



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)

LEADERSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE

#### PUBLIC MEETING

MAY 7, 2024

11:00AM

*“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.”*

This meeting was held via video conference.

### Minutes Summary

#### 1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call

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

Tiffany Alston called the meeting to order at 11:07am

#### Members in Attendance:

- Tiffany Alston, ECAC Chair
- Patrice Gardner, ECAC Vice Chair
- Ashley Dines, Parent Representative
- Elysa Arroyo, Policy, and Finance Subcommittee Co-Chair
- Kathy Yoder Bass, Provider Representative
- Abbey Bernhardt, System and Alignment 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

#### Members Not in Attendance:

- None

#### 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 Childhood Policy Director, The Children's Advocacy Alliance
- Annette Dawson, Children’s Advocacy Alliance
- Victoria Hernandez, Sunrise Children’s Foundation
- 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 Department of Education Office of Early Learning and Development.
- Tami Conn, Duty Chief Bureau, Children’s Health Services



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- 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

### 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.

- No public comment was made at this time.

### 3. **Approval of Flexible Agenda** (Discussion for Possible Action)

The subcommittee approved a flexible agenda. The Subcommittee may take agenda items out of order; combine two or more agenda items for consideration; remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on ECAC Leadership Subcommittee Meeting Agenda – Page 1- 3 of the agenda at any time.

*Tiffany Alston, Nevada ECAC Chair and Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair*

- Karissa Loper motioned to approve a flexible agenda.
- Elysa Arroya seconded the motion.
- The motion was carried out with no opposition.

### 4. **Minutes from April 2, 2024** (Discussion for Possible Action)

The subcommittee discussed and approved the April 2, 2024, minutes.

*Tiffany Alston, Nevada ECAC Chair and Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair*

- Patrice Gardner motioned to approve the April 2<sup>nd</sup> minutes
- Ashley Dines seconded the motion.
- Karrisa abstained due to her absence.
- The motion was carried.

### 5. **Strategic Planning** (Discussion for Possible Action)

The subcommittee reviewed the final draft scope of work for the strategic plan request for proposal.

*Tiffany Alston, Nevada ECAC Chair and Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair*

- The Subcommittee discussed strategic planning for the year 2025 and reviewed the scope of work for Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Strategic Plan 2025-2027. It was agreed that the plan should focus on equity and addressing disparities in the development of this new strategic plan, and shared suggestions for improving providers, community, and parent involvement in the process. Changes were made to the live scope document to reflect the year 2025-2027. The committee discussed check-ins and midpoint review for a 5-year strategic plan. The committee discussed creating a work plan, action steps to execute strategic plan priorities and goals. Tiffany Alston invited



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Ashley Dines to participate in the reading of the scope of work plan. During the reading and review of the scope of work the following suggestions and points were made:

- Tiffany Alston shared and discussed with the subcommittee that the new strategic plan should be at least 3-5 years in length.
- Marty Elquist emphasized that the plan should be flexible and to change in the language of the early childhood system.
- Denise Tanata clarified that the language was changes in statute to Early Childhood systems.
- Rachel Stepina mentioned that the vendor should have an access link to the current on- strategy data report at the time of the review of information.
- Marty Elquist mentioned clarifying the vulnerable population definition and Karrisa provided the vulnerable population definition.
- Ashley Dines suggested involving community partners and parents in the strategic plan process.
- Denise Tanata emphasized that using language that is inclusive and respectful to community providers is important.
- Jennifer Bulter and Denise Tanata discussed community partners involvement and lived experiences in early childhood education.
- Rachel Stepina suggested in vendor selection to provide context and implications for including the entire leadership committee in the process. She suggested adding language to clarify the subcommittee's objectives, goals, and activities. She mentioned adding a buffer period for potential time delays and revising the plan to give multiple choice options to facilitate the in-person ECAC session.

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

The subcommittee will review the Vulnerable and Underserved Population Definition.

*Marty Elquist, Department Director, The Children's Cabinet*

- This agenda item is tabled until the upcoming June Leadership meeting due to the time constraints.

### **7. Nevada Early Childhood Family Leadership Council (NECFLC) Coordinators Updates** (Information/Discussion)

The subcommittee will hear 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*

- This agenda item is tabled until the upcoming June Leadership meeting due to the time constraints.

### **8. Family or Parent Updates** (Information/Discussion)

The subcommittee will hold a standing agenda item to create space for any parent or family member present to share their experiences in the early childhood system.

*Families*

- This agenda item is tabled until the upcoming June Leadership meeting due to the time constraints.



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### 9. **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 tabled until the upcoming June Leadership meeting due to the time constraints.

### 10. **Subcommittee Workplan Review and next Leadership Subcommittee Agenda Items**

(Discussion for Possible Action)

The subcommittee will discuss updates, progress and needs related to the Combined Subcommittee Workplan document. The subcommittee will use this discussion to inform agenda items for the next Leadership subcommittee meeting and/or the next General ECAC Meeting

- *Leadership Subcommittee – Tiffany Alston and Patrice Gardner, Subcommittee Co-Chairs*
  - *System Alignment Subcommittee – Tiffany Olivas and Abbey Bernhardt, Co-Chairs*
  - *Communications and Engagement Subcommittee – Jennifer Butler Co-Chair, (Co-chair vacancy)*
  - *Finance and Policy Subcommittee – Elysa Arroyo, Chair and Brenda Morales-Solorzano, Co-chairs.*
  - *Data and Evaluation Subcommittee – Marty Elquist and Karissa Loper Machado, Co-Chairs*
- This agenda item was tabled until the upcoming June Leadership meeting.

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

The subcommittee will discuss agenda items for the upcoming General ECAC meeting.

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

- Tiffany Alston suggested that Karrison M. Loper give an update on the Rim of Subsidy for the next General ECAC meeting.
- Hector Mendoza mentioned that he will send out invites to all members.

### 12. **Upcoming Meetings** (Information)

- Tiffany Alston shared that the upcoming meeting information will be provided on each agenda moving forward.

### 13. **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.

- No public comment currently.
- Hector will send out invites for the General ECAC meeting on May 15, 2024, meeting to all members.

### 14. **Adjournment**

- Tiffany Alston adjourned the meeting at 2:51 pm.



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### Action Items:

- Add items not discussed in today's meeting back to the agenda for the upcoming June 4, 2024, ECAC Leadership meeting

One Sentence Summary: The Leadership subcommittee reviewed, updated, and provided feedback for the Strategic Plan 2025-2027 Scope of work plan.