



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) LEADERSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2023 9:00 AM

“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.

MINUTES

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call – 9:04 AM

- Meeting was called to order by Denise Tanata, Chair, at 9:04 AM. Recording started.
- Committee Members: Quorum Achieved with 5 out of 9 members attending:
 - Denise Tanata - Present
 - Patrice Gardner – Not in Attendance
 - Julie Houchins - Present
 - Dr. Jenna Weglarz-Ward – Present
 - Dr. Linda Young - Present
 - Jennifer Butler – Not in Attendance
 - Marty Elquist - Present
 - Ashley Dines - Present
 - Kathy Yoder-Bass – Not in Attendance

2. Public Comment #1

- No public comment

3. Approval of Flexible Agenda

Denise Tanata requested that the committee approve a flexible agenda to agenda items out of order; combine two or more agenda items for consideration; remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time.

- Linda Young motioned to approve a flexible agenda
- Jenna Weglarz-Ward seconded the motion
- No discussion
- Motion carried.

4. Minutes from January 10, 2023

- Ashley Dines motioned to approve the minutes as drafted.
- Dr. Linda Young seconded the motion to approve.
- No discussion.
- Motion carried.



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

5. Updates from Subcommittee Co-Chairs, Discuss Workplans, Meeting Dates, Posting Deadlines and Membership

(Discussion, For Possible Action) The Co-Chairs will provide brief updates, as needed, on subcommittee activities.

- Denise Tanata stated that since the Leadership Committee is meeting once a month we would focus on the leadership committee work plan one month and then the individual committee plans on the off month.
- Marty Elquist reported that the Data Committee did not achieve quorum last month and the Committee is going to reassess the Data Committee membership to ensure we have the right people and that we can achieve quorum.
 - Denise Tanata stated that it would be a good idea for all committees to look at their committee membership to make sure the right members are on the Committee. Denise reminded the
 - Dr. Weglarz-Ward stated that the Systems Alignment Committee is also going to do revise the membership with those that are already doing systems work. Denise asked if the committee has set dates yet. Julie Houchins stated that Jenna and Julie are meeting on the 22nd at 10:30 to revise the membership. Denise requested that when the dates are identified to let her know so she can update the website.
- Dr. Linda Young stated that the Communication Committee has a meeting on February 14. Dr. Young stated that the Committee wants to look at all the methods of communication especially for marginalized populations who might not have access to technology/smart phones. Dr. Young welcomed other members to attend to discuss.
- Denise stated that the Policy subcommittee will be meeting this Thursday, February 9. Denise will not be in attendance. Julie Houchins will be leading the meeting.

6. Discuss and Update Leadership Subcommittee Workplan

- Objective 1.1 – Establishments Governor’s Office
 - Denise referred the Committee to the “Other States” document to compare other states’ systems and structures.
 - Marty Elquist stated that the Guinn Center has started their assessment of the Early Childhood Systems, but the final report will not be completed until next year.
 - Denise stated that AB113 has been introduced and referred to the Committee on Government Affairs. The bill was introduced by Assemblywoman Thomas
 - Karissa Loper stated that she has to write an analysis on this bill and asked if any other states have a Governor’s Office. Denise stated that the handout has examples of other state offices. Denise also stated through her work on the HRSA grant, she has had conversations with other states and that she can meet with Karissa to discuss her conversations with other states.
 - Rachel Stepina stated that since this bill aligns with the ECAC Strategic Plan, what is the plan to inform the ECAC?
 - a. Denise stated that we need to make sure we have unified voice on this issue.
 - Holly Welborn stated that CAA is prepared to help and meet with Assemblywoman Thomas and would welcome any talking points.
 - Denise asked if other agencies are being asked to write an analysis besides DWSS and NDE. Karissa Loper responded that the Department of Ag is also named so it is likely they will be asked as well.
- Objective 1.2 - Restructure the Nevada ECAC to establish program and community level advisory support to the Governor’s Office.
 - Denise stated that AB114 was introduced by Assemblywoman Thomas and co-sponsored Nguyen to revise the membership of the ECAC that mirrors the suggested changes voted on by the ECAC on November 30, 2022. Denise requested that CAA assist the ECAC in supporting this Bill. Holly Welborn stated, “Absolutely.”
 - Denise requested that for both bills AB113 and AB114 to discuss within the early childhood group so we can come to agreement as a group instead of having division in front of the Legislature.
- Objective 1.3 - Establish supports and resources to ensure equitable engagement of parents/families in leadership and decision making at state and local levels.



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

- Need to make sure we reflect on the Manifesto training held last November. Need to come up with ideas and strategies to more actively engage parent members in the Council and become part of the leadership and decision making process in our state. Denise asked Ashley Dines and Rosa Tamayo on ideas of how to utilize the training.
 - Ashley Dines stated that instead of using Public Comment to get parent voice at the full ECAC meeting, have a standing agenda item. Ashley and Rosa will work with parents before the meeting so they can bring their important issues to the ECAC.
 - Rosa Tamayo stated that the parent leadership group can have a post-participation survey/feedback form to get their feedback on how we can improve parent engagement.
 - Dr. Jenna Weglarz-Ward asked if we have the ability to write in Public Comment and also follow Open Meeting Law. Denise stated it is a great idea and will look into it.
 - Rachel Stepina asked if there are ways to compensate parents to come and share their experiences.
 - Dr. Linda Young stated that parent engagement is a critical area as we must value parents so they feel welcome. Dr. Young asked if we have support for parents like a team that goes out to parents and explains what we are doing. Parents have great ideas but many times do not know how to get connected. Dr. Young also asked if we have stipends to support participation.
 - a. Ashley Dines reported that parents do get stipends when they participate in meetings as they should be compensated from their time. Ashley stated that Rosa and Ashley are now the two that would go out and speak to parent groups to get their feedback and ideas.
 - b. Dr. Young stated that the Communication and Engagement Committee could also be connected to the work they are doing.
 - c. Denise stated that we do have some support written into the HRSA grant and the PDG grant. We need to assess what structure and funds do we need for a sustained effort. We are not going to host meeting that can work for everyone, but can we look at other ways for input like written public comment? We need to make sure our parents and family members are supported financially in the same vain. Perhaps we can set up a mentorship program with the ECAC group and those participating on the parent leadership group, they are connected to an ECAC member for mentorship and support.
 - Shelly Speck stated that there is a tool kit from the American Heart Association called Voice for Health Kids and this toolkit should be used when identifying parents and engaging them:
<https://voicesforhealthykids.org/campaign-resources/toolkits/building-blocks>

7. Discuss NECAC Meeting Agenda for March 2023 Meeting

(Discussion, For Possible Action) Discuss any relevant items that should be agendaized for March 2023 meeting.

Patrice Gardner and Denise Tanata, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Denise asked Denise and Rosa if they could do a presentation on their proposed recommendations at the next ECAC meeting. Ashley and Rosa agreed. Denise asked if we also want to have parent and family leaders so they can also discuss an issue that is important to them during this time.
- Denise asked Holly Welborn if we can have a 2023 Legislative Update for the March 8, 2023 ECAC meeting. Holly agreed to have an update prepared for the Council.
- Denise stated that the Network Analysis report will be held back one more month until the May meeting.
- Denise asked if a Teams training would be beneficial. Marty stated that it might be best to ask individuals who needs help and connect individuals who do need assistance with Joseph Moore, IT from The Children's Cabinet on how to access Teams as a guest.
 - Julie Houchins asked if the Teams link can be sent again. Marty Elquist stated that she will send the Teams link out to Committee again with a "How to" guide on accessing Teams as a guest.



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

- Dr. Young ask if there is any communication for summer and activities/resources for parents and really focus on those that are not connected with services and systems.
 - Marty stated that perhaps the Council think about creating communication “tool kits” or using “tool kits” that are already out there.
 - Denise stated that perhaps the Committee can identify what communication tool kits already exist so agencies are better connected to the “tool kits” that already exist and do not have to recreate the wheel.
 - Shelly Speck put a link in the chat for a tool kit summary from the American Heart Association:
<https://voicesforhealthykids.org/campaign-resources/toolkits>

8. 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.

- Scott Jones from Lakeshore stated that he appreciates the work of the Committee and that Lakeshore has several events that are happening at the end of the month and are working with The Children’s Cabinet to get the events in The Children’s Cabinet’s newsletter.

9. Adjournment – 10:21am