



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING **PUBLIC MEETING** **JUNE 4, 2024, 11:00 AM**

“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 was held video conference

MINUTES SUMMARY

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call

Patrice Gardner, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Patrice Gardner called the meeting to order at 11:05am
- Hector Mendoza conducted roll call.

Members in Attendance:

- Patrice Gardner, ECAC Vice Chair
- Ashley Dines, Parent Representative
- Elysa Arroyo, Policy, and Finance Subcommittee Co-Chair
- Marty Elquist, ECAC Data and Evaluation Subcommittee
- Jennifer Butler, Communications and Engagement Subcommittee Co-Chair
- Karissa Loper Machado, Data and Evaluation Co-Chair
- Tiffany Olivas, System and Alignment Co-chair
- Brenda Morales, Finance and Policy Co-chair
- Kathy Yoder Bass, Provider Representative

Members Not in Attendance:

- Tiffany Alston ECAC Chair,
- Abbey Bernhardt, System and Alignment Subcommittee Co-chair

Public in Attendance:

- Anna Villatoro, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Program Specialist at The Children's Cabinet
- Denise Tanata, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Advisor, The Children’s Cabinet
- Jamelle Nance, Early Policy Director, The Children's Advocacy Alliance
- Rachel Stepina, Preschool Development Grant Manager Birth - 5, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Hector Mendoza, Early Childhood Advisory Council Administrative Coordinator, Nevada



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- of Education Office of Early Learning and Development.
- Nayesdi Badillo, Parent Engagement Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
 - Sabrina Jones, ECAC Systems Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
 - Katilin Williams, Department of Children and Family Services, Behavior Health System
 - Shannon Hill, Quality Assurance Specialist, Department of Children and Family Services, Children's Behavior Health System
 - Jenna Grant, Clinical Program Planner 3, Department of Children and Family Services, Children's Behavior Health System
 - Jeanna Capito, Prenatal to Five Fiscal strategies
 - Casey Amayun, Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies
 - Jacqueline Kleinedler, Nevada Association for Infant and Child Mental Health
 - Tiffany Olivas, ECCS Manager 2, The Children's Cabinet
 - Rosa Tamayo, Northern Family Leadership Council Coordinator, The Children's Cabinet
 - Jamie Mendez, Workforce Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
 - Glen Meyers, Nevada Department of Education
 - Dominique Carter, License Family Marriage Therapist, Division of Child and Family Services
 - Vivian Bolanos, Birth through Five Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
 - Karen Chessel, Education Program Professional, Nevada of Education, Office of Career Readiness

2. Public Comment #1

- No public Comment

3. Approval of A Flexible Agenda (*Discussion, For Possible Action*)

The subcommittee approved a flexible agenda.

Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair

- Ashley Dines motioned to approve a flexible agenda
- Karissa Machado Loper seconded the motion to approve a flexible agenda
- No opposition, no abstentions.
- The motion was approved.

4. Minutes from May 7, 2024 (*Discussion for Possible Action*)

The subcommittee discussed and approved the May 7, 2024, minutes.

Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair

- Marty Elquist motioned to approve the May 7th minutes with corrections of last names missing and time of adjournment correction.
- Elysa Arroyo seconded the motion to approve the minutes
- No opposition or abstentions.
- The motion was approved



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5. Subcommittee Workplan Review and next Leadership Subcommittee Agenda Items

(Discussion for Possible Action)

The subcommittee discussed updates, progress and needs related to the Combined Subcommittee Workplan

Note: The leadership subcommittee agreed to take this agenda item out of order (agenda item number 9 changed to item 5).

Finance and Policy Subcommittee – Elysa Arroyo, Chair and Brenda Morales-Solorzano, Co-chairs.

Work plan review on the Cost Model was presented: (pg. 15 combined workplan

by Jenna Capito and Casey Amayun, Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies.

- Jenna Capito shared the initial results of the cost model process. She highlighted the progress on rate setting and alternative methodology is the alternative that Nevada is using to a market rate survey to inform rate setting this cycle underneath the Federal Childcare plan. She mentioned by sharing initial results for the refining of how the model is used and what data points are selected, to support the result in a full report of the cost estimation for the state. She noted that this will be shared in a draft fashion, all the outputs are initial and subject to change as they solicit feedback from ECAC, workgroups, and other constituents.

The following points shared:

- What is a Cost Model-Tools to understand the cost of providing childcare services.
These tools demonstrate the impact of funding, identify cost, gaps, and use multiple data sources
- Nevada based functions models- Serving children birth through five, mandatory employee taxes, coverage for breaks, cost of drivers and quality, non-personnel expenses services, and a living wage calculator.
- Scenario Selected overview on program standards, regions, salary selection, program size and benefits.
- Lead Salary by regional comparison-values collected from programs, map to region.
- Cost per Child, Current salaries at licensing
- Childcare Centers-current salary, Bureau labor of Statistics, region- annual cost per child, licensing and current salaries
- Cost of Comparison
- Children Services- Silver stars and 5 stars- Annual Childcare, 5 star and current cost
- Family Childcare- Annual cost and salary cost and licensing and Bureau Labor of Statics
- Group Homes, Silver and 5 stars, current salaries-Annual Cost per child

Leadership Subcommittee – *Tiffany Alston and Patrice Gardner, Subcommittee Co-Chairs*

- Patrice Gardner shared that there are no updates for the leadership Subcommittee at this time

System Alignment Subcommittee – *Tiffany Olivas and Abbey Bernhardt, Co-Chairs*

- Tiffany Olivas reported an update to catch up on System Alignment subcommittee work and hope many who are interested in system building will join the committee.
- Sabrina Jones asked if members could return the doodle poll for System Alignment Subcommittee attendance

Communications and Engagement Subcommittee – *Jennifer Butler Co-Chair, (Co-chair vacancy)*

- Jennifer Butler reported no updates for the Communication and Engagement Subcommittee

Data and Evaluation Subcommittee – *Marty Elquist and Karissa Loper Machado, Co-Chairs*

- Marty Elquist reported that the vulnerable population definition will be sent to the full council for discussion and possible adoption.

6. Vulnerable and Underserved Population Definition *(Discussion for Possible Action)*

The subcommittee reviewed the Vulnerable and Underserved Population Definition.

Marty Elquist, Department Director, The Children's Cabinet

- Marty Elquist reviewed the vulnerable population and Underserve definition and why it is important to use the definition across ECAC. She mentioned that the Data Subcommittee worked very hard on the definition, and it is the most simplistic definition that the Data Committee agreed upon.



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- Marty Elquist provided a link to an Environmental Mapping Tool EJScreen (epa.gov) that was considered during the process of defining the definition for the subcommittee information. She emphasized that the subcommittee might and should reflect on this definition and that the definition is subject to change. She shared that the document includes how other subcommittees can use the definition and questions of how the committees are moving the Nevada Comprehensive Early Childhood System forward.
- Patrice Gardner provided feedback that she appreciated the definition and that this can keep everyone aligned with the work, clarify and guide the work of the counsel.
- Karrisa Machado Loper supported and agreed on the Vulnerable and Underserved Population Definition. She mentioned that the definition serves the committee well to start defining outcomes, data and measurement and gives the ability to adjust to any future occurrence to groups that may be vulnerable.
- Marty Elquist mentioned this will provide our state with common language when we are writing for grants and how we are using this term. In terms of data collection, evaluation, and moving our system forward it can provide some consistency in the meaning of evaluation and data.
- Marty Elquist suggested using this time for the approval of the definition to go forth to the full council for adoption.
- Patrice Gardner requested a motion to approve the Vulnerable and Underserved Population Definition
- Brenda Morales motioned to approve the definition
- Jennifer Butler seconded the motion to approve the definition.
- Patrice Gardner replied that there are no opposition or abstentions, the motion passed to approve the Vulnerable and Underserved Population Definition unanimously by the leadership committee

7. Nevada Early Childhood Family Leadership Council (NECFLC) Coordinators Update

(Information/Discussion)

The subcommittee heard updates regarding the work of the NECFLC (such as but not limited to the rubric, mentorship program, events, and meeting recaps).

Rosa Tamayo and Ashley Dines, and Tiffany Olivas, The Children's Cabinet

- Ashley Dines reviewed NECFLC events, and social media affairs. She mentioned a focus group in Reno and an upcoming focus group in Northern Nevada.
- Ashley Dines thanked the Leadership Committee for the continued support with parents. She emphasized to continue to bring equity and what this support looks like. She thanked parents for open dialogue and for expressing what parent's need.
- Ashley Dines asked the leadership to help follow up and support parents who share their concerns and re-ensure them that their issues are being brought to the table and or either provide them with information and resources.
- Tiffany Olivas discussed the rubric and how chairs and co-chairs will receive feedback. She reported that Anna Villatoro created a survey online to input data. Tiffany Olivas reviewed the process of using the Rubric such as entering and receiving data to provide feedback to ECAC Chairs and Co-chairs.
- Tiffany Olivas shared that each chair or co-chair will receive a report as an opportunity for reflection. She mentioned the report provides feedback and provides best practice for working with parent leaders.
- Nayesdi Badillo, asked about the use of the Rubric, if NECFLC and ECAC overlap.
- Tiffany Olivas replied that her team created the Rubric as an evaluation tool as part of the evaluation for the HRSA Grant and as a focus point. She reported that the focus is family leadership, growing and providing support to ECAC of how they can create environments to welcome family leaders.



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- Tiffany Olivas mentioned that her team wanted to create a tool that they can use eternally to grow the understanding of parent engagement and for others to utilize as well.
- Nayesdi Badillo asked about the Rubric process. She explained that she would like to collaborate and have several resources and technical assistance to share. She mentioned she would love to give more feedback and thinks it would be great to involve parents to give feedback.
- Tiffany thanked Nayesdi for her feedback and mentioned that this is an opportunity to provide ECAC with feedback.
- Patrice thanked Tiffany and the team for the Rubric she reported that the end goals are making parents feel comfortable in ECAC spaces. She emphasized that she can't wait to hear her own Rubric feedback.

8. **Advisory Council Membership and Vacancies** (Discussion for Information and Possible Action)

Sabrina Jones, ECAC Systems Specialist, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development

- This agenda item is table to the next meeting

9. **Discuss Agenda Items for the next General ECAC Meeting,** (Discussion for Possible Action)

The subcommittee discussed agenda items for the upcoming General ECAC meeting.

Patrice Gardner, Leadership Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Marty Elquist requested that the Vulnerable and Underserve Definition be added to the General ECAC meeting agenda.
- Marty Elquist asked Karissa Machado Loper to do a presentation on maternal methodology.
- Karris Machado Lopez mentioned she will reach out to Prenatal to five fiscal strategies and work with them to present.
- Denisa Tanata requested a full presentation from the Children Funding Project of the Gap Analysis and Revenue plan update. She confirmed that they are available to present at the upcoming General ECAC meeting
- Rachel requested the update on the Development of the Nevada Early Child Development Access Plan be added to the General ECAC meeting agenda.

10. **Nevada Early Childhood Family Leadership Council (NECFLC) Family or Parent Updates** (Information/Discussion)

The subcommittee created a space for NECFLC parents or family members present to share their experiences in the early childhood

NECFLC Families

- Patrice Gardner opened and asked if any parents were present to share their experiences.
- Tiffany Olivas confirmed no parents from NECFLC are present to share at this time.

11. **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.



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- Rachel Stepina shared that there is an established master service agreement with United Language Group for Nevada Early Childhood Language Access plan. She explained the plan will include resources for best practices. She will provide the full update at the General meeting.
- Rachel Stepina mentioned developing protocol for early childhood agencies to request interpretation and translation services and using allocated preschool dollars to help all Nevada early childhood organization to reach their language access goals and serve their constituent.

12. Adjournment

- Patrice Gardner adjourned the meeting at 12:47pm

Selected Action Items

- Add the Vulnerable and Underserve Definition to the General ECAC meeting agenda
- Add the recruitment update to the next leadership agenda
- Add the requested agenda items to the General ECAC meeting agenda.

One Sentence Summary

The Leadership Subcommittee heard updates on the Initial Cost Model Results and Progress, reviewed and adopted the Vulnerable and Underserved Population Definition.