



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)

Data & Evaluation Subcommittee Meeting

PUBLIC MEETING

February 15th, 2024, AT 1PM

“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:

<https://ndezoom.zoom.us/j/81784185996?pwd=VnpKZ3g4dYt1a0RqMkevcE5pN2YzQT09>

MEETING ID: 817 8418 5996

Passcode: 841445

Minutes Summary

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call

Marty Elquist and Karissa Loper Machado, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

Members in Attendance:

- Anna Marie Binder, Parent Representative
- Ashley Dines, Parent Leadership Coordinator (South), The Children’s Cabinet
- Justin White, Founding Partner, Data Insight Partners
- Karissa Loper Machado, Manager, Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Childcare and Development Fund
- Marty Elquist, Department Director, The Children’s Cabinet
- Matthew Hoffman, Education Programs Professional, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Amanda Haboush Deloye, Executive Director, Nevada Institute for Children’s Research & Policy

Members Not in Attendance:

- Elvira Weintraub, Provider Representative
- Jon-Thomas Champlin, Former Contractor Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development

Public in Attendance:



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- Anna Villatoro, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Program Specialist, The Children's Cabinet
- Brian Lawton, The children's Cabinet
- Denise Tanata, The Children's Cabinet
- Edith Farmer, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health
- Erin Baerwaldt- ECE Implementation Coach Lyon County School District
- Smriti Neupane, Nevada Institute for Children Research and Policy
- John Giammona Wilber, ECAC Administrative Assistant, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Sabrina Jones, ECAC System Specialist, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Naysedi Badillo, Family Engagement Specialist, Office of Early Learning & Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Rachel Stepina, Preschool Development Grant Manager Birth - 5, Office of Early Learning & Development, Nevada Department of Education • Rosa Tamayo, Parent Leadership Coordinator (North), The Children's Cabinet
- Sabrina Schnur, Government Affairs Associate
- Government Affairs Associate, Belz & Case Government Affairs
- Tiffany Olivias, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Manager 2, The Children's Cabinet

2. Public Comment #1

- No public Comment

3. Review and Approve Minutes from

*(Discussion, For Possible Action) Marty Elquist and Karissa Loper Machado, Co-Chairs
Review and Approval of Minutes from December 21st, 2023.*

- Karissa Loper Machado asked for comments or corrections regarding the minutes.
- Amanda motioned to approve the minutes.
- Justin White seconded the motion.
- No comments or concerns about the minutes are raised.
- All members in favor, no opposition, or abstentions.
- The motion was passed and minutes from December 21st, 2023, are approved.

4. Vulnerable and Underserved Population Definition:

The Committee will revisit and potentially amend any part of the Vulnerable and Underserved Population Definition (Discussion, For Possible Action) Karissa Loper Machado and Marty Elquist, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Marty Elquist moved the discussion to the topic of vulnerable and underserved population definition, specifically the use of the Child Opportunity Index. She mentioned that there was a previous discussion on this topic in December, but due to a miscommunication, Karissa was not aware.
- Marty Elquist explained that the Child Opportunity Index was found to be an outdated data source, while the Environmental Justice Screen tool was shown to use current ACS data. It was last suggested that Denise Tanata asked a representative from the Office of Minority Health and Equity for a tool recommendation for identifying vulnerable communities within the definition. This led to the consideration of using the social economic indicators, specifically the demographic index and the supplemental demographic index.
- Marty Elquist provided a demonstration of the Environmental Justice Screen Tool mapping [EJScreen \(epa.gov\)](https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen), explaining its components and how the data is interpreted.



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- Marty Elquist mentioned that the demographic index includes the percentage of people of color and low-income households, while the supplemental demographic index includes additional indicators such as percent unemployed, percent less than high school education, percent limited English speaking, and low life expectancy. It was noted that the demographic index does not include factors related to early childhood, elementary education, and health and environment, which were initially included in the vulnerable community definition.
- Justin White clarifies the meaning of the percentiles.
- Marty suggested we need to play with tool [EJScreen \(epa.gov\)](http://EJScreen.epa.gov) more and select variables to identify vulnerable communities.
- Ashley Dines agreed that they continue with the tool since a lot of work has been done.
- All agreed to continue to explore the tool to discuss at the next meeting and it was suggested to use both index tools together.
- Amanda Haboush Deloye suggested reaching out to the Environmental Justice Screen tool creators for technical assistance and training.
- Marty Elquist agreed with Amanda that reaching out for assistance and or training is a good idea.
- Marty Elquist suggested that Amanda follow-through so that this item will remain on the agenda for the next meeting for updates and or a possible presentation.
- Marty Elquist emphasized that getting the definition right is important, so technical assistance will be requested for further clarification.

5. Identify Gaps Between the Data Dictionary and Research Questions and Data Points Draft

The Committee will compare what has been collected in the “Data Dictionary” to the data points that the Committee would still like to collect. The Committee will also discuss whether the data can further be disaggregated by the Vulnerable Populations definition. (Discussion, For Possible Action) Justin White, Founding Partner, Data Insight Partners

- Amanda Haboush Deloye introduced Smriti Neupane
- Smriti Neupane shared her background in public health and research analysis.
- Amanda Haboush Deloye provided an update on their previous discussion from November.
- Amanda Haboush Deloye mentioned that they were waiting for the data points to determine the vulnerable child definition.
- Amanda Haboush Deloye shared the Excel sheet Data Dictionary and discussed the following: The team had made some changes to the sheet, including adding color coding for easier visual separation of different categories. The sheet was structured in a way to facilitate filtering and search. The discussion also touched upon the need to add variables and data sources that may be missing or need further disaggregation. The team agreed to review the sheet once more to ensure completeness, and then analyze for data gaps.
- Amanda Haboush Deloye asked Justin White if he could provide feedback on the next draft of the sheet via email before the next meeting.
- Justin White agreed and asked Amanda to clarify the color coding in the Excel sheet.
- Amanda Haboush Deloye mentioned that red indicates indicators for which data has not been found yet. these tasks would require further progress on the data dictionary research questions and data points draft.

6. Subcommittee workplan review

(Discussion, For Possible Action) The subcommittee will review and potentially act upon and/or update the workplan. Karissa Loper Machado and Marty Elquist, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Karrison Loper Machado led the discussion on the work plan regarding the following:
- **Karissa Lopez Machado discussed with the subcommittee key activity 5.1:**



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Define key messages regarding data collection and use in the early childhood sector.

- Amanda Haboush Deloye explained the committee has started working on creating key messages. We need to identify data.
- Karissa Loper Machado we can update this item to work in progress.
- Karissa Loper Machado added that key messages will be integrated into outreach and marketing efforts and will remain not started.
- Karissa Loper Machado training sessions for providers, families, and stakeholders will also incorporate the key messages will come when we are further along.
- Marty Elquist agreed that key message integrating will come later.
- Marty Elquist and Karissa acknowledged that creating a playbook and training may not be feasible within the current strategic plan, and the timeline may be included in the next plan.
- Denise Tanata suggested continuing updating the status on the workplan to reflect the subcommittee's needs.
- It was suggested to focus on using the existing tools, such as the research questions and data dictionary, to create an informative document for policymakers.
- Rachel Stephina suggested using key message documents that already exist in session planning. Existing Data documents can be shared with government officials and be used to tell the story.
- Marty Elquist agreed that the vulnerable definition and key performance key message document would be a good resource for future use with key government officials.
- Matthew Hoffman suggested having something ready in terms of what the committee recommends for the upcoming session by quarter four.
- Marty Elquist suggested changing the workbook project to align with the documents we already created to formulate an Early childhood Advisory data fact sheet to say how we define the Early Childhood System vulnerable, communities and vulnerable children.
- Karissa suggested taking a vote to amend or to take out the workbook and adjust the activity to integrate key messaging into an informative document for Nevada's policy makers.
- Marty suggested to use the research questions to make this happen. However, she wants to keep the playbook to possibly fit in the next strategies plan. We can add an activity to develop a document that communicates with our policy makers with what we already created under the playbook.
- **Karissa Loper Machado discussed key activity 5.1-** we will revisit at a later meeting for final decision and approval.
- Karissa Loper stated that she will take some notes and Marty and Sabrina can amend the work plan with this language and all can decide.
- **Karissa addressed key activity 5.2: Develop research questions and data points.**
- The research questions have been finalized and approved by the committee. Please mark the status as completed. The data dictionary is in progress, with final edits being made with Amanda and Justins help.
- Amanda Haboush Deloye clarified the next steps include completing the edits of the data dictionary and identifying any gaps in data collection. One last look and we should be done with the edits.
- Amanda Haboush Deloye and Marty, mentioned the committee aims to finish the data dictionary by Q2 2024.
- Karissa discussed with the committee **key activity 5.3: Identify barriers to collecting data.**
- Amanda Haboush Deloye- once the data dictionary is completed, the committee will focus on identifying barriers to collecting data. This activity will include group discussion and sharing recommendations for improving data collection.
- Marty Elquist- the timeline for this activity will be Q3 2024, as it will require further group discussions.
- Marty Elquist- suggested that ECIDS and the linkage to the longitudinal data system be a recommendation to be included in the Early Childhood data in the next strategic plan. Items 5.2 and 5.3 will take us to the end of the year.

7. Discuss Agenda for Next meeting.

(Discussion, For Possible Action) Karissa Loper Machado and Marty Elquist, Subcommittee Co-Chairs



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- Karrissa Loper Machado- suggested the subcommittee work plan review of activity 5.1 back on the agenda, and amend the workplan to include the playbook be included in the next strategic plan and add a new key activity to develop a communicative document for policy makers in 2025.
- Marty Elquist -Identifying gaps and progress updates remain on the agenda.
- Marty Elquist requested that the subcommittee review and provide feedback on the **American Institutes for Research (Air)** data portal interface.
- Add an update and or potential presentation on the EPA'S Environmental Justice Screen and Mapping Tool and its application to the vulnerable and underserved population definition will possibly be provided at the next meeting.

8. 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 the agenda as an item on which action may be taken. The Council Chair will impose a time limit of three minutes.

- Rachel Stepina thanked and recognized John for his contributions and support throughout the transition period.
- Karissa expressed her gratitude towards John and assured the committee members that Sabrina Jones would handle the administrative responsibilities in his absence.
- John Giammona Wilber said thank you to everyone.
- Amanda Haboush Deloye invited everyone to the Early Childhood Research Symposium scheduled for March 18th and provided details about the event. She encouraged anyone interested in sharing information or presenting to reach out to her with their requests.

9. Adjournment

- Karissa Loper Machado Adjourned the meeting at 1:45pm

Selected Action Items

Action Items:

- Amanda Haboush Deloye will reach out to the creators of the tool EJ Screen Mapping Tool to request technical assistance and Possible training.
- 1. Review the Excel sheet once more for completeness and data gaps.
2. Justin White to provide feedback on the next gap document draft of the sheet via email to Amanda
3. Adjust the timeline for completing tasks under goal five of the work plan.

One Sentence Summary

10. The Data and Evaluation Subcommittee discussed Vulnerable and Underserved Population Definition, researched data point questions, Environmental Screen Tool map, and amendments and updates to the workplan.