



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) LEADERSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE **PUBLIC MEETING** TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 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.

SUMMARY MINUTES

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call

Meeting started at 9:07 AM

- Committee Members:
 - Denise Tanata – Present
 - Patrice Gardner – Present
 - Julie Houchins - Present
 - Dr. Jenna Weglarz-Ward – Not in Attendance
 - Dr. Linda Young - Present
 - Jennifer Butler – Not in Attendance
 - Marty Elquist - Present
 - Ashley Dines - Present
 - Kathy Yoder-Bass – Not in Attendance

- Guests in Attendance:
 - Rosa Tamayo
 - Karissa Loper Machado
 - Annette Dawson Owens
 - Anna Villatoro
 - Tiffany Olivas

2. Public Comment #1

- No public comment provided

3. Approval of Flexible Agenda

- Dr. Linda Young motioned to approve a flexible agenda.
- Julie Houchins seconded the motion for a flexible agenda.
- Flexible Agenda passed unanimously.



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4. Minutes from February 7, 2023 and March 7, 2023

- Patrice Gardner shared the minutes via their screen. The Council discussed the minutes for February 7th and March 7, 2023.
- Marty Elquist motioned to approve the minutes for February 7th, 2023.
- Dr. Linda Young seconded the motion.
- No discussion and no opposition.
- Patrice accepts motions and approves minutes for February 7th, 2023.

- Marty Elquist motioned to accept the March 7th, 2023 minutes as presented.
- Dr. Linda Young seconded the motion.
- Motion is approved and the March 7th, 2023, minutes are approved.

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

- **Data and Evaluation** (updates from Marty Elquist)- Data subcommittee did not meet last month. Next meeting is Thursday April 20th at 1:00 PM.
- **Communications and Engagement** (updates from Dr. Linda Young) - Planning the next meeting for April 11th at 9:00 AM. They are up to date, and they are continuing to be more creative. They are trying to find different ways to connect with people and the community. Next year, they want to plan something for Martin Luther King Jr. (Second Monday of February). This event will help people know about the Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council. They want to connect with people that do not know about the work they are doing.
- **Finance and Policy** (Updates from Julie Houchins) -Met March 9th, had a great meeting, they had the Belz and Case team discuss what is being addressed in the Legislature. AB114 (ECAC bill) and AB113 (Governor's office) were both heard, and both passed from committee. They plan to invite representatives from the WIC and SNAP departments to discuss priorities. They also discussed a presentation on Bridges Out of Poverty, recommended by Brian Cullen. The subcommittee wants to better coordinate and align with different systems like WIC and SNAP.
- **Systems Alignment** (Updates from Julie Houchins)- Met on March 22nd. The biggest focus is the membership and who is missing. Subcommittee plans to review the HRSA SAGA (System Asset & Gap Analysis) and do a deep dive, once it is available. Once they review the SAGA, they can focus on plans and goals. They also discussed family partnership and getting family perspective. Discussed adding membership renewal piece to the full ECAC meeting. Talked about guest speakers, they do not have to be members but just talk about topics. There is not a confirmed date for the next meeting. Julie Houchins will follow up with Dr. Jenna Weglarz-Ward.

- Denise Tanata asked members if they change or cancel the meeting to update her and so they can update the website.
- Patrice Gardner mentioned that Anna Villatoro will take notes for subcommittees and ECAC meetings.
- Denise Tanata provided an OnStrategy Update- Make sure to keep workplan updated with status and staff can make those updates on the platform. There will be one document and hoping everyone has access to those Teams folders.

6. Discuss and Update Leadership Subcommittee Workplan

- Denise Tanata referenced the workplan document for the leadership subcommittee.
- Objective 1.1 Establishing the Governor's Office for Early Childhood Systems.
 - Materials for the Guinn Center study Scope of Work was sent over as requested for today's meeting. This will help everyone understand the work they will be doing.
 - Marty Elquist- There are so many systems projects that there was a need for an entity like The Guinn Center to help bring all the information together. This information can inform the best structure for Nevada to build a comprehensive early childhood system. The Guinn Center will develop a report that



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will include the fiscal mapping, the network analysis, the HRSA SAGA, ECAC strategic plan, and information from the marketing and outreach campaign, and the list of early childhood needs assessments on the ECAC website. They are also looking at other state Early Childhood systems structures. They are looking at states that have made recent changes and have recent gains. This work will be ready by the 2025 session. AB113 will help establish the Governor's Office for Early Childhood Systems, the Guinn Center work will be critical to inform the scope and structure of the office. The Guinn Center is nonpartisan and is well regarded by our elected officials.

- Julie Houchins- asks where we can find the scope of work or SAGA.
 - Denise Tanata- Responds that the SAGA is not public yet but can send it to everyone. Some projects are still in progress but will be posted on the ECAC website when they are available. Will create a place on the ECAC website and post these documents.
 - Denise Tanata will send the SAGA to the Guinn Center and ask if they need any support from the ECAC.
- Marty Elquist will reach out to Michael from the Guinn Center and see if they can present at an upcoming meeting.
- Patrice Gardner asked if the governor's office bill passes, when will it go into effect?
 - Denise Tanata responded that if it passes, it will be a process, possibly early 2024 before the office will be in place.
- AB 114 is the bill to make the revisions to the Early Childhood Advisory Council. There were a couple of amendments: One was to clarify the language of the Part C/Section 619 position. Another amendment adds a provision related to appointing parents that represent the diversity of the state.
- Karissa Loper- "Individuals on this group may also want to review SB431 which makes a lot of changes to state governmental administration, including the creation of Secretaries in the Governor's cabinet, and mentions the Early Childhood Advisory Council as a body in the Department of Workforce under the authority of the Secretary of Education and Workforce." (From Chat)
- Objective 1.3 Parent and Family Engagement. Key activity is doing the assessment with The Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP). They have a toolkit for Early Childhood Systems Assessment. They met with CSSP and had a conversation of survey fatigue. Discussed if we want to this study with the ECAC or the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Leadership group, which includes more sectors of the early childhood system. If anyone is interested in giving input with this assessment let Denise Tanata know.
 - Denise Tanata asked Ashley Dines and Rosa Tamayo if they have any updates.
 - Ashley Dines and Rosa Tamayo discussed interest in having ECAC members and partners become mentors for parents. Mentors would be able to help parents and family representatives participating in the ECAC or subcommittees. It is a lot of information, and they want parents to feel prepared. They can match members to parents. They are working on an application to see who is interested in this. Application will be presented at the next meeting.
 - Ashley Dines mentioned the Children's Advocacy Alliance is working with parents and families who may be interested as well.
 - Ashley and Patrice discussed meeting to align with Head Start. Two of the parents in the Family Leadership Council are from Acelero. Ashley will reach out to more parents from Acelero and rural Head Start.
 - Tiffany Olivas mentioned that it would be great. "I did outreach at some of their centers, but I haven't been able to contact anyone yet to reach their families in a broader way." (From Chat)

7. Discuss Teams Access for ECAC Members and Subcommittee Members

- Denise Tanata asked the appointment members if they have access to Teams for the ECAC folders?
 - Julie Houchins and Patrice Gardner would both like a walkthrough of Teams.



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- Denise will reach out to everyone and see who needs help. Will schedule a training with Joseph, IT at The Children's Cabinet.
- Marty Elquist mentioned that Joseph created a document that gives an overview and explains the process of accessing the Teams folders.
- Anna Villatoro will help with this action item and reach out to members.

8. Discuss ECAC and Subcommittee Membership, Leadership and Terms

- Denise Tanata announced that she will be stepping down from her position with the ECAC, effective June 30, 2023. She will continue to attend meetings and provide support as needed.
 - They will be asking for nominations for a new chair and will be adding an item to the May meeting agenda to select the new chair.
 - Dr. Linda E. Young- Denise you have been phenomenal in organizing and the year has been outstanding! Denise's leadership has been outstanding. Wanting to acknowledge Denise.
- Denise Tanata mentioned that some members terms are expiring this year and we will reach out with reminders.
- Denise Tanata also mentioned that there is a vacancy for the Pediatric, Mental, Physical, and Behavioral Health Care Provider. If you have any referrals, please send them to the boards and commissions page or to Denise Tanata or Patrice Gardner.
- Denise Tanata mentioned that several appointed members should be on subcommittees and are not. Will bring up at the full ECAC meeting.
 - Patrice Gardner asked if we should have a meeting with those members.
 - Julie Houchins recommended confirming with the subcommittees to see who is who. Get the members that are not involved. It cannot get too large because of quorum.
 - Patrice Gardner added that we should look into dates/times that subcommittees meet because that can affect quorum. People's schedules have changed.
 - Dr. Linda Young suggested that Denise Tanata and Patrice Gardner reach out and remind people what the committees are doing and look at schedules.
- Denise Tanata mentioned that we received confirmation that we can hold an orientation or training without it having to follow the rules of open meeting law. Patrice Gardner and Denise Tanata will schedule an orientation training for new members and those wanting a refresher. The meeting will be recorded so those who are not able to attend can watch it.

9. Public comment #2

No public comment provided.

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM.