



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) LEADERSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2022 12:30 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 called the meeting to order at 12:34pm
- Members in attendance included:
 - Denise Tanata
 - Patrice Gardner
 - Julie Houchins
 - Dr. Jenna Weglarz-Ward
 - Marty Elquist
 - Ashley Dines
 - Kathy Yoder-Bass
- Guests in attendance included:
 - Mary Regan
 - Rachel Stepina

2. Public Comment #1

- Rachel Stepina announced that the PDG B-5 notice came out and she is currently reviewing. She will be reaching out to discuss opportunities for partnership and collaboration.

3. Approval of Flexible Agenda

- Patrice Gardner motioned for the approval of a flexible agenda
- Marty Elquist seconded the motion
- All members voted in favor of the motion; motion passed unanimously

4. Minutes from July 5, 2022

- Marty Elquist motioned for approval of the minutes, as presented
- Kathy Yoder-Bass seconded the motion
- All members voted in favor of the motion; motion passed unanimously



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5. Update on NECAC Membership Appointments

- Denise Tanata provided an update on appointments.
- The Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions moved very quickly to process a large number of appointments.
- 5 members have been reappointed: Dr. Diane Nicolet, Patrice Gardner, Marty Elquist, Tina Springmeyer and Denise Tanata
- 2 new members appointed: Karissa Loper, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, and Brenda Moralez-Solorzano, Aging and Disability Services.
- 3 vacancies still remain: Seat C, previously held by Cathleen Rexing (no one to fill that position currently); Seat F, previously held by Carrie Paldi (she has reapplied, but not appointed); Seat G, previously held by Tiffany Alston (she has reapplied, but has not been reappointed)
- 2 members in Seat M have reapplied, but have not yet been appointed: Dr. Lori Ann Malina-Lovell and Dr. Linda Young
- 18 seats total, 3 vacancies – will need 10 appointed members to attend meeting to achieve quorum

6. Updates from Subcommittee Co-Chairs, Discuss Workplans

- Denise Tanata thanked the subcommittee chairs for completing the online reporting forms in advance of the meeting.
- Dr. Jenna Weglarz-Ward presented on behalf of the Systems Subcommittee. The report was completed before the last meeting, so updates were provided.
- Marty Elquist presented on behalf of Data and Evaluation Subcommittee. Marty mentioned that she is looking for a co-chair for the subcommittee. Meetings have been very in-depth to discuss what data and metrics need to be identified to support the ECAC, the subcommittees and the early childhood system as a whole. Several "buckets" have been identified. First bucket is to identify key performance indicators for early childhood systems.
- Denise Tanata asked Marty Elquist if the next meeting was properly posted on the listserv. It was determined that the meeting was posted on the NECAC website, but was not posted through the state listserv, so the meeting will need to be cancelled.
- Marty Elquist requested that a flow chart get sent out to determine who needs to do what to ensure proper posting of meetings. Denise Tanata will send that document out.
- Denise Tanata presented on behalf of the Communications and Engagement Subcommittee. Dr. Young has not yet been reappointed, so Denise Tanata has had to step in as temporary chair. Denise Tanata mentioned that the subcommittee received a presentation from Purdue, Marion & Associates regarding the early childhood campaign and will continue to work with them.
- Denise Tanata presented on behalf of the Policy and Finance Subcommittee. Denise Tanata referenced the spreadsheet that has been developed to list out state agencies, departments, programs to identify elements of the early childhood system and align with the fiscal mapping project. Denise Tanata mentioned that they received a list of funding streams from The Children's Funding Project, so she is in the process of merging those documents. Need to identify key contacts for each item on that list.
- Denise Tanata presented on behalf of the Leadership Subcommittee and made reference to the summary document. Denise Tanata will make updates to that section after the meeting and the full summary document will be posted with the NECAC meeting agenda.
- Rachel Stepina asked if the NECAC is still using OnStrategy. Denise Tanata responded that we are still contracting with OnStrategy, but the workplans and key metrics need to be developed before we can update the system. The plan is to have those key metrics in place so we can utilize the system next year.
- Rachel Stepina asked if there are any FTEs applied to the NECAC to support the work. Denise Tanata responded that NICRP is on contract through the HRSA grant to support Data and Evaluation Subcommittee, but there are no other FTEs dedicated to the NECAC, but it is needed.



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7. Discuss and Update Leadership Subcommittee Workplan

- Denise Tanata apologized for not sending the Workplan document with the meeting materials. Denise Tanata shared the draft workplan document with the subcommittee and walked through the draft key activities, many of which align with the HRSA ECCS grant activities. Denise Tanata indicated that she will share more details on the current activities at the next meeting so the subcommittee members have the details on each of the activities and what has been completed to date.
- Denise Tanata provided an overview of the draft key activities and asked if any additional key activities should be added to the workplan document.
- Marty Elquist commented that there is a lot of other working going on, such as the Fiscal Mapping and HRSA Systems Asset and Gap Analysis. Denise Tanata responded that some of those activities are included in the other workplan documents. Marty Elquist recommended that we include them for cross-reference so each document provides a clear outline of the activities that are taking place.
- Denise Tanata recommended that we add an objective of the Leadership Subcommittee to align and coordinate the activities of the subcommittees to help clarify.
- Marty Elquist recommended that we include a box or some other way in the workplans to document the interdependencies between the subcommittees.
- Denise Tanata will draft a new objective for alignment and coordination and will include sections to identify interdependencies between the subcommittees.
- Denise Tanata presented Objective 1.2, which focuses on restructuring the NECAC to ensure appropriate representation on the NECAC, as well as identifying opportunities for engagement for those representatives. Given that the legislative session is coming up and membership is defined by statute, we should try to address this and provide recommendations to full NECAC for consideration and vote.
- Marty Elquist stated that there are some conversations about making changes to membership and wanted to know if this would be discussed at the next NECAC meeting. Denise Tanata stated that item is not on the agenda, but we could add it if appropriate.
- Rachel Stepina mentioned that the PDG B5 requires an updated Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan. Previous versions have utilized the NECAC Strategic Plan. She inquired if it would be appropriate to incorporate some of the PDG B5 activities into the NECAC workplans and utilize that as the required Strategic Plan for PDG B5.
- Denise Tanata briefly provided an overview of Objective 1.3, which is focused on equitable engagement of parent and families leaders. Denise Tanata referenced the work Ashley Dines, Parent Leadership Coordinator, is engaged in to establish the Nevada Early Childhood Family Leadership Council.
- Kathy Yoder Bass mentioned potential engagement with Early Head Start and Head Start programs, as well as other providers who may have parents interested.
- Denise Tanata will share information on the Council with the group to share out.
- Denise Tanata will update timelines, metrics for the group to review at the next meeting.

8. Discuss Training and Professional Development Opportunities for the Nevada ECAC

- Denise Tanata provided an update on the plan to provide professional development and training to the NV ECAC, as well as partners, on the Manifesto for Race Equity and Parent Leadership in Early Childhood Settings (Manifesto). The Children's Cabinet has entered into a contract with the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) to have representatives from the Parent Leader Network provide the training, in person, in Las Vegas.
- The Nevada Early Childhood Family Leadership Council will receive the training on October 26th.
- The Nevada ECAC will receive the training at our November meeting. Members referenced that the NAEYC conference conflicts with our November meeting. The members proposed to move the meeting to November 30th. Will request to have members attend the meeting in person in Las Vegas, if available.
- Will also be providing two community partner trainings on the Manifesto, dates are yet to be determined.



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9. Discuss Nevada ECAC Outreach, Communications & Engagement Strategies

- Denise Tanata provided an update to begin more outreach, communication and engagement strategies specific to the NECAC. The strategies include:
 - Monthly Newsletter – Gmail and Mail Chimp setup. Will do a member and partner spotlight. If you have recommendations, please send them to Denise.
 - Social Media – Will begin looking at options for social media with plan to launch a more robust social media outreach efforts in 2023
 - Website – Work on the NECAC website will begin soon.

10. Discuss NECAC Meeting Agenda Structure and Items for September 21, 2022 Meeting

- Denise Tanata mentioned that Subcommittee, Partner and Local ECAC reports will be submitted with the agenda prior to the meeting to help streamline the updates section of the agenda.
- The group discussed the opportunity to have providers provide public comment at the NECAC meetings. Denise Tanata indicated public comment could be provided virtually. If individuals are not available, they can submit written comment to Denise Tanata ahead of the meeting. Need to discuss how we can make this more accessible.
- Items for the September meeting discussed include:
 - Market Rate Survey – Marty Elquist and Crystal Johnson will present
 - Update for ARPA Funds and Deadline for Spending – Denise will ask DWSS to provide an update
 - DAP Kindergarten Policy – Anna Severens and Rachel Stepina
 - Manifesto for Race Equity Training – Denise Tanata
 - NV Early Childhood Family Leadership Council – Ashley Dines
 - PDG B5 Grant – Rachel Stepina

11. Public comment #2

- No public comment provided.

12. Adjournment

- Denise Tanata adjourned the meeting at 2:01pm.