



Nevada Early Childhood
Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)

DATA & EVALUATION SUBCOMMITTEE

PUBLIC MEETING

THURSDAY, April 18, 2024

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:

Minutes Summary

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call

Marty Elquist, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Marty Elquist called the meeting to order.
- Hector Mendoz conducted roll call.

Members in Attendance:

- Marty Elquist, Data and Evaluation Co-chair
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Executive Director, Nevada Institute for Children’s Research & Policy
- Anna Marie Binder, Council Member, Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Justin White, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council, Data and Evaluation subcommittee Member
- Latisha Brown, Childcare Manager, Nevada Department of Welfare and Social Services
- Matthew Hoffman, Education Programs Professional, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development

Members not in Attendance:

- Elvira Weintraub, Provider Representative
- Karissa Loper Machado, Manager, Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Childcare and Development Fund
- Ashley Dines, Parent Leadership Coordinator (South), The Children’s Cabinet

Public in Attendance:

- Rosa Tamayo, Family Leadership Coordinator, The Children’s Cabinet
- Smriti Neupane, Research Analyst, Nevada Institute for Children Research and Policy
- Anna Villatoro, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Program Specialist, The Children's Cabinet
- Jamelle Nance, Policy Director, Children’s Advocacy Alliance
- Sabrina Jones, Early Childhood Systems Specialist, Nevada Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Hector Mendoza, Administrative Coordinator, Nevada Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Rachel Stepina, PDG -5 Grant Manager, Nevada Office of Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Nayesdi Badillo, Parent Engagement Specialist, Nevada Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education,
- Matthew Silver, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Edith Farmer, Childcare Facilitator Supervisor, Department of Welfare and Social Services
- Tiffany Alston, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council, Chair
- Carrisa Pearce, Children Advocacy Alliance



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 the 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.

Marty Elquist, Subcommittee Co-Chair

- No public comment

3. Approval of Flexible Agenda

(Discussion for Possible Action)

The Subcommittee approved a flexible agenda.

Marty Elquist, Subcommittee Co-Chair

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye motioned to approve a flexible agenda
- Anna Marie Binder seconded the motion
- No opposition
- The motion is approved

4. Review and Approved [Minutes March 21, 2024](#)

(Discussion for Possible Action)

The subcommittee motioned to approve the March 21, 2024, minutes.

Marty Elquist, Subcommittee Co-Chair

- Latisha Brown motioned to approve the March 21, 2024, minutes
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye seconded the motion
- No opposition
- The motion is approved

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

(Discussion for Possible Action)

The Subcommittee compared what has been collected in the “Data Dictionary” to the data points. The Subcommittee discussed whether the data can further be disaggregated by the Vulnerable Populations definition.

Amanda Haboush Deloye, Executive Director, Nevada Institute for Children’s Research & Policy Justin White Data and Evaluation Subcommittee Member, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council,

- Marty Elquist opened the discussion on identifying gaps within the Data Dictionary, she also made mention that the vulnerable population definition has been finalized and will be discussed with the Leadership Subcommittee, and following will be sent to the Full Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) for approval.

Early Learning/Childcare Discussion

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye shared that she and Smriti Neupane put together a spreadsheet using the research questions and the available and missing variables.
- Smriti Neupane highlighted data gaps in the excel spreadsheet for early learning and childcare, early intervention home visiting and special education.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye discussed prioritizing missing data for district Pre-K and distinguishing



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district and Nevada Ready Pre-K.

- Matthew Hoffman explained that by fall, most school districts will enter student funding sources into Infinite Campus, enabling detailed data collection on district pre-K and other federally funded programs, which was previously difficult. Matthew mentioned then he would be able to pull data.
- Marty Elquist suggested documenting the status, barriers, and progress for each issue to help the committee make informed policy recommendations for improving Nevada's data systems.
- Anna Marie Binder mentioned plans to ask Clark County Superintendent about their inclination to share data. She mentioned it has been difficult to get data at the state level. She will inform Marty Elquist of the results.
- Marty Elquist will keep record of the barriers in green to keep the subcommittee moving forward in the discussion.
- Matthew Hoffman explained the biggest barrier as funding sources not being selected at child level.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye discussed the challenges of determining Pre-K eligibility percentages in the district, noting variations by funding sources and questioning if the same barriers apply.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye and Anna Marie Binder discussed the requirements for Pre-K program vary by district, funding sources and county.
- Matthew Hoffman explained that while they have access to free and reduced lunch data at the trial level, and can correlate it with funding types, it is unclear how this information would be used.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye mentioned the main point is to understand how district Pre-K programs determine enrollment eligibility based on different criteria and funding sources.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye asked if students can be eligible for Pre-K in other ways besides free reduce lunch and she is not sure how eligibility is determined.
- Anna Marie Binder indicated that eligibility might be based on income, or A- typical peers, she reported that data has not been collected since the pandemic. She is interested in finding out where data is pulled from.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye mentioned an inability to clearly determine data.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye shared that the need to be able to know how to get into Pre-K in order to determine data points.
- Marty Elquist asked if the committee should know how many of children under the age of five are in an early learning program.
- Anna Marie Binder revisited past conversation to address discrepancies in data on child population.
- Anna Marie Binder mentioned she reached out to CCSD to get more information; she recommended tabling this discussion and circling back at the next meeting.
- Marty Elquist shared plans to reach out to Denise Tanata for eligibility requirements of Nevada ready Pre-K and then also the other district programs. Marty Elquist would like to see what Denise Tanata found related to the development of First Five Nevada website and circle back to this topic.
- Justin White suggested splitting up the counted kids and eligible count.
- Marty Elquist mentioned the eligibility requirements are subject to change.
- Rachel Stepina pointed out a connection to a document pathway of universal Pre-K document developed by West Ed, under activity one of the preschool development grants is developing an interview list.

Home Visiting discussion:

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye explained the need to gather information on the number of available slots for home visiting programs and the number of children served by each program.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye suggested to check with the new person in charge of home visiting at the state for these details and she asked if there any additional comments or thoughts on this subject.
- Marty Elquist suggested that the main issue is that the data is not publicly available, and the need to find a way to access it.



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- Amanda Haboush-Deloye suggested checking to clarify. She shared that it would be easier to access the information if a publicly released report is available on home visiting in the state.
- Marty Elquist emphasized that small amounts of philanthropic funding support home visiting programs beyond the foundation funding. She is unaware of the exact numbers.
- Tiffany Alston explained that the Sunrise Children's Foundation's HIPYPY program numbers must be reported to the state. She shared that some slots are MIDI-funded, and others are philanthropically funded. She hopes to partner with Matthew Hoffman and Matthew Silver to input the data for longitudinal studies and make it available to the state.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye explained that capturing our own funding and any other funding sources is essential and the need to confirm the number of available slots and the number of people being served.

Early Intervention Discussion:

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye suggested starting with early intervention and focusing on the nutrition assistance program. She indicated the need for the percentage of children served in these programs based on the definition of the vulnerable population, including race and ethnicity.

Nutrition and Food Assistance:

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye mentioned that there is data on the percentage of eligible families receiving services, however there is a need a breakdown of all the vulnerable definition factors. She suggested that comprehensive information is what is needed to complete data collection.
- Marty Elquist asked if this was according to the recently approved definition of a vulnerable population, and about the percentage of children served in the programs, but data could not be broken down.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye mentioned that additional outreach might be necessary to gather more information due to the limited data, aiming to clarify what is available, where it's available, and how to access it.
- Anna Binder mentioned information held within the state or each organization that provides the services. WIC is independent and includes cash payments.
- Jamelle Nance provides a link regarding WIC to explore the indicators.

Parent Engagement Discussion:

- Rachel Stepina shared that PDG-5 is working to collect data around parent engagement and would be able to share out or provide a list as they are collecting this data.
- Marty Elquist pointed out the second bullet point for family engagement and how it relates to the workplan to create a data toolkit to help overcome the barrier in bullet point number two.
- Rachel Stepina mentioned that the Title I components fall under the Ed Life or the Education Programs Professional at the Department of Education. She suggested reaching out for guidance on collecting this data from districts at a state level and to pay attention to specific NRS components and valuable data points is essential. She asked how to collaborate with Annabel Sanchez to see if she can pay attention and invite her to present the information.
- Marty Elquist reiterated having consistent messaging of what is needed from parents to address family engagement section bullet point two and creating the toolkit.

Prenatal/post-partum discussion:

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye suggested speaking to Adoula groups before recommending any policy to avoid any barriers.
- Marty inquired about Adoula practices
- Jamelle Nance explained that she believes that a certificate is needed for Adoula practices and that there may be a registry.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye suggested to touch based with Christina Hernandez to gather information regarding Adoula requirements.
- Marty Elquist asked if Amanda could provide the information at the next meeting.



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- Amanda Haboush-Deloye mentioned there may be factors unavailable, but to go back and explore each factor within the first trimester of pregnancy.
- Jamelle Nance mentioned she attempted to pull the information from the office of analytics. She researched prenatal care.
- Anna Marie Binder mentioned mothers who do not have access to Medicaid or health insurance.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye recommended finding people who do not have health insurance in the first trimester of pregnancy.

Children's Healthcare:

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye suggested we can find Pediatrician not specialist.
- Marty Elquist suggested reaching out Nevada Chapter of American Academy. She suggested that Leann McAlister would be the best contact.

Mental Health Discussion:

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye suggested the need to know the overall people who will need these services.
- Jamelle Nance mentioned community health workers might be able to capture when they are gathering data, and that some of the programs are new.
- Marty Elquist explained that this data is being captured in the early childhood settings.
- Anna Marie Binder suggested asking the Secretary of Health Policy Director regarding this item.
- Justin White mentioned the way to approach this by portion of number in a similar state.
- Anna Marie Binder mentioned getting information on the status of the negotiating of the department of social services and to share the demographic in this area. She also mentioned DOJ might have information.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye suggested looking at the DOJ report, they might have recommendation for Early childhood. She also indicated to rethink this to get a proxy.
- Marty Elquist agreed with Justin White. She suggested asking Jacqueline Klien from Infant and Mental Health to compare statistics with other states and gather information from national and international alliances to understand the number of children served by infant and early childhood mental health services. In addition, clarify the specific focus of the services provided by the Nevada Association for Infant Early Childhood Mental Health, such as clinical intervention or prevention.

Economic and Social Support:

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye suggested to rethink how to measure economic and social support
- Marty Elquist suggested to reach out to Kim Cullen of business capacity to see if she has any idea regarding social economic support, she also mentioned the governor innovation group they are really interested in business supporting their employees with family friendly business practices.

Outcomes:

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye suggested cleaning up the notes and referring to the minutes for action steps.

6. Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting. (Discussion for Possible Action)

The Subcommittee discussed items to be added to the agenda for the upcoming meeting.

Marty Elquist, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Marty Elquist requested to circle back on additional information around data points
- Revisit the labor theory of data and rather we need to take it off of the workplan
- Move on to the workplan and possibly close out activity 5.2
- Discuss the creation of playbook of strategies and list of potential implementation partners
- Defined key messages regarding data collection and the utilization of data in the early childhood sector



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- Amanda Haboush-Deloye is working on inviting someone to explain the EJ screen.
- Marty Elquist asked Amanda if she could draft key messages about the data collection and the utilization in the early childhood sector.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye suggested starting this at the June meeting.
- Marty Elquist suggested these items be added to the next two agendas, allow EJ screen first and circle back to the other agenda items until they are finished.

7. **Public comment #2**

(Discussion for Possible Action)

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye mentioned she is looking to schedule focus groups to get feedback for the PDG grant, in formats that fit family, she would like everyone to look out for the emails.

8. **Adjournment**

Marty Elquist adjourned the meeting at 2:33pm

Selected Action Items:

- Reach out to Denise Tanata regarding Nevada Ready Pre-K eligibility requirements
- Explore WIC link provided.
- Provide parental engagement list in connection with PDG-5.
- Child Healthcare/Reaching out Nevada Chapter of American Academy. Leann McAlister would be the best contact.
- Reaching out to Kim Cullen to see if she has any ideas regarding social economic support, also the governor innovation group they are really interested in business supporting their employees with family friendly business practices.
- Revisit rather to take out the Labor theory on the work-plan.
- Reaching out for guidance on collecting this data from districts at a state level. Find out if we can collaborate with Annabel Sanchez and invite her to present information.
- Have consistent messaging of what is needed from parents to address family engagement section bullet two to create the toolkit.
- Touch based with Christina Hernandez to gather information regarding adoula requirements
- Reaching out to Jacqueline Klien from Infant and Mental to compare statistics with other states and gather information on infant and early childcare mental health.

One Sentence Summary:

The Subcommittee compared what has been collected in the “Data Dictionary” to the data points and discussed how to address missing data gaps.