



NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)  
DATA & EVALUATION SUBCOMMITTEE  
**PUBLIC MEETING**  
THURSDAY, 4/20/2023  
1:00 PM - 3:00 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 will be held via Zoom:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

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, 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.*

AGENDA

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

*Marty Elquist, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm*

- The following subcommittee members were in attendance:
  - Marty Elquist
  - Denise Tanata
  - Jon-Thomas Champlin
  - Latisha Brown
  - Amanda Haboush-Deloye
  - Matthew Hoffman
  - Ashley Dines
  - Karissa Loper-Machado
- The following subcommittee members were not in attendance:
  - Anna Marie-Binder
  - Elvira Weintraub
  - Justin White
- The following members of the public were in attendance:
  - Rebecca Dunne
  - Rachel Stepina



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

- Jeff Vossler
- Alyson Godfrey

### 2. Public Comment #1

*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.*

- No public comment was provided.

### 3. Review and Approve Minutes from February 16, 2023

*(Discussion, For Possible Action)*

*Marty Elquist, Chair*

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye made a motion to approve the February 16, 2023, Minutes.
- Ashley Dines seconded this motion.
- The February 16, 2023, Minutes were approved as presented.

### 4. Review the "Data Dictionary"

*Committee will review the updated "Data Dictionary" focusing on identification of gaps: 1.) Data exists, but is missing and 2.) need data, but does not exist.*

*(Discussion, For Possible Action)*

*Marty Elquist, Chair and Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Nevada Institute for Children's Research & Policy*

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye noted that we began with the indicators. As an example, the data variable of "# of teachers/staff" for Head Start can be found in a 2014 report from the Center for Law and Social Policy. Because this data was not publicly posted elsewhere, we added this report to the list. Typically, though, reports will not be added to the list, but more general links will be added.
- The general outline for the data dictionary, from left to right, is as follows: data variable, program name, data source, where the link will guide you, how to access the data (typically the link to the data page containing links to reports, not links exactly to the reports were included), description of the dataset, how often the data is gathered, and then different ways data can be broken down (e.g., by age, gender, race, demographics). An "X" in columns G onward indicates specific details available for the data variable of interest. The list was filled out according to the programs and program indicators listed in the "Vision & KPIs" tab of the [ECCS Agency Program Master List](#).
- Even though we know that a lot of this data is available, it may not be publicly available and thus we need to reach out to people to request this data and add what is most relevant to include.
- Census information and the agency name will be added after we have added the programs. This might look like "# of children" under the Data Variable Column and then "U.S. Census Bureau" under Data Agency/Source.
- Marty Elquist noted that we in identifying our KPIs, we also need to decide what KPIs we will use to answer the question of *How will we know when our system is meeting the needs of our families and children?* The second purpose in identifying our KPIs is for data system integration and determining how much duplication is going on between programs in our system. The purpose today in looking at the Data Dictionary list is to start with the first question. To do this, we need to zoom out and determine what research questions are we using to get us to the "when will we know" question.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye noted that in looking at this list, we also need to identify gaps.
- Denise Tanata recently submitted the HRSA RCCS report and emphasized that the data component is about equity. The big question Denise sees is *Are we providing equitable access to high-quality early childhood services/programs in the state of Nevada?* Part of this question is *Are there data points we need to answer this questions that we don't have access*



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

to? We know the data is being collected but it is not being reported in an accessible manner. There also may be data that is not being collected.

- Marty Elquist indicated that these large research questions should come from the Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC). A good place to start with these research questions is with early learning.
- As an update, Matthew Hoffman indicated that the NV Department of Education is working on creating an early learning data and reporting system.
- Denise suggested that the Data & Evaluation Subcommittee come up with a list of potential questions before meeting with the entire ECAC. She noted that determining which programs and services are most critical, identifying who is and is not served, and understanding the categorization of "vulnerable" populations will be important.
- The subcommittee decided to focus on research questions for this meeting and will circle back to filling in the gaps.
- The notion of "high-quality" in early childhood learning was brought up. Latisha Brown indicated that she would like to see outreach to parents to determine what they expect from licensing to better understand if the work her department is doing is helping those it intends to help. Marty Elquist indicated that we can start with the ECAC's definition of high-quality and use the parent-action committee to have that voice present. Amanda Haboush-Deloye indicated that there are star ratings for QRIS that help measure the quality of early childhood learning at a systems level. With the ECAC, there is a list of what corresponds to *high-quality*.
- Marty Elquist directed the subcommittee to look at the ECAC's definition of *high-quality*. Quality early childhood care and education is an inclusive environment serving children with special needs that offers services at the highest possible levels (QRIS star ratings - define). This program is staffed by caring teachers who understand child development. Denise Tanata noted that QRIS takes this definition into account and is thus already measuring it.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye stated that "quality" refers to 3 stars, 4 & 5 stars are "high-quality." Parents can also be asked what they believe entails "quality" and "high-quality."
- Denise Tanata stated that this subcommittee needs to align equity and access with the ECAC's definition of "vulnerable populations." The Vulnerable Populations definition can be found [here](#).
- The high-quality early childhood research question to begin with is as follows:
  - Are we providing equitable access to high quality early childhood programs and services in the state of Nevada as determined by the following?
    - The number of #4- & #5-star slots in early learning program in Nevada; and
    - The number of children served in these slots by each factor in the vulnerable population definition.
- The vulnerable populations definition will be updated soon to ensure health disparities are addressed. Specific factors addressing disparities will be discussed.
- Denise Tanata volunteered to write up the blanks that still need to be filled in.

### 5. Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting May 18, 2023, 1-3pm

*(Discussion, For Possible Action)*

*Marty Elquist, Chair*

- Denise Tanta will do the following: Revise the above-mentioned questions; Draft questions for the other service sectors that make up the comprehensive early childhood system and get feedback on the questions themselves regarding the metrics.
  - Once we know the definition, we can go to the sectors and ask about their definitions and indicators used. Then, the subcommittee can go back to the Data Dictionary to see if we have the indicators and how they can be disaggregated according to the vulnerable populations definition. If data is not available, we have indicated a gap. In July or so, we can take this information back to the ECAC.
- In May, information pertaining to the metrics may/may not be available. We should have questions with input from each of the sectors available for an agenda item.



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### 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.*

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye indicated that the Early Childhood Research Symposium will be occurring during the NevAEYC Conference. It might be useful to have someone there to provide an update on everything that we have been working on with the ECAC Data & Evaluation Subcommittee.
- Marty Elquist asked Amanda to give an update on the Data Subcommittee at the Early Childhood Research Symposium. Amanda indicated that she would provide an update.

### 7. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:28 pm.