



NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)
SYSTEMS ALIGNMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
PUBLIC MEETING
Wednesday, June 26, 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 videoconference:

Minutes Summary

1. Welcome, call to order, and roll call, (Discussion for Action)

The Subcommittee reviewed attendance and welcome the subcommittee and new Co-Chairs.

Tiffany Olivas, Abbey Bernhardt, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Tiffany Olivas called the meeting to order at 1:05PM
- Sabrina Jones conducted roll call

- **Members in Attendance**
 - Tiffany Olivas, Co-chair
 - Abbey Bernhardt, Co-chair
 - Anna Binder, Parent Representative
 - Rosa Tamayo, Family Leadership Coordinator (North), The Children’s Cabinet
 - Dr. Diane Nicolet, Board Vice President, Washoe County School District
 - Tina Springmeyer, Child and Family Services Director, Washoe County School District
 - Rachel Stepina, Grant Manager, PDG B-5, Nevada Department of Education Office of Early Learning and Development

- **Members Not in Attendance**
 - Anna Severens, Education Programs Professional, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning Development
 - Cynthia Magaña, Childcare and Development Chief, Nevada Division and Welfare and Supportive Services
 - Patrice Gardner, Educations Programs Supervisor, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning & Development

- **Public in Attendance**
 - Kerry Kelly, Community Health Program Manager at Renown Health
 - Jamelle Nance, Early Childhood Policy Director, Children’s Advocacy Alliance
 - Sabrina Jones, Early Childhood Advisory Council Systems Specialist, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
 - Denise Tanata, Early Childhood Systems Consultant, The Children’s Cabinet
 - Peter Paul Paragas, Sunrise Children’s Foundation

- Anna Villatoro, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Program Specialist, The Children’s Cabinet
- Sophia Kraus
- Jamie Mendez, Early Childhood Workforce Specialist, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning & Development
- Nayesdi Badillo, Early Childhood Family Engagement Specialist, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development

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

3. Approval of a Flexible Agenda, (Discussion for Action)

The Subcommittee motioned to approve a flexible agenda.
Tiffany Olivas, Abbey Bernhardt, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Diane Nicolet motioned for a flexible agenda
- Tina Springmeyer seconded the motion
- All members in favor-The motion passed

4. Approval of November 29th minutes (Discussion for Action)

The Subcommittee motioned to approve minutes from November 29, 2023,
Tiffany Olivas, Abbey Bernhardt, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Rachel Stepina mentioned correction to be moved from ‘Public in Attendance’ to ‘Members in Attendance’
- Diane Nicolet motioned to approve minutes with corrections as noted
- Rachel Stepina seconded the motion
- All members voted in favor-The motion passed

5. Nevada Prenatal to Three System Asset Gap Analysis Report (SAGA) (Discussion for Information)

The Subcommittee reviewed and discussed the Summary of Key Findings, Current Efforts, and Potential Strategies.
Denise Tanada, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Consultant, The Children's Cabinet

- Tiffany Olivas provided context for the Gap Analysis discussion and introduced Denise Tanata to present the Gap Analysis report update.
- Denise Tanata shared document ‘Nevada Prenatal to Three System Asset & Gap Analysis (SAGA)’
- Denise Tanata discussed potential strategies for implementation and HRSA goal areas that can guide group’s involvement
- Denise Tatana shared an updated summary of the Gap Analysis and what are some potential strategies. She started with NV HRSA Goal to include infrastructure development, advancing common vision, continuum of services, Policy and financing and policy and equity. Denise gave an overview of each goal’s sub-information involving guiding questions, key findings, current efforts, and potential strategies
- Denise Tatana discussed the following points
 - Subcommittee goals and cross-sector integration that can be implemented.
 - Cross-sector workplans and frameworks that can be used to create unified strategies among organizations/sectors, and to improve ‘common alignment’ efforts in Early Childhood Systems

- Health-sector areas of opportunity to expand reach regarding the provision of comprehensive services in the early childhood system
- The need to identify specific individuals, organizations, and entities that can improve system integration-goals, and creating more meaningful engagement opportunities with them in the future to advance system development efforts
- The need to coordination with other subcommittees to ensure that collaborative opportunities are being identified and acted upon with ‘potential partners’ and stakeholders that can improve system integration-goals
- How subcommittee can review Medicaid funding and integration as a method to support Early Childhood System
- The need for more parent and family engagement opportunities to improve comprehensive system integration and to develop partnership relationships
- Formal structures that can assist state-community coordination
- How policies to address equity in Early Childhood Systems are limited, as well as how collaboration with Data and Evaluation subcommittee can be used to better understand how to address these gaps
- Denise Tanata reviewed next steps that involve further assessment, research, and collaboration with other subcommittees and organizations
- Anna Binder discussed depth of presentation and inquires on which goals are more easily obtainable soon and how to prioritize follow-up actions, discusses how 5-year plan will be structured with this information accounted for
- Denise Tanata mentioned how a ‘low-hanging fruit’ goal could potentially be representation in systems work from the health sector and the lack of coordination between groups, organizations, partners and stakeholders; Discusses need for presentation from stakeholders to understand their intentions and interests within the field
- Anna Binder discusses how Data and Evaluation Subcommittee is a collaborative opportunity to address gaps
- Tiffany Olivas discusses how all subcommittees need to strategize crossover sharing of information and that future agenda should identify opportunity to communicate findings
- Anna Binder discussed subcommittee structure and how future update methods can be used
- Tiffany Olivas discussed how communication between leadership and subcommittee need to lead to more specific action plans and direction
- Denise Tanata discussed dual role of leadership and using upcoming strategic planning to improve strategies for communication and action planning
- Rachel Stepina mentioned how goals as subcommittee need to be revisited to ‘drive more action’ and the need to revisit this concept in future meetings
- Kerry Kelly mentioned Renown Health’s involvement with network development and community health efforts
- Diane Nicolet recommended each member researching 3-4 potential stakeholders and organizations of interest that can contribute to ‘systems development’
- Abbey Bernhardt discussed NAMI’s interest in youth partnerships that address child homelessness support systems and foster care support
- Denise Tanata discussed how Communications and Engagement subcommittee and SAGA presentation has starting contacts that can provide as a starting place moving forward

6. Systems Building Initiatives *(Discussion for Information)*

The Subcommittee will hear a brief overview on Systems Build Initiatives

Rachel Stepina, Grant Manager PDG-5, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development

Jamelle Nance, Early Childhood Policy Director, Children's Advocacy Alliance

Tiffany Olivas, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Manager 2, The Children's Cabinet

- Tiffany Olivas, Abbey Bernhardt and the committee opted to move this presentation to a future meeting due to the length and depth of information.

7. Review of First 5 Nevada *(Information Discussion)*

The subcommittee heard a review of procedure for [First 5 Nevada](#) requests to be included as website resource or included for parents in Eligibility Portal.

Denise Tanada, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Consultant, The Children's Cabinet

- Tiffany Olivas discussed First 5 Nevada site and resources

- Tiffany Olivas recommended an in-depth conversation in a future meeting

8. Subcommittee Work Plan Review, (Discussion for Possible Action)

The Subcommittee will review, update, and possibly adjust the subcommittee workplan.

Tiffany Olivas, Abbey Bernhardt, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- This agenda item is tabled for the next meeting

9. System and Alignment Schedule Discussion, (Discussion for Possible Action)

The Subcommittee discussed and voted on a new meeting schedule.

Tiffany Olivas, Abbey Bernhardt, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Sabrina Jones mentioned Fourth Wednesday of Every Month as original meeting time
- Tiffany Olivas reviewed member availability for future meetings
- Tiffany Olivas confirmed fourth Wednesday of Every Month with exception of July and December
- Dr. Diane Nicolet motioned to approve fourth Wednesday of Every month except for July and December, at 1pm
- Anna Binder seconded the motion to approve the meeting schedule
- All members voted in favor of the motion to keep the meeting to every fourth Wednesday at 1pm
- Sabrina Jones and Tiffany confirmed start time of 1PM and end time of 2:30PM
- Anna Binder makes a ‘friendly amendment’ to move agenda item 6 as priority for next meeting
- Tiffany Olivas agreed with Anna Binder amendment was acknowledged

10. Discuss agenda items for next meeting, (Discussion for Possible Action)

The Subcommittee discussed topics to add to the next System Alignment Meeting agenda.

Tiffany Olivas, Abbey Bernhart, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

Tiffany Olivas mentioned:

- Adding Systems Building Initiatives presentation back to the agenda
- How to coordinate with other ECAC subcommittees
- Rachel Stepina recommended segmenting her presentation to create discussion opportunities
- Denise Tanata mentioned feedback and how presentations were requested to be heard separately
- Tiffany Olivas mentioned partners and advisory bodies as community partners
- Anna Binder recommended that this topic be placed toward end of next meeting

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.

- Anna Binder discussed shared document for identifying community partners of interest, possibly emailing on back end as well
- Sabrina Jones will create shared documents and share them with the team depending on OML requirements.

12. Adjournment

Tiffany Olivas, Abbey Bernhart, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Tiffany Olivas adjourned the meeting at 2:38PM

Action Items:

- Identify community partners/advisory bodies of interest
- Review advisory groups and organizations list from the Communications & Engagement subcommittee
- Create a shared document to list advisory group/organizations to partner and invite to System Alignment Meeting if applicable.
- Add discussed agenda items to the next meeting agenda

One Sentence Summary: The System Alignment subcommittee heard a presentation of the update Gap Analysis Report and an overview of First Five Nevada resources and discussed plans for future meetings.

