



Nevada Early Childhood
Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)

DATA & EVALUATION SUBCOMMITTEE

PUBLIC MEETING

THURSDAY, 6/15/2023

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

Denise Tanata, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM

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



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- Kyle Apilado
- Rachel Stepina
- Jeff Vossler
- Sabrina Jones
- Mary Regan

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 May 18, 2023

(Discussion, For Possible Action)

Denise Tanata, Co-Chair

- Denise Tanata offered revisions to the May 18, 2023 minutes. Minutes will be revised and re-uploaded to the Data & Evaluation Subcommittee website.
- Karissa Loper-Machado made a motion to approve the May 18, 2023 Minutes with revisions.
- Matthew Hoffman seconded this motion.
- The May 18, 2023 Minutes were approved with revisions.

4. Review Draft Questions for Other Service Sectors in the Early Childhood Systems

Committee will review the questions Denise Tanata drafted for other service sectors in the early childhood system.

(Discussion, For Possible Action)

Denise Tanata, Co-Chair

- Denise Tanata drafted a document of research questions and data points for service sectors within the early childhood system. The document was based on the following vision: *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.*
- The document was further broken down into primary categories revolving around safety, health, and thrive.
- Guidance for high-quality and impactful programs, policies, and strategies was also provided from materials from the Prenatal-to-3 Policy Impact Center (PN3) and the US Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families (US-HHS, ACF).
- Matthew Hoffman asked if the slots and seats for programs were synonyms. Denise Tanata stated that they were synonyms and that the language will be further specified later on.
- Denise Tanata offered the subcommittee the opportunity to take more time to review the research questions and draft points document.
- Sabrina Jones from the Department of Education will be supporting the ECAC and they are in the process of hiring an administrative supportive position.
- Rachel Stepina asked where district-specific programs fit in the Early Learning and Child Care section, or if district programs were purposefully omitted from the draft. Matthew Hoffman wondered if the district programs were implied within the topic. Amanda Haboush-Deloye suggested creating a distinction between state and district programs since funding sources differed, to which Rachel Stepina agreed.



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- Amanda Haboush-Deloye stated that she believed Nevada Ready! PreK had specific funding compared to overall state PreK and questioned how districts had their own separate additional slots. Matthew Hoffman added examples of programs with district-specific slots such as Zoom and Title I, and that on Infinite Campus some districts have their own district PreK programs with their own separate funding.
- Denise Tanata questioned that when referring to early learning, are the points provided on the document everything that the subcommittee would like to look at? For example, while Nevada ECAC covers up to age 8 (3rd Grade), should we include measures such as the number of kids in each grade? What are the specific measures that should be observed?
- Denise Tanata also clarified the codes next to certain data points. PN3-E is observed as a policy or strategy that the Prenatal-to-3 Policy Impact Center deems effective, while PN3-NFS indicates that the policy/strategy needs further study. Items marked with US-HHS, ACF indicates that the program was deemed effective by the US Department of Health and Human Services.
- Rachel Stepina stated that the data collected for the 0-5-year-old group is impacting and acts as a good starting point.
- Matthew Hoffman provided an image of the early learning tab module in Infinite Campus that displayed the different types of early learning that were being funded. Matthew clarified that the records are tagged with what programs the child had experienced, which allows the pulling of outcomes by funding types and sources.
- The subcommittee questioned if school ratings should also be included in the draft. Matthew Hoffman offered that the data system being developed in the department would also include QRIS and ECERS data and that it could possibly be connected to Infinite Campus. This could potentially be used to create reports in the future.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye stated that the data points presented in the draft portray more access than equity. She proposed that the points should lean more towards equity, as well as a greater focus on early learning than K-3. Amanda Haboush-Deloye stated possible methods to capture equity, such as identifying how many children on subsidy are at 4 and 5-star centers, as well as looking at the location of 4 and 5-star centers.
- Matthew Hoffman stated that while QRIS does indicate how many the location serves, it does not break it down by age.
- The subcommittee agreed to review the draft research questions draft and go back to possible revisions during the next meeting.

5. Review the ECAC's Definition of "Vulnerable Populations" as it pertains to the "Data Dictionary"

Committee will review the definition of "vulnerable populations" to ensure health disparities are addressed in the discussion of disaggregated data to look for in creating the data dictionary.

(Discussion, For Possible Action)

Denise Tanata, Co-Chair

- Denise Tanata drafted the Data and Evaluation Subcommittee's utilization of the "Vulnerable or Underserved Children" definition. The questions that were drafted were:
 - Are we equitably serving the populations most in need of services and support?
 - Do we have access to the data we need to identify these populations?
 - Are our efforts impacting the populations who have the highest need?
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye recommended adding community voices to obtain representation, perspective, and feedback on the Subcommittee's evaluations.
- Karissa Loper-Machado recommended questioning observable gaps – Where are the largest gaps? Have there been any changes in gaps?
- Revisions to the definition of Vulnerable or Underserved Children had also been previously added, primarily including measurements and further defining characteristics for each main definition point.
- Denise Tanata noted that Marty Elquist was having conversations with an out-of-state contractor to look over the vulnerable population definition. Denise added that there may be an opportunity to utilize our chosen factors to develop our own index.



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- Denise Tanata confirmed that the next step after the Data and Evaluation committee modifies its definitions and questions is to present the draft to the other subcommittees.
- Rachel Stepina brought up the concern of representation in rural areas and the great variation of access to services in rural communities, such as insurance coverage and distance to health services.
- Denise Tanata clarified that while the end goal is universal access to services, the current priority is to determine where and whom to start with. Matthew Hoffman agreed with this position, citing that the limited funds require consideration of allocation.
- In reference to Rachel Stepina's concerns, Karissa Loper-Machado stated that our knowledge of Nevada issues as a child care desert and a health provider shortage area is captured within the broad set of definitions that are presented in the draft. There should be a focus on outreach and recruitment of the most vulnerable populations that are needing of assistance. Denise Tanata concurred and added that the Child Opportunity Index is reflective of the rural areas. Amanda Haboush-Deloye added that while looking over the indicators, they can be ordered as well. For example, low-income populations will be prioritized over the other definitive characteristics of vulnerable or underserved populations.
- Denise Tanata stated that it was important to not only have a definition but also put the definitions to use.
- The Subcommittee agreed to look over the draft of vulnerable populations and go over the definitions and questions in the next meeting.

6. Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting July 20, 2023, 1-3pm

(Discussion, For Possible Action)

Denise Tanata, Co-Chair

- The subcommittee will maintain the same agenda items in the next meeting.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye recommended that it would be best to wait on the presentation of the data dictionary as the subcommittee finalizes the draft of research questions and data points. Amanda indicated that the August subcommittee meeting would be an ideal time to discuss the data dictionary.
- Kyle Apilado will send out reminders to the Data and Evaluation subcommittee to review the Research Questions and Vulnerable Populations drafts.

7. 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.

- No public comment was provided.

8. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:16 pm.