



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) SYSTEMS ALIGNMENT SUBCOMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 2022 12:30PM

*“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:**

<https://zoom.us/j/98245340095?pwd=S2VqWE96Q2tja1RQVHFpQ3JpbEt0Zz09>

Or go to [zoom.com](https://zoom.com) and enter:

Meeting ID: 982 4534 0095

Passcode: ECAC

Or call

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#### PUBLIC NOTICE

*The public is hereby noticed that the Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council reserves the right to take agenda items out of posted order (except that public hearings will not begin earlier than posted times); items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time; and items may be combined for consideration. A time for public comment is provided at the beginning and at the conclusion of the meeting. A time limit of three minutes may be imposed by the Subcommittee Co-Chairs, for public comments, in order to afford all members of the public who wish to comment, with an opportunity to do so within the timeframe available to the Council. The Subcommittee Co-Chairs reserve the right to call on individuals from the audience or to allow for testimony at any time.*

*The Subcommittee Co-Chairs reserve the right to call items of the agenda out of order as needed.*

*Reasonable efforts will be made for members of the public who have disabilities and require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting. Please contact Denise Tanata at [DTanata@childrencabinet.org](mailto:DTanata@childrencabinet.org), at least five business days in advance so that arrangements can be made.*

*This public notice has been posted at the offices of the Department of Education in Carson City and Las Vegas; Department of Health and Human Service in Carson City; and at the Nevada State Library and Archive in Carson City. Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet through the Nevada ECAC website at <http://nvecac.com>.*

*The support materials to this agenda are available, at no charge on the Nevada ECAC website at: <http://nvecac.com/> (under the meeting date referenced above) or by contacting Denise Tanata at The Children’s Cabinet, 1771 E. Flamingo Road, Suite 200B or 702.544.9629 or [DTanata@childrencabinet.org](mailto:DTanata@childrencabinet.org).*

#### MINUTES

**1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call**

*Julie Houchins, Jenna Weglarz-Ward, Subcommittee Co-Chairs*

**Quorum established and meeting called to order at 12:33pm**

Members Present: Julie Houchins, Jenna Weglarz-Ward, Rachel McKinney, Patrice Gardner, Denise Tanata, Mary Buchmann, Rachel Stepina, Diane Nicolet, Tina Spingmeyer, Emily Champlin,

Members not present: Anna Severns, Anna Binder, Ashley Dines, Cynthia Magana

Public in attendance: Tiffany Tyler-Garner, Annette Dawson Owens

**2. Review and Approval of February Minutes**

*(Discussion/Action)*



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*Julie Houchins, Subcommittee Co-Chair*

Denise Tanata moved to accept minutes,

Diane Nicolet seconded motion.

No discussion.

Motion was approved with verbal vote (12:0:0)

### 3. Public Comment #1—No public comment

*Public Comment will be taken during this agenda item regarding any item appearing on the agenda. No action may be taken on a matter discussed under this item until the matter is included on an agenda as an item on which action may be taken. The Co-Chairs may impose a time limit of three minutes. Public Comment #2 will provide an opportunity for public comment on any matter within the Subcommittee's jurisdiction, control or advisory power.*

### 4. Discussion of Systems Alignment Goals and Workplan

*(Discussion)*

*Julie Houchins, Subcommittee Co-Chair*

Group discussed 2022-2023 Workplan for Y1/Y2 of NECAC Strategic Plan with a specific focus on (re)organization and exploration. Group established clear Key Activities for Goal 2. Objective 2.1: Conduct assessment of the strengths, disparities, inequities, strategic priorities and goals among programs and agencies within the early childhood system.

Key Activity 1: Compile list of key programs and agencies in the ECCS, with primary contacts for each.

Due to the many agencies and activities related to early childhood in Nevada, the Subcommittee decided to start with gaining knowledge about what is currently happening in the state. Once this information is gathered, the Subcommittee can review and organize the connections and opportunities for alignment among programs and activities.

Denise Tanata shared activities from other groups (e.g., HRSA grant and NECAC Finance Subcommittee) that are developing system gap/asset maps by early childhood related agencies and fiscal opportunities. These will be shared at our next meetings to provide an initial list of key programs and agencies in Nevada.

Jenna Weglarz-Ward discussed the need to reach out to early childhood researchers in the state to see what data they have collected or plan to within the Strategic Plan period. This will include connecting with the Nevada Institute for Children's Research & Policy and Nevada Early Childhood Research Consortium.

Diane Nicolet began a conversation to consider gathering information on how businesses and employers are important to ensuring high quality childcare for families. It was discussed that the Children's Cabinet and the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce have collected some data related to this (e.g., how employers support employees with children, post-COVID survey).

Denise Tanata further explained how the NECAC has shifted its approach to its purpose as an advisory council to a systemic focus (e.g., infrastructure of state, policies) from a programmatic focus (e.g., assistance to specific programs, professionals, families, and children). This new approach, as described in the NECAC Strategic Plan, provides more opportunity to engage in feasible activities that impact the holistic system of early childhood education in Nevada and within the scope of a statewide advisory group. The Subcommittee found this to be helpful in crafting our future goals and activities.

The Subcommittee agreed to finalize our Key Activities for Goal 2. Objective 2.1 by our next meeting.

### 5. Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting

*(Discussion, For Possible Action)*

*Julie Houchins, Jenna Weglarz-Ward, Subcommittee Co-Chairs*

Requested Agenda Items for August 2022 Meeting:

Review and approval of minutes

Review and approve final workplan (to be sent out in advance for subcommittee review)

Denise Tanata will share documents from the initial systems gap/asset analysis

Rachel Stepina will share about the Preschool Development Grant (Birth-5; PDGB5) Systems Alignment Sharing and Discussion

Subcommittee will discuss subcommittee membership in relation to representation across different sectors of Nevada ECE system



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### 6. **Public comment #2**

*Public comment will be taken during this agenda item on any matter within the Council's jurisdiction, control, or advisory power. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter is included on an agenda as an item on which action may be taken. The Council Chair will impose a time limit of three minutes.*

Rachel Stepina—Nevada Department of Education has two employment opportunities include with the Nevada Ready Program and Nevada Silver Stars (QRIS) program. Please see Nevada Department of Education website and NVEOELD listserv for more information.

### 7. **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 1:25pm

Next meeting will take place on Wednesday, August 31 at 12:30pm via Zoom