don't have the \$ for that so let's tear it down). Think big just in case.
- Marika Baren works with Social Entrepreneurs Inc, small consulting firm based out of Reno, NV. Serve as contract coordinator for Rural NV Continuum of Care (RNCOC) – collaborative of providers that represent 15 frontier and rural communities with mission of preventing and ending homelessness in rural NV. Also means by which vital federal funding for homelessness and homeless services is distributed across this geographic area. Recently received a nudge from HUD (delivered via most recent funding announcement) to develop relationships with early childhood development orgs such as the ECAC, was for COCs to strengthen connections and collaborations with early childhood orgs such as the ECAC. They recognize the value of connecting families with young children experiencing homelessness to early childhood services. They see value in deepening connection with ECAC and other orgs supporting early childhood development that operate in rural and frontier NV. They are seeking to formalize these partnerships. Advocate for consideration of these families as we work to develop strategic plan today. Has connected with Marty Elquist and looks forward to connecting with ECAC in the future.
- Heike Ruedenauer-Plummer – all children mean all children and children with special needs and English Language Learners need to be considered and included in this plan.

3. CONTINUATION OF STRATEGIC PLANNING DISCUSSION AND SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

Stacey Wedding and her team led the group in the continuation of the Strategic Plan discussion.

- Stacey Wedding opened up the discussion with a request for any additional thoughts or reflections from day one of the retreat. She then led the group in an overview of SMART objectives.
- Denise Tanata presented an overview of the proposed objectives to align with the goals presented on day one.



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- Stacey Wedding led the group in small group activities to discuss the goals and objectives presented. Participants were able to self select into a group. Each group discussed the objectives in terms of the SMART format. Groups provided feedback on revisions to the goals and objectives for discussion with the full group. The small groups then reconvened to incorporate feedback and suggested revisions from the larger group. All groups reported out on the final revisions to the five goals and their objectives.
- Stacey Wedding then led the group in a facilitated discussion about keeping the plan alive and asked each participant to consider what they will commit to the plan and how we would hold ourselves accountable to the work.
- Marty and Denise led the group in an open discussion of final thoughts and reflections.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

- Several participants offered thanks for the opportunity to participate.

5. ADJOURNMENT

- **2:39pm**