



**Nevada Early Childhood  
Advisory Council**

**PARTNER SUMMARY REPORT**

May 2023

<b>Department of Education (NDE)</b>	
<b>Office of Early Learning &amp; Development (OELD)</b>	Name of Primary Contact: Patti Oya Email of Primary Contact: poya@doe.nv.gov
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Preschool Development Grant Birth through 5 (PDG B-5):               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Received Interim Finance Committee (IFC) Approval on April 6th</li> <li>○ Beginning implementation contracts for                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Activity 1: Needs Assessment</li> <li>▪ Activity 3: Family Engagement</li> <li>▪ Subgrants to programs</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Currently hiring for new positions to support the work of the PDG B-5 in alignment with ECAC and other ongoing work across the state.</li> <li>○ Applications will be opening for the following:                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Early Childhood Quality Specialist</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Applications are closed for the following:                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ECAC Systems Specialist</li> <li>▪ ECAC Administrative Support</li> <li>▪ Early Childhood Family Engagement Specialist</li> <li>▪ Birth through 3rd Grade Education Specialist</li> <li>▪ Early Childhood Workforce TA Specialist</li> <li>▪ Early Childhood Data Coordinator</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Learn more about the PDG B-5! Visit <a href="http://bit.ly/nevadaPDGB-5">bit.ly/nevadaPDGB-5</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No login required (public interface)</li> <li>▪ Stay Informed</li> <li>▪ Interact with and explore projects and activities</li> <li>▪ Connect with partners and share ideas</li> <li>▪ Get involved!</li> <li>▪ Launching Phase II soon</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Office of Inclusive Education (OIE)</b>	Name of Primary Contact: Christi Hines-Coates Email of Primary Contact: christi.hinescoates@doe.nv.gov
<p>OIE is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Preparing for the upcoming Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) DMS 2.0 visit. Gathering documents and information requested.</li> <li>● Completing refresher training for Part C to B transition requirements for Early Childhood Special Education staff and District Special Education Directors.</li> <li>● Working with OELD on various activities related to Early Childhood. (Inclusion, placements, child find, resources for parents and districts, etc)</li> </ul>	

- working with districts to wrap up the Childhood Outcomes Summary for the year for annual reporting of COS data for SPP/APR.

**Educator Development, Licensure, and Family Engagement (EdLife)**

Name of Primary Contact: Alberto Quintero  
 Email of Primary Contact: albertoquintero@doe.nv.gov

No report provided

**Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)**

**Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Child Care and Development Program (DWSS, CCDP)**

Name of Primary Contact: Karissa Loper Machado  
 Email of Primary Contact: kxloper@dwss.nv.gov

- CARE Nevada Housing Project - The first round of interviews from the initial pilot launch has been completed. A total of 30 providers were interviewed.
  - 6 providers ineligible
  - 4 providers pending background check completion.
  - 3 providers completing the CDA program for professional development.
  - 19 providers pending financial discovery interviews and property match. Access Community Capital will begin scheduling financial discovery interviews next week.

Mission Driven Finance has made offers on 3 properties in the Las Vegas area, awaiting results. Some of these homes will need extensive renovations and are expected to be completed in late fall of 2023.

- Capital Grants Project- There is a total of 18 providers approved for the Capital Grants Project. As of May 5, 2023, 10 sub-awards have been executed.
- Nevada Child Care Fund- In the month of April, a Nevada Child Care Fund Survey Monkey questionnaire was sent to providers. Providers are highly encouraged to complete the questionnaire and provide a list of subsidy-eligible families for whom they have waived or not collected the family contribution co-payment. This will assist in determining refund amounts and issuing refunds. If you did not receive an email, please email [nccf@dwss.nv.gov](mailto:nccf@dwss.nv.gov) by May 8<sup>th</sup>, to request a link to the survey.
- Infant/Toddler Contracted Slots Pilot Program (I/T Slots)-I/T Slots is a pilot program designed to increase the availability of infant and toddler slots across Nevada. Providers must meet eligibility requirements to qualify for the program; requirements include participation with QRIS and having an ITTERS/FCCERS score of 2.5 or higher. I/T Slot approved providers are reimbursed at an enhanced rate of \$20,000 per (prorated monthly \$1,667) per awarded and filled slot. Below are the most recent stats as of 5/5/23:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Northern and Rural Nevada           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Total Slots to Distribute: 300</li> <li>○ Infant Slots Awarded: 37</li> <li>○ Toddler Slots Awarded: 79</li> <li>○ <b><u>Available: 184</u></b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Southern Nevada           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Total Slots to Distribute: 500</li> <li>○ Infant Slots Awarded: 82</li> <li>○ Toddler Slots Awarded: 133</li> <li>○ <b><u>Available: 285</u></b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
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**Division of Child and Family Services, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (DCFS, IECMH)**

Name of Primary Contact: Rhonda Lawrence  
 Email of Primary Contact: [rlawrence@dcfs.nv.gov](mailto:rlawrence@dcfs.nv.gov)

- Northern Nevada Child & Adolescent Services (Reno) - Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health Services is building an “[Early Childhood Day Treatment Program](#)” at its 2655 Enterprise Road, Reno, NV location. The program will serve children 3-6 years and their families utilizing “Conscious Discipline” an evidence-based, social/emotional development model focused on building safe and caring relationships to meet the developmental needs of children who have experienced “toxic stress”

and/or traumatic experiences. Families will have access to dyadic Child Parent Psychotherapy, targeted case management, and opportunities to interact and learn from families in our program community through facilitated “Circle of Security” parenting workshops. Three-hour morning and afternoon sessions will be offered with transportation. Depending upon recruitment success, we hope to have a “soft” opening in Fall 2023.

**Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) – Child Care Licensing**      Name of Primary Contact: Latisha Brown  
 Email of Primary Contact: labrown@health.nv.gov

- Licensing Backgrounds has shown big improvements and are now working to update policies and procedures to help ensure consistency and accuracy as we move forward. In October of 2022, Licensing had a backlog of 3500 pending background application and we are now standing at 956 pending background applications with an average of 731 monthly background application submissions. We are now pacing submissions with completions.
- Licensing is also working on the complaint system as complaint intakes have increased and we need to ensure our ability to thoroughly investigate all complaints as they come in. In 2022 we intaked and investigated 627 complaints on licensed and unlicensed child care facilities. Averaging 52 complaints a month.
- Licensing numbers are slowly increasing as we open new facilities. Currently, there are 454 facilities licensed with the State of Nevada and we have 131 pending licensing applications

**Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) – Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health (MCAH)**      Name of Primary Contact: Tami Conn  
 Email of Primary Contact: tconn@health.nv.gov

- MCAH is working on submitting several grant applications for The Enhancing Reviews and Surveillance to Eliminate Maternal Mortality, Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health, Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Education (MIECHV), and Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant.
- Several MCAH staff are attending the Association of Maternal and Child Health Program Annual Conference May 6-9th.
- Nevada Home Visiting Program is expanding to families directly affected by opioid use.

**Women, Infants & Children’s Program (WIC) Program**      Name of Primary Contact: Blanca Ayala  
 Email of Primary Contact: BlancaAyala@health.nv.gov

- Nevada WIC has been working on a rebrand and has updated all WIC Shopping materials and EBT cards for NV Participants.
- The WIC Farmer’s Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) is starting soon. This will be each eligible WIC participant \$30 to use at WIC authorized FMNP markets. The program will be starting in May for the southern NV participants and in June for Northern Nevada.

**Nevada State Immunization Program**      Name of Primary Contact: Kristy Zigenis  
 Email of Primary Contact: kzigenis@health.nv.gov

- Approximately 65% of childcares in Nevada submitted their immunization rates for 2022 to NSIP. This percentage is up from previous years, but we are hoping to get more engagement from childcare facilities for 2023 rates. More info to come!
- A childcare immunization rate reporting training will be available to all childcare facilities before Fall 2023, when the 2023 immunization rate reporting surveys open up. This training will cover FAQ's on how to fill out the childcare immunization survey and will be a resource to anyone who needs it.
- The School and Childcare Taskforce has resumed meetings, which are normally held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 1pm PST. These meetings are open to anyone interested - we encourage childcare facilities to participate, as we benefit from all different perspectives on how we can improve immunization uptake and communication. You can reach out to Latoya Skerrette from Immunize Nevada here: latoya@immunizenevada.org to get added to the contact list for future meetings. The next meeting will be on May 31 at 1pm.

<b>Oral Health Program</b>	Name of Primary Contact: Jannette Gomez Email of Primary Contact:
No report provided	
<b>Early Childhood Partner Updates</b>	
<b>ECE Workforce Plan</b>	Name of Primary Contact: Marty Elquist Email of Primary Contact: <a href="mailto:melquist@childrenscabinet.org">melquist@childrenscabinet.org</a>
Completing the 3 round of workgroup meetings. Last round will be scheduled in May. Final report still on target - June 30, 2023.	
<b>HRSA Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Health Integration</b>	Name of Primary Contacts: Denise Tanata/Tiffany Olivas Email of Primary Contacts: <a href="mailto:dtanata@childrenscabinet.org">dtanata@childrenscabinet.org</a> <a href="mailto:tolivas@childrenscabinet.org">tolivas@childrenscabinet.org</a>
<p>The HRSA ECCS Health Integration initiative is aligned with the goals and objectives of the ECAC 2022-2024 Strategic Plan. As such, much of the project activities are updated through the ECAC Subcommittee Workplan document. Additional updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NV ECCS Asset and Gap Analysis (SAGA) is complete and is being posted on the ECAC website. There is a summary document and the full report.</li> <li>• The NV ECCS Leadership Team met for the second time in May and will be tasked with developing a comprehensive, unified P-3 Strategic Plan by the end of the year. The P-3 Strategic Plan will include cross sector systems partners and will align with the ECAC Strategic Plan.</li> <li>• Effective June 26, 2023 Tiffany Olivas will serve as the primary contact and lead of the HRSA ECCS Health Integration project. Denise Tanata will be moving to a consultant role effective July 1, 2023.</li> </ul>	
<b>Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children (NevAEYC)</b>	Name of Primary Contact: John Cregg Email of Primary Contact: <a href="mailto:john@nevaeyc.org">john@nevaeyc.org</a>
<p>NevAEYC is busy with final preparations for the 2023 NevAEYC Early Childhood Conference scheduled for May 18-20 in Las Vegas at the Tuscany Suites and Casino.</p> <p>The second cycle for the Early Childhood Staff Stipend Incentives will remain open until June 30, 2023. Educators that are eligible to receive the \$1,000 stipend can apply through their Nevada Registry online portal. To date, 6,000 early childhood educators have applied.</p> <p>NevAEYC is accepting college scholarship applications for the Fall 2023 semester. T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Nevada scholarships are available to early childhood educators employed in child care programs and employed a minimum of 30 hours per week. For more information, please contact NevAEYC at 775-327-0680.</p>	
<b>Nevada Child Care Provider Action Committee (CCPAC)</b>	Name of Primary Contact: Lela Arney Email of Primary Contact: <a href="mailto:lelarney@childrenscabinet.org">lelarney@childrenscabinet.org</a>
<p>The CCPAC developed a survey for child care providers to gather more information on their experiences interacting with the Child Care background process. The survey closed on Friday, April 28 and the results are being analyzed. We are working on a report that will be sharable, and a presentation to the NECAC at the next meeting. We will have some recommendations drafted but we would like the feedback of the NECAC as we consider ways to improve the process and system of background checks.</p> <p>The Home-Based CCPAC have been meeting monthly and discussing challenges they experience with the system of supports they receive. One issue that has surfaced is the lack of educational opportunities they can access as unlicensed providers. There are home-based providers who cannot become licensed because of housing barriers and would like to grow in their knowledge of child development and educational practices but are unable to access the same supports that licensed providers can access. We are discussing advocacy options and defining our recommendations.</p> <p>If anyone would like to provide input, they can email Lela Arney at <a href="mailto:Larney@childrenscabinet.org">Larney@childrenscabinet.org</a></p>	

<b>Nevada Early Childhood Family Leadership Council (NECFLC)</b>	Name of Primary Contact: Ashley Dines (South) or Rosa Tamayo (North) Email of Primary Contact: <a href="mailto:adines@childrenscabinet.org">adines@childrenscabinet.org</a> <a href="mailto:rtamayo@childrenscabinet.org">rtamayo@childrenscabinet.org</a>
<p>Southern Nevada had their April meeting with a presentation from the Pyramid Model and discussed further opportunities and outreach goals.</p> <p>Parent Leadership Coordinators North/South will be presenting Mentorship and training opportunities/supports for ECAC members to enhance engagement among our early childhood families.</p> <p>Northern NECFLC will have its first meeting May 24th, 2023 and is looking forward to continued support with outreach to parents and families in Northern and Rural Nevada.</p>	
<b>Pyramid Model</b>	Name of Primary Contact: Janice Lee Email of Primary Contact:
No report provided	
<b>Research and Needs Assessments (NICRP)</b>	Name of Primary Contact: Dr. Amanda Haboush-Deloye Email of Primary Contact: <a href="mailto:amanda.haboush@unlv.edu">amanda.haboush@unlv.edu</a>
<p>The following were added to the <a href="#">NV Early Childhood Needs Assessment List</a>:</p> <p>a) <a href="#">Dignity Health - Rehabilitation Hospital Community Health Needs Assessment 2019</a> (See “Old” tab)</p> <p>b) <a href="#">Renown Health - Community Health Needs Plan 2018-2021</a> (See “Recent” tab)</p> <p>c) <a href="#">Renown Health - Community Health Needs Plan 2021-2023</a> (See “Recent” tab)</p> <p>d) <a href="#">Intermountain Healthcare Community Health Needs Assessment 2022</a> (See “Recent” tab)</p>	
<b>Strong Start/Pritzker PN-3 (Children’s Advocacy Alliance)</b>	Name of Primary Contact: Jamelle Nance or Annette Dawson-Owens Email of Primary Contact:
<p>Strong Start Prenatal to Three Coalition held our quarterly meeting April 26th at 10:00am. The meeting had a strong focus on young children experiencing homelessness. We are partnering with SchoolHouse connections to discuss how to better identify young children and families through a referral app to connect families to resources. Currently the app is being piloted through Sunrise Children’s foundation however we have discussed other potential organizations to increase the utilization of the app. Strong Start Prenatal to Three continues to work with key partners and grantee leads to align efforts including but not limited to HRSA and PDG-B5.</p> <p>Child Advocacy Ambassadors formerly (Parent Ambassadors) continue to meet monthly with a strong focus on the legislative process and how to be engaged. Parents discussed how to best utilize their personal stories to shape policies that help their families and communities. Families recently signed a letter of support for AB114 and AB113. A number of participants have provided public comments on early childhood related bills. The Pritzker Children’s Initiative is also working with the National Family and Parent Leadership cohort to provide resources to parents participating in the Child Advocacy Ambassador group as well as the Nevada Early Childhood Family Leadership Council to ensure alignment and continuity of information provided. It is our hope that a parent could be selected to participate in the ECAC in the future.</p> <p>The Children’s Advocacy Alliance (CAA) weekly legislative updates are scheduled Tuesdays at 11:30am for the remainder of the legislative session. For more information about the bills tracked by CAA please visit our website and subscribe to the bill tracker at <a href="http://www.caanv.org">www.caanv.org</a>.</p>	

## Funding and Grant Opportunities

### State Maternal Health Innovation Program

HRSA-23-108

DUE: June 2, 2023

Total Funding: \$23,000,000 Award Ceiling: \$2,000,000 (expected number of awards: 23)

**Description:** The purpose of this program is to reduce maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity (SMM) 1 by supporting state-led demonstrations focused on improving maternal health and addressing maternal health disparities through quality services, a skilled workforce, enhanced data quality and capacity, and innovative programming. *See link for complete description.*

LINK: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=346215>

## Meetings, Trainings, Events & Conferences

### – Professional Development/Outreach Opportunities

NevAEYC - May 18-20, 2023 - 2023 NevAEYC Early Childhood Conference. Venue: Tuscany Suites & Casino, Las Vegas, NV. Registration: [https://whova.com/portal/registration/necc\\_202304/](https://whova.com/portal/registration/necc_202304/) Deadline to register is May 15.

6th Annual Early Childhood Research Symposium Friday May 19 10am-3pm Conference. Venue: Tuscany Suites & Casino, Las Vegas, NV. Registration:

[https://unlv.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6yRPIwNa4yZKEHs](https://unlv.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6yRPIwNa4yZKEHs)

Nevada Child Abuse Prevention and Safety Annual Conference June 13, 2023 at the Nevada State College. Las Vegas NV 8am-4pm Registration: <https://bit.ly/3zBt7Ry>