



Nevada Early Childhood
Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)

DATA & EVALUATION SUBCOMMITTEE

PUBLIC MEETING

THURSDAY, 7/20/2023

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 1:03 PM

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



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- Kyle Apilado
- Byron Dondayano
- Jamie Mendez
- Anna Villatoro
- Jamelle Nance

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.

- Karissa Loper-Machado has been appointed as co-chair of the Data & Evaluation Subcommittee.

3. Review and Approve Minutes from June 15, 2023

(Discussion, For Possible Action)

Marty Elquist, Chair

- Karissa Loper-Machado made a motion to approve the June 15, 2023 Minutes.
- Latisha Brown seconded this motion.
- The June 15, 2023 Minutes were approved.

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)

Marty Elquist, 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 subcommittee reviewed the draft before the meeting to discuss possible additions.
- Matthew Hoffman questioned if funding for specific programs should be included as a possible indicator, at least for the early learning/childcare sector. Karissa Machado-Loper asked if "investment per student" was an appropriate method for applying funding, to which Matthew Hoffman agreed.
- Marty Elquist mentioned that a comprehensive fiscal mapping project was being created through the Children's Funding Project, which would include all of the bullet points listed in the draft.
- Karissa Loper-Machado recommended putting a fiscal aspect within question 2 of the draft: "Is Nevada's early childhood system supporting children and families to achieve their full potential?" Matthew Hoffman and Marty Elquist agreed with this recommendation, and investments in the system level for each program service listed was added to the draft.
- Marty Elquist stated that it is important to look at equity and it may be important to disaggregate the data points by the vulnerable populations definition.
- Matthew Hoffman stated many of the indicators felt like controls and that the most important control was poverty.
- Karissa Loper-Machado recommended viewing the situation from a wider perspective by comparing those within the vulnerable population definition to those outside of the definition.
- Marty Elquist and Justin White agreed that if the data points were disaggregated by each level of the vulnerable populations definitions (poverty, developmental delay, race/ethnicity, etc.), we would be able to determine equitable



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access within each sector. Justin White also added that adding context by comparison by geographic areas would be beneficial.

- The subcommittee confirmed that the present data points were good to remain as is.
- Marty Elquist asked the subcommittee about their opinion of “safe, healthy and thriving” within the research questions and how this can be applied to the data points.
- Justin White stated that he liked the focus of making sure Nevada’s children are “safe, healthy and thriving” and that it helps keeps communication simple towards adults regarding Nevada’s programs. His only concern is that since many programs cover all three areas, allocating programs to each area would be a little more difficult than assigning certain metrics between safe, healthy, and thriving.
- Marty Elquist asked the subcommittee what the definition of thriving would be.
- Karissa Machado-Loper stated that measures such as high school graduation, reading levels at certain ages, and other measures that the traditional education system observes would be good ways to discuss thriving. She also stated that thriving may be tied to health.
- Jamelle Nance stated that a lot of information present is also reported for the Annie E. Casey Kids Count data, allowing both comparison of Nevada with other states as well as capturing of indicators that capture the ideas of thriving and health. Jamelle Nance and Marty Elquist agree that the data collected by Children’s Advocacy Alliance and submitted to Annie E. Casey would answer the outcomes of where Nevada’s children are for safe, healthy and thriving.
- Matthew Hoffman would like to map out the ideal outcomes for a child to better to present the goals of what the subcommittee would like to achieve. The subcommittee agreed with this idea, stating that observing milestones and what good outcomes are would be ideal to visualize our goals.
- Ashley Dines stated that it may be difficult to establish a line when talking about thriving, as many kids could have different developmental timelines. She stated that in reality that line may need flexibility depending on developmental status and background.
- Latisha Brown stated that there are programs for lower-level CPS cases that address medical and educational neglect to help ensure resources for family reunification. She stated that data regarding accessibility to those kinds of resources and programs may be helpful for guiding thriving.
- Karissa Loper-Machado mentioned that a lot of funding going into child welfare is based on the family’s first prevention act, and a lot of children and family services are currently trying to adjust to the idea of ensuring removal is the last option and showing data and outcomes of what the services are doing to support families. She also stated that it’s important to note the definition of access at some level.
- Marty Elquist recommended going between the Annie E Casey data book and the research data points to examine the overall context and answer the question of if children are safe, healthy, and thriving. Jamelle Nance offered to assist with this task.

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)

Marty Elquist, -Chair

- The subcommittee agreed that the current list presented for the Vulnerable Populations definition is adequate.
- Marty Elquist believes that the research data points previously addressed can adequately be disaggregated by the vulnerable populations definition, and any additions to the list may be addressed in the future.
- Matthew Hoffman brought up concern regarding zip codes and childcare centers as private business. He stated his concern regarding zoning for these facilities. Marty Elquist brought up the idea of Latisha examining zoning and permits that may hold construction back for these facilities.



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6. Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting August 17, 2023, 1-3pm

(Discussion, For Possible Action)

Marty Elquist, Chair

- The subcommittee will discuss KPIs in regard to self, healthy, and thriving.
- The data dictionary will be presented to the subcommittee.
- The subcommittee will compare bulleted data to the data presented in the data dictionary and identify gaps.

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 1:57 pm.